



OPEN POSITION: Consultant - Senior Advisor, COVID-19/ Global Health Security

REPORTS TO: Executive Director

LOCATION: Washington, DC / Remote

HIRING NEED: Immediate

BACKGROUND

CORE, Inc. (CORE Group) is a leader in global community health, working to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths around the world. We have a comparative advantage through collaborative action to promote and safeguard health in communities and create new models for reaching the most marginalized populations. As a neutral, trusted platform for a coalition of more than 100 members, we work together with the broader global health community to foster collaboration and learning, strengthen technical capacity, develop innovative tools and resources, and scale evidence-based approaches to improving health.

Learn more here: www.coregroup.org.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The primary function of the Senior Advisor, COVID-19/Global Health Security (GHS) is to support CORE Group's current and expanding global portfolio of immunization projects, COVID-19 response, and community health initiatives. This position will support the USAID-funded MOMENTUM 3B award: "Entrenched Obstacles in Routine Immunization" with short-term technical assistance to multiple countries over a period of 2-3 years. It will focus on children, with a focus on addressing the challenges posed by the disruption of immunization services due to the COVID-19 pandemic, work with country governments and other key stakeholders to address the challenges of delivering immunization programs within the context of COVID-19, adapting service strategies, advise on a health systems approach in relation to COVID-19 challenges, as well as addressing unvaccinated "susceptible" children and a significant increase in outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases, including measles, polio, diphtheria, and yellow fever. The consultant will assist with the planning, delivery, demand, and uptake of immunization services and inform policies and programs that expand access to immunization programs, using short-term and long-term strategies.

The GHSA supports a multi-lateral, multi-sectoral approach to strengthening local and global health security by strengthening country capacity to prevent, detect and respond to infectious disease threats whether occurring naturally or accidentally or being deliberately spread. Achieving global health security requires an inclusive and collaborative effort that builds on the interdependencies among communities, civil society, the private sector, and governments. The engagement of communities and civil society in epidemic and pandemic preparedness is particularly important, to ensure early response and mitigate impact. Local NGOs and CSOs a critical partner during epidemics and pandemics.

The Senior Advisor will also play a role in providing technical assistance to in-country partners on health security especially related to Immunization, One Health approaches, community engagement, surveillance, and emergency response and preparedness in the context of COVID-19. She/he will work closely with global partners, UN, USAID, CDC, and other stakeholders, as well as country line ministries.

The Senior Advisor will support **immunization programs** that strengthen outbreak and epidemic preparedness, detection, and response capabilities in communities deemed at heightened risk of infectious disease threats through a multi-sectoral approach that focuses on the training and support of community health workers, whole-of-society planning, outbreak response simulations (CBS), community-based surveillance, and social mobilization.

It is anticipated this will be a 75% time level of effort position, as a consultant.

General responsibilities will include, but not be limited to the following:

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Providing technical guidance at the country level for the implementation of immunization campaigns, non-pharmaceutical interventions at the community level, and communications and guidance plans, especially given the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Conducting immunization and health security trainings and workshops for local NGOs, and other community-based stakeholders (e.g. epidemic control, community engagement, social mobilization, community-based surveillance, and reporting)
- Conduct annual outbreak simulations
- Providing support and analysis, as needed, for after-action reviews of outbreaks to capture lessons learned, help countries plan short and long term for future outbreaks.
- Providing technical guidance for the design and implementation of immunization program activities with the goal of ensuring that program design and implementation will achieve planned results and goals, especially given the obstacles with missed campaigns given the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In collaboration with program directors, supporting National Government capabilities to make more rapid, visible progress in improving technical capacity and strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation pertaining to the nexus between human and animal health, of relevance to the health security partners and to improve immunization programs, especially those with entrenched obstacles.
- Advising and collaborating with relevant local government officials on implementation and policy issues. Contributing expertise and guidance to county health teams to strengthen health systems necessary for implementing activities. Integrate gender principles into planning, as well as indicators.
- Participating in, coordinating, and organizing evaluations and assessments that are conducted in conjunction with in-country partners, donors, international organizations and local partners.
- Participating in technical working groups (TWG) pertaining to Global Health Security, such as on Antimicrobial Resistance, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), the One Health Platform and the laboratory network for infectious disease detection and surveillance.
- Compiling, analyzing, and disseminating, on a regular basis, reports to project directors, USAID/Washington on Global Health Security, Immunization, One Health and infectious disease issues and accomplishments as needed.
- Serving as a technical advisor and supporting project oversight, monitoring and evaluation.
- Participating in CORE Group overall strategic planning for GHS activities, provide support to the One Health Interest Group, and assist with planning of COVID-19 activities and response.

