



## CALL FOR FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS.

### AFRICAN PROGRAMME FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH EPIDEMIOLOGY TRAINING (APARET)

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

APARET is an EU-funded program whose goal is to support independent research activities by FE(L)TP fellows in Africa. The program will run for 4 years with 3 fellow intakes, each intake will last for 2 years. The program is supported by 13 participating organisations – including: Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Hamburg (BNITM), Germany; African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET), WHO Multi Disease Surveillance Centre (MDSC) in Ouagadougou, School of Public Health, University of Ghana, Legon (SPH); Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine, Ghana; Makerere University, School of Public Health, Kampala (MakSPH); University of Ouagadougou (UO); University of Zimbabwe (UZ); Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Tanzania; Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, Nigeria; Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (STPH); Vienna School of Clinical Research (VSCR), Vienna, Austria; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta.

The program shall recruit fellows into a 2- year fellowship program to be conducted in selected African research training institutions. During this two year period, the fellows shall conduct an epidemiologic research with their host institutes. A major part of the first year shall be the application for a major research grant. Each fellow shall be supported by a mentor and supervisor and a grant averaging 6000 Euros to facilitate their research during the fellowship. Fellows will be supervised and trained in planning and conducting independent epidemiological research as well as in the analysis of epidemiological data. Further training will be provided on critically reviewing scientific papers and on the submission of scientific manuscripts to a peer reviewed journal.

#### OBJECTIVES FOR EACH APARET FELLOW:

Each APARET fellow will fulfil specified training objectives.

**Main objective:** Develop a concept of a large epidemiology research project and prepare, write and submit a proposal for a major research grant.

#### Other objectives:

1. Plan, develop and conduct independent epidemiological research.
2. Perform epidemiological data analysis.
3. Submit a scientific manuscript as a first or second author to a peer reviewed journal.
4. Submit an abstract at a scientific conference and make either a poster or oral presentation



African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) would like to call on candidates to apply for the APARET Program. Candidates should fulfil the following criteria:

## Requirements

- Be graduates or Year II residents of African Field Epidemiology Training Programs (FETPs) or Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programs (FELTPs) or graduates from other institutions with degrees in human or veterinary medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, public health or biology with at least 3 years working experience and ideally a master's degree in epidemiology or public health.
- Have strong commitment to develop a career in research, public health or epidemiology
- Have keen interest in scientific research and publication in peer-reviewed journals
- Be familiar with common data analysis software such as *Epi Info*, *STATA* or *SPSS*
- Be an employee of the host institute or be willing to work at the institute for at least 2 years
- Be predisposed to attend mandatory APARET activities, namely
  - The 2 week Initiation Workshop - Late January 2012.
  - The 1 week Proposal Writing and Project Planning Workshop - March 2012.
  - The Final Seminar (1 year after the Initiation).
- Possess good report writing and presentation skills.
- Be fluent in English; knowledge of French will be an added advantage and a must for those who shall be based in francophone countries.
- Applications should be received by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

The selection committee may consider other academic career qualifications if it agrees that they qualify the candidate for the program.

## Submission requirements:

Applications must be typed in English and should include:

- Completed application forms
- Detailed curriculum vitae (CV), no more than 4 pages long
- One page letter of motivation to undertake the fellowship detailing what is inspiring you to undertake the fellowship
- One page project outline of 500 words maximum using a predefined form
- Letter of support from the host institute stating that the Institute is predisposed to employ the candidate (or prolong the contract) for at least 2 years if he/she is accepted for the programme, (existing contracts remain valid, the application to APARET does not cancel existing contracts and does not lead to any disadvantages for the candidate)

*Completed applications should be clearly marked "APARET application" and delivered by email, fax or courier to the following address:*

*African Field Epidemiology Network, Plot 4B, Mabua Road, Kololo, P. O. Box 12874, Kampala, Uganda.  
Email: [sekallam@afenet.net](mailto:sekallam@afenet.net); Fax: +256-312-265595*

*More information about the application procedure, forms and the possible institutes that may host fellows can be found on our website at [www.afenet.net](http://www.afenet.net)*

## RANKING CRITERIA:

#	Attribute	Category	Score	
			Range	Maximum Mark
1	Graduate of a FETP or FELTP program/Relevant Degree	Graduate of a FETP or FELTP	15	15
		Not a Graduate of a FETP or FELTP	10	
2	Past involvement in research	Involved as a research assistant	5	15
		Involved as an investigator or co-investigator	10	
		Involved as a principal investigator	15	
3	Has a publication in one of the peer-reviewed journals as a first author or co-author (up to 5 publications in total)	Is one of the co-authors ( <i>For each paper 2 marks – maximum 10 marks</i> )	10	15
		Is the first author ( <i>For each paper 3 marks – maximum 15 marks</i> )	15	
4	Has already got an appointment letter with the host institution	Yes	10	10
		No	0	
5	Motivation letter	To be graded from 1-10	10	10
6	Concept paper	To be graded up to 35	35	35
<b>Total Mark</b>				<b>100%</b>

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<sup>i</sup> Host Institute is used to mean the proposed institution where the fellow wants to be based as s/he is on the fellowship.