



NON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2015, recognizes NCDs as a major challenge for sustainable development. Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) kill 41 million people each year, equivalent to 71% of all deaths globally. In sub-Saharan Africa, NCDs are projected to be the leading cause of death by 2030.

Each year, more than 15 million people die from a NCD between the ages of 30 and 69 years; 85% of these "premature" deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. Cardiovascular diseases account for most NCD deaths, or 17.9 million people annually, followed by cancers (9.3 million), respiratory diseases (4.1 million), and diabetes (1.5 million). These four groups of diseases account for over 80% of all premature NCD deaths.

The burden of NCDs in Tanzania is growing and NCD account for 41% of all death and the burden has doubled from 19% to 34% in 2015 and 2019 respectively. Of all NCD deaths, 18% were premature occurring in people aged 30-70 years. Modifiable behaviors such as tobacco use, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet and the harmful use of alcohol, all increase the risk of NCDs.

To see progress in combating the spread of NCDs, it is critical to increase public awareness of the problem and how to avoid the risk factors. But NCDs are currently underreported and underestimated.

Recognizing that the media can play a critical role in the promotion of healthy lifestyle and advocating for policy changes, the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization in Tanzania calls for applications from Tanzanian journalists actively practicing within local media houses or freelancing in print, radio, television, and online platforms to apply for a **four-month training fellowship programme on NCDs**.

The objective of the fellowship is to ensure journalists have a clear understanding of NCDs; understand their role and embrace their responsibility as media to communicate about NCDs and learn the reporting angles when covering NCDs, including solutions-based journalism.

1. Terms of reference

Fellows will participate in a fully funded, four-month training programme whose activities will include among others:

1. Two classroom-type training sessions;
2. One field learning sessions within the country;
3. Mentoring sessions with local experts on NCDs.
4. One-on-one mentoring support from national experienced journalist/ editors.
5. Production by each Fellow consisting two (2) feature articles and five (5) stories on NCDs as per the proposal submitted by the candidate at application stage (see application procedure below).

Each Fellow will receive a Certificate of Participation upon successful completion of the Fellowship Programme.

2. Application Procedure

All interested applicants should submit an application package with the following information:

1. Your updated CV
2. Evidence of having been an active journalist in Tanzania for at least three years –all to include links to articles produced over the last three years and for those in media houses to include references /letters of support from their editors
3. Attach copies of two most recent samples of your work – preferably related to health stories
4. A brief statement of between 500 and 800 words (in English or Swahili) on your personal motivation to undertake this fellowship, and the contribution you see yourself making to NCDs in Tanzania upon completion of the Fellowship Programme
5. A proposal on the articles that you intend to produce over the course of the Fellowship
6. Submit your application by email to johnsonem@who.int , by **August 19, 2022**.

Hard copy applications are not accepted.

In case of any questions for clarification, please contact Catherine Sungura at catherine.sungura@afya.go.tz and Tumaini Goodluck at goodluck.mtei@afya.go.tz

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