ZVITAMBO
HELPING CHILDREN SURVIVE AND THRIVE THROUGH RESEARCH

Employment/Career Opportunities: LIFE-ED

Date: October 2026

Location: Harare and Shurugwi, Zimbabwe

Zvitambo is an internationally recognized multidisciplinary public health research institute with the mission of helping children survive and thrive through research. We work in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC) to conduct research and provide technical support to reduce the burden of malnutrition and infectious diseases, and give children a good start in life. Zvitambo operates mainly from a head office in Harare, and a field site in Shurugwi, where we conduct clinical trials and observational cohort studies, with embedded laboratory and qualitative sub-studies.

Zvitambo is undertaking a new project funded by the Gates Foundation, called LIFE-ED. This project unites researchers in Zimbabwe, India, Tanzania, Peru and Bangladesh to follow-up cohort of young people enrolled into research studies in early life, and now in adolescence. Zvitambo is leading two parts of the project: follow-up of 500 children in Shurugwi district who were initially enrolled in the Sanitation Hygiene Infant Nutrition Efficacy (SHINE) trial; and coordinating the data centre for all 5 countries from our research base in Harare. We are therefore seeking to hire 4 nurses and 2 drivers to work in Shurugwi, and a data team comprising data coordinator, two programmers, and two data officers to work in Harare.

Position: 1 x Data Management Coordinator (Harare)

Full time: 12 months

Job Purpose

Zvitambo is seeking an experienced and talented Data Coordinator who will coordinate the LIFE-ED Data Core activities across five countries. This role requires somebody who has a strong background in research data management and statistics/data science, combined with exemplary project management and communication skills. The role will form the public 'face' of the LIFE-ED Data Core, coordinating meetings, developing case report forms (CRFs), specifying data system requirements and data quality assurance SOPs, harmonizing data approaches and interfacing with data scientists in Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Peru, India and Bangladesh to launch a complicated 5-country study. This position requires broad experience in data collection and data management systems, strong team leadership skills, a dynamic approach to motivating teams in other countries, and exemplary communication skills – with the ability to lead multi-country calls to harmonise data decisions. The Data Coordinator provides a link between the Data Core and each LIFE-ED study team. The post holder will work closely with the Associate Director for Data, IT and Statistics to launch the project, and will oversee a team of three programmers and two data officers. This post will be based in Harare and may require international travel to coordinate meetings, or to support deployment of data systems at other LIFE-ED sites.

Main Duties

- Project Planning & Scheduling: Develop detailed project timelines, set milestones, and organize daily tasks for data systems design, development, deployment and maintenance.
- Data Tracking & Quality Control: Monitor incoming data workflows, check for data integrity and accuracy, and help maintain documentation or standard operating procedures (SOPs).
- Cross-Functional Communication: Act as the central point of contact between data scientists, database administrators, and researchers, translating technical progress into updates.
- Resource & Vendor Coordination: Ensure the data team has the necessary software, tools, and personnel, and coordinate with external vendors or data providers when required.
- Progress Reporting & Risk Management: Track project metrics, log potential bottlenecks or compliance/security risks, and prepare status reports for LIFE-ED stakeholders.
- Administrative Support: Schedule Data Core meetings, take meeting minutes, manage shared resources or databases, and track project expenses.
- Data Governance and Policies: In collaboration with country data management teams, develop and enforce standards, procedures, and guidelines for how data is collected, stored, used, and shared across the LIFE-ED consortium.
- Data Quality and Integrity: Implement validation rules, cleaning processes, and deduplication routines to fix errors and maintain reliable datasets.

