



## Lead HIS Project Manager

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania or South Africa

### **Akros**

Akros is a cutting-edge organization that establishes data-driven and technologically appropriate systems to improve the health and well-being of disadvantaged communities. We pride ourselves in our ground-level knowledge of the service delivery systems where we work, and our ability to provide novel, lasting solutions implemented in developing regions. We work with a broad range of donors, partners and stakeholders to pursue this mission, including USAID, CDC, UNICEF, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Tulane University, UCSF, the University of Oslo, and a range of implementing partners including Abt Associates, PSI, The Population Council, FHI360, Chemonics and more. Our teams have established productive, working relationships in Zambia, Tanzania, Botswana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zimbabwe. Although we work across the Southern Africa region, the majority of Akros' staff members are based in Lusaka, Zambia.

Akros seeking an experienced and qualified expert to fill the role of Lead Health Information Systems Project Manager for an anticipated CDC-funded project that will assist the Government of Tanzania (GOT) in the management, coordination, scale-up, and continuous modernization of Tanzania's health information systems (HIS).

### **Background**

The Government of Tanzania has a long a varied history implementing health information systems (HIS). At last count, over 160 information systems were in use (to varied extents), and there are at least five (5) systems dedicated to capture, transmit, aggregate and report/visualize individual patient data. The GOT Digital Health Strategy 2019-2024 (DHS) prioritizes consolidation, integration and alignment of disparate systems, while further identifying propagation and use as key outputs. Further, the GOT Digital Health Investment Roadmap (DHIR) identifies GOT and donor consensus around select HIS functional areas requiring intervention to achieve coherence and fluidity, ultimately supporting GOT's strategic goals of improved public health, with specific emphasis on controlling the HIV epidemic.

PEPFAR is making a bold investment to advance this cause. Under GH20-2062, the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention is assisting GOT "...in the management, coordination, scale-up, and continuous modernization of Tanzania's health information systems..."

Specifically, CDC seek the following inputs:

- Coordination of partners and GOT to build and 'evolve' GOT HIS against a comprehensive set of functional and technical requirements
- Using similar coordination mechanisms, develop methods and oversee implementation for system deployment at scale, support data use and backstop GOT/national infrastructure for long-term maintenance and administration



- Again using similar coordination mechanisms, develop methods and oversee implementation for holistic supportive services designed to improve GOT internal system administration functions, securing the longevity and future strength of the HIS environment

It is an aggressive, ambitious bid for sweeping, but appropriate and timely interventions. GOT are institutionally durable and likely prepared to engage investments of this scale and scope, though much work is required to prepare for this particular investment.

### **Overview**

The Lead HIS Project Manager (LHPM) will be a technocrat, negotiator and government relations focal point. LHPM will be primarily responsible for managing the technical road map development process (“DH2020”), from requirements sourcing to technical translation, ensuring both its technical rigor, comprehensiveness, alignment with user requirements and, perhaps most critical, acceptance by varied and non-linear government agencies. The task will be challenging and politically complex. With a secured road map in-hand, LHPM will be responsible to coordinate oversight of engineering processes with select government agencies, and establish a development operations method that is clear, durable and efficient, incorporating iterative production/testing stages and, ultimately, user acceptance testing to validate alignment of final product with perceived user requirements. LHPM will then manage engineering inputs to deliver DH2020 technical products, and will be responsible for agile/iterative rescoping as defined by the development operations method above. In all processes, GOT will feature as a primary decision-maker and final authority on acceptability and integration. LHPM must be skilled in negotiating the balance between technical and political requirements, quickly pivoting from one domain to the next as the environment requires.

### **General**

LHPM must be detail oriented, highly skilled with Agile engineering techniques and have an exemplary track record working with SQL products. LHPM will have a long, successful record of establishing and delivering road maps in politically and technically complex environments, with an emphasis on negotiation, communication and harmonization skills. LHPM will have direct experience with health information systems in developing economies, with particular attention to scoping and delivering interoperability solutions using commonly accepted standards and protocols. LHPM will report directly to Akros Project Manager.

### **Specific Tasks**

- Work with Akros and consortium to finalize workplan and budget during kick-off proceedings
- Work with Project Manager to establish governance subcommittee within NDHSC for DH2020
- Within the subcommittee, establish acceptable methodology for road map formulation



- Work with Project Manager to advocate among supporting partners for road map methodology
- Establish comprehensive in-service specification of current HIS. Utilize current documents in process with GOT and implementing partners; incorporate infrastructure audit for implementation forecasting/planning
- Solicit user requirements, objectives and key results (OKR) for DH2020 road map, use multifactor ranking system to select priority commits
- Derive technical road map for priority requirements, secure political concurrence and implementing partner support for map
- Establish a Product Management Committee, incorporating select GOT agencies and actors
- Solicit and secure engineering resources to produce technical specification
- Design and secure approval for development operations methodology, including processes, software and M&E framework
- Oversee development operations
- Design and secure approval for change management protocol (if not already incorporated in road map)
- Work with GOT agencies to design a comprehensive workplan to deploy improved HIS environment, incorporating hardware installation
- Design and secure approval for end-user support strategy, including versioning/release management, end-user interaction, documentation and more
- Oversee technical and end-user documentation

### **Qualifications**

- Masters degree in Computer Science or equivalent
- 10 years' experience in a technical product manager role or similar
- 5 years' experience with developing economy electronic medical record systems (OpenMRS, OpenSRP, CTC2, Smartcare), DHIS2, interoperability solutions (H7 FHIR, OpenHIE protocols) or comparable platforms.
- 5 years' experience working in-country to support a Southern or Eastern African government in HIS.
- Demonstrable expertise in SQL products
- Excellent English communication (oral and written)
- Remarkable negotiation and political navigation skills
- Self-motivated, with acute attention to timely delivery of quality products

### **Location, Pay, Term**

The position will be based in Tanzania or, if required by immigration, South Africa. Pay will be highly competitive, with international benefits available to eligible personnel. Term will be four (4) years, contingent on funding availability.



To apply, please send current CV with three current references (including one from current or most recent engagement) to: [careers@akros.com](mailto:careers@akros.com)

Interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis.