



Opportunity in international development



Regional Research and Relationship Managers x 3

The Evidence Fund, The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCDO)

KPMG East Africa is seeking experienced research professionals to lead an impending global evidence programme that will be funded by FCDO. The Evidence Fund, will support a broad spectrum of evidence needs to generate operationally relevant research, analysis, evaluation and syntheses to inform policy and programming decisions and will be implemented across Africa, Asia and Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

About KPMG

KPMG is a global network of member firms located in 147 countries employing 219,000 people. KPMG International Development Advisory Services (IDAS) Africa adopts a pan-African approach to development work, managing innovative multidisciplinary programmes and projects. IDAS Africa is part of a global network of international development professionals in KPMG. The KPMG IDAS Africa team is based at our headquarters in Nairobi, and works together with the Southern Africa and West Africa hubs and a 'network of champions across the twenty countries of KPMG in Sub-Saharan Africa. KPMG IDAS Africa also works closely with KPMG offices around the world on global development programmes.

KPMG IDAS is a respected programme and fund manager with extensive experience in building development partnerships between private and public entities, civil society organisations and local communities. We work effectively with a wide range of clients from governments, bilateral and multilateral development agencies to entrepreneurial start-ups across Africa.

Overview of the Evidence Fund

The Evidence Fund will bring together several programmes previously delivered across FCDO's Research and Evidence Division (RED) into a single coordinated research and evidence platform that will support urgent, mid- and longer-term knowledge generation, synthesis, translation and engagement.

The Evidence Fund will serve FCDO's Research and Evidence Division which supports FCDO country offices, FCDO policy advisers and external agencies to make the best use of available evidence and generate new knowledge. The direct recipients of these services will be three FCDO Regional Research Hubs (for East Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East and North Africa), and the FCDO Evaluation Unit.

Regional Research and Relationship Managers

KPMG is seeking three (3) full time Regional Research and Relationship Managers who will be based in each of the regions. We are looking for managers with experience of managing research in academia or international organisations with a robust understanding of different research methodologies, including qualitative and quantitative approaches.

The regional hubs are expected to be located in: East Africa (Nairobi), Asia (Delhi or Islamabad), MENA (Amman), but with some flexibility depending on location of potential candidates.

Responsibilities

The Regional Research and Relationship Managers will be responsible for working closely with FCDO to develop calls for research proposals based on FCDO's research and evidence needs in the regions. They will manage the Research Provider Pool comprising of local, regional and international research organisations in the respective regions. They will also oversee, manage and quality assure the research process and provide support and capacity building to local researchers. He/she will be expected to have extensive networks with research organisations in the respective region. The Regional Research and Relationship Managers will be supported by finance and contract managers to administer the day-to-day management of research projects/contracts. They will perform the monthly monitoring of progress against the key performance indicators and programme milestones and advise the Team Leader on progress and delays in progress. They will be the main point of contact for information requests from research organisations and other interested stakeholders. These positions will take direction from the Director of Operations and Research and will fully support activities for the implementation of the programme in the respective regions.

Skills and expertise

- Academic qualifications in international development, social science or a related discipline with at least 7 years working in research related roles;
- Regional programme management experience, particularly in relation to research programmes (essential);
- Understanding of different research methodologies, including qualitative and quantitative approaches (essential);
- Experience of relationship management and external engagement working with international donors in relation to research programme delivery (essential);
- An understanding of how to mobilise a researcher provider pool to respond to the needs of regional markets;
- Strong understanding of research and evidence use and uptake in policy and programme design and delivery;
- Excellent project management skills;
- Experience in at least one of regions covered by the Evidence Fund (East Africa, Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and South Asia).

Duration and location

- This is a 3 year programme (with a possibility of another 3 years extension) anticipated to commence in the third or fourth quarter of 2021. These dates are tentative and could be delayed due to the current realignment of FCDO programmes following the UK Government integrated review.
- The regional hubs are expected to be located in: East Africa (Nairobi), Asia (Delhi or Islamabad), MENA (Amman), but with some flexibility depending on location of potential candidates. We expect Nairobi, Kenya to be the central hub where the rest of the central team will also be situated. Travel to the target countries may be required subject to COVID-19 status and directives at the time.

Due to the short timeline for this opportunity, we ask you to send your CVs in by **18 June 2021** to **DASproposals@kpmg.co.ke**. Please indicate the region (**Africa, Asia or MENA**) you are applying for in the subject of the email and in the cover letter. **Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.**

Please note that at this stage the scope of work is indicative and may be subject to change once the Invitation to Tender (ITT) for the programme is released and as the opportunity develops. Appointing a successful candidate will be contingent on the outcome of the bid

