

Job Description

Job Title: Research Associate, Qualitative Methods. 12 months FTC.

Job Location: Haywards Heath, UK

Reports to: Global Technical Lead, Health and Disability Research

Responsible for: N/A

Job Holder: N/A

Department: Policy & Strategic Programme Support

Job Purpose (the overall purpose and function of the job):

To provide technical support to Sightsavers' research programmes using qualitative and particularly participatory methodologies across the programme thematic areas of health and inclusion. To work with colleagues across the organisation to embed participatory research activities within broader research, M&E and programme activities, where appropriate.

The post holder will work as part of the Sightsavers' Research team and will primarily support studies using qualitative and participatory methods; however, contributions to other research (e.g. disability surveys; quality of life studies; and impact evaluations) may be expected.

Principal Accountabilities (specific activities and end results):

- Identify research questions; develop study protocols and research tools and submit ethics applications;
- Devise and undertake literature reviews to contribute and evidence scoping;
- Liaise with Sightsavers in-country staff and programme/ academic partners and set up fieldwork data collection;
- Train and supervise fieldwork teams, contributing to data collection where necessary;
- Develop data analysis protocols and analyse the data;
- Write study reports and peer-reviewed publications;
- Present data at the national and international conferences;
- Work with fundraising teams to submit research grant applications;

Jobholder Entry Requirements - *the essential knowledge, skills and behaviours required*

Knowledge (Education & Related Experience):

- Postgraduate degree (at least at Masters level) in psychology, anthropology, education, sociology or related discipline.
- Excellent knowledge of different research paradigms and methods, particularly qualitative and participatory methodological approaches.
- Demonstrable experience of conducting research in the areas of education and/or health with a focus on inclusion.
- Understanding of research governance and ethical principles particularly in relation to research with children and people with disabilities.
- Experience of conducting research among disadvantaged or marginalised communities.
- Understanding of international development and experience of working in low and/or middle income countries (desirable).
- Experience of working in partnership with academic institutions.
- Experience of writing literature reviews, research grant applications, research reports and peer-reviewed publications.

Skills (Special Training or Competence):

- Ability to plan, design, undertake and supervise primary research.
- Ability to collect data using qualitative and participatory approaches.
- Analysis of qualitative data, using qualitative software packages, e.g. NVIVO, ATLAS ti.
- Excellent written and spoken communication skills in English.
- Excellent written and spoken communication skills in French (desirable).
- Ability to motivate and work within multidisciplinary and multicultural teams.
- Ability to work under pressure.
- Willingness and ability to travel for up to 12 weeks a year (international).

Core Behaviours:

- Communicating & Influencing
- Team Working
- Planning & Organising
- Change & Improvement
- Decision Making
- Delivery and Implementation

Key Relationships

Internal:

- Research team
- Monitoring, evaluation & learning team



- Global Technical Leads (Eye Health, Education, and Social Inclusion)
- Regional and Country Directors
- Global fundraising teams
- Policy and advocacy team

External:

- Academic institutions
- Other INGOs
- Bi-lateral and multi-lateral development agencies
- Research and other donor organisations.

Date: August 2020