

NOTICE OF VACANCY
Special Service Agreement (SSA)
Communication Officer for Vaccine-Preventable
Diseases and Immunization (VDI)



1. Summary

The World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines is looking for an individual contractual partner to provide support to the Department of Health (DOH) to continue working on strengthening risk communication capacities for immunization and in rebuilding and sustaining trust in vaccination, under Special Services Agreement (SSA) contract.

2. Background

The Philippines' routine immunization coverage has been sub-optimal for the year 2021 following the low coverage in the year 2020. Although the Philippines was able to conduct a nationwide MR-bOPV campaign, the continued low routine coverage is a major concern. The Philippines is undertaking catch-up immunization for all the routine immunization vaccines as a response to low routine immunization coverage.

Furthermore, the country is continuously implementing its COVID-19 vaccination campaign, aiming to inoculate eligible populations aged 12 years and above – around 84.9 million people. The Philippines has also started vaccinating aged 5 to 11 years in February 2022.

WHO Philippines continues to provide technical support to the DOH in communication and social mobilization for immunization. These are key capacities in generating demand for vaccination, responding to vaccine-related events, and building trust and confidence in vaccines and the immunization programme.

3. Timeline

The implementation timeline for the project is from **1 March to 31 December 2022**.

4. Place of Assignment

Manila, Philippines

5. Scope of Work

Under the overall supervision of the WHO Representative to the Philippines, as well as in collaboration with WPRO VDI Coordinator, WCO Technical Officers, and WHE Focal Points, the SSA will support Regional, Provincial, and District Health Authorities in preparation for and implementation of immunization campaigns and strengthening of routine immunization. The SSA is expected to plan and implement such campaigns in line with the Outbreak Response Plan and other global and national guidelines.

Method(s) to carry out the activity

Outputs and Deliverables

1. Lead the development and implementation of VDI communication strategies for vaccination campaigns and routine immunization. In the first quarter of 2022, the SSA will support the intensification of the catch-up campaign as a priority.
 - 1.1. Update immunization and social mobilization plan, co-developed with DOH and UNICEF
 - 1.2. Develop strategies and materials to support the DOH at both central and regional levels to advocate for strong political commitment and partners' support to vaccination campaigns and improving routine immunization services and coverage
 - 1.3. Develop communication products including information materials, written and video stories, and documentation of response actions undertaken by the DOH, Local Government Units, frontline health workers, communities, and other stakeholders/partners
 - 1.4. Prepare materials relevant to media relations such as talking points, press releases, and press statements
2. Support the DOH in its communications response to vaccine-related events (VREs) including Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFIs) for the routine immunization and COVID-19 vaccination
 - 2.1. Develop risk communication toolkit in preparation for VREs, and conduct briefings and trainings with relevant stakeholders as needed
 - 2.2. Draft risk communication guidance for Health Education and Promotion Officers (HEPOs) in the event of VREs, and provide technical support as needed
3. Support the DOH in its communication campaigns and infodemic management around COVID-19 vaccination
 - 3.1. Develop strategies and materials for establishing and supporting the infodemic management capacity of the DOH
 - 3.2. Develop strategies and materials for COVID-19 vaccine demand generation and risk communication in the event of VREs
4. Provide regular written updates, including field visit reports, proposals for donor agencies, among others
5. Perform any other communication-related duties, as required by the managing supervisor or WHO Representative.

6. Specific requirements

- Qualifications required:

Essential: University degree in communications, digital communications, communication research, public relations, marketing, journalism, health promotion, humanities, or a related field.

Desirable: Advanced degree or certification in science communication, health promotion, public health, or other related fields.

- Experience required:

Essential: Minimum of five (5) years of work experience in communications, advocacy, media relations, or related work; demonstrated experience in digital communications, social listening, writing, graphic design, photography, videography, and audio production.

Desirable: Previous experience working with the World Health Organization, other United Nations agencies, the Department of Health, or other development organizations; relevant experience in public health, science communication, risk communication.

- Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:

1. Demonstrates very good understanding of and skills in health promotion, advocacy campaigns, digital communications, and risk communication.
2. Proficient writer and multimedia producer, and able to present data and content visually.
3. Demonstrated experience and skills in multimedia production using Adobe software, Canva, and other similar platforms.
4. Proven ability to manage multiple projects and campaigns with minimal direction.

- Language requirements:

Excellent command of the English language, both oral and written, as well as a good handle of Tagalog

7. **Competencies**

Communicating in a credible, effective and culturally competent way
Moving forward in a changing environment
Fostering integration and
Teamwork Producing results

8. **Submission Requirements**

Interested individual contractual partner should submit electronic copies of the following:

- Cover letter
- Curriculum vitae

Address all proposals to:

Dr Rajendra Yadav

Acting, WHO Representative to the Philippines

Ground Floor, Building 3, Department of Health San Lazaro Compound,
Rizal Avenue, Sta Cruz, Manila

Please submit the electronic copy of the proposals with the title: **Special Service Agreement (SSA) Communication Officer for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization (VDI)** to Mrs Ying Chen (cheny@who.int) and wpphlwr@who.int. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted by WHO Philippines.

Deadline of submission of application is on **25 February 2022**.