

Call for Quality Officers (QO)

ERASMUS+ AfroRehab2030 - Building Blended Master Programs in Rehabilitation in
Kenya and Tanzania

Expertise needed

We are looking for someone with expertise in one or several areas listed underneath:

- Experience with Erasmus+ or other capacity building projects in higher education
- Evaluation and quality checks of Erasmus+ and other educational projects.
- Experience with international cooperation
- General knowledge of higher education and skills in health- and/or social sciences
- General knowledge of the European Higher Education Area
- Excellent communication skills in English (written and oral) and ability to write clear reports
- Excellent analytical skills and readiness to cooperate with fellow experts

Nomination and selection procedure

Project partners are asked to launch an open call for experts and based on the applications, MUHAS (WP5 leader) will nominate candidates for 2 internal Quality Officers, who will be approved by the Project Management Board (PMB) during an ad hoc meeting at the end of January.

The nomination is based on the following:

- Short letter of interest
- CV(s) of the nominee

To nominate, documents should be sent to the WP5 leader, MUHAS at the following e-mail address: eningowi18@gmail.com RE: Prof Enica Richard (subject field: Quality Officer nomination)

Deadline: 15. January 2025

Based on the nominations received the WP5 leader will prepare a proposal for selection of Quality Officers to the PMB. Final selection will be voted at the ad hoc meeting at the end of January.

Expected effort and costs

Expected effort over the project period is estimated to 2 PM (person months).

Costs for the QO can be covered by the partners' project funding, and/or as own contribution.

See the tentative timeline and description of tasks.

Brief Information on the Project

Basic facts

Call: Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) – Strand 2: Partnerships for Transformation

Type of Action: Erasmus+ LS

Project Title: Building Blended Master Programs in Rehabilitation in Kenya and Tanzania

Acronym: AfroRehab2030

Proposal ID: 101179826: Topic and Call ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CBHE-STRAND-2

Coordinating Institution: Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL)

Quality Control lead/ WP5: Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS)

Project duration: 01.10.2024 – 30.09.2027

Project summary

About 15% of the world's population have some form of disability, and there is a growing number of people experiencing functioning difficulties. In Sub-Saharan Africa, one in five people or 210 million people need rehabilitation due to the double burden of infectious and non-communicable chronic health conditions. Despite this unmet need, availability of rehabilitation services in Africa is extremely limited due to the inadequate number of competently trained rehabilitation professionals. This AfroRehab partnership aims at strengthening the rehabilitation workforce in East Africa by developing an innovative educational digital ecosystem with interdisciplinary master programs in rehabilitation. These master programs will secure sustainable training of qualified physiotherapists, occupational therapists, prosthetists and orthotists, speech and language therapists, audiologists and optometrists in Tanzania (TZ), Kenya (KE) and beyond. It will promote rehabilitation services and research across sectors, responding to World Health Organizations (WHO) Rehabilitation 2030 Call for Action and Rehabilitation Strategies in both countries.

Four African Universities, two in Tanzania and two in Kenya, and two European Universities from Norway and Finland will collaborate in developing and implementing Master of Science (MSc) in Rehabilitation programs, one in each African country. The blended, interprofessional rehabilitation programs aim to respond to the specific country's needs while allowing the participating universities to strengthen their academic capacity. By contributing their expertise, the partners will co-create and co-implement two context-sensitive MSc in Rehabilitation that will offer profession-specific exits, student active learning, placements across public and private sectors, and participatory research. These programs will create advanced career paths for rehabilitation professionals capable of developing and leading new undergraduate programs. The future MSc graduates, originally recruited from public healthcare facilities and higher education institutions (HEIs) across both countries, will ensure the creation and implementation of new professional BSc programs contributing to a more

even rural-urban supply and distribution of rehabilitation professionals reaching the most vulnerable groups.

The programs will be the first two interdisciplinary MSc in Rehabilitation programs in East Africa that combine online and on campus delivery of courses using a blended learning approach. They will also serve as bases for establishing educational, service and research hubs and networks across the region. A spin-off will be the production of digital continuing professional development courses and micro-credentials in rehabilitation, digital rehabilitation promotion material and tele-rehabilitation networks. For the European partners, where higher education (HE) is still strongly biased towards western contexts with little competence in global and minority health, it will result in capacity building through co-produced material, international staff and student exchanges, co-supervision, and collaborative research, thus extending the impact beyond the partner countries.

