MIET AFRICA requires the services of a development specialist with expertise in the education and/or health sectors to assist with phasing out external support currently being provided to Lesotho and Malawi through the FutureLife-Now! Programme.

This is a contract position.

Background

FutureLife-Now! Programme

FutureLife-Now! is a regional intervention designed to contribute to the reduction of new HIV infections and the increase in ART adherence among young people in the SADC Region. By strengthening education sector responses to HIV and improving linkages between schools and SRHR service providers, the programme aims to address several persistent and inter-linked challenges facing young people, notably: HIV transmission; high early- or unintended-pregnancy rates; limited access to youth-friendly SRHR services; gender inequalities; and the detrimental effects of climate change (especially on vulnerable groups, such as people living with HIV). MIET AFRICA is SADC’s implementing partner, with core funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The programme has been conceptualised over three phases. In the first phase (2019 – 2022), the programme operates at regional, national and sub-national levels. At the regional level, it supports SADC and other regional partners with policy harmonization, advocacy, knowledge-sharing and strengthening of the content and delivery of CSE; at the country level, it assists four pilot Member States (Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe) to strengthen linkages between schools and youth-friendly SRHR service providers; and at the sub-national level, it is testing a comprehensive package of support in 40 pilot schools that builds young people’s understanding and agency concerning their health and their future.

Swiss International Cooperation (IC) Strategy 2021-2024

The new Swiss IC strategy 2012-2024 has reduced the number of SDC priority countries for the Southern Africa region to two countries, namely Zambia and Zimbabwe. This requires Future Life-Now! to take measures to realign its focus on these two priority countries and to gradually phase out activities in Lesotho and Malawi by the end of 2024.

To this end, the Programme will plan and implement an exit strategy in the two countries that ensures a responsible transition so that investments made are protected, gains made thus far are not lost, and sustainability is secured.

Purpose and Key Performance Tasks

The primary purpose of the post is to implement FutureLife-Now! exit strategies in Lesotho and Malawi. This will include determining, in collaboration with stakeholders, if the programme activities
in the two countries are sustainable and what can be done to increase sustainability of these interventions over the final years of the project and beyond current funding.

To achieve this the following Key Performance Tasks will be undertaken:

- Gather relevant country specific information, through desktop reviews, meetings and interviews, to inform the design of effective exit strategies to be implemented in Lesotho and Malawi
- Provide technical assistance to local partners to identify sustainability constraints and collaborate with partners on appropriate solutions and mitigation to unlock opportunities for sustainability of FutureLife-Now! in the two countries.
- In consultation with MIET AFRICA’s in-country teams, design context-specific strategies for the responsible withdrawal of external support in the two countries and that ensures the investments and gains made are not lost
- Communicate the exit strategies in a sensitive and responsible manner with key government and non-government partners
- Working with the in-country teams, lead the implementation of the exit strategies in a manner that facilitates participation by government and non-government partners
- Document the exit strategy process so that it contributes to the body of knowledge on the sustainable withdrawal of external support
- Build the capacity of local organizations to strengthen sustainability through better mobilization of resources and training for FutureLife-Now! to use resources more effectively and sustainably; and to consider equity and inclusion in resource allocation.

In addition to these core tasks, the successful applicant may also be required to assist with regional FutureLife-Now! activities.

Requirements

- A relevant post graduate qualification.
- Minimum five (5) years’ experience working in the development sector.
- Experience, knowledge and understanding of the education and/or health and development environments.
- Experience of working in the SADC region.
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Valid and unendorsed driver’s licence

Interested applicants should email the following documents:

- A letter of application, clearly stating “FutureLife-Now! Development Specialist”
- Curriculum Vitae with three contactable references
- Copy of ID or passport
- Copy of driver’s license.
- Copy of qualifications.
- Proof of ownership of a vehicle

To: HR Department, MIET AFRICA
Email: applications@miet.co.za

The remuneration package will be discussed with the successful applicant.
Incomplete applications will not be considered.
MIET AFRICA reserves the right not to fill the post, or to re-advertise to widen the pool of applicants.
It also reserves the right to do a complete verification of all information supplied.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 16 July 2021
Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.