

 Pan American Health Organization		World Health Organization/Organización Mundial de la Salud Pan American Sanitary Bureau/Oficina Sanitaria Panamericana		
 World Health Organization REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas		POST DESCRIPTION		
Job Identification: CCOG 1.1.03.n Job Profile: J1206		Duration of Post: ☒ Limited ☐ Indefinite		
Title	Category	Position Number	Grade	Duty Station
Advisor, Veterinary Epidemiology and Information System	PRFP	.0627	P04	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

OBJECTIVE OF THE OFFICE/DEPARTMENT

The Communicable Diseases Prevention, Control, and Elimination (CDE) Department promotes, coordinates, and implements technical cooperation activities aimed at the surveillance, prevention, control, and elimination of communicable diseases and zoonoses. Within this framework, PANAFTOSA strengthens countries' capacities in veterinary public health, FMD, zoonoses, and food safety by supporting the development of integrated surveillance systems, early warning mechanisms, and preparedness and response to health emergencies under a One Health approach. The program seeks to achieve sustainable impact through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, enhanced inter-country collaboration, and strengthened health information systems to support policy development and informed decision-making.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

The incumbent performs a regional role, acting in an advisory and coordinating capacity in epidemiology, focusing on zoonotic diseases, animal health, and food safety at the human–animal–environment interface, under a One Health approach. He/she contributes to strengthening epidemiological capacities, surveillance systems, and intersectoral collaboration mechanisms, including the integration of epidemiological and laboratory data to support evidence-based policies, strategies, and programs. The incumbent interacts with national authorities, international organizations, laboratory networks, academia, and other stakeholders to promote technical cooperation, strengthen partnerships, and provide specialized technical advice.

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the general guidance of the Director, Communicable Diseases Prevention, Control, and Elimination (CDE), and the direct supervision of the Director, PANAFTOSA, the incumbent is responsible for, but not necessarily limited to, the following assigned duties:

- a) Provide technical cooperation to Member States in the development and implementation of epidemiological approaches for the prevention, surveillance, control, and elimination of animal diseases with major implications for food security and health security (e.g., Foot-and-Mouth Disease and emerging zoonoses), including the assessment of biological risks at the human–animal–environment interface, with particular consideration of wildlife reservoirs, while promoting an integrated ecosystem-based approach.
- b) Provide technical support for the planning, organization, implementation, and evaluation of national and regional disease prevention, surveillance, control, and elimination programs.
- c) Support the strengthening of integrated systems at the human–animal–environment interface, including early detection, prevention, control, and preparedness for zoonotic disease emergencies.
- d) Develop and promote epidemiological frameworks and models to strengthen integrated approaches under a One Health perspective, including livestock and wildlife systems.
- e) Strengthening health surveillance and information systems, including geographic information systems (GIS), risk analysis, applied statistics, and computational tools.

- f) Support Member States in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of emergency alert and response programs, including training and simulation exercises.
- g) Provide technical support for field projects in veterinary public health, zoonoses, and food safety; offer statistical and methodological advice for the design and analysis of observational and experimental studies.
- h) Collaborate with national and international organizations in the development and implementation of norms, standards, and applied research addressing field challenges.
- i) Support the integration and analysis of epidemiological and laboratory data, including data management, diagnostic validation, quality assurance, and quality control.
- j) Participate in multidisciplinary team projects and contribute to the development of information systems, including data collection tools, databases, and standard operating procedures;
- k) Develop and deliver capacity-building activities in epidemiology, surveillance systems, and data analysis.
- l) Coordinate the Secretariat of CIPCIZA and support the management of technical working groups, fostering collaboration with national and international partners.
- m) Contribute to the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of technical cooperation projects, including intersectoral initiatives under a One Health approach, and support resource mobilization.
- n) Support the preparation and implementation of the Biennial Work Plan (BWP), including technical and strategic inputs.
- o) Manage the Epidemiology Unit of PANAFTOSA, including coordination of the technical team, planning and supervision of workplans, monitoring of project implementation, and oversight of financial resources.
- p) Perform other related duties, as assigned.

KEY BEHAVIORAL COMPETENCIES

Overall attitude at work: Maintains integrity and takes a clear ethical approach and stance; demonstrates commitment to the Organization's mandate and promotes the values of the Organization in daily work and behavior; is accountable for work carried out in line with own role and responsibilities; is respectful towards, and trusted by, colleagues and counterparts.

Respecting and valuing individual differences: - Treats everyone with dignity and respect, fostering positive relationships with everyone. Reflects on personal behavior to avoid stereotypes and considers situations from the perspective of others.