- System and Database Management: I collaboration with programmers, design, maintain, and optimize data storage platforms, including databases, data warehouses, and cloud-based repositories.
- Security and Access Control: In collaboration with IT team, establish user permissions, authentication protocols, and backup procedures to safeguard sensitive information.
- Regulatory Compliance: In collaboration with DPO, ensure data practices adhere to relevant privacy laws and industry regulations (such as GDPR, HIPAA, or CCPA).
- Lifecycle Management: Oversee data from its initial creation or acquisition through active usage, archiving, and final deletion or destruction.
- Collaboration and Support: Work closely with IT teams, data analysts, data scientists, and LIFE-ED teams to turn raw data into actionable dashboards, reports, and insights.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- Master's Degree in quantitative field such as Statistics, Computer Science, Information Systems, Data Science or Mathematics.
- Professional Certifications in data management, data analytics, cloud computing (e.g. AWS Certified Data Analytics, Azure Data Engineer)
- Project management certifications
- At least 3 to 5+ years of hands-on experience in data management, data coordination, database administration, data warehousing, or data analytics.
- Advanced proficiency in SQL (essential), plus working knowledge of database systems like PostgreSQL, MySQL, Oracle, or MongoDB.
- Familiarity with data manipulation and analysis languages like Python or R.
- Experience with Extract, Transform, Load (ETL) pipelines and cloud data platforms (AWS, Google Cloud, Microsoft Azure).
- Proficiency in visualization tools such as Power BI or Tableau.
- Understanding of metadata management, master data management (MDM), data cleaning, and security/privacy protocols.
- Ability to plan, execute, and monitor data-driven projects across cross-functional teams.
- Strong ability to translate complex technical concepts and data findings into clear, non-technical insights for stakeholders and leadership.
- Aptitude for troubleshooting data discrepancies, system errors, and integrity gaps.
- Strong track record in research data management, working with multi-country projects a distinct advantage
- Deep understanding and hands-on experience of the research cycle - from design and preparation, to data cleaning and analysis
- Highly proficient in Electronic data capture systems such as Redcap, ODK, or KoBo Toolbox
- Proficient in productivity tools such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneDrive, SharePoint, etc

- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English
- Demonstrated leadership abilities and experience in mentoring junior staff
- Well versed in regulatory frameworks governing clinical research, such as Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) guidelines.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively coordinate multidisciplinary teams
- Keen understanding of the research ecosystem in Zimbabwe.

Desirable:

- Track record of publications in peer-reviewed journals or presentations at scientific conferences.

How to apply:

Please follow the link https://form.jotform.com/262980775897582. Application heading: "**Application for Data Management Coordinator - LIFE-ED.**" The closing date for applications is **4th November 2026**.

Please include a cover letter, CV, and other supporting documents; it is preferable if this can be combined as one PDF document.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Consider your application unsuccessful if not contacted within two (2) weeks after the closing date of the advert. Any form of lobbying at any stage will lead to automatic disqualification.

By submitting your personal information, you consent to Zvitambo holding and using it in accordance with its recruitment policy and procedures. Zvitambo reserves the right to verify documents attached with the relevant awarding institutions to authenticate their validity. Zvitambo is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse work force.

Position: 2 x Data officers (Harare)

Full time: 12 months

Job Purpose

Zvitambo is seeking two experienced Data Officers who will each manage research data systems for five LIFE-ED countries. This role requires somebody who has a strong background in research data management, and supporting all the data aspects of a project, combined with exemplary project management and communication skills. The data officer will be the point of contact for each LIFE-ED country assigned them, ensuring that their data collection systems are developed and deployed effectively, helping to train local teams, reviewing real-time enrolment figures, undertaking QC of data quality, producing data summaries, raising and resolving data queries, and giving data feedback at meetings. This position requires hands-on experience in data collection, data systems, data cleaning, and running study management systems, with strong team skills, and an ability to work across multiple cultures. The post holder will work closely with the Data Management Coordinator and Programmers to ensure consistent data systems across all countries, and to coordinate approaches to data curation. This post will be based in Harare and may require international travel to support deployment of data systems at other LIFE-ED sites.

Main Duties

- Be the point of contact for each LIFE-ED country data team assigned them
- Ensuring that data collection systems are developed and deployed effectively,
- Help to develop and test electronic data capture tools
- Ensuring that the study management system and electronic data capture for each LIFE-ED sites is deployed and functional
- Document, review and authorise system changes in accordance with approved procedures.
- Ensure teams are fully trained and conversant in data-related study processes
- Reviewing real-time enrolment figures, and producing data summaries,
- Undertaking QC of data quality, raising and resolving data queries
- Ensure completeness checks, consistency checks, validation rules, missing data and discrepancy resolution.
- Raise and resolve data queries with each country team
- Maintain audit trails of data changes
- Hold meetings to discuss emerging data
- Giving data feedback at meetings.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential

- Bachelor's Degree or Diploma in quantitative field such as Statistics, Information Systems, Data Science, Computer Science or related field.
- Hands-on experience in data collection, data management systems, and data quality assurance.

