

Regional Action through Data Project Intern

About the Project

The Duke Global Health Innovation Center and Innovations in Healthcare, in collaboration with a consortium of partners, are working to address the problem of the limited use of data to drive performance in healthcare service delivery to improve health and development outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa. The Regional Action Through Data initiative is funded by USAID with the purpose of strengthening data-analytics capabilities at strategic health institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa and building an evidence-based foundation for decision-making by changing how and why data is collected, analyzed and used to maximize the positive impact of policies, programs and investments. Partners include: BroadReach, the Intergovernmental Authority Development (IGAD), the West Africa Health Organization (WAHO), Jembi Health Systems, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

About the Role

The Duke team has conducted a policy landscape analysis to understand the state of eHealth, data protection, and data sharing policy in the region. Through this work the team discovered three main policy gaps: the lack of a legal or regulatory framework for cross-border data sharing; the lack of a harmonized regional legal framework on data protection; and the lack of consistent patient confidentiality and privacy laws across countries in the IGAD region. After sharing the findings, the Duke team conducted a workshop with IGAD where, through use of a grid analysis, it was decided that a regional health data sharing policy should be developed. We are now at the stage of policy development.

We are looking for a MPP or MIDP student to provide research, policy analysis, and writing support to the RAD team at Duke. The summer intern will contribute to writing a regional health data sharing and protection policy, as well as help design country consultation visits to engage stakeholders from IGAD countries and to get their inputs on the policy drafts. The intern will also contribute to writing policy briefs and memos as accompanying documents.

Successful applicants will have strong research, writing and critical thinking skills. Applicants must be able to communicate effectively and have the ability to work independently and with limited direction. You must be flexible and willing to contribute to a wide array of deliverables.

Responsibilities

- Conduct desk research related to data protection policies and practices in East and West Africa
- Contribute to the research and writing of a regional health data sharing policy. This includes researching global best practices related to data protection, sharing, and storage.
- Contribute to the development of policy briefs, presentations and other written deliverables to our partners WAHO and IGAD

- Support the initiation and facilitation of country consultations related to the regional health data sharing policy

Specific deliverables will include:

- Writing at least two sections of the regional health data sharing and protection policy
- Drafting the country consultation guide
- Writing policy briefs, memos, and blogs to use as accompanying documents to the policy as well as to promote the work that the Duke and RAD teams have accomplished

Qualifications

- Completion or working toward master's degree in Public Policy or International Development Policy, or another related field preferred.
- Experience with Microsoft Office required.
- Must have excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Knowledge of health data protection and sharing preferred.
- Superior organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Ability to handle multiple tasks/priorities simultaneously in a fast-paced, change oriented environment.
- Experience in planning multi-step projects and reaching milestones on time without sacrificing accuracy and quality.
- Must have a can-do, positive attitude.
- Must possess strong problem-solving skills and the ability to think strategically.
- Must be a self-starter who is comfortable working independently to complete projects with little supervision, as well as part of a team.

Period of Performance: Start/End Date: The internship will run from mid-May to mid-August

Paid/Unpaid: The internship is unpaid.

Work Location: Durham, NC

Preferred school (if any): Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy