

## Research Position Advertisement

**Post:** Post-Doctoral Research Assistant (PDRA) with the LIGHT Consortium

**Station:** The Respiratory Society of Kenya, Nairobi, Kenya

### Background

The LIGHT Consortium (Leaving no-one behind: transforming Gendered pathways to Health for TB), funded by UK aid aims to deliver a transformative and operationally-relevant cross-disciplinary programme of research across a consortium of partners based in Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda and the UK; to reduce the number of people affected by tuberculosis (TB) in sub-Saharan Africa with a focus on a gendered approaches. LIGHT is working to deliver a comprehensive program of research targeted at vulnerable groups, especially men, in key settings to design, develop, deliver, and test interventions that enhance the identification of people with TB and links them to care and treatment. LIGHT is also working to build research capacity and skills of participating organizations and is developing approaches for research uptake and policy engagement. The expected impact of the research work by the LIGHT consortium is a contribution to the development of evidence-informed, gender-sensitive and pro-poor, global and public health policies, programmes and initiatives in the four partner countries and more widely in sub-Saharan Africa to support the introduction and sustainable scale-up of new TB-related products to meet global TB targets.

### Role Summary

The PDRA will undertake research using multi-method and mixed method approaches to better understand the burden of TB among young people, especially men, and to eventually develop and test interventions to address this burden. Specifically, the PDRA will:

1. Develop the research protocol and submit to relevant ethics committees obtaining regulatory approvals.
2. Spearhead TB care cascade analysis to determine risk factors for non-completion of screening, diagnostic and treatment steps among young people between the age of 15 and 35 in Kenya to allow for prioritization of resources and optimization of TB care in the population of young people.
3. Lead a systematic review of qualitative studies on tuberculosis care-related challenges and opportunities experienced by young people in Sub-Saharan Africa and other LMICs settings.

- 
4. Engage in participatory research to design a theory-informed tuberculosis care related intervention for young people in (Kenya) sub-Saharan Africa that would be formally tested in a future Randomised Clinical Trial.
  5. Use behavior-centered approach theories to understand the knowledge, perceptions as well as the practice of the youth in TB prevention, testing, and care, so as to reveal barriers to access to TB services and motivators/practices that need to be encouraged among the youth.
  6. Engage with stakeholders and policy makers to support uptake of research outputs arising out of the LIGHT project.
  7. Disseminate research outputs of the LIGHT project in Kenya in relevant forums and through publications.

### **Role Specific Responsibilities**

1. Undertake a review and analysis of existing TB data in Kenya including notifications and treatment outcomes, among young people.
2. Disseminate results of the TB data review to national and international stakeholders /audiences at relevant forums and in peer reviewed journal.
3. Undertake a systematic review of the literature on TB in young people with a focus on Sub – Saharan Africa.
4. Disseminate results of the systematic review to national and international stakeholders/audiences at relevant forums and in peer reviewed journals.
5. Engage stakeholders in conversations to identify bottlenecks to care and treatment of TB among young people in Kenya.
6. Design and test a theory-informed tuberculosis prevention and care intervention for young people in Kenya.
7. Support the development and implementation of research capacity strengthening activities at ReSoK and within the wider LIGHT consortium.
8. Support the uptake of research evidence generated by the LIGHT consortium by national and international policy makers.
9. Comply with reporting requirements as directed by the LIGHT consortium team.

**Role personal specifications**

1. A PhD holder, preferably with training in the social sciences, from a reputable academic institution.
2. Experience with qualitative research
3. Experience in the development of research protocols and approval processes by institutional review boards
4. Demonstrable ability to communicate scientific ideas both orally and in writing
5. Familiarity with the LIGHT project implementation settings
6. A team player
7. A critical thinker
8. Willing to work from Nairobi but with potential for travel to LIGHT implementing countries.

Suitable candidates are encouraged to submit their applications by email to:

Submitted application documents should include

1. A Curriculum Vitae
2. A 1-page motivation letter explaining the reasons for applying for this position

The LIGHT Consortium at the Respiratory Society of Kenya - email address: [postdoc@resok.org](mailto:postdoc@resok.org)

**Closing date and time:** 5 p.m. (Nairobi) on July 29, 2022