- Strong team skills, and an ability to work across multiple cultures.
- Excellent project management skills, with ability to prioritise tasks and deliver to deadline
- Attention to detail in quality control procedures
- Highly proficient in managing Electronic Data Capture systems
- Demonstrated ability to effectively work in multidisciplinary teams
- Well versed in regulatory frameworks governing clinical research, such as Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) guidelines.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English
- Keen understanding of the research ecosystem in Zimbabwe.

Desirable:

- At least 3 years' experience in research data management
- Working in a research environment experience
- Experience with multi-site studies,
- Experience with database querying,
- Data visualisation or reporting systems.

How to apply:

Please follow the link https://form.jotform.com/262981871094569. Application heading: "**Application for Data Officer - LIFE-ED**." The closing date for applications is **4th November 2026**.

Please include a cover letter, CV, and other supporting documents; it is preferable if this can be combined as one PDF document. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Consider your application unsuccessful if not contacted within two (2) weeks after the closing date of the advert. Any form of lobbying at any stage will lead to automatic disqualification.

By submitting your personal information, you consent to Zvitambo holding and using it in accordance with its recruitment policy and procedures. Zvitambo reserves the right to verify documents attached with the relevant awarding institutions to authenticate their validity. Zvitambo is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse work force.

Position: 2 x Programmers (Harare)

Full time: 12 months

Job Purpose

Zvitambo is seeking experienced Programmers who will develop study management systems and electronic data capture systems using RedCap for the LIFE-ED multi-country study. This role requires somebody who has a strong background in developing data systems, ideally within a research setting, and supporting all aspects of system testing, implementation, and refinement. The programmer will join a team of three who are responsible for building all data systems for five LIFE-ED countries, ensuring that the systems are deployed effectively, helping to train local teams, and responding to queries to maintain and improve the system. This position requires hands-on experience in building data systems from scratch, and the ability to ensure harmonization with existing systems. This post will be based in Harare and may require international travel to support deployment of data systems at other LIFE-ED sites.

Main Duties

- Analyse user requirements and design data systems
- Build/modify existing research study management system deployed at Zvitambo
- Build electronic data capture systems using RedCap for the multi-site LIFE-ED study
- Design data integration procedures for onboarding external data e.g. lab results
- Maintain and upgrade the data systems as needed
- Documenting testing, resolving defects and confirming system readiness before deployment.
- Deploy and maintain developed data systems either in person or virtually
- Develop documentation for the built data systems
- Ensure teams are fully trained and conversant in the systems prior to deployment
- Respond to suggestions and queries from end-users to ensure the systems are fit for purpose

Qualifications and Experience

Essential

- Bachelor's or Masters degree in Computer Science or related field
- At least 3 years experience in full stack programming skills and building systems from scratch
- Proven ability to design, develop, deploy and maintain data systems including user support and ongoing improvements.
- Experience with Electronic Data Capturing system (ODK, Redcap, KoBoToolbox)
- Ability to work to tight timelines
- Excellent project management skills, with ability to prioritise tasks and deliver to deadline
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English

- Demonstrated ability to effectively work in multidisciplinary teams and across cultures

Desirable:

- Experience in designing data systems within research organisations.
- Experience with REDCap or ODK, including configuration, hooks, external modules and APIs
- Experience with ASP.NET Core, Angular, SQL Server and MySQL
- Experience developing and integrating REST APIs
- Experience with Azure and DevOps practices (e.g. CI/CD, version control with Git).
- Attention to detail
- Research sector experience

How to apply:

Please follow the link https://form.jotform.com/262981973476576. Application heading: "**Application for Programmer - LIFE-ED**." The closing date for applications is **4th November 2026.**

Please include a cover letter, CV, and other supporting documents; it is preferable if this can be combined as one PDF document. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Consider your application unsuccessful if not contacted within two (2) weeks after the closing date of the advert. Any form of lobbying at any stage will lead to automatic disqualification.

