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INNOVETH: Innovative Health Intervention for Ethiopian Migrant Domestic Workers in the Middle East

Call for Applications for a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Background

Every year, more than 350,000 Ethiopian women migrate to the Middle East legally, and many others illegally, seeking domestic work. Economic crisis, rising unemployment, and internal conflict contribute to this massive migration. The bilateral agreement between the Ethiopian government and each destination country requires potential migrant domestic workers (MDWs) to undertake rigorous pre-migration medical check-ups. Nevertheless, MDWs are subject to overwork; mental, sexual and reproductive health challenges; and limited healthcare access in their respective destination countries. Previous studies on Ethiopian MDWs are mostly exploratory or cross-sectional, and longitudinal and interventional studies are lacking. Hence, the INNOVETH project (Innovative Health Intervention for Ethiopian Migrant Domestic Workers in the Middle East) is aimed to provide healthcare support to these vulnerable women by leveraging social networks, social media, and innovative technology.

The INNOVETH project is an ambitious consortium established in collaboration among Addis Ababa University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Oslo Metropolitan University, Armaeur Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), and St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College. INNOVETH is a four-year project aimed to implement and evaluate innovative, risk-differentiated and complex health intervention to improve mental, sexual and reproductive health of Ethiopian MDWs, thereby enhancing their empowerment, resilience and wellbeing. INNOVETH is also intended to involve and engage key stakeholders and build capacity of early career researchers. The INNOVETH project, therefore, seeks to recruit a passionate and competent postdoctoral fellow in epidemiology, medical statistics, or biostatistics who will work on a clustered randomized control trial on mental health, sexual and reproductive health and data science focusing on Ethiopian MDWs in the Middle East.

Duration of the Fellowship

Maximum of 3 years with no possibility of extension.

Main Activities and Responsibilities

The post-doctoral fellow is expected to undertake the following and other related activities.

- Support the PI and Co-PIs in coordinating the implementation of the trial
- Attend weekly project management and steering committee meetings
- Contribute in stakeholder engagement and involvement and capacity building activities
- Contribute to data collection, management, processing and synthesis.
- Contribute to peer-reviewed publications and other outputs, including as lead author.

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- Undertake high quality research and scholarship, including contributing to developing major grant proposals and/or leading on preparing small grant proposals.
- Contribute to PhD student support, as appropriate to qualifications and experience.
- Manage small grants or elements of larger grants, ensuring compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy and other relevant Institutions' policies.
- Support the PI, Co-PIs and other project staff in the administrative aspects of the project.

Eligibility Criteria

A competent candidate for the epidemiology/bio-statistics postdoctoral fellowship should fulfill the following criteria.

- Ethiopian citizen/resident.
- PhD in epidemiology, biostatistics, or mental/reproductive health/public health epidemiology with a very strong focus on quantitative data analysis and/or clustered randomized trials.
- Have research experience in Mental Health, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Public Health or Epidemiology.
- Experience using advanced statistical models for real data analysis/analysing large data.
- Have experience contributing to written outputs, preferably to publications in peer-reviewed journals, and preferably as lead or corresponding author.
- Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team, and proven ability to meet deadlines.
- Evidence for excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
- Evidence of good organizational skills, including effective time management.
- Experience of writing or contributing to research grant applications.
- Experience of supervising and supporting junior researchers and/or research degree students, and non-academic staff.
- Have advanced computer skills and data analysis skills using different soft wares (e.g. SAS, STATA or R).
- Strong personal motivation and willingness to travel to field sites as required.
- Able to commit 100% of her/his time to the project (i.e. **No additional affiliation to other projects or institutions is allowed**).
- Willing to involve in and carry out other project related activities.
- **Women are highly encouraged to apply.**

Value of the Fellowship

The selected postdoctoral fellow will spend a minimum of two weeks in one of our collaborating institutions abroad. The fellow will receive an attractive monthly stipend during her/his stay in Ethiopia and subsistence, and accommodation will be covered during her/his stay abroad in addition to the round-trip air ticket.

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Required Documents

Applicants must submit the following documents:

- Application Letter (1 page)
- Motivation Letter detailing why you are interested in the fellowship, as well as a description about how your background and experience fits with the project (Maximum 3 pages)
- Detailed Curriculum Vitae (up to 5 Pages)
- Copy of academic credentials (degrees and transcripts)
- List of publications
- Two Letters of Recommendation (one from a PhD supervisor and another from your current immediate supervisor or an academic reference or professional reference who knows you well and can comment on your potential as a Postdoctoral fellow).

Please, note that **only applicants who fulfilled all the eligibility criteria and who submitted all the required documents will be considered.** Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for the interview.

How to Apply?

Applicants should submit their application with the required documents to info@innoveth.org before 30th June 2026. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

For more information: **Text on WhatsApp** +251 911 677774 | +251 911 697732 | +44 7361551207