

Health Implementation Consultant - Senegal & Mali

What's so great about Akros?

At Akros, we cultivate and implement innovative ideas for gathering and using data to address development challenges. Akros has been supporting government and partner counterparts from our home base in Lusaka, Zambia for over 10 years. This Africa-based partnership has helped to ensure that we are only scaling the ideas and approaches which will work and will be sustained in under-resourced settings over time. Our unique organizational culture reflects our commitment to innovation and to professional growth.

What impactful projects are we starting in Senegal & Mali?

Akros, in collaboration with the Senegalese and Malian Ministries of Health and the END Fund, is embarking on a project to improve the quality of neglected tropical disease (NTD) micro-planning and Mass Drug Administration (MDA) implementation. Through this work, Akros will assist the governments to better-employ geospatial data and digital tools.

Who are the people we are looking for?

Akros employs passionate, results-orientated self-starters. We are an energetic, fast moving team who often have to divide and conquer to get the job done. We are looking for people to invest in, to learn from, and to share and grow our lessons learned so far. And we are looking for those who can bring new ideas, new perspectives, and bursts of energy and innovation to our team. We are looking for people who are interested in coming alongside our founders to make a positive and sustainable impact for the vulnerable populations we are working among. If you have an idea that is going to create impact on global health and it fits within our wheelhouse - we are willing to help take that idea to fruition.

Position overview:

We are looking for a skilled, technical program manager to work with and support field-based implementation teams, understand field needs, and translate those needs into planning and implementation system design and modifications. The PM will independently establish close working relationships with the Senegal and Mali NTD teams, spearhead coordination with stakeholders, and maintain a strong understanding of all moving pieces within the project, managing and tracking tasks against timelines. Best candidates will be ready to jump in and work with our technical teams to configure and deploy a digital platform for geospatial data collection and intervention planning to swiftly meet client needs.

Specific Responsibilities

- Engage with national, regional and local (district, health facility and field team) stakeholders to support the initial needs assessment to understand current micro-planning and intervention protocols and processes, as well as areas for improvement;
- Work with in-country staff to field verify and map all administrative unit hierarchies, including health facility catchment areas and villages;
- Engage with national stakeholders to support resource planning based on risk mapping methodologies and targeted intervention areas;
- Support the implementation and use of data and tools during the district microplanning activities for all targeted districts;
- Collaborate with Akros' technical and software development teams to customize and quality check tool functionality, forms, and dashboards.
- Support the documentation and adaptation of standard operating procedures and protocols for implementation in Senegal and Mali.

- Conduct in-country data collector training, including training and support for district and health facility decision-making protocols in the targeted districts.
- Work alongside country ministries of health and in-country staff and partners to provide in-field support for the duration of the campaigns in the targeted districts, according to program protocols.
- Work with the Ministry of Health and stakeholders to identify key champions at national, regional, and local levels and train and transfer capacity to these local personnel to support the microplanning, data collector training and in-field implementation support activities during the subsequent MDA campaigns.
- Engage national and local stakeholders in Senegal and Mali to solicit feedback and identify areas for improvement, including the identification of additional tools and processes that could increase efficiency in planning, as well as overall program performance.
- Represent Akros to government and implementing partners.
- Evaluate performance and document best practices for system configuration, protocol design, and end user training.
- Actively participate in design team discussions of new product features.
- Other duties as assigned.

The appropriate candidate will possess:

- Bachelor's Degree or higher in a relevant field, with at least 5 years of strong public health experience.
- Demonstrated project management skills and experience (stakeholder collaboration; planning; budgeting; implementation; problem-solving; etc.); experience designing data systems a plus.
- Technical, field-based implementation experience; experience with neglected tropical diseases and mass drug administrations considered a plus.
- Previous experience with project and organizational representation to Ministry of Health officers at national and regional and local levels.
- Demonstrated data system design and data visualization expertise.
- Experience with using geospatial data to plan and guide public health programming. Best candidates will also have GIS expertise and use of GIS tools such as QGIS and ArcGIS for spatial epidemiology.
- Experience with training design and facilitation targeting health workers (both facility and community based); capacity building in the area of health planning, and/or monitoring and evaluation preferred.
- Ability to quickly troubleshoot and problem solve.
- Fluent in French and English; Technical writing capability in both languages is a must.
- Demonstrated ability to operate with minimal instruction in a fast-paced environment
- Demonstrated ability to productively communicate with remote teams

Term and Location

This part time consultancy over the next 9 months would ideally be filled by someone based in Dakar, Senegal. This 'pay per deliverables' structured consultancy would require Dakar based and field-based work to complete the required deliverables. A contract extension/expansion is possible based on performance and resource availability.

Application instructions



Candidates will be interviewed on a rolling basis and are encouraged to apply early. To apply, please submit a cover letter and CV with references to careers@akros.com with “**Application: Health Implementation Consultant – Senegal & Mali**” as the email’s subject line.