**Deputy Chief of Party, Kenya Empowering Youth Project**

Virginia Tech is seeking qualified candidates for the position of: **Deputy Chief of Party**, **Kenya Empowering Youth Project to be based in Kenya.**

**Description**

Virginia Tech’s Center for International Research, Education, and Development (CIRED) is currently recruiting for the position of Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) for an anticipated USAID-funded project to empower Kenyan youth and to directly connect them with social and economic opportunities aligned to public and private sector investments. The activity is expected to increase the capacity and commitment of Kenyan actors to better engage and serve their youth, particularly adolescent girls and young women, at the county level.

The project will explore the following areas:

* Enhancing county-level youth-serving systems by strengthening and expanding youth networks and leveraging youth organizations.
* Advancing knowledge on and exploring new areas around research, data, and evidence on youth.
* Exploring county-level models to strengthen systems to better engage youth and connect them to social and economic opportunities.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

The Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) will support the overall strategic leadership of the Chief of Party (COP) to manage implementation and guide the technical direction of the project. S/he coordinates among USAID and key stakeholders and interacts with numerous Kenyan organizations, institutions, and representatives, particularly at the county-level. S/he is knowledgeable about current best practices in developing and delivering youth programs.

These responsibilities include:

* Oversee day-to-day project management including staff activities, administrative procedures, and partner relationships;
* Provide leadership and vision for programmatic efforts related to the project objectives, activities and outcomes, to support industry-driven improvements in training and educational opportunities for workforce development in targeted sectors;
* Work with the COP to incentivize and increase the level of private sector engagement in skills development, and build communication and partnerships between the private sector and youth and education service providers to support skills development for employment;
* Support the project planning, budgeting, monitoring, performance, evaluation, and reporting;
* In the absence of the Chief of Party, serve as the day-to-day country-level representative for the project and point of contact for USAID and the Virginia Tech home office;
* Ensure project operations comply with Virginia Tech policies and procedures as well as USAID rules and regulations;
* Develop detailed work plans which identifies, prioritizes and sequences the activities;
* Ensure that all the project’s goals and activities, including targets/milestones are achieved and that all the project’s deadlines are met.
* Ensure that the scope and projected impacts of the program strategy are clearly defined and understood by all team members;

**Education/Experience**

Required Qualifications:

* Master’s degree in education, international development, non-profit management, or a closely related field
* Minimum 8 years' experience working in managerial positions on educational development projects, preferably in sub-Saharan Africa, with administrative and/or technical oversight that includes preparation of work plans and budgets
* Demonstrated ability to build innovative partnerships, especially with government representatives, academic institutions, the private sector, and local community organizations
* Significant experience in leading large and complex donor-funded projects, especially USAID projects
* Strong team building and management skills
* Strong written and verbal communication skills in Swahili and English
* Knowledge of USAID policies and procedures

Preferred Qualifications:

* Experience with, understanding of, and commitment to positive youth development and gender equality approaches and strategies around livelihoods and well-being, particularly for adolescent girls and young women
* Knowledge of the political, social, cultural, economic, and development context of Kenya at the county and national levels preferred
* Previous DCOP experience desirable

**How to Apply**

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume by email to: [CIRED.Jobs@gmail.com](mailto:CIRED.Jobs@gmail.com), with “Deputy Chief of Party, Kenya Empowering Youth” in the subject heading. Applications will be reviewed beginning on September 28, 2020, and the position will remain open until filled. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Recruitment is contingent upon successful award of the project; this document should not be construed in any way to represent a contract of employment.

*Virginia Tech is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and protected veterans are strongly encouraged to apply. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination or accessibility should contact the Virginia Tech Office for Equity and Accessibility.*

**About the Organization:**

Virginia Tech’s Center for International Research, Education, and Development (CIRED) manages and implements externally funded projects in developing countries.