



**Employment/Consulting Opportunity with International Nonprofit Organization
Venture Strategies Innovations**

www.vsinnovations.org

Position Title: Senior Consultant, Research
Status: Full time, exempt position (Consulting contract also considered)
Location: Anaheim or Berkeley, CA
Salary: VSI offers a competitive salary (DOE) and a comprehensive benefits package
Posting Date: January 11, 2011

Organizational Background:

Venture Strategies Innovations (VSI) is a California-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization committed to improving women's health in developing countries by creating access to effective and affordable technologies on a large scale. Our innovative approach involves partnerships that build upon existing infrastructure, resources and markets. We focus on reducing barriers to access and enhancing human capacity to bring about sustainable improvements in health.

VSI specializes in facilitating regulatory approval of high quality products, policy development, training and support for distribution. In collaboration with our scientific partner, the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley, we conduct operations research to demonstrate appropriate level of access.

In the developing countries where most births take place at home, pregnancy is a life-threatening condition. Every pregnant woman is likely to know someone – perhaps her mother, her aunt or her sister – who died of postpartum hemorrhage (excessive bleeding after childbirth), or from complications of unsafe abortion. Of the over 340,000 women who die from causes related to pregnancy or childbirth each year, 99% are in developing countries.

In its largest program, VSI works with governments, leading medical professionals and organizations in 12 countries in Africa and Asia to create access to generic misoprostol tablets, which are safe, effective and life-saving when used for a variety of obstetrical and gynecological indications. Misoprostol is affordable and has the advantage of being able to be used at all levels of the health care system, including by frontline health care workers.

VSI is a dynamic team-oriented organization filled with bright, committed, passionate individuals. There are extensive opportunities for leadership and growth as the organization continues to evolve and expand. As part of its commitment to excellence, VSI values and invests in the professional development of its team members. VSI celebrates a culture of high performance, teamwork and accountability and creates an atmosphere in which highly motivated individuals thrive.

Position Overview:

The Senior Consultant, Research is responsible for providing technical support and expertise in the design and reporting of VSI's research activities. The Senior Consultant, Research will assist the Director,

Research and Implementation by providing technical expertise in the design of operations research projects and by overseeing the dissemination of research findings in publications in scientific journals and conference presentations. This entails close communication with both headquarters and field program staff. Critical tasks include managing the publication process of research data, developing analysis plans and timelines, and ensuring their timely completion. The Senior Consultant, Research reports to the Director, Research and Implementation. In addition, s/he will work closely with the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialist, Data Analyst, Country Programs Managers, Country Representatives, and the Communications & Development Department to develop monitoring and evaluation plans and report on the progress and results of research projects. The incumbent will travel internationally to visit project sites several times per year, approximately 10% time or more as program needs dictate.

Specific Duties:

Dissemination of Research Findings

- Create analysis plans for research data and ensure progress to plan.
- Oversee the submission of scientific journal articles for peer-reviewed publications.
- Write abstracts for scientific conferences and prepare presentations.
- Represent VSI at scientific conferences and meetings.

Operations Research Management

- Provide input in the design of operations research projects.
- Assist in the development of protocols, manuals of operation, data collection tools, training materials and monitoring and evaluation systems.
- Conduct monitoring and evaluation site visits, and make programmatic recommendations for improvement of the project.
- Draft institutional review board (IRB) approvals for operations research.

Other duties as assigned to support overall goals of the organization.

Qualifications:

The ideal candidate will possess a demonstrated commitment to improving women's reproductive health globally.

Minimum required experience and/or education or equivalents include:

- Master's degree or equivalent experience in international public health or related field
- Demonstrated team player
- Experience and comfort working in a dynamic work environment
- Strong computer skills including word processing, email, internet, Excel spreadsheets and databases
- Experience and/or training in SPSS, Stata, SAS or other statistical software
- Familiarity with terminology and literature on maternal and reproductive health
- 5+ years of hands-on experience with research methods and/or program monitoring and evaluation
- Experience leading at least one full field-based monitoring and evaluation project
- Ability to travel internationally to Africa, Asia or Latin America 10% of time or more
- Candidates who have skills and experience in social marketing, program planning, community-based programs, public/private sector health partnerships, health systems in developing countries, and public policy encouraged to apply
- Fluency in French or other regional language highly desired

Personal attributes:

- Self-motivated, results-oriented, innovative and pro-active
- Self-directed, adaptable and highly organized
- Excellent critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Superior written, oral, interpersonal and presentation skills
- Strong capacity for self-awareness and self-improvement
- Excellent time management skills and attention to detail
- Collaborative and inclusive working style
- Clear and concise communication of complex ideas
- Ability to handle multiple projects and tasks concurrently
- Ability to think on one's feet and handle stressful situations
- Diplomatic, comfortable and effective in developing countries
- Impeccable standards of ethics, trust, confidentiality and integrity
- Strong collaboration, teamwork and partnering skills
- Interest in contributing to organizational growth and learning

Compensation:

Salary will be commensurate with experience, and includes a comprehensive benefits package.

Application Process:**No Phone Calls Please**

Please submit the following addressed to:

Attn: Human Resources, Venture Strategies Innovations
2401 E. Katella Avenue, Suite 400
Anaheim, CA 92806

Or email to mpjobs@vsinnovations.org with **“Senior Consultant, Research”** in the subject line

1. Cover letter summarizing experience, position applying for, and preference of full time, exempt employment or consulting contract
2. Resume
3. Writing Sample (No co-authored work, please.)

Thank you for your interest in working with VSI! Only finalists will be contacted and invited to participate in the next phase of the screening process. Position may require successful completion of a background and reference check, and a pre-employment assessment. All such testing will be conducted in accordance with applicable state, federal and local laws.

- Venture Strategies Innovations is an ADA / EOE employer.
- Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled.
- Unfortunately, at this time VSI cannot sponsor international candidates.