

Program Consultant Position - Liberia

The **U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention (USP)** is a scientific nonprofit organization that sets standards for the identity, strength, quality, and purity of medicines, food ingredients, and dietary supplements manufactured, distributed and consumed worldwide. USP's drug standards are enforceable in the United States by the Food and Drug Administration, and these standards are used in more than 140 countries.

The **Promoting the Quality of Medicines (PQM) program** is a program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by USP. Since 1992, USP has worked in partnership with USAID to support developing countries in addressing critical issues related to medicines quality. The PQM program provides technical assistance to build capacity of medicines regulatory authorities and quality assurance systems in countries with emergent health systems and it supports manufacturing of quality-assured priority essential medicines for malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, neglected tropical diseases, and maternal and child health. There is increasing recognition of the burden of poor-quality medicines and their threat to public health, especially in low- and middle-income countries. Falsified and substandard medicines can cause treatment failure and adverse reactions, can increase morbidity and mortality, and may contribute to antimicrobial resistance. These medicines represent not only a waste of scarce resources but also a substantial risk to public health. Further, they risk undermining decades of health investments, including those made by USAID.

Summary of Position

Under the guidance and supervision of the PQM Senior Program Manager, the Program Consultant will lead implementation of activities in the USAID approved work plan to strengthen the medicine regulatory and QA/QC systems in Liberia, including activities related to medicine quality.

The Program Consultant will provide high-level inputs in work plan development, implementation strategies, and reporting to relevant stakeholders such as the Ministry of Health (MOH), Liberia Medicines and Health Products Regulatory Authority (LMHRA), LMHRA Quality Control (QC) Laboratory, National Malaria Control Program (NMCP), and others. The Consultant will maintain effective communications with program country and international partners.

Roles and Responsibilities

- In-country technical lead and resource to the USAID/Liberia Mission, MOH, LMHRA, LMHRA QC Laboratory, NMCP, and other stakeholders for all PQM activities
- Manages technical assistance activities in support to the LMHRA QC Laboratory
- Assists the Sr. Program Manager in the preparation of PQM quarterly and annual reports
- Participates in local meetings with USAID and/or PQM partners as requested

Education and Experience

- Bachelor's degree in the areas of public health, medicine, pharmacy, pharmaceutical quality control, or pharmaceutical chemistry
- Minimum 5 years of project management experience and coordination in a public health related field (malaria, MNCH, and/or infectious disease) in Liberia required



- Experience working with Liberia government (MOH programs, especially malaria, TB, or HIV/AIDS programs) and international donor agencies (USAID, Global Fund, World Bank, etc.) required
- Good understanding of the national pharmaceutical supply chains, especially for malaria, TB, MNCH, and HIV/AIDS medicines

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Possess managerial skills and good communication skills
- Results driven with demonstrated successful outcomes
- Must possess ability to handle multiple priorities in a fast-paced environment
- Must possess excellent written and verbal communications skills
- Must be proficient in the use of Microsoft software (word processing, email, spreadsheet, database, and Internet)
- Effective communication skills as a team player, and experience with project implementation at national and local levels
- Fluency in written and spoken English required

The Liberia-based consultancy runs through September 30, 2017 with the possibility of annual renewal. This position is based in Liberia and applicants must currently be based/living in Liberia. **Please send CVs to Dr. Latifa El-Hadri, Senior Program Manager, PQM, at lwe@usp.org.**