



Research, M&E Officer

WVP Kenya is seeking a Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer to support with the on-going monitoring of WVP Kenya programmes as well as research activities. WVP Kenya is a small youth-focused development NGO that was set up in 2006, running the largest scholarship programme in the Bondo District of western Kenya. Other development activities include a community capacity support programme, sports and health education, building of primary health care infrastructure and social protection of orphaned and caregiving children. Our research activities include the exploration of supportive school contexts. For more details, visit www.wvpkenya.org.uk

Location:	Bondo District, Kenya
Period:	A minimum of two years starting from January 2012
Hours:	Approximately 42 hours a week, but flexibility required.
Salary:	Between KES 10 000-15 000 per month subject to experience and performance
Accountable to:	Dr Morten Skovdal and Mr Vincent Onyango Ogutu

Background:

The mission of World Voices Positive (WVP) Kenya is to give children and youth in Kenya affected by poverty and disease a fair start to life through education, participation in health enhancing activities, and a strengthening of community responses to their needs. WVP Kenya currently operates seven core and inter-linked programmes: providing primary, secondary, vocational and tertiary scholarships; engaging children and youth in sports and health activities; building community capacity through the provision of social and financial resources to support orphaned and vulnerable children; facilitating the building of basic infrastructure; engaging local people in advocacy for healthy and sustainable living; supporting caregiving children; and providing direct assistance to families and children who are most in need.

In addition, WVP Kenya is currently setting up a research programme in collaboration with the Department of Health Promotion and Development, University of Bergen, Norway. This programme seeks to explore the different ways schools can be supportive of vulnerable and caregiving children.

Job Summary:

This is a key post in a 24 month research project that investigates the role of schools in Bondo supporting vulnerable and caregiving children. The successful candidate will work closely with the project's Principal Investigator Dr Morten Skovdal. The project will be carried out in accordance with a research design and dissemination plan drawn up by the Principal Investigator. It involves building rapport with the schools, community groups, teachers and students and carry out the data collection. The appointee will organise and conduct interviews and other participatory research methodologies (e.g. Photovoice). The appointee will be asked to transcribe and translate all the raw data and contribute to reports and academic publications on the basis of this data; communicate the findings to diverse audiences including the communities we work with, interest/advocacy groups and policy makers; and assist in organising conferences and other events related to the project.

In addition to this designated research project, the Research, M&E Officer will spend approx. 50% of his or her time contributing to the on-going monitoring and evaluation of WVP Kenya programmes, which are also to lead to academic publications.

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Taking a substantial and independent day-to-day lead in implementing the full research design, managing data collection and preparation (through transcribing and translation)
- Implementing the dissemination plan of the project.
- Initiating and sustaining links with external bodies to foster collaboration and influence decision-making.
- Presenting research at national conferences.
- Organise seminars and workshops.
- Developing creative approaches to research challenges.
- Playing a constructive role in the life of WVP Kenya.
- Training and managing the work of a research assistant.
- Other project related activities as determined by the Primary Investigators.
- Building rapport with school leaders, teachers, children and community members.
- Set up monitoring and evaluation systems for WVP Kenya development programmes.

Person Specification

Criteria	E/D
Applicants must have a BSc in Anthropology, Psychology, Social Work or related subject	E
Previous experience of qualitative research in areas related to HIV/AIDS and vulnerable children	E
Understanding and experience of handling the ethical challenges of conducting participatory research with vulnerable children.	E
Ability and willingness to work as part of a team	E
First-hand experience of involvement in community-based support for vulnerable children in Africa	E
Ability at and demonstrable experience of independent initiative and creative problem solving.	E
Organisational and administrative skills	E
Experience setting up monitoring and evaluation systems	E

Proficient in using Microsoft Office programmes	E
License to drive a motorbike, or willingness to learn.	E
Ability to communicate in Dholuo language	E
Experience of undertaking routine research administrative tasks	D
Experience of interacting with interest groups and policy makers.	D
Experience of organising events (conferences, seminars, focus groups and similar.)	D
Ability to get research findings published in journal articles as demonstrated through published work (or forthcoming work that has been accepted for publication), measured in relation to the applicant's career stage.	D
Experience in cash management	D

E – Essential: Requirements without which the job could not be done.

D – Desirable: Requirements that would enable the candidate to perform the job well.

Should I apply?

This position represents a good opportunity for anyone looking to develop a research, M&E or academic career. The appointee will be a co-author of all articles and reports produced and receive research training from the Principle Investigator.

Only apply if you meet the person specifications.

To apply for this position, please e-mail your CV and a cover letter that outlines your motivation for applying for this position and how you meet the person specifications to workwithus@wvphenya.org.uk.

The deadline for applying is December 20, 2011