By submitting your personal information, you consent to Zvitambo holding and using it in accordance with its recruitment policy and procedures. Zvitambo reserves the right to verify documents attached with the relevant awarding institutions to authenticate their validity. Zvitambo is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse work force.

Position: 4 x Research Nurses (Shurugwi)

Full time: 12 months

Job Purpose

Zvitambo is seeking four experienced research nurses to conduct the LIFE-ED cohort study. LIFE-ED will undertake 1-day assessments on 500 children enrolled in the SHINE trial between 2012-2015, and who are now turning 12-13 years old. Children will attend a study clinic in Shurugwi for a series of tests to assess cognitive function, mental health, physical function, cardiometabolic health, gut function and body composition. You will be trained in all study procedures during a pilot data collection phase, and you will contribute to dissemination activities at the end of the study.

Main Duties

- Sensitising children and their care givers about the study
- Undertake written informed consent
- Collect data from children and their caregivers
- Undertake anthropometry and body composition assessments
- Collect urine, blood and stool specimens
- Undertake cognitive and mental health test batteries
- Record all data on electronic CRFs
- Refer children with clinical concerns
- Respond to data queries
- Maintaining proper documentation of all study procedures conducted

Qualifications:

- Primary Care Nursing Certificate with valid practicing certificate and at least 5 year's experience.
- Commitment to working as part of a multidisciplinary research team
- Excellent oral and written communication skills including the ability to communicate effectively with rural community members as well as clinic staff.
- Excellent organisational skills
- Strong motivational skills
- Attention to detail in collection of data
- Ability to work to strict deadlines.
- Fluency in local language and English.
- Computer literacy is an added advantage
- Experience working in a research environment is an added advantage

How to apply:

Please follow the link https://form.jotform.com/250991414186562. Application heading: "**Application for Research Nurse - LIFE-ED**." The closing date for applications is **4th November 2026**.

Please include a cover letter, CV, and other supporting documents; it is preferable if this can be combined as one PDF document. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Consider your application unsuccessful if not contacted within two (2) weeks after the closing date of the advert. Any form of lobbying at any stage will lead to automatic disqualification.

By submitting your personal information, you consent to Zvitambo holding and using it in accordance with its recruitment policy and procedures. Zvitambo reserves the right to verify documents attached with the relevant awarding institutions to authenticate their validity. Zvitambo is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse work force.

Position: 2 x Driver (Shurugwi)

Full time: 12 months

Job Purpose

Zvitambo is seeking two experienced drivers to conduct the LIFE-ED cohort study. LIFE-ED will undertake 1-day assessments on 500 children enrolled in the SHINE trial between 2012-2015, and who are now turning 12-13 years old. Children will attend a study clinic in Shurugwi for a series of tests, and need to be collected from their homes each morning, and dropped to their homes at the end of the research visit.

Main Duties

- Transport research participants and their caregivers to and from the study clinic
- Undertake basic checks to identify the participants
- Transport families safely in rural areas
- Undertake other driving duties as required

Qualifications:

- **5** ordinary levels - passes/subjects
- Clean class 4 license (possession of class 2 is an added advantage)
- Possession of a defensive driving certificate is an added advantage
- Advanced mechanic training is an added advantage

Experience

- A minimum of 2 years continuous driving experience preferably in off-road environments.
- • Experience in Logistics department operations and fleet management is an added advantage

How to apply:

Please follow the link https://form.jotform.com/243382740019050. Application heading: "**Application for Driver - LIFE-ED**." The closing date for applications is **4th November 2026**.

Please include a cover letter, CV, and other supporting documents; it is preferable if this can be combined as one PDF document. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Consider your application unsuccessful if not contacted within two (2) weeks after the closing date of the advert. Any form of lobbying at any stage will lead to automatic disqualification.

By submitting your personal information, you consent to Zvitambo holding and using it in accordance with its recruitment policy and procedures. Zvitambo reserves the right to verify documents attached with the relevant awarding institutions to authenticate their validity. Zvitambo is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse work force.