

**CRDF GLOBAL**

**REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)**

**Summary:**

CRDF Global is seeking interested candidates from life science institutions in Iraq to participate in a Building University Capacity in Responsible Science training program. The program will consist of two parts:

1. Participation in the BMENA Bioethics Forum, an online research compliance training program that includes modules on topics ranging from lab safety to bioethics.
2. A training workshop, to be held in Jordan from September 17 to September 20, 2017.

Candidates for the BMENA Bioethics Forum online program will be recruited from hospitals, universities, and other life science institutions across Iraq. Forum participants who complete all available BMENA modules will be eligible for participation at the training workshop in Jordan. Up to twenty workshop slots are available for participants. The workshop candidates will be selected competitively based on past experience, as well as their current position. The workshop will be a follow up to the module material, modeled on the requirements of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) and adopted to international standards. The trainings will increase the level of Biorisk Management (BRM) knowledge, as well as responsible conduct of sciences awareness and practice in key regions of Iraq. Additionally, the workshop will provide an opportunity for feedback to further understand the needs of Iraqi scientists. CRDF Global will provide financial and logistical support for the selected participants’ travel.

**Candidates needed:**

CRDF Global is seeking Iraqi candidates from life science institutions in Iraq to participate in an online research compliance training program. Of these participants, up to twenty will be selected for an in-person workshop in Jordan.

Interested applicants will need to demonstrate the following in their applications:

* Proven experience working in Iraqi life science institutions.
* Expertise in laboratory biosafety and biosecurity best practices.
* Ability to complete online courses in English

**Goals and required commitment**:

The goal of this training program is to expand the capacity of Iraqi life scientists and laboratory supervisors by engaging in BRM curriculum development for their institution to sustain in-country efforts. The course will enable the participant to develop systematic, culturally relevant, and locally adapted knowledge, skills and tools to mitigate the inherent risks associated with the handling and security of pathogens.

It is necessary for candidates applying for the workshop in Jordan to be available during the following dates: September 17 to September 20, 2017. The workshop will consist of an in-person training taught by local expert and two subject matter experts from Harvard University. The workshops will include hands-on exercises to help candidates develop relevant BRM material for their institutions.

**If interested, please submit your application with the following:**

1. A resume or curriculum vitae in English
2. A statement of interest that addresses the following details:

* Roles and responsibilities at current institution
* Track record of applied knowledge at institution from any continuous education in biosafety and biosecurity management received – please list training in BRM received in the past
* Any track record of current teaching assignments including BRM curriculum

1. Institute letter of support (LOS): This document should reference the applicant by name and should be signed by the head of the Institute with a reference number.

**Workshop Participants Selection Criteria:**

CRDF Global will select up to twenty (20) participants (trainees) for the in-person workshop according to the following criteria:

* Biosecurity/biosafety impact for applicant and home institution
* Sustainability potential
* Clarity and completeness of application
* Benefit to education and infrastructure at own institution and possibly others in Iraq
* Successful completion of all modules in the BMENA online training program
* The candidates agree to conduct at least two (2) workshops on the subject matter at their institutions, once they have completed the workshops.

**Submission:**

Applications should be submitted as electronic documents in PDF, Word, or Excel formats by e-mail at ([respscience@crdfglobal.org](mailto:respscience@crdfglobal.org)) by April 20, 2017.

**Background:**

CRDF Global is an independent, nonprofit organization established in 1995 to promote international scientific and technical collaboration through grants, technical resources, training, and services. CRDF Global has 20 years of experience managing international research funding programs and supporting emerging science and technology infrastructure in more than 40 countries in Eurasia, the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia.

More information is available at [www.crdfglobal.org](http://www.crdfglobal.org).

BMENA Bioethics Forum is a project developed by Harvard University team through a funding from U.S.

Department of the State. The BMENA training program began in 2014 and has educated over 220 students in countries across the Middle East and North Africa.

More information is available at <http://www.bmenaresearch.org/>.