

Vacancy Announcement
Script Writer (Short Term Consultancy)
Equal Access International

Position Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Contract Duration: 4 Months

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 in the process of launching Somali Voices: Next Generation project, which includes a new Somali language children's radio program in collaboration with Sesame Workshop. The target audience for the radio program is young children (aged 3-8) and their caregivers and it will air weekly, for 6 months, across Nairobi, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia. The purpose of the radio series is to provide children with high quality, entertaining radio programming that will build their resilience, promote respect and understanding, provide parenting tips for adults and encourage learning through play. Accompanying the radio programming is an outreach component aimed at school teachers.

Position:

The Script Writer will be responsible the overall quality of the radio scripts, including adapting existing scripts for a Somali speaking audience and selecting and adapting appropriate Somali folk stories for radio. The Script Writer will also oversee the recording and editing of the scripts, ensuring that the end product is both high quality and appropriate and engaging for a young audience.

Reporting & Supervision:

The Script Writer will report to the Media Content Advisor

Responsibilities:

- Adapt existing Sesame Workshop scripts and take them through the editorial process, including revising based on feedback provided by Sesame Workshop and EAI.
- Develop and include new characters as required.
- Write and / or adapt songs for inclusion in the radio program that are engaging and reinforce the overall themes each week.
- Develop games for children that can be adapted for the radio programs
- Liaise with selected schools for recording with children, ensuring full consent is given by school authorities and parents prior to any recording and that the children are engaged in an ethical and appropriate way.

- Liaise with Country Coordinators and (where appropriate) subject matter experts based in Djibouti, Somalia and Ethiopia to ensure the content of the scripts is resonating with children across the 4 target countries and integrate any feedback as required.
- Write/compile Somali folk stories for inclusion into existing radio scripts
- Conduct research on specific thematic issues as required for script development
- Advise on all script-related matters associated with the production
- Translate scripts from English to Somali and (as required vice versa)
- Organize and lead script writing strategy meetings with the project team
- Take the lead role in script writing and liaising with the Media Content Adviser to summarize program content in English
- Evaluate and respond to feedback from audiences in the form of letters, SMS, email or voice responses (as required)
- Support editing of media content (social media, radio and other online content)

Required Skills & Qualifications:

- At least five years' experience in scripting for radio and/or television, ideally on children or educational focused programming (those with experience writing for children through genres other than radio or TV, including books, plays, poems etc may also apply)
- A strong proven track record of script development and/or script writing for child centered programming.
- Proven ability to generate imaginative story ideas and to tell clear, entertaining stories to children
- An excellent command of English and Somali languages
- Substantial experience delivering work on schedule, on budget, and for purpose
- Advanced computer skills, particularly with the Microsoft Office suite of applications
- Knowledge and ability to implement principles of management, leadership, peace building, conflict resolution, negotiation, and motivation
- Demonstrated record of initiative, problem solving, and adaptability
- Strong listening, communication, and collaboration skills
- Bachelor's degree required (media, communication, theatre arts, script/screen writing); advanced degree(s) preferred

To Apply:

Interested applicants should e-mail a copy of your CV and statement of interest to jobs@equalaccess.org with the reference “**Script Writer, Somali Voices: Next Generation**” in the subject line.

This role will be based in Nairobi, with potential travel within the region. Kenyan Nationals are strongly encouraged to apply. EAI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.