



## JOB DESCRIPTION

IDENTIFICATION	
JOB TITLE	Advocacy and Communications Advisor
REPORTING TO	Director, Global Health Research Development and Innovation (GH RD&I)
DEPARTMENT/UNIT	Africa Research, Development and Innovations
DURATION OF CONTRACT	3 years, renewable
DUTY STATION	Amref Health Africa Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya

### ABOUT AMREF HEALTH AFRICA

Amref Health Africa was founded in 1957 and has since grown to become the largest African-based international health development organisation; currently implementing more than 180 programs, reaching more than 40 million people across 35 African countries; and a staff complement of over 2,000. Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, Amref Health Africa has offices in ten countries in Africa – Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guinea (Conakry), Kenya, Malawi, Senegal, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. An additional eleven advocacy and fundraising offices are located in Europe and North America.

Amref Health Africa is driven by its vision of ***'Lasting health change in Africa'*** and its mission ***'To catalyze and drive community-led and people-centred health systems while addressing social determinants of health'***. We believe that the power to transform Africa's health lies within its communities, and therefore strive to ensure that health systems are not only functional but that communities are empowered to hold these systems accountable for the delivery of quality and affordable health care.

### ABOUT THE PROJECT

Health Research, Development, and Innovation (RD&I) is a program whose mission is to strengthen Africa's research and development (R&D) policy and resource capacity to accelerate the development of, access to, and uptake of innovations with the highest potential health impact.

### JOB PURPOSE

The Advocacy and Communications Advisor will be responsible for planning, execution and oversight of all advocacy and communications related needs within the GH RD&I Unit, with a specific focus on documentation, knowledge management, communications, and information sharing to inform advocacy efforts, policy, and practice.

## **PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Lead communication and outreach initiatives and planning
- Take the lead in sourcing, drafting, and disseminating timely and regular GH RD&I content for various Amref communication platforms which include the websites, social media platforms, newsletters, annual reports and other information, education and communication materials
- Develop and implement advocacy and strategic communication strategies to engage a wide range of stakeholders, including government officials, donors, media outlets, CSOs on GH RD&I
- Facilitate dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders to ensure alignment and ownership of advocacy and communication initiatives.
- Provide training, mentoring and resources to build the capacity of other staff and partners to undertake effective communications when needed.
- Build strong relationships with media so that Amref's RD&I efforts receives effective coverage to advance its goals
- Elevate the voice and expertise of RD&I influencers and champions by publishing opinion pieces at key moments, prepping them for interviews, and providing ongoing guidance and support.
- Leverage trends in media coverage, key announcements, new evidence and high-level conversations to further work on GH RD&I strategies and approaches
- Identify strategic moments and opportunities, and new champions to influence target stakeholders and amplify Amref's GH RD&I goals and objectives
- Getting partners, influencers, and decision-makers in the same place by overseeing high-level events, including identifying invitees and speakers, and developing agendas or presentations
- Building new coalitions of support for an issue with dedicated outreach, organization and relationship management
- Working with key experts, take the lead in media engagement activities and training to raise the profile of RD&I as well as showcase BMGFs support towards strengthening health research and development in Africa.
- Produce a quarterly communications report to highlight achievements, explain any deviations from annual plans, propose solutions and point out risks and obstacles.

## **EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND ABILITIES**

### **Education and Experience**

- Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences or health communications studies required and Master's degree in a related field
- At least 6 years of experience in advocacy, communications, public relations and campaigns, preferably in public health, global development.
- Experience working with media to develop in-depth stories on complex health topics
- Experience managing partnerships to achieve ambitious results
- Experience interpreting scientific literature and data for a lay audience. Experience in GH RD&I projects, is an added advantage

### **Skills, Knowledge and Competencies**

- Strong analytical, writing, and verbal skills for communicating with a broad and diverse audience.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a multi-cultural and multi-partner environment and establish harmonious and effective working relationships, both within and outside the organization.

- Ability to plan, manage and work in high-pressure situations under tight deadlines
- Strong organization skills and attention to detail
- Ability to write story-driven content about complex technical subjects and projects that engages target audiences and enhances the organization's image.
- Sensitivity to diverse audiences and demonstrated sound judgement about messaging.
- Ability to connect individual communications activities or products to higher-level strategies and goals.
- Developed understanding of needs of media and public audiences, preferably with NGO relevant approach.
- Excellent communications skills
- Resourcefulness; Problem-solving skills
- Good interpersonal skills, collaborating, influencing skills
- Highly organized; Detail oriented
- Project management skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point, etc.) and the usual practice of desktop and electronic communication tools and software.
- Fluency in English. Knowledge of French would be an advantage.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

Interested? Please visit our website <https://amref.org/vacancies/> to make your application. You will be directed to our online portal where you will need to create an account in order for you to be able to submit your application. Your application should include a cover letter detailing why you are the best fit for this position and your CV with relevant skills and experience. Closing date will be **May 28<sup>th</sup> 2024**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

*Duly note that Amref Health Africa does not require applicants to pay any money at whatever stage of the recruitment and selection process and has not retained any agent in connection with recruitment. Although Amref may use different job boards from time to time to further spread its reach for applicants, all open vacancies are published on our website under the Vacancies page and on our official social media pages. Kindly also note that official emails from Amref Health Africa will arrive from an @amref.org address.*

*Amref Health Africa is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff to share this commitment. Amref Health Africa is an equal opportunity employer and has a non-smoking environment policy.*