



TOR for Program Manager

Position: Program Manager

Location: Bangalore

Background

As transmission cycles of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and various variants continue in India new means of detecting its presence in the population and predicting outbreaks are required. International and national efforts have indicated that testing sewage can be an effective tool for monitoring the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in populations. It is a well-known fact that this virus can be detected in feces in addition to respiratory secretions. Therefore, if sewage in strategic points are routinely monitored the presence of the virus can be detected. Countries around the world have been using wastewater surveillance for years to determine where diseases are spreading. For example, the World Health Organization is successfully using this method to detect outbreaks of poliovirus. The agency then increases education and vaccination programs in targeted areas. Sewage surveillance has been used to detect hepatitis A, enteroviruses, rhinovirus, adenovirus, noroviruses, as well as different types of chemicals and opioids, within communities.

This program aims to use wastewater surveillance data to **Monitor** for presence of COVID-19 infection within a community, **Tracking** trends in infection within a community, **Screening** for infections at a targeted site (e.g., building or facility) to trigger additional individual-based testing, vaccination drives and other outbreak mitigation measures. As the states prepare to roll out vaccinations, it is not only important to determine which priority groups- but also which geographical clusters are most at risk. Hence an intelligent and early warning system that indicates geographical clusters of infection is the need of the hour.

Finland, Netherlands and Germany have launched national sewage surveillance programs for COVID-19. The Government of Karnataka has evinced interest in a pilot project for Swasti and it's CAC partners to implement this in the city of Bangalore, in addition CAC has been exploring interest from other states in implementing a similar program.

This project is a partnership between Swasti and PCMH Wellness LLP, and this solution was piloted under the initiatives of the #COVIDActionCollab. The #COVIDActionCollab (CAC) is a Collaborative that has individuals, organizations and networks representing the public, private, civil society, academic and other sectors who have come together with expertise in areas of Public Health, Medicine, Engineering, Technology, Sociology, Behavioral Science, Mental Health, Migration, Financing, Humanitarian Emergencies and more. The aim of the



#COVIDActionCollab is to support various stakeholders- civil society, private sector, academics, networks, foundations and governments- to rapidly and cost effectively prevent new infections, diagnose early, treat appropriately and mitigate any other impacts.

Swasti, one of the founding members of the Collaborative initiated this solution and is financed to implement this project in Bangalore for 15 months. [Swasti](#) is a health catalyst and an international health resource centre that catalyses solutions for the health and wellbeing of underserved and marginalised communities. Swasti is part of the [Catalyst Group](#).

Swasti is looking to hire a Program Manager to support the implementation of this precision pandemic program.

As a Program Manager, you will be responsible for coordinating with a diverse set of partners including technical partners, government officials, implementation agencies, private sector players in-order to create an environment for successful implementation and growth of this program. This program will require multisectoral collaboration. You will manage teams implementing and executing on-ground program implementation and will be responsible for performance management and program monitoring. The Program Manager will provide technical inputs to support further development of the waste water testing model, and will guide the execution of the project's strategic vision. The role requires motivation, cooperation and willingness to work overtime during strict deadlines. The Program Manager is responsible for ensuring the team is successful in reaching goals and milestones.

In order to be successful, the Program Manager must have strong knowledge of infectious diseases and public health programs and an ability to take a systems thinking approach. Large scale program implementation experience is a must. Strong communication skills are key for the Program Manager to coordinate with multiple partners regularly and to create clear, concise reports that communicate vision, strategy, outcomes and program impact. The Program Manager will have to travel to multiple locations, so flexibility and strong organizational skills are important to balance the workload.

Responsibilities

1. Strategy Support

- Manage existing partnerships and build relationships with relevant organisations, donors and government institutions to support growth of the precision pandemic program
- Strategic positioning and representation of assignments and organizations in forums including workshops and conferences



- Stay up-to-date on recent developments in the public health sector, identify gaps in current knowledge and maintain a personal development plan
- Actively look for funding and partnership opportunities to grow the program in different states in India, develop proposals, identify leads and assist in converting these into meaningful opportunities

2. Program Management

- Lead the project team including project manager and support staff
- Oversee, manage and execute assignments on-time and within budget
- Providing technical and strategic vision support on project implementation teams
- Coordinate with stakeholders, advisors and consultants on projects
- Travel to various states for stakeholder engagement and evaluation under projects

Qualifications and experience

- A post-graduate in management, public health or relevant social sciences
- 8-9 years of experience in public health with a focus on program management, partnership development, donor management, stakeholder management, research and evaluation.
- Experienced in client and stakeholder management and coordination
- Desirable: Experience in infectious disease surveillance programs

Skills

- Proficiency in languages (oral and written) - English
- Proficiency in computers, basic software (MS Office)
- Strong analytical and writing skills
- Excellent oral communication and presentation skills
- Attention to detail
- Ability to learn quickly and solve problems in a creative manner
- Ability to lead a diverse team

Work Ethics:

- Ability to work with different kinds of personalities and stakeholders
- Should be a team player and be able to handle individual assignments
- Timely delivery of tasks with a focus on quality and consistency
- Must work with a sense of urgency
- Will invest in self development and demonstrate that investment in work norms and outputs
- Be reliable, responsible, and dependable in fulfilling obligations
- Demonstrate a willingness to take on responsibilities and challenges



Compensation: As per organisation policy on cadre and grade

Please email your CV with a covering letter and use the subject line “Program Manager- Precision Pandemic Program” to workwithswasti@catalysts.org. Only shortlisted candidates shall be acknowledged.