VACANCY

Technical Officer-TB - Challenge TB
based in New Delhi

The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) is an international scientific organisation headquartered in Paris, France since 1920. It has regional and country offices in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America and South-East Asia regions. For more information about The Union visit www.theunion.org

Since 2009, one of The Union’s largest offices, The Union South East Asia (USEA) has managed Project Axshya, a Global Fund Round 9 project designed to extend the reach of India’s Revised National TB Control Programme through advocacy, communication and social mobilization activities in 300 districts across 21 states. Other key projects are to support tobacco control efforts in India, Nepal and Bangladesh through the Bloomberg Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use; Project LIGHT, which brought fluorescent LED microscopes to 200 medical colleges across India; and the Eli-Lilly supported project to expand sustainable TB control in India. USEA also coordinates trainings to build capacity in the management of TB and MDR-TB, operational research, programme management and other skills.

The Position

The Union is now seeking a Technical Officer-TB - Challenge TB based in New Delhi. The contract is for an initial period of two years as an employee of The Union South-East Asia Office. The contract may be extended depending on satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

About the Project

Challenge TB is a USAID funded global project led by KNCV with an objective to accelerate the global fight against TB, in partnership with the international consortium of partner organizations including The Union, American Thoracic Society (ATS), FHI 360, Interactive Research & Development (IRD), Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association (JATA), Management Sciences for Health (MSH), PATH and the World Health Organization (WHO).

The Union has been identified as the lead partner for Challenge TB project in India slated to begin on 1 January 2015. TB still continues to be a major public health problem in India, and requires intensified & collaborative efforts from all stakeholders in the country to achieve the Country’s vision of “TB Free India”. Challenge TB will contribute to TB control efforts in India through a Call to Action to End TB in India. The goal is to create and sustain high-level domestic commitment through mobilization of a wide range of stakeholders to provide a momentum capable of demanding and sustaining high-level domestic commitment to end TB in India; and tapping the energy and influence of key stakeholders to drive political, administrative, and technical solutions to specific key barriers in TB control in India. The project will possibly be one of the most high profile public health campaigns in India in recent years addressing an infectious disease that stills accounts for around 240,000 preventable deaths in the country each year.
Overall Role
The Technical Officer will be responsible for providing technical support in designing, and implementing project activities and serve as the content matter expert on TB care and control. Provides technical advice based upon expertise and knowledge of evidence-based methods and strategies, current practice, and established operational and research standards in TB control and ensures that program implementation adheres to appropriate technical standards. S/He stays updated about the latest development in strategies, standards, guidelines and program development in the area of TB control. S/He is required to coordinate with the Central TB Division, MoHFW, INGOs, NGOs, civil society organizations, and other partners as directed by the Project Director.

The position will report to the Project Director – Challenge TB India, The Union South-East Asia Office.

Main Responsibilities
• Provide technical support and oversight to the project team and serve as technical experts on TB for all project related activities.
• Understand key gaps and challenges in current TB control efforts, liaise and engage with influential stakeholders to provide leadership and drive political, administrative, and technical solutions to address specific barriers affecting TB control in India
• Assist in the development and implementation of a coordinated advocacy and communications effort, promoting the value and benefits to potential stakeholders, and generating resources and commitment in the joint fight against TB.
• Support in development of strong technical resources, documents and materials for the communications campaign and the Call to Action Summit. This will include providing technical inputs on the advocacy, communication and campaign materials, quality check on the technical standards of contents and materials developed by the project.
• Provide support in organizing stakeholder consultations and meetings involving implementing partners, civil society organizations, corporate and private sectors, the national programme, and donor agency, where necessary.
• Act as liaison and maintain good collaboration with the Central TB Division, MoHFW, and other partners active in the TB care and control: provide need based support to the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and other project staff.
• Develop and maintain good relationship with a network of international and national technical experts and champions who will lend their support to the Call to Action campaign
• Conduct an assessment of the existing TB services among the Tibetan communities in India to inform the establishment of systems that ensure early diagnosis and treatment.
• Contribute to development of Challenge TB project strategy, work plans and budgets, M&E systems and regular reporting of project activities.
• Support the planning and promotion of the training and capacity building activities within the project.
• Perform other relevant duties as required by the Supervisor and/or Regional Director of The Union South-East Asia Office.

Qualifications

Essential
• Master degree in Public Health/Communication/Social sciences/community medicine or its equivalent.
• A minimum of 7 years’ experience in public health, and at least 4 years of experience working in TB control.
• Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Hindi required.
• Experience of working in Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization in TB control.
• Excellent communication skills and ability to work in an international multicultural environment.
• Capacity to work independently and in a team environment with tact and diplomacy.
• Strong oral and written communication, consultation and interpersonal skills.

Desirable
• Experience of working with Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program.
• Knowledge and experience of wide range of technical and programmatic areas/issues in the TB control.
• Prior experience with international organisations on USAID or other donor funded projects.

Competencies and Skills
• Strong knowledge and understanding of TB control program scenario both in the global and Indian context.
• Demonstrated experience in implementation/support to TB control efforts in India
• Demonstrated experience in working with governments and/or multilateral and bilateral donor agencies in the area of health
• Excellent negotiation and advocacy skills to interact with people at all levels in a multicultural and multi-disciplinary environment.
• Excellent drafting and presentation skills including ability to draft clear and concise reports
• Willingness to travel within and outside the country as per project needs.
• Proficiency in MS office (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, outlook), Data management software, Internet.

Compensation Offered
The gross remuneration budgeted for this position is attractive. Offers shall be commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate.

Contract Duration
The initial duration of the contract will be for two years with possibility of extension based on performance and availability of funds.

How to Apply
Interested candidates must send their latest resume/CV along with the cover letter and remuneration expectations, latest by 26 January 2015 to southeastasia@theunion.org indicating the position applied for in the subject line.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.