



MASENO UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGIC STUDIES DECLARATION OF VACANCIES POSITION RE-ADVERTISED: RESEARCH OFFICER

NUMBER OF VACANCIES: ONE (1)

Maseno University is collaborating with the Refugee Studies Centre (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. We are in the process of recruiting a research officer to undertake fieldwork in Kakuma refugee camp and Nairobi.

RESPONSIBILITIES/DUTIES

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

- Manage their own research and administrative activities, within the guidelines provided by supervisors and senior colleagues;
- Be 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 and other 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 Anthropology, African Studies, Political Science, Sociology or a related area of social studies;
- Past research experience in the area of forced migration and refugee studies;
- Aptitude in scholarly research, including academic literature reviews;

- Enthusiasm to conduct qualitative fieldwork, as possible under pandemic conditions;
- Willingness to spend extended periods of time at the designated field site (Kakuma).

Desirable:

- Fluency in either Somali or Juba Arabic languages;
- Experience of publishing or contributing to research publications;
- Knowledge of or demonstrable interest in the issue of social cohesion, especially with a critical perspective.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

The interested candidate should understand that the position of Research Officer advertised here is under the SoCHO project run by Maseno University and not an employment position with Maseno University as an institution. The terms of employment are: a one off contract from the date of first employment until 31st March 2022 and the monthly gross benefit will be GBP 1280 and it shall not attract any gratuity.

N/B: Women and persons with disability are especially encouraged to apply.

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 academic and professional qualifications, work experience, language competencies, 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 **23rd February 2021**. Maseno University is an equal opportunity employer and canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.