Senior Policy Officer – 0,6 – 08 fte

The Human Vaccines Project Europe (www.humanvaccinesproject.org) is currently recruiting for a scientific officer for India-European Consortium on Next Generation Influenza Vaccine Innovation (INCENTIVE), a jointly funded project between the European Commission and the Government of India – Department of BioTechnology. The position is based in The Netherlands.

The overall objective of INCENTIVE is to address the global health and economic challenges posed by influenza infections and to reduce the worldwide burden resulting from – pandemic – influenza outbreaks. INCENTIVE’s strategic goals are to provide seminal knowledge on the underlying mechanisms of poor responsiveness to influenza vaccines in vulnerable individuals and advance the development of two next generation universal influenza vaccines.

One of the Work Packages of the project focuses on vaccine preparedness, dissemination and exploitation. The specific objectives of this WP are to:

- Facilitate transfer of next generation vaccine to be further developed and manufactured in India.
- Conduct gap analysis and assess ex ante what needs to be done in order to make a vaccine available regionally, nationally and potentially worldwide once developed.
- Explore how the product profile of vaccines under the grant fit into existing frameworks for pandemic planning to provide specific recommendations about how this vaccine would be rolled out in the context of these plans. How do we get the product rolled out in most effective and efficient manner within existing pandemic response structures.
- Ensure the effective dissemination of the project results both inside and outside the consortium.
- Optimize the protection, sharing, management and exploitation of the IPR arising from the project.
- Deliver a Dissemination and Exploitation Plan outlining the plans to further utilize the project’s results and
- Apply lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic to rollout a framework for pandemic influenza.

Position Summary

The candidate will be responsible for leading and implementing the Work Package. Implementation involves desk research on pandemic preparedness in selected countries within the European Union, gap analysis, interviews and expert meetings, modelling the impact of a pandemic influenza outbreak, and develop a roadmap to take an experimental vaccine from Technology Readiness Level 6 (TRL 6) to TRL 9.

Major Duties & Responsibilities:

- Partners with the Indian counterpart (Public Health Foundation India).
- Leads the implementation of Work Package 6, which includes the following deliverables:
  - A blueprint for conducting IIB and Phase III clinical trials in India and Europe with the experimental vaccine, as well as a manufacturing blueprint.
  - A blueprint for rolling out stratified influenza vaccination programs, in order to optimize / maximize efficiency and effectiveness taking into account acceptability, affordability and accessibility issues.
  - Exploitation plan / influenza preparedness plan with recommendations for rolling out stratified influenza vaccination programs

Qualifications
Minimum of a Master’s degree is required, ideally in the area of pandemic preparedness.
More than 5 years experience.
Demonstrated success in implementation, project management, and influencing without authority is required
Strong business acumen, action orientation, agility in insight generation and analysis.
Must be capable of managing and prioritizing multiple competing demands and demonstrate excellent communication skills

Preferred Experience:

- Vaccines experience, in particular pandemic preparedness policy, planning and evaluation.
- PhD and / or MBA or in related field (public health, economics, public policy) is highly desirable.

Communications and working relations

External
- National and European entities responsible for pandemic preparedness policy, planning and implementation, e.g. National Institutes of Public Health, ECDC, WHO Europe, European Commission.
- Government representatives in the selected countries.
- Academic institutions and national research entities.
- Regulatory authorities.
- Industry.

Internal
- Executive Director Europe
- Board of the Stichting Human Vaccines Project Europe
- Consortium Members, in particular Public Health Foundation India and ISGlobal.

Competencies

- Analytical and Strategic Thinking
- Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methodology
- Science and Data Analytics
- Building Partnerships
- Visioning and Alignment
- Excellent communications skills
- Influencing without authority.
- Self-starter with a track record of challenging the status quo.
- Results orientation.

Primary Location: Amsterdam, The Netherlands

More information
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