

Assistive Technologies (AT) Associate

CHAI Liberia Overview

Founded in 2002, by President William J. Clinton and Ira C. Magaziner, the Clinton Health Access Initiative, Inc. ("CHAI") is a global health organization committed to saving lives, reducing the burden of disease and strengthening integrated health systems in the developing world.

In 2006, CHAI was the first international NGO to help Liberia's government rebuild after a decade-long civil war in Liberia had killed an estimated 270,000 people, decimated the nation's health infrastructure and hindered the country's ability to deliver vital health and social services. The partnership between Liberia's Ministry of Health (MOH) and CHAI evolved from being HIV specific to addressing cross-cutting health systems challenges. CHAI has since supported the MOH in strengthening supply chain management, health workforce, health financing, and provided technical assistance across various vertical programs including HIV, maternal and neonatal health, sexual and reproductive health, malaria, cancer, essential medicines, and assistive technology.

Assistive technologies (AT) or assistive devices are those whose primary purpose is to maintain or improve an individual's functioning and independence, to facilitate participation, and to enhance overall well-being. AT can improve mobility, hearing, vision, or communication capacities, with examples such as wheelchairs, prostheses, hearing aids, spectacles. AT access must consider not only the product itself, but also the spectrum of health and rehabilitation services related to provision/prescription of AT to the individual, including assessment, fitting, user training and follow-up (users' satisfaction), maintenance and repair.

Between September 2019 and January 2020, CHAI Liberia was contracted by the Global Disability Innovation (GDI) Hub, under the AT2030 programme with funding from UK aid, to conduct a country capacity assessment (CCA) aimed at understanding the landscape of AT in Liberia. Findings from the CCA were shared with stakeholders across ministries, NGOs, and disabled persons' organizations (DPOs), who then developed a list of strategic priorities for scaling up access to and quality of AT and disability services in Liberia. CHAI Liberia is committed to supporting the MOH and other government agencies (Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection [MGCSP], National Commission on Disabilities [NCD]) in the operationalization and implementation of priority activities laid out in the CCA report, with a focus on the development and costing of a national AT policy and strategy.

The **Assistive Technologies (AT) Associate** will mainly be responsible for the development of a national AT policy and/or strategy for Liberia. The AT Associate will also evaluate the budget impact of the national policy/strategy by providing country-specific inputs, and using an Excel-based AT costing model to be developed by CHAI's global team. The AT Associate may additionally take on the implementation of other AT activities depending on funding availability.

The AT Associate will report to CHAI Liberia's Program Manager and work closely with Country Leadership, as well as CHAI's global New Markets Opportunity Team. This position will be based in Monrovia, with minimal travel to other counties. The assignment will start as soon as possible and end in February 2021, with potential to extend depending on funding and candidate performance.

Responsibilities:

- Lead the development of a national AT policy and/or strategy in line with the framework of the current National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities in Liberia (NAP), and informed by findings and recommendations from the CCA
- Ensure alignment of national AT policy/strategy priorities with existing national frameworks
- Conduct literature reviews and other research activities as needed
- Conduct costing of the national AT policy and/or strategy to understand the budget impact of various models of scaling up AT access in Liberia

- Conduct cross-sectoral workshops and working sessions to solicit stakeholder feedback on national policy/strategy
- Support CHAI's role as secretariat to the national AT technical working group (TWG), which may include drafting presentations, agendas, and taking minutes
- Build capacity of MOH staff in AT activity coordination and knowledge-sharing to ensure sustainability and reinforce government ownership
- Support the MOH and other government ministries with broader advocacy and resource mobilization efforts for AT, e.g. drafting grant proposals, concept notes, presentations, budgets
- Regularly liaise with relevant MOH units and other line ministries, government agencies, DPOs, NGOs and international multilateral organizations
- Represent CHAI at relevant technical working groups and meetings
- Undertake other duties related to improving AT access in Liberia

Qualifications

This position requires an individual with a self-starter attitude who is comfortable working with minimal direction, and is capable of building strong and effective working relationships with a variety of stakeholders in the government, health facilities, local and international NGOs, private sector, and civil society organizations. The ideal candidate should also have the following qualifications:

- University degree in public health, rehabilitation sciences, health sciences, public policy, social work, human rights, economics or related discipline
- At least 3-5 years of work experience in the health sector or in social welfare
- Experience conducting desk and literature reviews; ability to streamline and synthesize large amounts of information into high-quality documents for a wide range of stakeholders
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills; high proficiency in MS Office Suite, particularly Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook
- Prior experience costing of national strategies or policies is strongly preferred
- Demonstrated experience in convening meetings and facilitating discussions among multidisciplinary group of stakeholders
- Willingness and capacity to be flexible and resourceful when faced with difficult or frustrating working conditions; ability to problem-solve independently
- Strong attention to detail, with exceptional organizational, coordination, and time management skills
- Able to quickly learn and become well-versed in the relevant subject matter of assistive technologies, disability and rehabilitation; prior experience, knowledge, or interest in these topics strongly preferred
Understanding of and sensitivity to limitations in low-resource settings
- Prior experience in policy development, health financing, or program design strongly preferred
- Prior experience in Africa strongly preferred
- Qualified individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply

Please apply at this link: <https://careers-chai.icims.com/jobs/10430/associate%2c-assistive-technologies-%28at%29/job>