Landscape Analysis: Africa Region
Request for Proposals

Location: Remote
Time Period: Estimate 200-300 hours over three months

BACKGROUND

According to the World Health Organization, at least 1 billion people globally live with a vision impairment that could have been prevented or has yet to be addressed. A life without clear vision often becomes a life devoid of freedom, independence, and dignity. For a person in the developing world, it can be catastrophic. Across sub-Saharan Africa, an estimated 20 million people are blind or visually impaired. Restoring sight is one of the most cost-effective interventions to reduce poverty. It has an immediate and profound impact on the person who can now see, study, learn and earn a living. Additionally, this creates a ripple effect on the family and community that benefits from her or his contribution.

Seva is a global nonprofit eye care organization that transforms lives and strengthens communities by restoring sight and preventing blindness. We train local eye care providers and develop self-sustaining eye programs around the world. Together with our partners, we provide critical eye care to underserved communities, especially women, children, and indigenous peoples. Seva has helped 5 million blind people regain their sight in more than 20 countries.

Seva works with partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America. In Africa, Seva currently supports partner hospitals working in Benin, Burundi, Malawi, Tanzania, and Uganda.

CONSULTANCY DESCRIPTION

Seva seeks an individual or team to undertake a landscape analysis across Sub-Saharan Africa to identify potential opportunities for eye care services in non-eye care domains (eg.education sector, job-force training, etc). Specifically, Seva is looking for synergies where it might be able to collaborate with other organizations to increase access to eye care (eg. Integrated healthcare delivery or coordination with existing after-school programs to deliver eye care screening for children). We are looking for opportunities to invest at the intersection of eye care and other service delivery. This landscape analysis seeks to identify and understand these potential opportunities to inform future program investment, management, and quality across Sub-Saharan Africa (focal countries to be finalized in consultant with Seva).

KEY FOCAL AREAS

The landscape analysis includes six main areas within a geographic focus of Sub-Saharan Africa. The first two assess the current context and future situation regarding visual impairment and eye care delivery. The remaining four areas consider work happening broadly, beyond eye care. In summary:

1. Major drivers of blindness & visual impairment + emerging needs in coming 5 years
2. Review of available eye care human resources: workforce & training
3. Working within Ministry of Health systems
4. Mapping of organizations working in the region
5. Identify applicable funding streams in the region
6. Emerging opportunities and success stories of healthcare in the region

1. Major drivers of blindness & visual impairment + emerging needs in coming 5 years

- Brief literature review noting the cataract surgical rate and coverage data in key countries where data is available
- Summarize completed Rapid Assessments of Avoidable Blindness from region
- Examine emerging eye care needs influencing eye care in the coming 5 years
  - Diabetic Retinopathy
  - Retinopathy of Prematurity
  - Integrated, Patient-Centered Healthcare

2. Review of available eye care human resources: workforce & training

- Mapping of existing eye care providers:
  - Ophthalmologists
  - Cataract Surgeons
  - Allied Ophthalmic Personnel (AOP) - ophthalmic nurses
  - Optometrists
  - Other eye care-related professional cadres
- Overlay existing providers with need
  - Ex. Number of cataract surgeries per ophthalmologist or cataract surgeon
  - The prevalent method of cataract surgery and percentage of cataract surgery with intraocular lens implantation
- Mapping of training programs & requirements
  - Doctors
  - MOH/universities with curricula for AOPs

3. Working with Ministry of Health systems

- Most of Seva's work has been independent of the government. What does Seva need to keep in mind when working in different countries?
- Where are opportunities within the region to work with the Ministry of Health?
- What factors should be considered when engaging/disengaging with the Ministry of Health?
- What Ministries of Health are looking at interventions that include eye care?
- Other questions to consider: What roles do private clinics play in providing eye care? Are there social enterprises that provide healthcare that could benefit from an eye care component?

4. Mapping of organizations working in the region

- Map key eye care actors in the region and their program priorities

- ○ Possible actors include: CBM, Fred Hollows, Light for the World, Orbis, SightSavers, Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology
- Map existing networks or cohorts of groups working in eye care, healthcare
- Map NGOs with complementary programming (ie health or education interventions) in countries where Seva has worked

5. Current and potential funding streams for region
- Foundation funding
- Official Development Aid (ODA) funding
- Start-up or investment funds

6. Emerging opportunities and success stories of healthcare in the region
- What are examples of innovative work around increasing access to healthcare generally?
- What were the contributing factors for their success?
- What organizations and ministries are finding success in promoting Universal Healthcare?

DELIVERABLE
The final product should be a landscape analysis that includes a written narrative addressing each section and incorporating the questions posed above. Case studies and other highlights to demonstrate sample opportunities. Work anticipated to commence as soon as 1 February 2021. The work needs to be completed via desk research and existing networks as no travel is included as a part of this consultancy.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Intimately familiar with the region
- Understanding of healthcare delivery in the region
- Experience with non-governmental organizations
- Previous experience preparing landscape analyses or major desk reviews, preferably related to health
- Concise and effective writer(s) and communicator(s)

PAYMENT

Compensation dependent on experience and final proposal.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit your cover letter, proposal for how to complete the landscape analysis, overview of the team (if applicable), estimated timeline, expected renumeration, and qualifications to jobs@seva.org. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.