Teamwork: Collaborate and cooperate with others - Works collaboratively with team members and counterparts to achieve and build rapport; helps others when asked; accepts joint responsibility for the team's successes and shortcomings.

Communication: Write effectively/Share knowledge - Writes down ideas in a clear, structured, logical and credible way; drafts and supports the development of guidelines, policies and procedures. Shares relevant information openly and ensures that the shared information is understood; considers knowledge sharing as a constructive working method and demonstrates awareness of the Organization.

Producing Results: Work efficiently and independently/Deliver quality results - Monitors own and others' work in a systematic and effective way, ensuring required resources and outputs. Aligns projects with Organization's mission and objectives. Consistently solves own and team's problems effectively as needed. Proactively engages in projects and initiatives, accepting demanding goals, in line with Organizational Strategies and Program of Work. Demonstrates accountability for work of team and sets an example, while explicitly articulating lessons learnt for own and team's benefit.

Ensuring effective use of resources: Strategize and set clear objectives/Monitor progress and use resources well - Sets specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely objectives for own team and/or the Organization; systematically analyses and anticipates priority projects for own team and allocates necessary resources to achieve them; identifies the cross-Organizational resources needed for large- scale projects in line with key Organizational objectives. Anticipates foreseeable changes and adapts own and team's projects in the face of unforeseen circumstances and/ or challenges; creates measures and criteria to monitor progress of overall projects against key Organizational objectives; creates cost-effective solutions for the Organization.

Building and promoting partnerships across the Organization and beyond: Develop networks and partnerships and encourage collaboration - Builds and negotiate strategic partnerships and alliances with a wide range of key stakeholders to ensure Organizational results and success. Creates innovative opportunities for promoting synergies inside and outside the Organization to improve Organizational success.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- Extensive expertise in epidemiology including zoonotic and high-impact animal diseases relevant to public health, food safety, and food security (e.g. Foot-and-Mouth Disease, avian influenza, and emerging zoonoses), within a One Health framework.
- Advanced knowledge in the application of epidemiological and statistical methods for risk analysis, modeling, surveillance systems, and animal health programs.
- Proven expertise in the development, implementation, and evaluation of comprehensive disease prevention and control programs, including elimination strategies.
- Strong capacity to analyze epidemiological data and strengthen surveillance systems through innovative and effective solutions.
- Proven ability to integrate and analyze data from multiple sources, including surveillance systems and laboratory networks.
- Demonstrated expertise in intersectoral collaboration at the human–animal–environment interface under a One Health approach.
- Demonstrated expertise in the design and evaluation of epidemiological surveillance and early warning systems, including data analysis and alert generation mechanisms.
- Managerial skills in technical cooperation, including planning, monitoring, evaluation, and resource management.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to provide strategic recommendations.
- Experience in the development and implementation of technical cooperation and intersectoral initiatives, including those under a One Health approach.
- Ability to establish and sustain collaborative networks, coordinate multidisciplinary teams, and promote interinstitutional collaboration.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, including technical reporting, scientific outputs, and high-level policy-oriented documents.

EDUCATION

Essential: A university degree in health sciences, biological sciences or veterinary sciences, **and** a master’s degree in epidemiology, veterinary preventive medicine, microbiology, veterinary public health or any other discipline related to the functions of the post, from an accredited institution.

Desirable: Doctoral-level specialization in one or more of the following areas: veterinary epidemiology, One Health, risk analysis, or biostatistics would be an asset.

EXPERIENCE

Essential: Nine years of combined national and international professional experience in epidemiology, public health, or related fields, including work in surveillance, epidemiology, and risk analysis of animal diseases with major implications for food and health security (e.g. Foot-and-Mouth Disease, avian influenza, and emerging zoonoses), applied to disease control programs and animal health services. Experience should include data analysis and use of epidemiological information systems and computational tools, including geographic information systems (GIS) and statistical software.

Desirable: Experience in international technical cooperation and intersectoral work at the human–animal–environment interface, applying a One Health approach would be an asset.

LANGUAGES

Essential: Fluency in English or Spanish with a working knowledge of the other language. Knowledge of Portuguese and/or French would be an asset.

IT SKILLS

Essential: Demonstrated proficiency in advanced epidemiological analytical tools, including risk analysis, spatial epidemiology (GIS), statistical modeling, infectious disease transmission modeling, simulation, and scenario-based analysis, as well as the application of data science approaches (e.g. big data analytics, machine learning), data

visualization, and reproducible analytical workflows. Experience in the use and management of databases and epidemiological information systems for data analysis, reporting and decision-making. Other IT skills and knowledge of software programs such as Microsoft Office are considered essential, as well as applications to support data analysis, reporting and communication of results.