

Volunteer for review of Somaliland medical school standards

Terms of Reference

Somaliland Medical School Standards

Volunteer Brief and Terms of Reference

Summary

King's Global Health Partnerships is seeking a volunteer with experience in medical education to support a national consultant to review the standards for medical schools. This work will be conducted between January and March 2021 and is part of 'Prepared for Practice', a five-year project that aims to ensure medical, nursing and midwifery have the knowledge, skills and confidence to practice clinically when they graduate. Given current international travel restrictions, the support will be provided remotely. The following terms of reference describes the opportunity.

King's Global Health Partnerships

King's Global Health Partnerships (KGHP) works with health facilities, academic institutions, and governments to strengthen health systems and improve the quality of care in four countries: Somaliland, Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. We bring together health, academic and international development expertise from King's College London, the UK's National Health Service (NHS) and our international partners to educate, train and support healthcare workers; strengthen healthcare and training institutions; enhance national health policies and systems. Our programmes are delivered by volunteers, with educators, researchers, health professionals, managers and health sector leaders taking up volunteering placements to deliver technical advice, teaching, training, and distance mentoring and on the job support to their counterparts in the global south.

King's Somaliland Partnership

KGHP has been working in Somaliland to help strengthen the health system and improve the quality of care since 2000. We work with our partners to improve education and in-service training for health professionals, and strengthen policy and regulation, hospital management, and research. Key partners include the Ministries of Health and Education, health regulators, medical and nursing schools, and hospitals.

Context

King's Global Health Partnerships (KGHP) are currently delivering 'Prepared for Practice,' a five-year flagship project funded by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) that aims to reform the quality of higher education delivered to health professions. The policy pillar of the project aims to strengthen national oversight and regulation of health professions education. Tropical Health Education Trust (THET) leads this work, working closely with National Health Professions Commission (NHPC), Ministry of Health Development and Ministry of Education.

This piece of work is being delivered in partnership with NHPC which is responsible for the promotion of standards in the health sector. NHPC is responsible for ensuring that health professionals, health training programmes, and health care facilities meet the required standards to improve the quality of health services. The main functions of NHPC is registering and licensing of health professionals, licensing of health care facilities, and accrediting of health training programs.

In 2019 the Prepared for Practice supported the development of standards for medical education. The World Federation of Medical Education (WFME) were adapted to the Somaliland context and used in 2020 in an independent of assessment of medical schools, led by two consultants from the region in partnership with national stakeholders in medical education.

Aim

NHPC have identified a need to review the standards for medical education, building on recent experience and with a focus on ensuring the standards and associated tools are fit for purpose and can be used by NHPC to conduct assessments in the future. The aim of this consultancy is therefore to support a national consultant to: (1) review and revise the standards for medical schools (2) train NHPC in their use.

Proposed activities

Anticipated activities are as follows:

- Review the approach and methodology designed by the national consultant and work with them to strengthen and finalise it
- Support the national consultant to review the existing standards for assessing health training institutions and medical schools and the experience of the medical school assessment team from the national assessment in October 2019
- Support the national consultant to review existing medical school standards in similar contexts, including East Africa and Ethiopia.
- Support the national consultant to produce comprehensive Standards for Medical Schools
- Support the national consultant to produce an assessment tool based on the standards
- Support the national consultant to develop and deliver training to NHPC on the new standards, this will involve developing training materials and joining some of the training remotely

Timing

This piece of work be carried out between January and March 2021.

Who we are looking for

We are looking for a medical professional with the following:

- Professional experience in the field of medical education and standards.
- Experience of assessment or regulation in medical education.
- Bachelor or Master of Education (desirable)
- Experience of global health or education
- Experience of working with partners in low and middle income countries
- Excellent interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills
- Experience of engaging in projects remotely (comfortable with using Skype, Zoom, WhatsApp and email to communicate)

Our offer to you

You will have the opportunity to work as part of a dynamic team and contribute to improving health outcomes in Somaliland. In addition, there is strong evidence that health partnerships like ours do not only benefit people in low-resource settings. They also bring real benefit to NHS staff and services as well as citizens in our partner countries. Among others, these benefits include the opportunity to develop:

- Leadership skills
- Skills in interdisciplinary team working
- Knowledge and skills in innovation and quality improvement
- Clinical and teaching experience
- Cross-cultural experience and experience of managing diversity
- Personal resilience and efficiency – including an enhanced ability to stay calm and make good quality decisions

Application

All volunteer roles are appointed following an application and interview process, scheduled for a few days after the application deadline. To apply, **please send a CV and cover letter** outlining why you are interested in volunteering with King's Global Health Partnerships and how your experience and skills meet the requirements of the role, to kghp@kcl.ac.uk. The deadline for applications is 17/01/2021. Thank you for your interest in King's Global Health Partnerships.

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