



# Job Opportunity

**Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022**

**Title: FETP-Mentor/Field Epidemiologist**

**Number of vacancies: One (1)**

**Program: Sierra Leone-Field Epidemiology Training Program, Intermediate Level**

**Application deadline: Thursday, November 24, 2022**

**Duty station: Freetown- Sierra Leone**

## **Background:**

The African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) is a not for profit, networking alliance and service organization that brings together field epidemiology training programs (FETPs) across Africa working side by side with Ministries of Health, regional and international partners. AFENET works to strengthen epidemiology and disease surveillance capabilities of African countries that are critical to meeting the requirements of the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) strategy and the International Health Regulations (IHR).

AFENET, through the US CDC, has been supporting the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation to implement the Sierra Leone Field Epidemiology Training Program since 2016 with the Frontline Level and 2017 with the Intermediate Level of the program. AFENET is currently seeking to recruit highly qualified & experienced FETP mentor for the Sierra Leone Field Epidemiology Training Program.

## **Summary of Key Functions:**

Under the overall direction of the FETP Resident Advisor, the mentor is responsible for the day-to-day facilitation of in-class didactic workshops and field mentorship that include (i) timely development of training and mentorship plans; (ii) review and adapt the training material curriculum; (iii) ; teach the core and supportive courses of the FETP-Frontline (iii) provide effective field mentorship to the FETP-Intermediate participants;

(iv) prepare timely and quality field mentorship and in-class workshop technical reports and submit to the program; and (v) support FETP-Intermediate participants to identify appropriate field projects vi) provide participants effective technical support to design and implement field projects and also to develop scientific presentation to internal and external audience.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

The International FETP Intermediate Mentor will work with the Sierra Leone AFENET team, Sierra Leone FETP and Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation to:

- Take active role in coordinating the FETP-Intermediate in-class and field mentorship activities
- Review and adapt the existing Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) curriculum and training materials as may be required to suit the specific needs of Sierra Leone
- Facilitate and teach in-class workshops of the core and supplement courses of the FETP curriculum
- Build technical capacities of the national mentors, capacities in teaching, mentoring, planning and implementing surveys, operational research and scientific communications including publication in peer review journals
- Provide effective mentorship, coaching and supervision for the trainees during workshops and field placement periods to ensure acquisition of basic field epidemiology skills and competence
- Facilitate presentations and group exercises during workshops including Continuous professional development workshops
- Provide technical assistance to trainees in preparing their presentations for local and external dissemination of the key findings and recommendations from their field projects
- Participate in disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, group project survey and other relevant activities together with the FETP trainees and other Ministry of Health and Sanitation staff as a means to demonstrate best practices and enhance the skills & competencies of the trainees



- Assist participants to write manuscripts from their field projects
- Assist with the evaluation of the impact of the FETP on participants' skills & core competencies as well as on the public health surveillance systems in Sierra Leone
- Plan and request required logistics for the workshops and field mentorship of selected participants
- Support the residents to adequately prepare and present their communication products.
- Monitor weekly progress of residents in achieving their core competencies
- Monitor all submitted manuscripts and provide periodic updates on the outcomes
- Work together with the other AFENET staff and MoHS Staff to write Concepts, Expressions of Interest, and/or proposals for any new initiatives that may arise during program implementation
- Participate active role in documentation of key projects, success stories and findings to be included in the Field Epidemiology Training Program archives
- Prepare and submit quarterly and annual technical reports
- Prepare success stories and other scientific products
- Assist with other duties as assigned by the FETP Resident Advisor

**Scope of work:**

The mentor will be assigned to the duty location at **Freetown-Sierra Leone** or may be required to transfer to any other location under the jurisdiction of the employer.

**Reporting:**

The mentor will be under the direct supervision of FETP Sierra Leone Resident Advisor.



## **Required Academic Qualifications:**

### **Essential**

- A Medical graduate, Master's in Public Health (MPH) or above
- A Graduate or staff member of a Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) in Africa or US CDC Epidemic Intelligence Services Program (EIS)
- At least 5 years' experience in Applied field epidemiology/public health
- Training and mentoring experiences in field epidemiology/public health
- Evidence of excellent oral and written communication skills, including presentation of scientific papers at conferences, and publications in peer-reviewed journals
- Literate in computer software including word processing, database, spreadsheets, statistical packages, and the Internet, epi-info, GIS
- Written and verbal fluency in English
- Evidence of good interpersonal and cross-cultural skills

### **Desirable**

- A Graduate of an accredited advance FET(L)P in Africa or similar setting
- Mentor or Resident Advisor work experience in any of the intermediate or advance FETP will be an added value
- At least 2 years of International work experience
- Experience in working with International Agencies such as AFENET, CDC, WHO, UNICEF
- Experience in scientific writing with evidence of publications in peer review journals
- Experience in teaching Epi-info, SPSS, and other advanced statistical tools

### **Attributes and qualities:**

- Passionate advocate for developing the training program
- Creative problem-solving skills
- Excellent inter-personal relationships and good skills in team spirit



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- Excellent qualities of good mentor and experience in facilitating epidemiological courses in line with adult learning principles
- Openness to new ideas and willingness to accept different opinions
- Willingness to travel for extended periods of time within the country

**BENEFITS:**

AFENET offers a competitive remuneration package to the successful candidate.

**How to apply:**

**Submit your resume, application letter, and relevant documentation to:**

- The Administration & Human Resource Office
- African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET)
- <https://recruitment.afenet.net> and a copy on Email: [sec@afenet.net](mailto:sec@afenet.net)

\*ONLY successful candidates shall be contacted for an interview.

**Please note that all applications should be sent online by close of business 5:30 pm (EAT)  
Thursday November 24, 2022**

**Note: More details about this position can be obtained from our website: [www.afenet.net](http://www.afenet.net) \**

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