

Research and Evaluation Advisor – South Africa Program

ABOUT I-TECH

The International Training and Education Center for Health (I-TECH) is a collaboration between the University of Washington and the University of California, San Francisco. It is a center in the University of Washington's Department of Global Health (DGH) and has offices throughout Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean. I-TECH's 700 worldwide staff work in partnership with local ministries of health, universities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), medical facilities, and other organizations to support the development of a skilled health work force and well-organized national health delivery systems. I-TECH's activities occur primarily in the technical areas of health system strengthening; health workforce development; operations research and evaluation; and prevention, care, and treatment of infectious diseases.

GENERAL FUNCTION

Research & Evaluation Advisor is a leader of high level and complex evaluations and research projects based in South Africa. This position in collaboration with the in-country team designs and leads research studies and impact evaluations, including data collection, tool development and analysis. The Research & Evaluation Advisor is responsible for identifying indicators and documenting program outcomes. The position plays a lead role in drafting protocols and Institutional Review Board applications, writing reports and publishing findings. An experience research scientist, this position mentors others in research and evaluation methodology and provides organizational level advice. This position is based at I-TECH's HQ office in Seattle

RESPONSIBILITIES

Research and Evaluation Design & Implementation - (~20%)

The Research & Evaluation Advisor in collaboration with in-country program teams leads program evaluation design and implementation efforts, including:

- Advising on research agendas for the team or program;
- Providing oversight and leadership in research design;
- Developing research protocols, tools and Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications;
- Providing oversight and/or training in coding and analyzing data; developing or modifying databases for analysis of data; using statistical software to analyze quantitative data
- Developing, implementing and maintaining data quality systems
- Developing findings into data reports and presentations;
- Providing oversight in conducting data quality assessments;
- Support for M&E plan and logic model development and routine monitoring and reporting

Technical & Organizational Leadership - (~20%)

Acts as a technical leader in the organization for research and evaluation efforts, including:

- Collaboratively leading programs and research projects with an in-country
- Monitoring and Evaluation Team;
- Function as a counterpart to the Strategic Information team in-country for program evaluation design, oversight of data-collection, analysis (qualitative and quantitative), and reporting.
- Providing multiple and cross-project leadership;
- Identifying operations research opportunities and developing concept notes and proposals;

- Identifying, disseminating and applying information from literature or experts related to evaluation of health systems, quality improvement, and human capacity development methodologies;
- Providing management and coordination of study implementation;
- Developing effective working relationships with key study partners, including CDC, MOH, universities, and local ethical review boards, to ensure timely implementation of research
- Advancing innovative strategies and research methodologies;
- Providing research and evaluation expertise to the organization

Research Capacity Building – (~20%)

- Directing capacity building efforts in implementing and managing a study and research skills of staff in-country and at Headquarters;
- Developing and conducting training for data collection teams;
- Strategizing on how to raise research capacity of the constituents of the programs;
- Designing research training courses for transition partners
- Ensure program and M&E staff harmonize efforts for M&E planning, and program evaluations

Dissemination of Results and Efforts – (~20%)

The Research & Evaluation Advisor provides technical leadership in the following:

- Assist and lead study and program monthly or quarterly progress reports to funder;
- Leading publication efforts;
- Supporting program teams to communicate project results to peer reviewed journals;
- Presenting research and evaluation findings
- Assist and lead report writing and increase the quality of written program products and deliverables.
- Lead new grant writing efforts in response to future FOAs

Leadership and Management (20%)

- Primary backstop for Senior Program Manager (SPM), which will require some program management skills including budget management, and deep knowledge of programs across grants.
- Co-develop program strategy, logic model, M&E vision including graphic representation of programs to illustrate program aims and their linkage to country and donor priorities.
- Represent I-TECH SA at key stakeholder meetings at HQ as needed.
- Lead and support SPM with pre/post award narratives and general grants and contracts administration (including consulting agreements, sub awards, and travel etc..)
- Lead strategic planning and writing as it relates to linking program impact to PEPFAR priorities.

REQUIREMENTS

- Ph.D. in public health or other social or behavioral science plus 3+ years' research or M&E experience OR Master's degree in public health or other social or behavioral science plus 6+ years' research or M&E experience.
- Demonstrated ability to think conceptually about evaluation questions and to apply evaluation theory to practice.
- Extensive experience leading and implementing formal evaluations or program research in resource limited settings.
- Experience training and managing a research team.
- Must be knowledgeable about research ethics and institutional review board requirements in

- US-based academic and international settings.
- Demonstrated experience in a range of quantitative and qualitative methods and data analysis; willingness to learn quantitative and qualitative analytic techniques necessary for the research or evaluation studies.
- Familiarity with one or more of the following fields: training/human resource development;
- HIV/AIDS care and support services; family planning/reproductive health service delivery; data management/quality assurance.
- Experience with complex, multi-faceted projects.
- Demonstrated ability to facilitate communication between professionals with a variety of cultural backgrounds in a respectful and diplomatic manner and enhance effective partnerships.
- Demonstrated excellent writing and presentation skills and experience; proven track record of peer reviewed publication.
- Ability to travel internationally.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience working in team settings in sub-Saharan Africa and specifically South Africa; experience with health education/training, preferably in an international context.
- Strong experience in working with PEPFAR or federal US government agencies and their respective reporting requirements.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Flexible work schedule may be necessary to accommodate time differences between the west coast and International partners, for both conference calls and travel. International travel up to 30% may be required.