

VACANCY	
Job title:	Technical Lead (National Health Learning System)
Type:	Permanent ☐ Fixed Term ☒ Temporary ☐
Main purpose of the job:	To provide strategic and technical leadership in the design, implementation, and governance of the National Health Learning System (NHLS), ensuring evidence generation, knowledge translation, and continuous improvement across the HIV, TB and MCWH programs. To provide strategic leadership for strengthening of the integration of research activities across HIV, TB, and MCWH programmes, ensuring that evidence generation, translation, and application inform national policy, service delivery, and health outcomes. Under the direction of the Deputy Director General: HIV, TB & MCWH at the National Department of Health (NDOH), lead the aligning of research priorities, facilitating evidence generation, and ensuring translation into policy and programme frameworks to strengthen integrated service delivery and governance.
Location:	Gauteng
Closing date:	8 October 2026
Submit detailed CV to:	Vacancy2@wrhi.ac.za
Advert reference number:	CW 0093 -2026
In accordance with our Employment Equity goals and plan, preference will be given to suitable applicants from designated groups as defined in the Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998 and subsequent amendments thereto.	

Key performance areas

- Develop and implement the national vision for a Health Learning System for HIV, TB, and MCWH. routine HIV, TB and MCWH intelligence reports to inform evidence based decision making.
- Align national research priorities with programme frameworks and global commitments (UNITAID, UNAIDS, WHO, Global Fund, IA2030).
- Facilitate operational research, implementation science, and innovation pilots across HIV, TB, and MCWH.
- Support HIV, TB, and MCWH National, Provincial and District teams in research design, ethics compliance, and dissemination.
- Establish monitoring dashboards and repositories to track research outputs, uptake, and impact.
- Translate findings into policy briefs, guidelines, and programme frameworks.
- Act as the primary technical point of contact to fulfill and manage information requests coming from international donors, academic institutions, and independent research bodies.
- Develop a stakeholder engagement plan, and based on the plan, convene multi sectoral stakeholders (academia, civil society, workplace health, interfaith networks) to co create research agendas ensuring data transparency and legitimacy in governance processes, including chairing the national technical advisory groups and expert committees.
- Represent Branch: HIV, TB and MCWH in national health forums, research syndicates, and technical working groups to foster collaborative public health studies.

- Where appropriate, act as a point of contact for Research and Learning for the Branch: HIV, TB and MCWH, partner organisations, donors, and internal stakeholders where appropriate.
- Communicate with key Wits RHI and NDOH staff around inputs and outputs regarding relevant work programmes.
- Communicate with local, regional, and international collaborators and stakeholders as directed by NDOH and/or Wits RHI.
- Report to both Wits RHI and NDOH monthly on key achievements, challenges, and any anecdotal success stories.
- Provide feedback to internal and external stakeholders.
- Take ownership and accountability for tasks and demonstrates effective self-management.
- Follow through to ensure that quality and productivity standards of own work are consistently and accurately maintained.
- Maintain a positive attitude and respond openly to feedback.
- Take ownership for driving own career development by participating in ongoing training and development activities such as conferences, workshops etc.
- Communicates proactively, frequently and clearly with other colleagues.

Required minimum education and training

Master's degree in Public Health, Epidemiology, Health Systems, or related field.

PhD in Health Policy, Implementation Science, or Biomedical Sciences (preferred).

Required minimum work experience

Minimum 10 - 15 years' experience in health research coordination, preferably within HIV, TB, and MCWH programmes.

Proven track record in implementation science, operational research, and evidence translation.

Experience in multi sectoral stakeholder engagement (government, academia, civil society, workplace health).

Advanced expertise in health systems learning and knowledge management.

Expertise in Epidemiology and burden-of-disease analysis.

Proven ability to design and operationalise learning systems at national scale.

Familiarity with global health frameworks (UNAIDS Fast Track, WHO End TB Strategy, IA2030).

Informatics & Systems: Mastery of electronic data capture systems (e.g., REDCap, OpenClinica) and research management tools.

Data Science Capabilities: Strong proficiency in statistical programming languages (e.g., R, Python, STATA, or SAS) and data visualization software.

Regulatory Expertise: Thorough knowledge of good clinical practice (GCP), research ethics, and national health legislation.

Desirable additional education, work experience and personal abilities

A recognised public health leader.

Formal training in Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E), Digital Health Platforms, Organisational Learning Systems, Research Ethics, and / or Knowledge Management (advantageous).

Demonstrated history of influencing positive change with external stakeholder, developing and maintaining relationships at all levels of Wits RHI, DOH and partner organizations. Positive, energetic team leader with an ability to adapt to complex situations, manage stress, and deliver goals pro-actively.

Strong skills in policy alignment, technical writing, and governance reporting.

A systems thinker capable of integrating epidemiology, economics, implementation science, and technology.

Passionate about improving health outcomes through evidence.

Comfortable working across government, academia, and development partners.

Able to inspire multidisciplinary teams and drive large-scale transformation.

Organized with a thorough and accurate approach to work and attention to detail.

Should you be interested in applying for this vacancy, please send an email to vacancy2@wrhi.ac.za. The subject heading of the email must read **CW 0093-2026** and the job title of position applying for. Please include the following documentation:

- A cover letter (maximum one page) that clearly states which vacancy you are applying for
- A detailed CV