



Call for Afrique One-ASPIRE Fellowships



Ref: TTP1-Rabies-MSc2

Project Title: Evaluation of One Health surveillance approaches to increase the proportion of rabies ascertained human exposure and improve outbreak response

Enrolment: The MSc fellow will be enrolled at CSRS.

Project Summary: Despite being 100% fatal rabies still belongs to the neglected tropical diseases. One root cause of the neglect is the absence of surveillance and consequently reliable incidence data on human and animal rabies. To reach the target of zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies set for 2030 and to support future large-scale control programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa a functional surveillance system is a prerequisite. Rabies exposure and case detection rate can only be improved by close collaboration between veterinary and public health workers in a One Health approach. However, there is very limited practical experience on the organisational, logistical and political approaches that would lead to a long-term sustainable collaboration between the animal and human health sector.

Within the GAVI funded project on the estimation of the burden of rabies in East and Central Africa intersectorial collaboration is currently being strengthened in Mali, Chad and Ivory Coast. The presented MSc project will evaluate the success of the efforts undertaken in regard to the approaches taken, the budget involved and the outcome achieved in the different study zones. To gain more insight through feedback from field workers interviews will be undertaken in the respective research zones in Mali, Chad and Ivory Coast with veterinary workers and human medical staff that are involved in the currently on-going project. Through focal group discussions and in-depth interviews gaps, unmet demands, strength and weaknesses of the current approaches can be assessed and integrated in future strategies.

Collaboration with Project Ref: TTP2-Rabies-PhD2, suggested for East Africa is favoured.

Mentorship Team: The project will involve an international supervisory team including Issiaka Tiembre (INHP), Bassirou Bonfoh (CSRS), Jakob Zinsstag (Swiss TPH) and Monique Léchenne (Swiss TPH).

Qualifications: The candidate must be a citizen of an African country. Candidates from any discipline contributing to One Health but preferable with background in either public health, veterinary public health, sociology or health systems economy will be considered.

Duration and Training: The project duration will be 2 years. The MSc student will especially be trained in qualitative data analysis. Training will be provided primarily in Ivory Coast, with opportunities for further training within the Afrique One-ASPIRE consortium and with supervisory partners in Europe.

For more information on the TTP Rabies, contact the co-leads:

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For any other information, contact the Programme Manager:

Kathrin Heitz-Tokpa, CSRS, Côte d'Ivoire, (kathrin.heizt-tokpa@csrs.ci)

Application documents

- (i) Fill in the application form: <https://afriqueoneaspire.typeform.com/to/VERdK3>
- (ii) CV including a list of publications and active conference participations (i.e. posters and oral presentations)
- (iii) Application letter describing your interest in the Afrique One-ASPIRE programme and One Health, any prior experience relevant to the proposed topic and your longer term ambitions and goals (max. 2 pages)
- (iv) Contact information of two academic referees
- (v) Summary of your last qualification work (max. 500 words);

Submit the application with the fellowship reference number to application.afriqueone-aspire@csrs.ci by **July 15th, 2017 5 pm GMT**. Candidates that are selected for the next stage will be invited for an interview at Afrique One-ASPIRE institutions in their respective countries or where most convenient.

About Afrique One-ASPIRE

Afrique One-ASPIRE is a research consortium addressing questions of disease elimination based on the 'One Health'-concept. Our research aims at identifying integrated approaches for disease elimination in relation to zoonotic and emerging diseases by taking human, animal and environmental components into consideration. The consortium comprises nine core institutions in East and West Africa. **More information about the consortium and the calls can be found online:** ► www.afriqueoneaspire.net.