COLLABORATION AND PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS

- In collaboration with the Project Directors, actively engaging with government, donors and local organizations involved in the Immunization/GHS sector, in order to promote collaborative planning toward long-term sustainable solutions.
- Establishing and maintaining productive collaborative relationships with a wide range of partners and stakeholders, USAID, the MOH, MOA, county governments, multi-lateral partners such as WHO, FAO, OIE, Africa CDC, and UNICEF, IFRC, and donors such as the World Bank, and civil society groups and NGOs
- Participating in and contributing to Immunization/GHS technical and coordination meetings at the global or local levels
- Work with USAID and other partners on project goals, objectives, and timelines. Contribute to technical reports and technical briefs, as well as program reports.
- Other duties as requested

REQUIREMENTS

The Senior Advisor must have:

- Minimum of a Master's degree or higher in public health, or other allied field related to public health, immunization, and/or animal health is required. PhD preferred, Nursing and Medical background also relevant.
- A strong background in disease surveillance and Immunization. Excellent knowledge of GAVI 5.0, IA2030 and other global immunization strategies, as well as Regional Immunization strategies.
- Minimum ten (10) years of progressively responsible experience working with US Government-funded programs, with at least five years of experience in an international setting, supporting health, infectious diseases, immunization, or development programs is required. Knowledge of emergency response and programming required.
- Demonstrated technical experience/expertise related to infectious diseases is required. Experience in curriculum development and resources for developing countries is necessary. Experience in conducting training with local organizations, with a participatory approach.
- Prior experience working on zoonotic diseases is highly desirable.
- Technical knowledge and understanding of the Immunization/Global Health Security and US policy related to GHS is required.
- Knowledge of USG initiatives related to development assistance, USAID programming policies, regulations, procedures, and documentation requirements for strategy and project design, implementation, management, and evaluation is a strong asset.
- Experience with monitoring and evaluation methodologies including frameworks, data quality assurance, analysis reporting and best practices in data dissemination in international/resource poor settings
- Previous experience conducting and evaluating outbreak simulations is necessary.
- Knowledge of the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) process is necessary.
- Prior extensive experience with USAID and/or one of its implementing partners in least developed country settings would be highly desirable.
- Demonstrated flexibility and openness in responding to changing work priorities and environment is a must.
- Demonstrated strong teamwork, cultural competency, diplomacy, and interpersonal skills are essential.

Senior Advisor, Global Health Security Agenda

- Demonstrated strong written and oral communications skills in English and ability to communicate complex technical information to a variety of audiences and stakeholders including senior-level managers, country-level health officials, UN, senior level USG delegations, inter-agency partners and host government counterparts is required.
- Willingness to travel to in-country programs when STTA is needed and also be available remotely for training and technical advice.
- Gender and health systems strengthening expertise strongly encouraged

Only candidates who are eligible to work in the United States will be considered. Relocation package is not available.

HOW TO APPLY

Please email your resume and cover letter to jobs@coregroup.org. Use “COVID-19/GHS Sr. Advisor_Last Name” as the subject line – no phone calls please. Only potential interviewees will be contacted.