

Consultant – Technical Writer Vital Strategies

Background

Vital Strategies is an international public health organization. Our programs strengthen public health systems and address the world's leading causes of illness, injury and death. We currently work in 73 countries, supporting data-driven decision-making in government, advancing evidence-based public health policies and mounting strategic communication campaigns. Vital Strategies' priorities are driven by the greatest potential to improve and save lives. They include non-communicable disease prevention, cardiovascular health promotion, tobacco control, road safety, obesity prevention, epidemic prevention, environmental health, vital statistics systems building and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis treatment research. Please visit our website at www.vitalstrategies.org to find out more about our work.

Data for Health Initiative: Data Impact Program

The Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative aims to enhance public health data collection and use in low- and middle-income countries. Under this Initiative, Vital Strategies, in partnership with other global public health organizations, is implementing a multi-year program to provide support to numerous countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Pacific in improving public health data systems, such as civil registration and vital statistics and cancer registries, and enhancing the use of data for decision making.

As part of the Data for Health Initiative, the Data Impact Program (DIP) collaborates with governments to increase the utilization of data for the prioritization of health issues, development of policies and programs, monitoring of impact, and communication with stakeholders. Technical assistance is provided to develop policy-relevant analytic skills; use information technology to compile, manage, and share data from multiple sources, and present and disseminate data to stakeholders.

In certain countries, specific assistance is provided by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the CDC Foundation in the following areas:

- Training in scientific writing- the communication of epidemiologic data to professional and lay audiences
- Development of regular epidemiologic reports modeled after CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR)
- Collaboration with Vital Strategies on the Data to Policy training program

The real impact of improved data collection and analysis occurs when government policymakers and program planners use those data to prioritize health issues, develop policies and programs, monitor the impact of public health strategies, and communicate health issues with all stakeholders based on the best available data. The Data for Health Initiative assists Ministries of Health in leveraging data from multiple sources for such strategic uses, and in creating systems and a culture in which the use of data is prominent throughout ministry activities. In some countries, the Program is also extended to Public Health Institutes and government agencies that produce vital statistics.

About the Consultancy

The DIP is seeking a consultant who will work with the Directors of the Data Impact Program in Vital Strategies and CDC to produce an internal endline report on the eight years of the Initiative, with a focus on the last two years. The consultant will collate routine

reports on 25 countries as well as global work to produce a succinct summary of key achievements to date in terms of outputs, outcomes and especially impact of the Program. Additional qualitative data will be obtained and shared for countries supported by Vital Strategies.

Responsibilities/Deliverables

- Review previous reports for the Program.
- Draft country highlights on the first six years of the Initiative.
- Review the current report template and suggest improvements.
- Work with the Directors of the Program and other relevant staff to produce a model country summary report.
- Using the model country summary report, produce reports for 24 other countries engaging the Directors of the Program and other relevant staff.
- Summarize other key activities at the global level, including activities related to gender equity.
- Collate and copyedit the final report, including tables summarizing key indicators.
- Assist with any editing required after feedback from the donor.

Assignment

This is a consultant position with an anticipated level of effort of up to 20 days total. Deliverables are expected to be completed by May 14, 2023. Note that contracts are executed and paid in the currency of the country where the consultant is based and that payments are tied to deliverables.

Application

Submit a CV and cover letter including your daily rate to rjina@vitalstrategies.org and Operationsrfp@vitalstrategies.org by **March 20, 2023, 5.00 PM EST**.