Decision on the shortlisting of Postdoc fellows under EAR-VU Project

I. Background about the EAR-VU Project

The *Eastern Africa Hub for Behavioral and Social Science Research and Capacity Strengthening for Vaccine Uptake (EAR-VU)* aims to strengthen research capacity to understand social and behavioral factors affecting vaccine uptake in the region. The Hub seeks to generate high-quality evidence to inform policy and practice, while building a sustainable network of early-career researchers in behavioral and social sciences for health in the Eastern Africa region. The project is a collaboration between the University of Rwanda (lead), Makerere University in Uganda, University of Nairobi in Kenya, Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, and the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania.

II. Role and description

The EAR-VU Postdoctoral Fellowship provides an opportunity for recent PhD graduates to:

1. Develop research capacity in behavioural and social sciences, with mentorship and networking opportunities.
2. Support early-career researchers to conduct innovative, policy-relevant research aligned with EAR-VU thematic areas.
3. Engage with policy-makers, civil society, and health sector actors to promote research uptake for the enhancement of vaccination uptake in the region

III. Invitation for interviews

The selection committee assessed the submitted application documents, and the following applicants were shortlisted for interview:

S/N	author	Gender	Country	Title	Decision
1	Addisu Tsegaye	M	ET	Vaccine Hesitancy or Systemic Failure? Interrogating the Limits of Vaccine Hesitancy in the Context of Ethiopian Refugee Settlements	Invited for interview
2	Domina Asingizwe	F	RW	Evaluating community co-designed strategies to reduce vaccine hesitancy and improve vaccine uptake in rural Rwanda: A Mixed-methods research design	Invited for interview
3	Henry Komakech	M	UG	From policy intent to coverage: Evaluating National Immunization Policies for Refugees in Uganda	Invited for interview
4	Magolanga Shagembe	M	TZ	Beyond Individual Choice: A Socio-Ecological Analysis of Social and Behavioral Determinants of Vaccine Uptake among Informal Workers in Urban Tanzania	Invited for interview
5	Meseret Ekubay	F	ET	Social and Behavioural Determinants of Tetanus Toxoid Vaccine Uptake Among Mothers in Four Regions of Ethiopia: A Mixed Methods Study	Invited for interview
6	Ntivuguruzwa Jean De La Croix	M	RW	AI-Driven Interventions to Enhance Vaccine Acceptance and Health Communication in Rwanda	Invited for interview

7	Odeth Mpungirehe	F	RW	Exploring Community-based determinants of vaccine uptake in East Africa	Invited for interview
8	Paul Marcel Nindenshuti	M	RW	Behavioral and Social Determinants of Vaccine Uptake and Acceptance Among Adults in Rwanda: Implications for Evidence-Based Immunization Program Design	Invited for interview
9	Tefera Goshu Ijigu	M	ET	Stories Behind the Syringe: Exploring Social and Behavioural Determinants of Childhood Vaccine Uptake in Urban Slum and Squatter Areas of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Invited for interview
10	Trhas Tadesse Berhe	F	ET	Developing a Community Conversation Toolkit to Improve Vaccine Uptake and Reduce Hesitancy in Legetafo-Legedadi, Oromia, Ethiopia	Invited for interview

For further information about the project or the positions, please contact Assoc. Prof. Uwizeye Dieudonne at d.uwizeye@ur.ac.rw and earvuhub@gmail.com copy the Principal Investigator at a.muleefu@ur.ac.rw.
or call +250 788 457 397.

Notes:
The interview, which will be conducted virtually, will be conducted on April 24th, 2026. The link and details on the platform and the link will be communicated in due course.

Done at Kigali, April 10, 2026

Dr. Alphone Muleefu
Principal Investigator