

Sustainable education for people in crisis and emergency situations

Recently SHE Collaborates from Maastricht University together with ICEFIL won an Nuffic grant for a 1,5 years project together with three universities in Ethiopia: Jigjiga University, Gambella University and Addis Abeba University. The aim of the project is to improve the quality of education for refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in Ethiopia.

During the 1.5 years of the project, a training-of-trainers (ToT) approach will be used to develop a basic teacher training course for a low-resource environment. This course aims to improve the teaching skills of the staff of the three universities, as well as (in an adapted format) train the teachers who work in a refugee or IDP setting. The course will combine teacher skills with health education in a way that the teaching modules function as a vehicle to transfer health education. A child-to-child approach will be used to reach the children in the classroom with health education, as well as their siblings.

Refugee and IDP children and young adults have specific needs, often living in an insecure environment with exposure to trauma and violence. Therefore teachers will be trained in creating a safe learning environment with an open attitude towards diversity within the classroom.

In order to get a better insight into the needs of teachers and pupils in IDP and host settings, the project will encourage and facilitate the development of research projects.

Communication and networking with external organizations (e.g. IOM, UNHCR, IGAD, etc.) is an essential element of this project, with the aim of expanding the reach of the teacher training course and to improve sustainability.

What are we looking for?

We are looking for Ethiopian diaspora to include in our collaboration, because of their unique perspective on both the Ethiopian and Dutch culture. Cultural sensitivity is an important quality that we are looking for, because we would like the input of the candidates to adapt the courses to the Ethiopian context. It is considered an advantage if the candidates are from the regions where the project will be active (Gambella, Somali and Addis Abeba).

Content wise we would prefer one or more candidates with teaching experience, and ideally experience with training of teachers. A background in IT (more specifically online platforms, knowledge sharing and e-learning) or communication can be an advantages as well. And expertise in either of the areas (education, IT or communication) is sufficient to qualify for the position.

The offer the position on a consultancy base, meaning that it will be a for a number of days (any time between 2-4 weeks, divided over approximately one year). It can be combined very well with another (fulltime) day job. At this point we are not sure whether it will include travel or will be mainly distance based. This depends, among others, on the covid-19 pandemic and travel restrictions. Exact details will be agreed upon with the selected candidate.

Are you the candidate that we are looking for? Please send your CV with a short motivation letter to:

m.bouwman@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

