

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



### **Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) Officer**

#### **Somali Voices**

Equal Access International

**Position Location:** Nairobi, Kenya

#### **Background:**

Equal Access International is an international not for profit organization (501c3) working throughout Asia and Africa. A communication for social change organization that combines the power of media with community mobilization, Equal Access creates customized communications strategies and outreach solutions that address the most critical challenges affecting people in the developing world in the areas of peace and transforming extremism, women's and girl's empowerment, governance, civic participation, youth development, human rights and health.

#### **Summary:**

EAI is preparing for the Somali Voices project, an 18-month activity funded by the US Department of State's Global Engagement Center. The project is designed to increase the resilience of Somali-speaking communities in Kenya to violent extremism, with an emphasis on increasing local capacity to counter al-Shabaab's recruitment efforts, and shifting attitudes related to ideologically-motivated violence.

#### **Position:**

The MERL Officer will be responsible for the design and implementation of monitoring & evaluation (M&E) systems for all EAI-East Africa programming, and facilitation of a robust learning strategy for the EAI-East Africa office. The MERL Officer will provide strategic vision and direction for the types of research activities to best understand VE dynamics and monitor rapidly evolving contexts. The Officer will also oversee data collection for all programming, with an emphasis on complexity-aware methodologies.

#### **Reporting & Supervision:**

The MERL Officer will report to the EAI-East Africa Director and liaise with the Senior Program Manager - East Africa.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Design and implement an M&E framework for EAI-East Africa programming
- Design and facilitate a learning strategy for EAI-East Africa
- Prepare and manage research implementation work plans, M&E plans, and budgets
- Evaluate research tools and emerging technologies, and coordinate vendor relations
- Supervise short-term field researchers.
- Liaise with national and international partners, including government stakeholders.
- Work closely with the East Africa Director, Senior Program Manager - East Africa and HQ Technical Leads to ensure quality and impactful program implementation.
- Collect and report on success stories and prepare project reports for the donor and EA communications.
- Ensure project implementation is in compliance with USG donor requirements and Equal Access organizational policies.
- Produce timely and accurate donor reporting.

**Required Skills & Qualifications:**

- Fluency in English required; advanced-level Somali highly preferred.
- Proficiency in conceptualizing and developing proactive prospecting methodologies using such tools as constituent list segmentation, data mining, and electronic and peer screenings.
- Understanding of impact indicators and ability to translate such information into viable M&E systems.
- Demonstrated proficiency with electronic and printed reference materials.
- Strong analytical skills, including expertise in the modeling and analysis of data.
- Ability to appropriately communicate sensitive information and to judge how and with whom this information should be shared.
- At least eight years of relevant work experience with progressive data management and research responsibilities, preferably in East Africa.
- Willingness to travel to field sites within Kenya and East Africa required.
- Ability to function effectively in a fluid but complex teamwork environment and to set appropriate priorities and deal effectively with numerous simultaneous requirements required.
- Advanced computer skills, particularly with the Microsoft Office suite of applications.
- Knowledge and ability to implement principles of management, leadership, conflict resolution, negotiation, and motivation.
- Demonstrated record of initiative, problem-solving, and adaptability.
- Strong listening, communication, and collaboration skills.
- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree(s) preferred.

**To Apply:**

Interested applicants should e-mail a copy of your CV and statement of interest to [eajobs@equalaccess.org](mailto:eajobs@equalaccess.org) with the reference "MERL Officer, Somali Voices" in the subject line.

Kenyan Nationals are strongly encouraged to apply. EAI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.