

Helen Keller JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Deputy Chief of Party, Strengthening Integrated Health Services Activity (SIHSA) (Freetown, Sierra Leone)

Guided by the remarkable legacy of its co-founder, Helen Keller, Helen Keller Intl partners with communities striving to overcome longstanding cycles of poverty. By delivering the essential building blocks of good health, sound nutrition and clear vision, we help millions of people create lasting change in their own lives. Working in more than 20 countries – across Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States – and together with a global community of supporters, we are ensuring every person has the opportunity – as Helen did – to reach their true potential.

Background

The purpose of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) funding for the Strengthening Integrated Health Services Activity (SIHSA) in Sierra Leone is to improve the performance and functionality of the health systems to deliver quality, integrated health services, with a focus at the district and community levels to promote optimal key health behaviors to prevent illnesses. Health services include delivery of primary health care at Primary Health Units (PHUs) and community-outreach and district hospitals. The primary objectives of this Activity are to strengthen the health system to improve the delivery of high-quality Family Planning and Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent health (FP/RMNCAH), and malaria services; increase adoption of selected key optimal behaviors to improve health in selected districts in Sierra Leone.

Scope of the Position

The Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) will support the Chief of Party (COP) in providing strategic and technical oversight to the Strengthening Integrated Health Services Activity (SIHSA) in Sierra Leone. S/he will be responsible for supporting the COP in management of staff, capacity building and stakeholder engagement.

This position is expected to be based in Freetown. This five-year position is contingent on Helen Keller being awarded funding and is anticipated to begin in spring 2023.

Specific Responsibilities

1. Lead the Activity in Sierra Leone

- Support the COP in providing strategic and technical leadership and direction, defining and implementing activities to achieve the greatest impact toward SIHSA's goals and objectives.
- Manage implementing partners and oversee operations to achieve SIHSA's objectives and deliver expected results.

2. Programmatic

- Lead the implementation of innovative strategies to achieve measurable improvements in health-related outcomes across the spectrum of healthcare services.

- Mobilize promising tools, best practices, and technology to accelerate progress towards increased uptake of health services.
- Identify training needs for health officials and health workers and assist in designing and implementing effective interventions to build their core competencies to improve health systems governance and health service delivery.
- Ensure delivery of SIHSA's activities meets all standard operational policies and procedures.
- Support the adoption of evidence-based and context-specific health interventions at district and community levels.
- Actively contribute to SIHSA technical direction by developing strategies and partnerships to increase program coverage, visibility, and resource availability.
- Participate in communities of practice to stay abreast of innovation and best practices within the field, identify opportunities for collaboration amongst stakeholders, and attend events or other mechanisms for dissemination and sharing of lessons learned
- Support timely reporting to USAID through both formal and informal debriefings, annual and semi-annual reports, ensuring compliance with USAID and Helen Keller guidelines.

3. Management

- Supervise multidisciplinary technical teams to address gaps for health systems strengthening.
- Support SIHSA's staff by creating and maintaining a work environment that promotes teamwork, trust, mutual respect, and empowers staff to take responsibility.
- Coordinate the development, implementation and reporting on detailed management plans that may include implementation plans, deliverable tracking.
- Provide financial and operational management that optimizes resources through sound budgets, consistent financial tracking, and timely submission of reports to USAID.

4. Representation and coordination within the organization and other stakeholders

- Assist the COP in maintaining active and cooperative relationships with USAID contract officers, technical support staff, partner organizations, outside contractors, and implementers of other USAID-funded initiatives as required.
- Represent SIHSA and the organization in public, as assigned, and support the distribution of information about project achievements and lessons learned.

Required Qualifications/Competencies

- **Education:** Advanced degree (PhD or MA) in development studies, international relations, public health, business administration, social sciences, or a related field.
- **Experience:** At least seven years of managerial role or professional experience leading similar USAID-funded programs, preferably with direct experience in Sierra Leone or West Africa.
- Superior leadership, management and communication skills to lead a multi-faceted USAID-funded project. This includes professional experience interacting with US Government agencies, host country governments, NGO and private sector stakeholders and fostering new and effective partnerships.
- Demonstrated success across the whole range of project management: strategic program planning; work planning and budgeting; financial, administrative, contractual management and oversight; knowledge of and experience with USAID requirements, policies and regulations; relationship management with multiple clients; oversight of program monitoring and evaluation; and documentation of results for USAID-funded programs.
- Excellent interpersonal skills including active listening skills, the ability to communicate effectively across cultures, and to negotiate effectively with internal and external colleagues.

- Excellent capacity building, team building/management, and coordination skills. An ability to ability to delegate responsibilities effectively and coach and mentor staff.
- Excellent time management and personal organization skills.
- Demonstrable respect for all persons regardless of religion, ethnicity, class or gender, with a high comfort level working in a diverse environment with a demonstrated commitment to high professional ethical standards.
- Ability to respond rapidly to shifting implementation scenarios.
- Collaborative, flexible and solution-oriented.
- Excellent English language skills with fluency in Kiro is advantageous.

To Apply

Qualified candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to hki.recruitment@hki.org Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

In the spirit of our founder and namesake, Helen Keller is dedicated to building an inclusive workforce where diversity in all its forms is fully valued.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer where all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, disability, or protected veteran status.

We are committed to providing reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities. If you are a qualified individual with a disability and need to request an accommodation during the application or interview process, please contact us at the email above or call: +1 646-356-1789.