



Global Health Fellows Program
Technical Advisor Level III: Senior Tuberculosis Policy Advisor
Office of Health, Infectious Diseases, and Nutrition, Bureau for Global Health, United States Agency for International Development
Location: Washington, DC
Assignment: Two year fellowship
GHFP-10-175

The Global Health Fellows Program (**GHFP**) is a five year cooperative agreement implemented and managed by the Public Health Institute (PHI) in partnership with the Harvard School of Public Health, Management Systems International and Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. GHFP is supported by the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

GHFP's goal is to improve the effectiveness of USAID Population, Health and Nutrition programs by developing and increasing capacity of health professionals in Washington, DC and overseas. This is accomplished through the recruitment, placement and support of junior, mid and senior level health professionals; a diversity initiative focused on providing internship and mentoring opportunities in international public health to underrepresented communities; and professional and organizational development activities to bolster USAID's ability to maximize results and strengthen its leadership role in global health.

INTRODUCTION:

Tuberculosis (TB) is a worldwide public health threat that kills approximately 1.8 million people each year, the majority of whom are in the lowest income quintile. In January 2006, The Stop TB Partnership launched the *Actions For Life – The Global Plan to Stop TB 2006–2015*, which includes the Millennium Development Goal (MDGs) of halting and beginning to reverse the incidence of TB by 2015, as well as the more ambitious Stop TB Partnership targets of reducing TB prevalence and deaths by 50 percent by 2015 relative to the 1990 baseline. Recognizing that DOTS would not be enough to achieve the targets set forth by the second *Global Plan*, in 2006, the WHO and the Stop TB Partnership also launched a more robust scientific and technical approach building on DOTS, known as the Stop TB Strategy.

Since the establishment of second *Global Plan* goals, there has been steady progress in the fight against TB. By the end of 2007, 97 percent of the world's population lived in countries that had adopted DOTS. Globally, case detection in DOTS programs reached 61 percent in 2008, and the treatment success rate was sustained at 87 percent in 2009. Despite this progress, analysis of the global TB trends indicates that it is unlikely that the Stop TB global targets to halve TB prevalence and deaths will be achieved by 2015. Implementation of the Stop TB Strategy is slower than needed and many challenges remain.

In response to the urgent need to control the spread of TB, the U.S. Congress passed the 2008 Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act supporting a substantial increase in United States Government (USG) funding for TB treatment and control over a five-year period. In May 2009,

President Obama announced the Global Health Initiative (GHI) and committed to invest \$63 billion in international health programs over six years to help partner countries improve health outcomes, with a particular focus on improving the health of women, newborns and children. As part of the GHI, the goals and projected targets for the USG TB program, 2009–2014, are as follows:

- Contributing to a 50 percent reduction in TB deaths and disease burden from the 1990 baseline;
- Sustaining or exceeding the detection of at least 70 percent of sputum smear-positive cases of TB and successfully treating at least 85 percent of cases detected in countries with established USG TB programs;
- Successfully treating 2.6 million new sputum smear-positive TB patients under DOTS programs by 2014, primarily through support for needed services, commodities, health workers, and training, and additional treatment through coordinated multilateral efforts; and
- Diagnosing and initiating treatment of at least 57,200 new MDR-TB cases by 2014 and providing additional treatment through coordinated multilateral efforts.

As part of the Agency's effort to accelerate progress towards the Global Plan and the GHI TB targets, USAID intends to intensify efforts and activities in the following areas: 1) innovations to rapidly expand the opportunities for finding TB suspects and cases through private sector involvement, civil society and communities; 2) addressing TB risk factors and barriers/delays to accessing care, and interventions to reach marginalized groups (risk factors may include but are not limited to gender, issues related to belonging to tribal or indigenous groups, HIV/AIDS, smokers, malnourished, alcoholics, drug users, prisoners, migrants, homeless and slum dwellers); and 3) capitalizing on other service delivery platforms to create efficiencies and maximize effectiveness.

