
Position: Evidence Synthesis and Translation Manager

About Zizi Afrique Foundation

Zizi Afrique Foundation (ZAF), established in 2018 as a nonprofit operating in Kenya and East Africa, envisions a world where all children and youth thrive in education. ZAF's mission centers on consolidating evidence, fostering innovative solutions, and influencing policy and practice to equip children and youth with essential competencies. Her accomplishments include benefiting 48,000 children with foundational literacy and numeracy, training over 20,000 youth through partnerships with TVETs, and engaging 45,000 adolescents in life skills research. Guided by the challenges of limited learning despite schooling, youth unemployment, and crowded interventions, ZAF's 2025 strategy comprises three pillars: research and evidence, policy/advocacy, and innovations for improved practice. The research and evidence pillar focuses on compiling and utilizing evidence to inform policy, while the advocacy pillar engages stakeholders in prioritizing competencies and accountability. ZAF also hosts the Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) secretariat, a consortium of over 70 members in East Africa devoted to education.

Scope of work

Zizi Afrique seeks to strengthen its evidence consolidation through evidence synthesis and translation to inform her decisions and both innovation and advocacy/engagement pillars. Zizi underscores the importance of evidence for evidence-informed decision-making and improved practices. This calls for a deeper examination of existing evidence to identify what works and how, existing gaps and opportunities for innovating around the evidence gaps. This is crucial in informing Zizi's programming, particularly in the area of foundational skills including values and life skills across the education pipeline. To this end, Zizi is recruiting an evidence synthesis and translation research manager to lead this piece of work, working in close collaboration with the innovation and advocacy pillar as well as with local, regional and international stakeholders and experts. The specific roles for this position include and not limited to:

- Lead in the evidence synthesis work of Zizi Afrique based on the various initiatives of the organization including but not limited to foundational learning (numeracy, literacy, values and life skills), whole youth development, and secondary education among others.
- Contribute to the development of synthesis and translation protocols to streamline the evidence review process for Zizi Afrique
- Working closely with the directorate of advocacy, programs, and research to identify:
 - i) Evidence needs and institutionalize mechanisms to address the needs, including the development and or adaptation of a toolkit speaking to the identified needs.
 - ii) Synthesize emerging evidence from programs/units for internal and external communication.
 - iii) Develop summary reports of synthesized evidence including contribution to the development of policy briefs and fact sheets.
- Conduct rapid reviews, systematic reviews, and meta-analysis of evidence – local, regional and global – to respond to key aspects of Zizi work and emerging demands from evidence users in Kenya and the region.

- Work closely with the knowledge management, communication, and data units to explore opportunities for visualizing and sharing synthesized evidence.
- Contribute to fundraising initiatives of Zizi Afrique Foundation
- Contribute to project implementation by engaging with project officers and managers to identify key emerging innovations and opportunities that need further evidence for testing and refinement.
- Support program teams on compliance of research activities with the relevant regulatory bodies in the country.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Desirable Qualifications & Experience

- Post graduate training (Masters or PhD) or equivalent in relevant disciplines such as education, sociology and economics among others.
- Demonstratable experience in conducting literature and systematic reviews and meta-analyses of various studies.
- Strong in quantitative and qualitative research methodologies, with a bias towards quantitative approaches and study designs, and proficient analytical skills and use of analytical software such as STATA and R, with demonstrated experience in manipulating large datasets
- Strong technical writing skills including the development of briefing papers and evidence summaries, with good academic publication profile.
- Demonstrable experience in project management, design thinking and planning.
- Experience in conceptualizing and managing large-scale projects and engagement with global and national technical and non-technical stakeholders will be a major advantage.
- Alignment of research interests with the vision and mission of ZAF.

How to apply

Interested and qualified candidates should include:

- A detailed application letter expressing interest.
- A detailed resume and copies of academic and professional certificates.
- Three work referees with contact information.
- Indicate your expected remuneration/salary.
- Submit their applications by email to jobs@ziziafrique.org by **Thursday 12th October 2023**, clearly indicating the position title in the subject line of the email.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.

Zizi Afrique is an equal-opportunity employer!