



Consultant Opportunity with Vital Strategies Scope of Work for Program Consultant – Lead Poisoning Prevention Initiative

Location of Consultancy/Assignment: Kathmandu, Nepal

Category: Consultancy

Duration: August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2027, with annual renewal upon successful performance thereafter

Contract Manager: Yatin Pimple

Purpose and Scope of this Assignment/Consultancy

The purpose of this consultancy is to provide technical and epidemiological support to enhance Nepal's health systems in their capacity to evaluate and mitigate lead poisoning. The scope of work encompasses overseeing field research operations and leading the design, implementation, and monitoring of robust blood lead surveillance systems and augment clinical capacity to detect and treat lead exposure. To ensure programmatic success, the consultant will facilitate critical cross-functional collaboration between a multidisciplinary team of environmental health scientists, clinicians, and statisticians while maintaining strategic partnerships with high-level government officials to drive systemic public health improvements.

This role requires a professional with an advanced degree in Public Health or Epidemiology, extensive experience in field research management, and proficiency in biostatistical software (such as R or Stata) for data analysis and surveillance monitoring. Essential soft skills include diplomatic communication for high-level government advocacy, multidisciplinary team leadership, and cultural competence specific to the Nepalese health governance context to ensure the effective integration of lead-reduction strategies into national policy. Nepalese citizenship or authorization to work in Nepal is required. Fluency in Nepali and English is required.

Vital Strategies Organizational Background

Vital Strategies is a global health organization that believes every person should be protected by equitable and effective public health systems. We partner with governments, communities and organizations to reimagine public health, and the result is millions of people living longer, healthier lives. Our team of experts works in 73 countries with offices in New York City, São Paulo, Jinan, Addis Ababa, Paris, New Delhi, and Singapore to help strengthen public health systems, protect lives, and take on preventable diseases, all across the world.

We partner with governments, communities, and organizations to advance public health. Our team of scientists, researchers, communicators, and advocates works together with our partners toward cleaner air, healthier food, safer roads, science-led policies, and preventing disease and illness. Our goal is to build a future where health is produced and protected for everyone and by everyone across all facets of our lives, in our families, communities and countries.

Vital Strategies Program/Project Background

Vital Strategies is expanding our program that addresses the issue of lead poisoning in low- and middle-income countries. We plan to build upon existing efforts and interest by collaborating with governmental agencies in countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to strengthen health systems and build local expertise in childhood lead exposure to enact sound, cost-effective policies to address exposures. This engagement in Nepal is expected to last, at minimum, four years. The consultancy is annual and upon successful completion of tasks, is renewable for up to three additional years.

Scope of Work/Specific Tasks

Technical & Programmatic Support

- **Surveillance Framework:** Design and standardize a national blood lead surveillance framework, including SOPs and the procurement of necessary ethical approvals/IRB clearances.
- **Capacity Building:** Develop and support the promulgation of clinical guidance to detect and address lead exposure.
 - Develop training curricula and facilitate workshops for government staff, frontline workers, and journalists.
- **Field Oversight:** Directly train and monitor field surveillance teams to ensure protocol adherence.
- **Policy Analysis:** Conduct technical policy reviews to support the integration of lead prevention into national health agendas.
- **Data Integration:** Develop in collaboration with government partners an analytic and visualization platform to characterize lead risks, exposures, and preventive actions across Nepal.

Data Coordination & Quality Assurance

- **Monitoring:** Conduct regular on-ground site visits to surveillance locations to ensure data integrity.
- **Epidemiological Support:** Collaborate with senior epidemiologists to clean, analyze, and synthesize data into actionable reports.
- **Data Quality:** Establish and maintain rigorous data quality control mechanisms for all field-collected datasets.

Stakeholder Coordination & Communication

- **Representation:** Serve as the primary focal point for Vital Strategies in Nepal, managing relationships with the World Health Organization, Ministry officials, academic institutions, and NGOs.
- **Knowledge Dissemination:** Translate complex data into technical reports, policy briefs, and non-technical summaries for public and legislative audiences.
- **Media Engagement:** Organize and lead technical discussions and journalist training sessions to improve public awareness.

Operations & Administration

- **Operational Leadership:** Provide day-to-day leadership and operational oversight for a dispersed field team to ensure program objectives are achieved.
- **Financial Coordination:** Support program budget tracking, expense reconciliation, vendor payment processing, and procurement activities in coordination with the Finance team, ensuring compliance with organizational policies and donor requirements.
- **Reporting:** Submit comprehensive monthly program updates and financial reports detailing progress against project milestones.

3. Expected Deliverables & Timeline (Illustrative)

Milestone	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline
Program setup	Collaborative agreements with the Ministry of Health and relevant health agencies	October, 2026
Establish technical working group	Establishment of a Technical Working Group for lead exposure surveillance; Engaging government to design a national biomonitoring surveillance system	December, 2026
Laboratory assessment	Identified laboratories that test biological samples for lead; Customize laboratory survey questionnaire	February, 2027

Milestone	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline
Capacity assessment report	Stakeholder mapping to identify priority health stakeholders and champions, including government, and health research communities; Literature review completed with data abstraction sheet, Capacity assessment report with recommendations on national surveillance options.	March, 2027
Blood lead survey design	Collaboratively developed design for a nationally representative lead exposure survey of children and adults	May, 2027
Clinical guideline development	Establishment of a Technical Working Group for the development, drafting and formal proposal of national clinical guidelines for lead exposure detection and treatment	June, 2027

Instructions for Consultant

- 1. Expressions of Interest.** Please provide CV and any other relevant information to Contract Manager, Yatin Pimple, Senior Program Manager, South Asia Region, ypimple@vitalstrategies.org
- 2. Payment Currency:** Please include your daily rate or fee for service. Vital Strategies reserves the right to negotiate fees. Please note that contracts must be executed and paid in the currency of the country where the service provider is based.
- 3. Questions.** Consultants shall refer any questions, via email to ypimple@vitalstrategies.org
- 4. Due Date.** Expressions of interest must be submitted in PDF format by July 31, 2026