



In cooperation with UNICEF, the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation is seeking a Fellow for placement in the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) in Nairobi, Kenya.

BACKGROUND

Since its' founding in 1946, the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation (JPKF), named in honor of Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. who died in action in World War II, has supported the creation of programs to benefit persons with intellectual disabilities, their families and their communities. The Foundation has always worked with national leaders who understand the promise and realities of government. Since 2014, the JPKF has supported international policy fellows to work in UNICEF field offices, with government, with other United Nations entities and with other multi-lateral institutions. The JPKF International Public Policy Fellowship will prepare the successful candidate to assume leadership in inclusive education in their home country or internationally.

UNICEF ESARO has conducted a regional mapping of the progress of 21 countries in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) towards disability inclusive education which reveals significant country efforts, good practices on policies and budgeting, teacher training and support in class, or on inclusive curricula among other areas. But it also highlights tremendous gaps that should enable the governments and their partners to transform practices including teaching methods and learning material accessibility and strive to remove barriers and strengthen the capacity of the education system to provide quality education for all learners.

Countries in ESA generate little data on the realisation of the right to education for children with disabilities, which does not allow for a comprehensive understanding of all the barriers they face in accessing quality education. Nevertheless, it is estimated that in the ESA region less than 10% of all children with disabilities under the age of 14 are attending school.

It is in this context that the UNICEF Regional Office and the *Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation* wish to reinforce the expertise and technical assistance to ESA governments and their partners in the promotion of systemic and sustained change.

SCOPE

The fellow will be placed at UNICEF ESA Regional Office to learn about how UNICEF supports governments' efforts and to help advance the agenda of including learners with disabilities within inclusive education systems in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), General Comment No. 4 of the CRPD Committee, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The successful candidate is expected to build their own capacities through this experience, and particularly learn about policies, programs, laws and regulations promulgated by national governments and support from international partners and agencies including UNICEF. The candidate will gain experience working for a United Nations organization and will have the opportunity to conduct one to two missions to one of the ESA countries to better understand the efforts and constraints encountered on the ground.

INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY 2023 FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation

IN COOPERATION WITH



UNICEF

Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO)

Nairobi, Kenya



Main tasks and responsibilities

With guidance from the education specialist in the UNICEF ESA Regional Office responsible for the access, equity and inclusion in education portfolio and in collaboration with the ESAR disability inclusion team, the main anticipated tasks will be as follows:

- Providing technical support to governments and to UNICEF country offices in the finalization or revision of country policies, strategies, standards or other operational documents related to inclusive education or to national fora related to disability inclusive education;
- Support the generation and timely use of evidence, and the management of knowledge and resources from the region and make them easily accessible to governments and UNICEF colleagues working to support governments;
- Support regional advocacy, coordination with UN Agencies, collaboration and partnership with donors and partners including with private sector partners, organizations of persons with disabilities and organizations of parents of children with disabilities and solution providers related to inclusive education;
- Assist in the dissemination of good practices and organize peer learning sessions;
- Develop tools to continuously track progress made in the area of inclusive education in ESA countries and identify additional areas of technical assistance;
- Support follow-up on multi-country initiatives on inclusive education;
- Support any other work related to disability inclusive education coordinated by the education specialist;
- Participate in monitoring and evaluation exercises, program reviews and annual reviews with other counterparts to determine programme success, efficiency and timely delivery of results for children, youth and young people with disabilities;
- Contribute to regional and country-specific activities related to young child survival, AIDS, gender equality, child protection and emergency preparedness and response to ensure that the inclusion of children with disabilities in education is cross-sectoral and a cross-cutting issue.

Eligibility and minimum requirements

APPLICANTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- Advanced degree in Education, and/or Social Sciences with relevant work experience;
- Minimum 5 years relevant professional experience in issues relating to inclusive education, disability, social inclusion and/or related fields in developing country contexts;
- Good interpersonal skills and previous experience communicating with partners at different levels;
- Excellent communication and writing skills in English. Speaking French and/or Portuguese is an asset;
- Candidates from low- and lower-middle income countries will be preferred.

The successful applicant will be contracted by the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation for a period of 1 year and seconded to UNICEF ESARO, based in Nairobi. At the end of 9 months the Foundation may consider extending the fellowship for a second year if requested by UNICEF.

It is anticipated that the fellowship will be awarded and begin in the second quarter of 2023. The Fellowship includes a scholarship to attend the course "Leadership for the 21st Century" at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Ongoing mentorship will be provided by the Foundation and by a network of former Kennedy Fellows.

Application process and guidelines

APPLICANTS SHOULD:

- Submit a letter of application between 2 to 4 pages in length, single spaced in 12 point font with 1 inch margins, clearly showing the candidate's name, address, telephone number(s), and e-mail address on the first page, stating their background and history in the field of services and supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, interests and accomplishments to date, as well as what they hope to do with the knowledge and experience gained from the fellowship.
- Attach a résumé detailing their work and educational experience.
- Submit three letters of support from people familiar with their work. Letters of support are encouraged via e-mail PDF file.
- The sole method of application, letters and résumé submission is via e-mail attachment to richlerjpkf@gmail.com

The application deadline is March 31, 2023 by 5:00 P.M. EST



The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation

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