

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

PhD Student or Post-Doctoral Researcher

Health Economics

Project	EMINENCE – Elimination of Onchocerciasis in Co-endemic Areas Using Moxidectin
Host Institution	Higher Institute for Scientific and Medical Research (ISM), Cameroon
Open Positions	1 Position (open to PhD students or Post-Doctoral researchers)

1. Introduction

The **Higher Institute for Scientific and Medical Research (ISM)** invites applications for one (1) position in **Health Economics**, embedded within the **EMINENCE** project — “*Elimination of Onchocerciasis in Co-endemic Areas Using Moxidectin*”, a groundbreaking multi-country research initiative supported by EDCTP. This position is open to candidates at the PhD student level (enrolled or enrolling in a doctoral programme) or at the Post-Doctoral level.

Onchocerciasis (river blindness) remains a major public health burden in sub-Saharan Africa. EMINENCE evaluates moxidectin as a next-generation alternative to ivermectin in community-directed treatment (CDTI) programmes. A key component of the project is a rigorous **economic evaluation** comparing the costs and cost-effectiveness of moxidectin versus ivermectin mass drug administration (MDA) strategies, and projecting long-term programmatic costs towards onchocerciasis elimination.

The economic evaluation work encompasses four inter-related activities: (i) a systematic review and primary data collection to update estimates of ivermectin delivery costs in CDTI programmes; (ii) a micro-costing study capturing all financial and economic costs of moxidectin MDA (annual and biannual) during the Phase IIIb trial; (iii) a cost-effectiveness analysis comparing moxidectin strategies to annual ivermectin MDA over a 14-year horizon; and (iv) long-term projections of programmatic delivery costs towards elimination over a 20-year horizon. The selected candidate will contribute to all or part of these activities depending on their profile and level.

The candidate will join a multidisciplinary consortium of parasitologists, epidemiologists, public health specialists, and health economists, and will directly contribute to generating evidence to inform national NTD programmes and international health policy.

2. Position Description

Profile	PhD student or Post-Doctoral researcher in Health Economics
Duration	2–3 years depending on profile (renewable subject to performance)
Host Institution	ISM, Cameroon (with fieldwork in the Mbam & Lékié river valleys)
Enrollment	PhD candidates: recognized university in Cameroon or international partner
Supervision	Multidisciplinary team of senior scientists within the EMINENCE consortium

3. Eligibility Criteria

This position is open to two profiles. Applicants must clearly indicate in their cover letter whether they are applying as a PhD student or as a Post-Doctoral researcher.

Profile A – PhD Student

- Hold a Master's degree (or equivalent) in health economics, economics, public health, epidemiology, or a closely related quantitative field
- Demonstrated interest in economic evaluation, costing methodologies, and/or health systems research
- Strong quantitative and analytical skills; proficiency in statistical software (R, Stata, or equivalent) is an asset
- Motivation to conduct fieldwork in onchocerciasis-endemic communities in Cameroon
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and/or French
- **Must be enrolled in a PhD programme in health economics, economics at a recognized university (in Cameroon or abroad)**

Profile B – Post-Doctoral Researcher

- **Hold a PhD in health economics, economics, or a related quantitative discipline**
- Demonstrated experience in economic evaluation and/or health economic modelling (cost-effectiveness analysis, decision-analytic modelling)
- Track record of peer-reviewed publications in health economics or global health
- Experience working in low- and middle-income country (LMIC) health programmes is highly desirable
- Proficiency in relevant software (e.g. TreeAge, R, Python, Excel-based modelling)
- Excellent communication skills in English and/or French; knowledge of both languages is an advantage

4. Support Package

The position offers a comprehensive support package:

- Monthly stipend commensurate with the position level and local standards
- Research costs (fieldwork, data collection, laboratory/computational resources, data analysis)
- Travel support for fieldwork, consortium meetings, and international conferences
- Access to specialized training workshops in health economics, global health, and NTD research
- Multidisciplinary mentorship through the EMINENCE consortium (parasitologists, epidemiologists, social scientists, health economists)
- Opportunity to engage with EDCTP networks and international research partners

5. General Expectations

All selected candidates are expected to:

- Actively participate in EMINENCE consortium activities, including capacity-building sessions, data harmonization workshops, and stakeholder dialogues
- Adhere to ethical standards in research, with particular sensitivity in community-based fieldwork settings
- Collaborate across disciplines with team members from parasitology, epidemiology, public health, and social sciences
- Contribute to robust data collection, quality assurance, and dissemination of findings
- Support the production of EMINENCE technical reports and policy briefs
- Comply with the reporting requirements of the EDCTP funding framework

6. Application Process

Deadline	15 May 2026
Submission format	Single PDF per application, sent by email
Email subject line	EMINENCE HE Application – [PhD or PostDoc] – [Your Name]
Submission email	stephanie.jouego@ismcm.org

6.1 Required Application Documents

Applicants must submit the following in a single PDF:

- Cover Letter (max. 1 page): Clearly indicate your profile (PhD student or Post-Doctoral researcher), describe your motivation, relevant experience, and how your background aligns with the health economics work of EMINENCE
- Curriculum Vitae (max. 3 pages): Include education, work experience, publications (if any), and relevant skills
- Academic Transcripts and Degree Certificate(s)
- For the Post-Doctoral position: List of publications and/or a representative publication
- Two Letters of Recommendation (from academic supervisors or professional referees)
- Writing Sample (e.g. Master's thesis abstract, published article, technical report, or working paper in health economics or a related field)

6.2 Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview (in person). Final selection will be based on academic excellence, research potential, and fit with the project's health economics objectives.