



PACIFIC ISLAND HEALTH OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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Position Vacancy

JOB TITLE: Climate Sciences Consultant
JOB STATUS: Part-Time, Consultancy (22 months)
DUTY STATION: Remote Assignment
APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 15, 2020

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND: Established in 1986 by the chief health officials of the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPIs) of American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), and the Republic of Palau, the Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA) is a 501(c)3 headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii, with a field office in Hagåtña, Guam. PIHOA's mission is to provide, through collective action and decision-making, a credible regional voice for health advocacy in and for the Pacific.

PIHOA's membership is comprised of the ministers/directors/secretaries of health of the six USAPIs, their deputies and Chief Executive Officers of local public hospitals (associates), and Pacific regional professional associations (affiliates). PIHOA's Secretariat staff and consultants provide technical assistance to its members in the following health systems strengthening areas: 1) health workforce development/human resources for health; 2) epidemiology and surveillance; 3) performance improvement; 4) laboratory services; 5) regional health policy and advocacy; 6) health security; and 7) leadership development. For more about PIHOA, visit www.pihoa.org.

In September 2020, PIHOA was awarded a grant from the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) at the U.S. Department of State for PIHOA, in collaboration with vector managers in the FSM and RMI, to collect and analyze data related to climate, public health, and socio-demographic variables to pinpoint factors that lead to the spread of disease. The group will construct place-based predictive models for dengue and engage relevant on-island partners for implementation.

SUMMARY OF DUTIES: Work in close collaboration with the Project Director to provide specialist climate sciences consultancy services, working independently and/or as part of a multidisciplinary team. Create predictive models to predict future dengue outbreaks by analyzing climate, socio-demographic, and dengue record data. Conduct assessments of climate impacts and risks and develop adaptation and resilience strategies, as they apply to specific projects assigned.

The PIHOA Climate Sciences Consultant is a part-time position that will work remotely to support project work in the Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of the Marshall Islands. The consultant will provide subject matter expertise and support to PIHOA leadership and other project consultants/staff.

SCOPE OF POSITION:

1. **Reports to:** PIHOA Regional Medical Entomologist/Project Director
2. **Supervises:** None
3. **Fiscal Responsibilities:** None
4. **Signature Authorities:** None

Level of Interaction: The consultant will provide regular contact and liaison with the Project Director and staff, and occasional interaction with both internal and external partners, regulatory authorities, research partners and wider stakeholders. Consultants are responsible for their own work and may provide technical review of others' work under the guidance of the Project Director, PIHOA Executive Director or Deputy Director.

MAJOR DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Participate in the planning and development of the project.
2. Lead predictive modeling and forecasting towards the development of early warning systems for dengue to inform priorities to decision makers.
3. Train project specialists to increase local capacities in identifying, collecting, and processing data used in the modeling analysis, including extracting and combining data from multiple sources using statistical programming languages.
4. Participate in community engagement events and assist in communication materials for the implementation of forecasting systems.
5. Assist with policy development, including meeting with partners and stakeholders and drafting policy documents.
6. Conduct assessments of climate impacts and risks and develop adaptation and resilience strategies.
7. Guide the integration of data sources, to include forms and documents needed for data processing and analysis.
8. Meet project objectives and deadlines.

PRIMARY QUALIFICATIONS:

- **Education:** Bachelor's degree in environmental sciences, public health, biomathematics or related discipline from an accredited academic institution.
- **Job Experience:** Excellent understanding of climate, socio-demographic, and health data - their availability, shortcomings and strengths, and suitability for different analyses. Proven strong experience (3+ years) in predictive modeling, including geospatial datasets. Great writing and oral skills, with an emphasis on making complex, technical subjects clear and accessible to a wide audience. Comfort working alone to drive to deadlines, with ability to collaborate with colleagues as appropriate.
- **Job Knowledge:** Experience in supporting multi-disciplinary teams working across multiple locations; and able to effectively communicate with respect and diplomacy with a range of people from differing backgrounds, value systems, cultures, religious affiliations, and varying degrees of English-speaking and writing competencies.
- **Other Requirements:** A successful applicant: must have advanced English written and oral communication skills; must be proficient in data/statistical software and Microsoft Office software applications (e.g. Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook, and Publisher); be objective and

flexible to adapt to changes in priorities and work assignments; communicate effectively both orally and in writing, and with diplomacy and tact, especially concerning difficult and sensitive issues; must present ideas and information effectively; gain and maintain the confidence and cooperation of others, collaborate, and work in multidisciplinary teams.

- **Travel:** Must be willing and able to travel to and work in the USAPIs.
- **Citizenship and Other Requirements:** Must be a US citizen or have valid US Green Card, US Permanent Residency Card, Resident Alien, or other relevant US visa that allows for residency and employment in the US and its territories. Please be advised that PIHOA does not pay for passport and visa expenses. These will need to be valid and in good standing prior to PIHOA consultancy. PIHOA reserves the right to conduct security and background checks on successful applicants. Must possess a valid driver's license. May require a valid Business License if home duty station is Guam.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Graduate degree in environmental sciences, public health, biomathematics or related discipline.
- Experience in modeling climate-sensitive infectious disease, in particular vector-borne diseases.
- Interest in increasing capacities in resource-limited settings. Comfortable engaging in diverse stakeholders and coordination networks to leverage existing knowledge and resources for mutual understanding and benefits .
- Knowledge of and experience working in the Pacific region.

COMPENSATION: Compensation is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Fringe and other benefits are not covered under the PIHOA consultancy contract.

TERM OF POSITION: To start on or immediately after December 31, 2020. This position is a temporary consultancy from hire date and not to exceed twenty-two consecutive months. Continuation of consultancy is dependent upon program/operational needs, performance, availability of funds, and compliance with applicable Federal/State laws.

APPLICATION: Interested applicants are encouraged to submit the following electronically, with attention to Janet Camacho (janetc@pihoa.org), Deputy Director, and Regie Tolentino, (regiet@pihoa.org), Office Administrator, no later than 5:00pm, December 15, 2020, Hawaii Standard Time:

- 1) **Letter of Interest** that outlines your overall qualifications and professional experience in response to the Primary Qualifications listed above.
- 2) **Resume/Curriculum Vitae;** and
- 3) Minimum of **three (3) professional references** - these references must be from current and past employment supervisors based on the last 8-10 years of employment.

For any enquiries related to this vacancy, please direct them to Janet Camacho at janetc@pihoa.org. Pacific Island Health Officers Association, 737 Bishop Street, Suite 2075, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813. Office Telephone: 808.537.3131. Office Fax: 808.537.6868. Website: www.pihoa.org