

Consultancy opportunity: Data tracker researcher to support sex-disaggregated COVID-19 data tracker

Announcement date: 18 May 2020

Start date: immediate (subject to funding approval)

Duration: 1 year

Send letter of application and CV to: info@globalhealth5050.org

Deadline for application: 1 June 2020

Context

Global Health 50/50 is an independent research and advocacy initiative housed within the Centre for Gender and Global Health at University College London. The initiative is co-led by Professor Sarah Hawkes, Director of the Centre for Gender and Global Health and Professor of Global Public Health and has a small team of staff alongside a wider collective of members and a distinguished Advisory Council.

Founded in 2017, it is considered among the world's leading authorities on the study of gender equality and health equity. Through its flagship report and the Gender and Health Index, it provides the single-most comprehensive analysis of gender equality and diversity in the global health system today by monitoring the policies and practices of hundreds of organisations active in global health and health policy.

In the face of the fast-escalating COVID-19 pandemic, Global Health 50/50, in partnership with the International Center for Research on Women ([ICRW Asia, New Delhi](#)) and the [African Population and Health Research Centre \(APHRC, Nairobi\)](#), is leveraging its capacity and expertise to generate and disseminate knowledge and mobilise action in addressing the sex/gender impacts of the outbreak.

The Global Health 50/50 [sex-disaggregated covid-19 data tracker](#) is a live tracker that, at present, covers over 80 countries to collate and report data on cases, deaths, hospitalisations, ICU admissions, infections among healthcare workers, broken down by sex and age. It provides the world's most comprehensive tracker on COVID-19 sex-disaggregated data by country. Data collated by GH5050 is also being used and disseminated by two United Nations bodies: [UN Women](#) and [UN OCHA](#), among other institutions. Results of the data tracker have been covered

extensively by international and national media (including CNN, the BBC, The New York Times, Huffington Post, NPR (USA), France 24, The Guardian, The Times and many more), and played a central role in promoting and informing public and policy dialogue on the role of sex and gender in the COVID-19 pandemic.

The tracker is currently managed by a small team and data collection is carried out by the Global Health 50/50 Collective, a network of members ranging from medical doctors, PhD students and PostDocs to global health professionals and communications specialists.

We are now seeking to expand the tracker with the aim of gathering data across all countries with confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths, adding further sex-disaggregated and other variables, as data becomes available, including on testing, hospitalisation, severe disease, rates of comorbidities and recovery. This will be done in collaboration with two partners, the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW Asia, New Delhi) and the African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC, Nairobi), to track and analyse data at a regional and sub-national level. To lead this work, we are looking for a suitably qualified researcher to work on the maintenance and expansion of the data collection and database. This initiative requires ongoing communication with Ministries of Health, website scanning, data collection, analysis, report writing, data visualisation and targeted communications and engagement activities.

Main purpose of the consultancy

Global Health 50/50 are seeking a skilled quantitative researcher with PhD in biostats, epidemiology or equivalent to lead work on maintaining and expanding the Global Health 50/50 sex-disaggregated COVID-19 data tracker. Interest and experience in gender analysis is desirable. This is a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the maintenance and expansion of a vital source of information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic by sex.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Managing and updating weekly the COVID-19 sex-disaggregated dataset from and increasing the number of countries (currently >80) covered each week
- Leading on statistical data analysis and interpreting the data across the countries included
- Leading on the production of weekly data reports that summarise the latest results from the tracker
- As we expand the number of countries each week, looking for data via a diverse range of sources from additional countries not yet included in the tracker
- Collaborating with a team of researchers who are supporting data collection and validating all data collected

- Liaising with ministries of health to request this data and encourage accessible, regular reporting of sex-disaggregated data
- Working with partners, the International Center for Research on Women ([ICRW Asia, New Delhi](#)) and the [African Population and Health Research Centre \(APHRC, Nairobi\)](#) on data collection, analysis and reporting
- Working with a data scraper to automate the collection of data, where possible
- Working with web-designers / software engineers to create a more interactive, comprehensive dashboard for the sex-disaggregated data tracker
- Working creatively to conceptualise new ways to visually present tracker data
- Contributing to the preparation of published literature on the results of the data tracker
- Regular calls with other team members and partners in sub-Saharan Africa and India

This consultancy opportunity is offered on a flexible part-time basis (max = 0.6FTE, approx 23 hours per week) for a period of 12 months starting June 2020, fees negotiable, remote working arrangements. Position is subject to funds being approved.

The individual is expected to be able to join regular virtual team meetings during UK business hours.

Consultant profile

- PhD degree in epidemiology, statistics, data science or equivalent
- Proven ability and experience in managing large databases and in statistical analysis of large data sets
- Proven experience at data-mining
- Excellent programming skills and experience of multiple softwares including R, Stata and SQL
- Experience working with national health surveillance and/or health registration systems, particularly in low- and/or middle-income countries
- Experience in creative data visualisation for public, non-specialist audiences
- Proven experience of working with high a degree of accuracy and excellent attention to detail
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to develop good working relationships with colleagues, academics, senior officials and others, ensuring frequent and effective communication.
- Proven ability in team and project management
- Demonstrate excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work both independently and within a multidisciplinary team
- Demonstrable flexibility in working

- Demonstrated ability to be resourceful and proactive in liaising with information sources (e.g. health authorities) and locating unconventional sources of data
 - Ability to understand and interpret the context and limitations of health data, particularly in health emergencies
 - Fluency in English. Additional languages, in particular French, are also desirable.
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Expressions of interest

Please submit your CV and letter of application, detailing your suitability for the role, interest in the initiative and how you would approach this consultancy based on previous experiences (max 3 pages). Please also include your daily rate and send to info@globalhealth5050.org by **1 June 2020** at 17.00 GMT. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed.