



*In Search of Better Health*

## KENYA MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### **Research Officer (Health Systems Evaluation and Data Analytics) KEMRI - Wellcome Research Programme Nairobi**

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

#### **Research Officer – Health Systems Evaluation and Data Analytics (KWPR)**

**Reference Number: KWTRP/26/RO-HSE&DA/011**

**Employment Type: Full time**

**Thematic Area: Population and Health Impact Surveillance Group (PHISG KWPR)**

**Location: Nairobi**

#### **JOB PURPOSE:**

This position offers an exciting opportunity for a graduate-level candidate (MSc in Epidemiology, Statistics, or Spatial Data Science) to apply cutting-edge analytics, geospatial analysis, and statistical modelling to real-world challenges in health—particularly maternal and child health. The successful candidate will contribute to two interconnected research themes within the Population and Health Impact Surveillance Group (PHISG):

- i. Record linkage and mortality data quality, using Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) data from Kenya to address critical questions about displacement in reported dates of birth, inconsistencies in child mortality reporting, and completeness of civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS).
- ii. Analysis of household survey data on birth and death registration.
- iii. Analysing District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) data.

- iv. Support for a multi-country evaluation of maternal and newborn health services, focused on implementation strength and effective coverage across several countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The role also involves significant contributions to data science, geospatial data science, leveraging skills in R, Python, spatial modelling, web mapping, and data mining.

#### **DESCRIPTION:**

**Reports to:** Study PI and Study Supervisor (with matrix supervision from relevant project leads)

**Direct reports:** None

**Indirect reports:** None

**Budget and Resource Responsibility:** Responsible for allocated hardware and software

#### **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

For the Population and Health Impact Surveillance Research Unit and under the direction of the supervisors to:

##### **i. Record Linkage Using Kenyan HDSS Data**

- Develop and apply probabilistic record linkage methodologies using data from multiple HDSS sites to assess completeness of birth and death registration.
- Identify and quantify systematic reporting differences in age-at-death and birth dates in survey and routine data.
- Conduct analysis of primary household survey data on birth and death registration to understand factors influencing registration practices.
- Generate reproducible scripts and documentation using Python and spatial/statistical packages.

##### **ii. Evaluation of Maternal and Newborn Care Services**

- Support geospatially disaggregated analyses to assess implementation strength, equity of access, and quality of care.
- Contribute to evaluating the impact of maternal and newborn health initiatives.
- Assist in data harmonization and integration across sites using relational databases and web mapping tools.

##### **iii. Data Science and Geospatial Analysis**

- Integrate geospatial analytics and open web mapping tools to support interactive dashboards and decision-support systems.
- Apply data mining and statistical inference to assess determinants of inequity and health system performance.
- Analysing DHIS2 data to generate actionable insights on health interventions and monitor trends in morbidity and mortality.

##### **iv. Research and Learning**

- Contribute to peer-reviewed manuscripts, technical reports, and policy briefs.
- Participate in capacity-building activities, seminars, and collaborative research meetings.
- Stay current with emerging methods in health systems science, GIS, and epidemiology.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

**The successful applicant will have:**

- i. Recognised Postgraduate qualification in MSc in Spatial Data Science, Public Health, Epidemiology, Statistics, or a related field with strong quantitative components.
- ii. At least three(3) years working experience in related field, health research.
- iii. Experience working with CRVS, HDSS and or DHS, or similar health and demographic datasets.
- iv. Proficiency in statistical software (e.g., R, Stata) and GIS tools (e.g., ArcGIS, QGIS).
- v. Strong Python programming skills and experience with web mapping or spatial data pipelines.
- vi. Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including scientific writing.

## **DESIRABLE**

Demonstrated expertise in analytical thinking and statistical methods, with the ability to interpret complex data and generate actionable insights.

## **COMPETENCIES:**

- i. High initiative and willingness to take on new analytical and scientific challenges.
- ii. Strong organizational skills and ability to work under tight deadlines.
- iii. Ability to work independently and collaboratively across teams.
- iv. Experience producing high-quality visualizations and spatial outputs for policy and scientific use.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH**

This role is ideal for an early-career researcher aiming to:

- i. Build a career in health systems research and impact evaluation.
- ii. Engage in large-scale multi-country implementation science.
- iii. Co-author scientific publications and contribute to regional and global health measurement.
- iv. Be mentored toward future scientific leadership roles.

## **PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS:**

This position will be entirely based in Nairobi.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

All applications for roles in KEMRI and its partners (including KWPR) 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.**

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