The Senior Tuberculosis Policy Advisor (The Advisor) serves in the Bureau for Global Health's, Office of Health, Infectious Diseases, and Nutrition, Infectious Diseases Division (GH/HIDN/ID). The Advisor provides strategic and technical guidance to strengthen and maximize the impact of USAID-funded TB programs to remove barriers to accessing services by improving gender equality, strengthening community based approaches and other potential interventions. The Advisor also identifies opportunities for USAID TB programs to capitalize on other service delivery platforms to strengthen health systems for the benefit of TB and vice-versa. The Advisor brings lessons learned to develop new strategies and policies for USAID TB programs. The Advisor engages in strategic planning and policy guidance of USAID-funded global TB projects and provides technical assistance to USAID missions in the design, implementation, and evaluation of bilateral and regional TB programs with particular attention to health systems strengthening, gender equality, and community based approaches. The Advisor receives programmatic direction from the TB Team Leader in GH/HIDN/ID, and serves as a member of the TB team, working closely with technical advisors and health staff in the Bureau for Global Health, and regional and sub-regional staff as appropriate. The Advisor also works closely with other USG agencies and partners in the international TB community.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Senior Tuberculosis Policy Advisor will:

- 1. Provide technical support to the GH/HIDN/ID TB program**
 - Provide senior level strategic planning and policy guidance to USAID-funded TB projects

- Provide technical expertise to GH/HIDN/ID core-funded TB activities, focusing on opportunities to capitalize on other service delivery platforms, health systems strengthening, gender equality, and community based approaches. Illustratively this includes analysis of current activities, approaches, best practices, and opportunities; identification of gaps and/or challenges to implementation and scale up of these approaches; guide the development of tools for the implementation and scale up of interventions
- Provide recommendations for activities to accelerate the uptake of tools and approaches to increase TB case detection and identify TB cases earlier
- Develop briefers and/or other communication materials to describe activities and results of USAID's TB programs related to health systems strengthening, gender equality, and community based interventions
- Contribute public health expertise and participate in international activities convened by TB partners
- Contribute to project management work, including review and strategic input on work plans and reports; financial management of projects; analysis and reporting of project results; preparation of portfolio reviews and reports; reviews of mission/bureau documents such as annual performance reports and operational plans; and preparation of responses to Questions and Answers and other requests for information
- Participate in at least one USAID population, health and nutrition country team

2. Provide technical assistance to USAID country level TB programs

- Provide senior level strategic and technical guidance with a focus on health systems strengthening, gender equality and community based approaches, including assisting with the preparation and/or review of strategies and program plans
- Analyze the results or outcomes of activities and apply this analysis to guide USAID TB programs
- Provide technical support to ensure that country and regional programs are consistent with the USG's TB strategy and the Global Health Initiative
- Assist USAID missions to strengthen coordination and leveraging of USAID TB funds with other USG and non-USG health resources
- Apply public health expertise to assist with the development and review of technical documents and guidelines
- Participate in joint TB program reviews organized by partners such as the World Health Organization
- Assist with the identification of potential technical partners and mechanisms to implement country programs; participate as a non-voting member in technical selection panels
- Conduct program evaluations and/or prepare Scopes of Work for independent evaluations
- Prepare and present technical presentations or updates at USAID meetings and workshops

3. Participate in training and professional development activities

- Remain current with latest TB and other relevant literature, international guidelines and standards
- Participate in periodic job-related international working groups and professional meetings

- Prepare and submit occasional job-related papers to professional journals and meetings
- Participate in USAID trainings on project management policies and regulations

Other tasks or responsibilities may be assigned based on (a) organizational and programming need and/or (b) the Advisor's own interests.

REQUIRED SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:

- Master's degree in public health, the health sciences or other relevant discipline
- Minimum ten years' experience in international public health. At least three to five years' experience in an international or resource poor setting
- Expertise and experience with health systems strengthening and/or community based approaches
- Demonstrated experience in health policy dialogue and an understanding of health systems strengthening issues and challenges as it relates to disease specific programs
- Expertise and experience in infectious diseases such as Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and/or malaria
- Knowledge of programs based on the WHO-recommended STOP TB Strategy and DOTS desirable
- Experience applying a gender perspective to disease specific programming desirable
- Knowledge of and familiarity with key international TB initiatives and organizations desirable
- Demonstrated flexibility and openness in responding to changing work priorities and environment
- Strong interpersonal, oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrated analytical and organizational skills
- Ability to work under pressure and in teams
- Ability to travel as required
- **US Citizenship or US Permanent Residency required**

SALARY AND BENEFITS:

Salary will be based on commensurate experience and earnings history. The Public Health Institute offers a comprehensive benefits package including professional development programs http://www.ghfp.net/docs/2010_Benefits_for_GHFP_Fellows.pdf

TO APPLY:

All applicants are required to apply for this position through GHFP's online recruitment system at <https://www.ghfp.net/recruitment/>, which allows you to store your CV, profile and bio data form in our database. A separate cover letter describing your qualifications and experience, interest and familiarity with issues relating to this position, and how this position relates to your career goals is required for each application. **All online applications must be submitted by 5:00 pm Eastern Time August 14, 2010. Previous applicants will be considered and need not reapply.**

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