National Professional Officer (Disease Survl & Epidemiology) - (1900353)

Grade: NO-A
Contractual Arrangement: Temporary appointment under Staff Rule 420.4
Contract duration: 6 months (with possibility of extension depending on availability of funding and satisfactory performance)
Posting Date: Feb 20, 2019, 5:22:11 PM
Closing Date: Mar 13, 2019, 4:59:00 AM
Primary Location: Bangladesh-Cox's Bazaar
Organization: SE_BAN WR Office, Bangladesh
Schedule: Full-time

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please note that the deadline for receipt of applications indicated above reflects your personal device's system settings.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME
The mission of WHO's Health Emergencies Programme is to help countries, and to coordinate international action, to prevent, prepare for, detect, rapidly respond to, and recover from outbreaks and emergencies.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES
Under the overall guidance of the WHO Representative, and direct supervision of Incident Manager in Cox's Bazar, the incumbent will carry out the following duties:

1. Support the operation and development of Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) for diseases of outbreak potential for early detection and response to public health incidents; conduct field investigation. Provide technical support for vulnerability assessment, risk mapping and development of preparedness/contingency plan at the crisis affected area.

2. Provide technical support in the development of other monitoring/surveillance systems, including surveys and community-based surveillance, for detection, verification and response to public health incidents; ensuring efficiency of data collection, correlation, analysis, interpretation and timely reporting.

3. Support the establishment, training and functioning of Rapid Response Team (RRT) operating at health facility level for epidemiological investigation and intervention.

4. Collate and verify data on reported outbreaks or rumours received from multiple sources (EWARS and community-based surveillance), conduct retrospective analysis of reported incidents: determine trends, distribution patterns, and efficiency of the verification mechanism.

5. Maintain database of reported outbreaks and public health incidents, at the district level, and document all steps taken in the verification and response process.

6. Contribute in building the core surveillance, alert and response capacities in accordance with the requirement for IHR 2005; engage and provide trainings for government health staff and other national and international partners at district and health facility level suited for the area of responsibility and any particular local, cultural language or other aspects that may pertain to it, support the team in the supervision and on-the-job training at health facility level.

7. Facilitate the district surveillance monthly review meetings including the tracking of the surveillance performance indicators. In cooperation with the team, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the planned surveillance activities, as well as alert and response capacities for incidents detection, verification and response in compliance with IHR 2005.

8. Synthesize event-based information to prepare briefing materials, epidemiological reports and presentations.

9. Prepare and disseminate disease outbreak news, technical documents, updates and assessments to key decision-makers in the organizational hierarchy and to the national health authorities, as required using standard tools and templates.

10. Perform any other incident-specific related duties, as required by the functional supervisor.
REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education
Essential: First level university degree in medicine, epidemiology, statistics, or public health from an accredited/recognized institute.
Desirable: An advanced level university degree in public health related field or quantitative epidemiology, specialized training in communicable diseases.

Experience
Essential: At least two years of experience in implementation of disease surveillance, outbreak investigation and response.
Desirable:
- Prior humanitarian working experience at field level with WHO/UN, health cluster partners, recognized humanitarian organization or with an international nongovernmental organization with expertise in disaster and outbreak response.
- Prior experience working in disease surveillance in emergency/outbreak situations would be an advantage.

Skills
- Sound knowledge and skills in database management and statistical analysis, secondary data review, survey designing and implementation, monitoring and evaluation systems design or use, and public health information management.
- Proven ability to multitask across various planning and implementation processes within a highly demanding environment
- Demonstrated knowledge, competency and professional skills on the public health aspects of infectious disease control, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response with particular attention to application of an all-hazard approach in the context of the International Health Regulations and the use of event based and indicator-based surveillance, as well as descriptive epidemiology and principles of public health in communicable disease surveillance and response.
- Good knowledge of the local culture, customs and languages

WHO Competencies
1. Teamwork
2. Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences
3. Communication
4. Producing results
5. Ensuring the effective use of resources

Use of Language Skills
Desirable:

REMUNERATION

Remuneration comprises an annual base salary starting at BDT 2,627,592 (subject to mandatory deductions for pension contributions and health insurance, as applicable) and 30 days of annual leave.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This vacancy notice may be used to fill other similar positions at the same grade level
- Please note applications should be submitted through WHO’s online recruitment portal. Please visit www.who.int/careers to complete an online profile and to apply to this vacancy.
- Only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.
- A written test may be used as a form of screening.
- In the event that your candidature is retained for an interview, you will be required to provide, in advance, a scanned copy of the degree(s)/diploma (s)/certificate(s) required for this position. WHO only considers higher educational qualifications obtained from an institution accredited/recognized in the World Higher Education Database (WHED), a list updated by the International Association of Universities (IAU)/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The list can be accessed through the link: http://www.whed.net/. Some professional certificates may not appear in the WHED and will require individual review.
- Any appointment/extension of appointment is subject to WHO Staff Regulations, Staff Rules and Manual.
- For information on WHO’s operations please visit: http://www.who.int.
- WHO is committed to workforce diversity.
- WHO has a smoke-free environment and does not recruit smokers or users of any form of tobacco.
- This is a National Professional Officer position. Therefore, only applications from nationals of the country where the duty station is located will be accepted. Applicants who are not nationals of this country will not be considered.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Post:
In the context of the WHO Health Emergencies Incident Management System (IMS) in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, the incumbent will provide technical support to the incident management team, Ministry of Health (MOH) in strengthening surveillance and response for priority diseases, conditions and events in the context of Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) and with emphasis on the cultural, language and other particularities that may apply to the area of assignment, monitor the implementation and operations of surveillance and response programmes with special focus on early detection, verification and rapid response to epidemics and other public health events of international concern, as well as capacity building of national experts, in compliance with IHR (2005).

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

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Skills

Skills in database management and statistical analysis, secondary data review, survey designing and Implementation, monitoring and evaluation systems design or use, and public health information management. Good computer skills in Microsoft office, EPI Info, SPSS etc.

WHO Competencies

Teamwork.

Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences.

Communication.

Building and promoting partnership across the organization & beyond.

Ensuring the effective use of resources.

Use of Language Skills

Essential: Excellent knowledge of English and Bengali.

Desirable:

REMUNERATION
Remuneration comprises an annual base salary starting at BDT 2,627,592 (subject to mandatory deductions for pension contributions and health insurance, as applicable) and 30 days of annual leave.

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