List of Partners/ Beneficiaries:

1. **HOGSKULEN PA VESTLANDET (HVL) NORWAY. Coordinator – Leads WP1** on Project Coordination and Management; **Co-leads: WP5** on Quality Assurance.
2. **KILIMANJARO CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE (KCMUCo) TANZANIA. Partner – Leads WP 4** on MSc Program Implementation. **Co-Leads WP 1** and **WP 3**.
3. **MUHIMBILI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES TANZANIA (MUHAS) Partner – Leads WP 5** on Quality Assurance and **Co-Leads WP 2 & WP 6**
4. **MOI UNIVERSITY (MU) KENYA Partner: Leads WP3** on Curriculum Development. **Co-Leads WP4**
5. **JOMO KENYATTA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (JKUAT) KENYA Partner. Leads WP 6** on Communication, Dissemination and Sustainability and **Co-Leads WP2**.
6. **YRKESHOGSKOLAN ARCADA AB, FINLAND Partner. Leads WP 2** on Need Assessment, Staff training/ capacity building and Equipment.

Work Packages (WP)

WP1: Project management and coordination: Lead: HVL and **Co-Lead:** KCMUCo.

Preparing PMB meetings, verify the progress, implementation, identify challenges, assess risks, and make adjustments to plans; collaboration with WP5: Quality Control and WP6: Dissemination

WP2: Capacity building of staff, equipment and stakeholder engagement: Lead: AU & **Co-Lead** JKUAT and MUHAS

- › Coordinate the Training of trainers/ capacity building of Staff at the 4 institutions
- › Coordinate the acquisition of equipment (both digital-educational and profession-specific equipment)
- › Engaging stakeholders to develop the master programs to respond to individual, HEI and National/regional needs.

WP3: Development of Joint Master in Rehabilitation curricula for accreditation in TZ and KE: **Lead:** MOI & **Co-lead:** KCMUCo.



- › Co-developing two national joint MSc study programs
- › Similar Blended structure (at least 40%)
- › Structure for co-teaching (exchange/ complementarity of teachers and of students between the 4 HEI)
- › Organize placements/ internships at HEI, private and public CB and FB rehabilitation, research centres, innovation hubs, prof. associations, industry, and other NGO/ CBOs
- › Readings and other pedagogical materials
- › Accreditation process

WP4: Implementation of the two blended MSc curriculum in Rehabilitation in TZ and KE. Lead: KCMUCo and **Co-lead:** MOI.

- › Advertisement of programs and enrolment
- › Implement Year 1 of the program
- › The programs quality assurance

WP5: Quality Assurance: Lead: MUHAS & **Co-lead:** HVL.

- › To ensure high quality of the project through continuous monitoring, feedback and assessment.

WP6: Impact, dissemination, and sustainability: Lead: JKUAT & **Co-lead:** MUHAS.

- › Ensure continuous dissemination and implementation of project results

Associated Partners

In Tanzania:

- Ministry of Health (MOH)
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MCDGEC-Tanzania)
- Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) – NGO

In Kenya:

- Ministry of Health (MOH)
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
- Association for the Physically Disabled, Kenya (APDK) NGO

In Norway:

- OsloMet (Oslo Metropolitan University)
- NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology) and SINTEF, Norway

Regionally/Globally:

WHO: Disability & Rehabilitation Unit. Violence, Injuries & Disability Unit at the Healthier Population Cluster, WHO regional office for Africa

AfroRehab measurable contribution to the objectives:

1. **Two new, blended MSc programs in rehabilitation will be running from year 3** of the project, **one at KCMUCo, TZ and one at MOI in KE**. The two two-year MSc programs will each produce at least 20 MSc graduates by Year 4, after the end of the project;
2. **Two nationally accredited MSc curricula in rehabilitation** will be ready for adoption, adaptation and implementation at MUHAS and JKUAT, as well as for other HEIs wanting to train rehabilitation professionals in each country.
3. **Increased number of highly qualified, digitally competent teaching staff** with enhanced transversal pedagogical skills at all four African partner HEIs;
4. **Four African HEIs equipped with new digital teaching and learning technology and software** allowing for more inclusive, flexible, sustainable and green higher education activities, and with equipment for profession-specific elective courses.
5. **New collaborative research projects initiated on rehabilitation** models, human resources and digital rehabilitation between HEIs and various stakeholders in the rehabilitation labour market, professional associations, client associations and society at large;
6. **A regional (in SSA) and inter-regional (SSA & EU) digital educational and research ecosystem in rehabilitation** is established, ready for being expanded.

