



TOR for Project Manager

Position: Project 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, with the aim that if the results are useful to the state and its actors, then this model will be considered for integration and regularisation in its systems.

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 Project Manager to support the implementation of a surveillance system based on waste water testing for the precision pandemic program. As a Project Manager, you will be responsible for coordinating with a diverse set of partners working with government agencies, research institutes, laboratory partners, implementing organisations of public health, water sanitation etc. . You will manage a scientific team and an implementing team/partners and will be responsible for performance management of individuals and the project. The role requires motivation, cooperation and willingness to work overtime during strict deadlines. The project manager is responsible for ensuring that the team is successful in creating a dependable and appreciated public health surveillance system in Bangalore.

In order to be successful, you must have strong partnership skills, project management and an understanding of health surveillance. Strong communication skills are a must for the project manager to coordinate with multiple partners regularly and to create clear, concise reports that communicate outcomes and program impact. You will have to travel to multiple locations (within Bangalore) , so flexibility and strong organizational skills are important to balance the workload.

Responsibilities

1. Program Management

- Oversee, manage and execute assignments on-time and within budget
- Liaison and coordinate with partners and implementation agencies
- Coordinate with stakeholders, advisors and consultants on projects
- Travel to various sites for project oversight
- Partnership development, engage and manage relationships with stakeholders, partners and donors



2. Strategy Support

- Strategic positioning and representation of this assignment
- Stay up-to-date on recent developments in the public health sector, identify gaps in current knowledge and maintain a personal development plan
- Proposal development – identify leads and assist in converting these into meaningful opportunities

3. Training and Research

- Convene expert consultations to develop training modules
- Conduct capacity building, gap assessment and mentorship

Qualifications and experience

- A post-graduate in management, public health or social sciences
- At least 5 years of Public health experience with a focus on project management,
- Experienced in client and stakeholder management and coordination

Skills

- Proficiency in languages (oral and written) - English, Kannada is an asset
- 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

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 “Project Manager” to workwithswasti@catalysts.org. Only shortlisted candidates shall be acknowledged.