



MASENO UNIVERSITY

School of Development and Strategic Studies

Declaration of Vacancies

Position Advertised: Research Officer

Number of Vacancies: Two (2)

Maseno University is collaborating with the Refugee Studies Center (University of Oxford, UK), to conduct an 18-month study on Social Cohesion as Humanitarian Objective (SoCHO). The study will apply ethnographic methods among both humanitarian organizations and affected communities to understand the premises underlying host-inclusive interventions, their effectiveness in achieving outcomes, and the unintended structural and political consequences of extending the remit of humanitarian programmes to include host communities. Our multi-disciplinary research team draws on expertise in the areas of policy and planning studies, urban studies, peace and security studies, legal studies. The project adopts a cross-regional scope, with comparative fieldwork conducted in both Kenya and Lebanon. In Kenya, we are in the process of recruiting two (2) research officers to undertake fieldwork in the Kakuma camp and Nairobi.

Responsibilities/duties

Reporting to the Co-Investigator, the research officers will:

- Manage their own research and administrative activities, within guidelines provided by supervisors and senior colleagues
- Responsible for the day-to-day administration of the research project
- Undertake comprehensive and systematic literature reviews and write up the results for publication in peer-reviewed journals or for presentation at conferences or public meetings
- Select, follow, and adapt specialist methodologies to confirm or refute theories, and identify suitable alternatives where information or research material is restricted
- Contribute to the design of research materials and make arrangements for data gathering
- Gather, analyse, and present qualitative data from a variety of sources
- Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone
- Contribute to discussions and share research findings with colleagues in partner institutions, and research groups

Selection criteria

Essential

- Holds at least a Master's Degree in law, policy studies, urban studies, peace and security studies, political science, sociology or a related area of social studies.

- Previous experience participating in an academic research team.
- Familiarity with the local context of Kakuma, in Turkana County.
- One candidate will require fluency in the Turkana language, while the other candidate will require fluency in one of the following languages of the refugee population in Kakuma: Dinka, Nuer, Somali, and Kinyarwanda.

Desirable

- Experience of publishing or contributing to research publications
- Past research experience in the area of forced migration and refugee studies
- Knowledge of or demonstrable interest in the issue of social cohesion, especially with a critical perspective.

Terms of Employment

The interested candidates should understand that the position of Research Officer advertised here is under the **SoCHO project run by Maseno University and not an employment position for Maseno University as an institution**. The terms of employment is a **one off 15 months contract**. The monthly gross benefit will be GBP 1280 (Ksh. 185,600) and it shall not attract any gratuity.

Mode of Application

1. A soft copy of the application letter should be submitted as a **running pdf document** put together with curriculum vitae, Identity Card, and any other relevant supporting documents. Please note that the CV should contain details of applicant's age, marital status, academic and professional qualifications, work experience, present post and salary, telephone contact, names and addresses of three referees, copies of academic certificates.

Applications should be submitted in soft copy by email to deansdss@maseno.ac.ke and copied to: recruitment@maseno.ac.ke and mowiso@maseno.ac.ke. The email should clearly indicate the position applied for as the subject.

The application letter should be addressed to the following address:

**The Dean
School Of Development and Strategic Studies
Maseno University,
P.O.Box 333 – 40105 Maseno.**

All applications should reach the above address on or before **28th December 2020**.

Maseno University is an equal opportunity employer and canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Women and persons with disability are encouraged to apply.