



*In Search of Better Health*

## KENYA MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### **Assistant Research Officer (School Engagement Programme) KEMRI - Wellcome Research Programme Kilifi**

The Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) is a state corporation established through the Science and Technology (Amendment) Act of 1979, as the national body responsible for carrying out health research in Kenya. KEMRI's vision is "to be a leading centre of excellence in research for human health," and its mission is "to improve human health and quality of life through research, capacity building, innovation, and service delivery."

The KEMRI-Wellcome Research Programme (KWPR) is a partnership between KEMRI, Wellcome, and the University of Oxford. The Programme established in 1989, has evolved from conducting research in the immunology and epidemiology of malaria to a world class research institute conducting multi-disciplinary research that spans molecular biology to health systems and policy research. The Program works across 3 main hubs in Kenya (Nairobi and Kilifi) based at the KEMRI Centre for Geographical Medicine Research- Coast Kilifi and Uganda (Mbale) with an international network of collaborating sites.

#### **The Project**

The School Engagement Programme fosters dialogue between researchers and students to promote interest in health science and research. It aims at promoting an interest in science and science related careers among students and to promote mutual understanding between members of the community and researchers.

The KEMRI-Wellcome Research Programme (KWPR) seeks to invite applications from experienced person to fill the following position.

**Reference Number:** KWTRP26/ARO-SEP/002

**Job Title:** Assistant Research Officer(School Engagement Programme)

**Thematic Area:** Health Systems and Research Ethics (HSRE)

**Location:** Kilifi Office

**Duration:** One (1) Year, renewable subject to availability of funds and performance

#### **REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:**

**Reports to:** School Engagement Programme Lead

**Direct and indirect reportees:** None

#### **BUDGET AND RESOURCE RESPONSIBILITY:**

**Financial:** None

**Budgeting and Planning:** None

## **JOB PURPOSE:**

The jobholder will be expected to will work closely with primary school teachers and education partners to identify, implement and evaluate a primary school engagement activity with health research. The incumbent will also participate in SEP Research activities by providing the necessary support in proposal development, grants/ funds administration data analysis, building collaborations, disseminations and capacity building initiatives.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- i. Participate in the development, implementation and review of School Engagement Programme's strategic and operational plans, budgets, policies and procedures that are aligned to the Project's strategic goals and objectives
- ii. Participate in building and maintaining networks and collaborations with the various stakeholders such as Ministry of Education, Teachers, Health clubs, other Departments and research groups.
- iii. Plan and conduct Primary and Junior School engagement activities that are aligned to the Project's strategic goals and objectives. Such activities include Science literacy sessions, Science modelling competitions, career talks and mobile lab demonstrations
- iv. Participate in capacity building through planning and conducting stakeholder feedback sessions, evaluating Primary and Junior school learners' activities and supporting recruitment and consenting of participants where relevant.
- v. Contribute to data collection by participating in the design and development of data collection tools, data collection, analysis, interpretation and disseminating the same through summaries, reports and Presentations to various Stakeholders.
- vi. Document and monitor planned engagement activities, including student participation, feedback, and lessons learned, to inform continuous improvement and innovation in school engagement initiatives.
- vii. Support the operations of the SEP team by assisting in day to day coordination, logistics, planning and participate in other Project HR Management activities to ensure effective delivery of the SEP goals and objectives.
- viii. Contribute to the SEP full compliance with all relevant internal ethical and Research Governance protocols, policies and procedures by ensuring proper documentation and adherence for all research activities.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

### **The successful applicant will have:**

- i. Minimum Bachelor's Degree in Biological Sciences, Social Sciences, Communication or any other relevant field from a recognized university
- ii. Minimum One (1) Year experience in supporting school or young people engagement activities at a reputable institution
- iii. Experience in working with students, research engagement or early-career science teaching, including developing teaching/learning aids

## **BEHAVIOURAL COMPETENCIES:**

- i. Demonstrated high levels of integrity and confidentiality
- ii. Excellent interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills
- iii. Ability to work with diverse, multidisciplinary teams and build strong relationships with internal and external collaborators
- iv. Excellent analytical skills and ability to deliver quality outputs within strict timelines.
- v. Flexibility, adaptability, multi-tasking and attention to detail

## **PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS:**

The postholder will be expected to work flexibly, including occasionally outside normal working hours when required.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

All applications for roles in KEMRI and its partners (including KWRP) are centrally applied for using [https://www.kemri.go.ke/e-recruitment portal](https://www.kemri.go.ke/e-recruitment-portal). To apply for this post, you must register as a user. Log into your account, then proceed to the vacancies, view the post and click on the button: **"Apply Now"**

Applications which should include your CV, Cover letter, copies of certified academic certificates, testimonials and other relevant documents should be made through KEMRI Website

Successful candidates will be required to provide the following: Certificate of good conduct,

Higher Education Loans Board compliance certificate, KRA Tax compliance certificate, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission clearance.

Applicants are required to state their current/last salary.

Applicants are required to provide a valid email address and telephone number for communication regarding interview invitations. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. During the interview, shortlisted candidates must present the ORIGINALS of the following documents: National Identity Card or Passport, academic and professional certificates, academic transcripts, testimonials, a detailed curriculum vitae (CV), and a valid clearance certificate (Certificate of Good Conduct or its equivalent).

All the applications to be done through KEMRI Website [https://www.kemri.go.ke/e-recruitment portal](https://www.kemri.go.ke/e-recruitment-portal) on or before 27<sup>th</sup> May ,2026 by 12.00 p.m.

**KEMRI IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER COMMITTED TO DIVERSITY; PERSONS WHO ARE ABLED DIFFERENTLY, WOMEN, YOUTH AND THOSE FROM MARGINALIZED AREAS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY. DIRECT OR INDIRECT CANVASSING WILL LEAD TO AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION. KEMRI DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF ITS RECRUITMENT PROCESS INCLUDING APPLICATION, INTERVIEW AND PROCESSING OF OFFER LETTER. IF ASKED FOR A FEE, REPORT SUCH REQUEST IMMEDIATELY.**