

Job Description: Communications Associate

BACKGROUND

CORE Group emerged organically in 1997 out of a need among global health professionals to share knowledge and ideas about how to best help children survive. Today, CORE Group convenes thousands of members and partners worldwide to share evidence and best practices, and then translates these into the real world with a direct impact. As a neutral, trusted platform, we bring our members and broader International Community Health Network (over 15,000) together to foster collaboration and learning, strengthen technical capacity, develop innovative tools and resources, and scale evidence-based approaches to improving community health. CORE Group has 10 Working Groups, multiple interest groups, that work collaboratively on pressing global health issues.

CORE Group also implements projects including Advocacy on Reaching Zero Dose Children, CORE Group Polio Project, SRMNCAH Small Grants Program, Agency For All SBC Research project, and MOMENTUM Immunization project.

Learn more here: www.coregroup.org.

The candidate for this position **must be fluent in French, both written and verbal** and have an excellent command of English. The salary range for this position is \$50,000 - \$55,000 USD, based on experience and education. **Preferred candidates will reside in West Africa and work remotely.**

Project Summary

Millions of children in fragile parts of the Sahel and the Horn of Africa remain functionally invisible to health systems, missing out on life-saving vaccines as a consequence. In a bid to help governments fix that, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is launching a novel kind of partnership, a kind of immunization super-league called **ZIP**, or the Zero-dose Immunization Program. The program prioritizes the Horn of Africa and the Sahel regions, where government-run vaccination programs typically face challenges in reaching these children

In the Sahel region, World Vision heads up a consortium of organizations including the African Christian Health Association Platform (ACHAP), Food for the Hungry, CORE Group and other local partners to shine a light on immunization blind-spots across Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Niger, Nigeria and Mali.



In the Horn of Africa, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) will lead a network of partners including Acasus, Flowminder, IOM, ThinkPlace and local partners, to reach vulnerable zero-dose populations in Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. The density of partners' footprints across each region is key, because local contexts vary widely, and will present diverse challenges.

Reaching and Adapting Immunization Services to Reach Zero-Dose Children in the Sahel (**RAISE 4 Sahel**) is a Gavi-funded project (2022-2025) aimed at identifying and reaching zero-dose children living in displaced, fragile, and conflict-affected settings in the seven Sahel countries.

In addition, the project aims to address broader community and health system challenges to understand why certain countries still have zero-dose children, and to find ways to ensure the resilience of services in reaching these children and communities in need of other essential services.

The project's main goal is to strengthen immunization efforts for zero-dose and under-immunized children in areas that have not yet been reached by national immunization programs. Special attention will be given to children living in areas beyond government reach, as well as mobile populations and refugees who cross borders.

Within the **RAISE 4 Sahel Consortium**, CORE Group is responsible for implementing a communication, knowledge sharing, and advocacy strategy that aligns with the ZIP project's IRMMA framework (Identify, Reach, Measure and Monitor, Advocate). As technical experts, CORE Group supports the project secretariats in developing tools and informational materials to keep stakeholders informed about the progress in improving immunization coverage among zero-dose and under-immunized children living in fragile contexts in the Sahel. Collaborating with the country secretariats, CORE Group takes the lead in the ZIP learning agenda to generate evidence-based knowledge products and best practices, which contribute to regional and global learning. Finally, CORE Group supports the secretariats in developing and disseminating advocacy messages through awareness campaigns, raising public consciousness about the importance of immunization for zero-dose children in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

Position Summary:

CORE Group is seeking a dynamic and talented **Communications Associate** to develop and implement comprehensive communication strategies that promote the activities and achievements of the RAISE 4 Sahel project.

The Communications Associate will collaborate with the project's seven secretariats and partners across the region. Working closely with the consortium's technical immunization team



and the country-level communication focal point, the Communications Associate will drive or support communication projects from concept to delivery.

The ideal candidate is a skilled writer, critical/creative thinker, and storyteller. They should be collaborative, passionate, high-energy, organized, articulate, and capable of distilling clear messages to promote the mission and impact of RAISE 4 Sahel in the field of immunization.

We are looking for a communication professional who is enthusiastic about sharing human-interest stories and implementing strategic communication.

Reporting & Supervision:

The Communications Associate will report directly to the Communications Manager, under the supervision of the CORE Group Senior Program Director.

Responsibilities:

- Contribute to the design and implementation of a comprehensive communication strategy to promote the activities and outcomes of the RAISE 4 Sahel project.
- Assist in managing project communication channels, such as the website, social media, newsletters, etc.
- Write, edit, and publish content on RAISE 4 Sahel activities, partnerships, grants, including blog articles, promotional materials, infographics, success stories, website content, and press releases for dissemination through various channels.
- Collaborate with immunization specialists and stakeholders at different levels of the organization to produce impactful publications that effectively promote the objectives of RAISE 4 Sahel.
- Work closely with the technical team to identify compelling story ideas, develop them, and make them accessible through different communication channels.
- Provide editorial guidance, including sourcing, writing, editing, and uploading thought pieces, data stories, and other relevant content submissions for the RAISE 4 Sahel project management unit (PMU).
- Handle all communication aspects of events led by CORE Group.
- Ensure that information and resources (learning documents) are accessible to all team members and relevant stakeholders.
- Support country secretariats in developing and implementing advocacy strategies to raise awareness among key stakeholders, including governments, donors, international



organizations, media, and local communities, in support of immunizing zero-dose children living in Sahel countries.

Required Qualifications:

- Minimum 5 years of work experience in media and communications, journalism or public relations with specific experience in the Africa region.
- Demonstrated experience in communications, preferably in the field of international development, health, or humanitarian aid.
- University degree in communication, public relations, journalism, or a related field.
- Strong writing, verbal, and visual communication skills.
- Experienced in electronic communication including professional website and social media posts.
- Ability to work independently, manage multiple tasks, and meet deadlines.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders.
- Fluency in both written and spoken English and French.
- Skilled in the use of design tools, and photos & videos editing tools

Desired Characteristics:

- Knowledge of the Sahel context and the challenges related to vaccination in fragile and conflict-affected areas would be an asset.
- Creative thinker with a proven ability to generate innovative ideas.
- Track record of successful engagement with external stakeholders and internal leaders.
- Demonstrated ability to identify, analyze, and resolve communication challenges.
- Self-starter who can work independently, manage projects in a fast-paced, complex, and uncertain environment, and remain resilient under pressure.
- Team player with a humble, positive, and flexible attitude.

HOW TO APPLY

Please email your resume and cover letter to jobs@coregroup.org. Use "*Associate & Communications_Last Name*" as the subject line. Only potential interviewees will be contacted.