Management arrangements

WP5 – Evaluation and Quality (EQ) will be led by MUHAS. The main objective of the WP is to support the project management with quality assurance. As the main decision-making body, the PMB will be responsible for Evaluation and Quality of the project.

The EQ of the project will be performed by the Quality Group (QG). The group will be led by the Quality Leader (QL) from MUHAS, who will be a member of the PMB. The QL will be accountable before the Project Manager (PM). The QG will be composed of 2 specially selected Quality Officers (QO) for internal monitoring and quality control, and 2 external evaluators (EE) for evaluations of the project achievements. The QG members report to the QL.

Organization of the Quality Group/WP5

The QL will organize the work in the group but the QO's and EE's will work independently to perform checks and write recommendations. The QG will be responsible for the overall design of the methodology of Quality and Evaluation. This will include an evaluation and quality assurance strategy, procedures, tools, and serve as the work plan for the QG.

In the execution of the foreseen activities, the QO's and EE's will have an independent responsibility to perform checks and collect necessary information to complete their evaluations. Throughout the project, the QO's and EE's will conduct at least 6 internal and external evaluation exercises. The checks will be carried out independently of each other, but the objective and subject group of each evaluation will be identified by the group collectively. The QOs together with EEs will also work jointly to elaborate forms of questionnaires and quality surveys, questions for focus groups and ad hoc interviews.

Following each exercise the QO's and EE's will make their individual reports based on the profound analysis of the evaluation findings. After completion of the reports they will meet to unite their

findings into one set of recommendations from the QO's and one from the EE's. The recommendations of both groups of experts will be analysed by the project coordinator (PC) for making a proposal to the PMB for improvements in the project and its results, and to produce corresponding Follow-up plans.

Each academic partner will be responsible for the quality of curricula development, course design, study materials and the quality of teaching and learning at the institutions. This will be done in accordance with the internal procedures and tools at each academic partner institution.

In case a situation occurs that requires urgent intervention, the PC may call an ad hoc meeting of the PMB to take urgent decisions. For such an ad hoc meeting, the QG will be asked to join to make a draft of a contingency plan. The 2 QOs may also be summoned by the PC to estimate risks and evaluate problems, and to produce corresponding recommendations for mitigating the risks and tackling the problems by the PC and the PMB.

In addition to performing their independent tasks, the QO's and EE's will be expected to attend digital meetings in the QG, consortium meetings, and relevant physical project related events.

Objectives of Evaluation and Quality

The objects of EQ evaluations are: (1) project management, (2) efficiency of communication between the partners as well as between the different project's managing bodies, (3) efficiency of output-input in the work packages, (4) quality of the achieved results, (5) quality of the academic developments (6) compliance with the work plan, (7) efficiency of communication, exploitation, dissemination, and sustainability.

Specific tasks for Quality Officers (QO) will be:

- Prepare the specific evaluation procedures and collection of data
- Conduct independent internal evaluation exercises of the achieved results
- Produce individual evaluation reports
- Produce joint recommendations based on the report findings
- Present findings and recommendations
- Evaluate suggested enhancement measures and Follow-Up plans
- Attend digital group and consortium meetings
- Attend physical consortium events
- On request from PC, contribute to risk management and evaluation

Deliverables

No	Deliverable	Deadline
D1.1		D1.1-M3
		D1.2-M36
		D1.3-M18
		D1.4-M36
		D2.1-M3
		D2.2-M30
		D2.3-M12
		D3.1-M12
		D3.2-M18
		D4.1-M24
		D4.2-M34
		D4.3-M34
		D5.1-M35
		D5.2-M35
		D6.1-M6
		D6.2-M6
	D6.3-M36	
	D6.4-M36	