

# Job specification

<b>Job title</b>	Researcher
<b>Employer</b>	Project dldl/ድልድል hired through Diversity Resource International
<b>Reporting to</b>	Principal Investigator (PI); Project coordinator in Eritrea
<b>Date</b>	October 2021
<b>Job type</b>	Fixed term (6 months)

## About the project

Project dldl/ድልድል a research and innovation project that aims at the development of religio-culturally sensitive domestic violence alleviation systems in Ethiopia, Eritrea and the UK. It is funded for initially 4 years, with possible extension to 7 years, by the UK's Research and Innovation and it is hosted at SOAS University of SOAS. The project comprises of a series of research, sensitisation, knowledge exchange and public engagement activities involving collaborators, stakeholders and communities in the three countries with the aims of a) improving understating of the influence of religio-cultural parameters in the experience of domestic violence b) developing preparedness among clergy and seminarians to respond to domestic violence victims and perpetrators, b) increasing religio-cultural sensitivity to domestic violence in the state and non-state entities and sectors, c) developing integrated domestic violence systems and better served affected populations, and d) promoting reciprocal research partnerships & mutual professional development for team members and personnel. Interested candidates can read more about the project and its approach on its dedicated website: <https://projectdldl.org/>

## Purpose of the role

The project seeks to hire two researchers in Eritrea in order to conduct research on the ground and to promote the project's objectives in Eritrea. More specifically, research in Eritrea seeks to investigate the relationship between religio-cultural parameters and domestic violence/intimate partner violence and includes a systematic literature review on domestic violence in Eritrea, a baseline analysis using consultations with multiple stakeholders, and research into domestic violence attitudes and responses locally as related to religio-cultural parameters. This research will be disseminated to state and non-state entities at collaborating and stakeholder organisations.

The field research will comprise primarily of focus group discussions with laymen and laywomen and members of the clergy in different regions and localities of Eritrea and will have a duration of approximately 6 months.

The researchers will be provided with comprehensive training in research ethics, domestic violence research protocols and data management . They will be supervised by the PI of the project, Dr Romina Istratii, and guided in their day-to-day research activities by the project Coordinator in Eritrea, Ms Mebrak Ghebreweldi. Representatives from the National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW), the Office of Religious Affairs and other community organisations will be invited to advise by joining the project's Advisory Board.

## Key responsibilities

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- To support the PI with a desk literature review on the topic of domestic violence in Eritrea in English, Tigrigna, Arabic and other languages of Eritrea
- To conduct qualitative field research in different localities of Eritrea
- To complete the transcription, translation and analysis of the data collected following anonymisation standards stipulated by the funder and SOAS University of London
- To work with the PI and other team members on research publications, including a final country report and a working paper
- To help the PI and Project Coordinator in Eritrea in the presentation of the research at international webinars, conferences and other occasions
- Any other duties that fall under the remit of research activities in Eritrea as outlined in the project Case of Support submitted to the funder

## General responsibilities

- At all times carry out their responsibilities with due regard to the SOAS and DRI Equality and Diversity policies and general research ethics.
- Ensuring that policies and procedures relating to health and safety at work are adhered to at all times.
- The post holder must carry out their duties in line with the requirements of the Data Protection Act.
- The post holder must abide by the requirements of SOAS and DRI IT policies.

## Person specification

### Training and qualifications

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#### **Essential**

- Educated to Master's degree level, or equivalent professional experience in the field of domestic violence research
- Demonstrable understanding of Eritrean religio-cultural traditional customs, rituals, languages, norms and traditional religio-cultural community laws
- Strong familiarity with gender equality, women's health and domestic violence concepts and practices.

#### **Desirable**

- Evidence of recent, relevant research experience and development

### Skills and Abilities

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- Fluent in spoken and written English
- Fluent in one or more Eritrean languages
- Computer literate
- Ability to follow instructions but also to work independently as necessary and to accept individual responsibility
- Reliable, open, supportive and team player
- Non-judgmental, polite and good listener
- Effective communication and interviewing skills (verbal and written)
- Effective interpersonal skills and ability to establish good working relationships with different stakeholders (e.g. research 'gatekeepers').

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- Ability to manage time and work effectively and to meet deadlines while under pressure
  - Attention to detail

## Knowledge and experience

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### ***Essential***

- Knowledge of research methodologies and research ethics (e.g. conducting interviews respecting confidentiality, showing reflexivity in research, employing culture-sensitive, participatory approaches, etc.)
- Relevant experience in conducting research on domestic violence in Eritrea
- Ability to speak and write fluently in at least one language of Eritrea

### ***Desirable***

- Knowledge of any of Eritrea's major religious traditions and their cultural expressions
- Experience conducting research with religious communities in Eritrea or providing research support to faith-based organisations in Eritrea
- Experience of working on research-intensive projects or programmes related to domestic violence, social protection, community development, international development, religious sectors or other pertinent field

### **Other essential requirements**

- Researchers must be Eritrean nationals and must have been resident in the country for at least the past five years.

### **Submission guidelines**

If you are interested in this role and feel that you meet the essential requirements, please send a 2-page CV and a short cover letter to Dr Romina Istratii at [ri5@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ri5@soas.ac.uk). Please also cc' Ms Mebrak Ghebreweldi ([mebrak@driorg.com](mailto:mebrak@driorg.com)) in your email.

The cover letter should include the following: a) contact details, b) previous research experience and current research projects, c) educational background and d) specific reasons why the candidate is interested in this role and how this will contribute to their development as researchers.

The CV should include select research projects and outputs/publications and other qualifications, including language skills.

If you would like to be considered for this role, your complete application must be received by:  
**12 August 2021 midnight (Eritrea time).**