

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE	Policy and Advocacy Associate	LOCATION	Windhoek, Namibia
REPORTING TO	Head of Communications, Partnership and Advocacy	LENGTH OF CONTRACT	Start: 01 November 2020 End: 30 September 2021
ROLE TYPE	International	GRADE	
TRAVEL INVOLVED	40%	DIRECT REPORTS	NA

Organizational background

The Elimination 8 (E8) regional initiative, formed in 2009, was established under the auspices of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) to provide a platform for coordinating regional malaria elimination efforts. The E8 aims to accelerate zero local transmission in four low transmission "frontline countries"— Botswana, Eswatini, Namibia, and South Africa — by 2020, and to pave the way for elimination in four middle- to high-transmission "second line countries"— Angola, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe — by 2030, through enhanced collaboration and coordination. Specifically, it has the following mandate:

- To strengthen regional coordination in order to achieve elimination in each of the E8 member countries;
- 2. To elevate and maintain the regional elimination agenda at the highest political levels within the E8 countries;
- 3. To promote knowledge management, quality control, and policy harmonization to accelerate progress towards elimination;
- 4. To facilitate the reduction of cross-border malaria transmission; and
- 5. To secure resources to support the regional elimination, plan, and to ensure long term sustainable financing for the region's elimination ambitions.

JD overview

The Policy and Advocacy Associate plays a key role in the delivery of a harmonized approach to malaria elimination in southern Africa by using best practices and lessons in policy harmonization from the E8 to catalyze an elimination roadmap for all SADC countries to achieve malaria elimination by 2030. The Policy and Advocacy Associate assists with E8's relations with its mother body, SADC, ensuring full integration and execution of one unified regional strategy. The Policy and Advocacy Associate will coordinate member states and partners at a technical, strategic and policy level in order to attain these objectives. The Policy and Advocacy Associate also provides general support to the Advocacy objectives of the organization, and reports to the Head of Communications, Partnership and Advocacy.

Key Result Areas:

Policy:

- Work internally with the E8 and SADC Secretariats to ensure synchronized operations at the operational and policy levels; and
- Collate technical, strategic, and policy evidence to assist an evidence-based transition of member states from control to elimination.

Advocacy:

- Coordinates and monitors the development and the implementation of a costed roadmap towards malaria elimination in the SADC region;
- Support the work of the E8 Secretariat as the malaria desk for the SADC region;
- Work externally with donors, partners and networks as relevant, to advocate for buy-in into one elimination roadmap;
- Build and manage relationships with colleagues at a national, regional and global level to support the design and effective delivery of common strategies;
- Support and monitor implementation of these national strategies and in some cases conduct direct advocacy and lobbying, including in countries where local capacity is low or absent;
- Represent E8's interests and direction in supporting key advocacy partnerships, collaborations and networks as well as forging new relationships; and
- Coordinate meetings of member states and partners to jointly identify, monitor, and evaluate strategies towards a collaborative approach to malaria elimination.

Project management and team support:

 Project lead in the development of work plans, targets and milestones for regional priorities, in line with Head of Communications, Partnership and Advocacy's recommendations, the department objectives and overall organisational objectives.

Qualifications Required:

• Degree/master's in development studies, Public Health Policy, Project Management, Development Economics or similar field, or equivalent work experience.

Experience Required:

- +5 years' experience in a similar advocacy role;
- Good knowledge of international development and development policy frameworks, such as aid effectiveness mechanisms, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) frameworks, etc;
- Good knowledge of major bilateral and multilateral donors and their funding interests/priorities;
- Good knowledge of the political and financial landscape of the SADC region;
- Experience of working in networks and building strong working relationships with a range of stakeholders;
- Good experience of event organisation and management;
- · Good experience of monitoring and evaluating advocacy activities for impact;
- Knowledge of major trends and current issues in health including but not limited to health economics;
- Excellent knowledge of the principles of advocacy and what it involves at a high level of stakeholder engagement; and
- Experience in project and budget management.

Competencies Required:

- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal;
- Ability to work in multi-cultural environments and to manage a busy workload with fluctuating deadlines:
- Ability to travel at short notice, around the SADC region;
- Proven team skills, including flexibility and enthusiasm;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office programmes;
- Proficiency in English, Portuguese and French are an added advantage; and
- Applicant should be a citizen of SADC.