

THE
CARTER CENTER



Job Advertisement

Senior Program Officer -Research -TCP (1 Position)

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The Carter Center (TCC) provides Technical Support to the Ministry of Health – Republic of South Sudan for the Guinea Worm Eradication Program, Trachoma Control Programs (TCP) and River Blindness and Lymphatic Filariasis (RB/LF) Programs. The Carter Center is currently seeking to recruit a dynamic, qualified candidate for the post of **Senior Program Officer – Research TCP** based in Juba County, **CES State** with field site visitation in the rural locations of South Sudan.

Title: Senior Program Officer - Research TCP (1 Position)
Duty Station: Juba, CES State (as may be designated per Program needs within South Sudan)
Closing Date: March 19th, 2026

Reporting to: Trachoma Program Manager

Job Purpose: To provide key central leadership . The Trachoma SPO-R position plays a central leadership role in coordinating and implementing operational research activities related to the SAFE (Surgery, Antibiotic therapy, Facial cleanliness and Environmental improvement) strategy for trachoma control across all TCC-TCP supported/assigned regions. This includes developing and managing project proposals and research activities, obtaining ethical approvals, coordinating baseline surveys and impact assessments, facilitating laboratory-based activities with partner organizations, ensuring quality supply chain management, and handling material transfer agreements and sample shipments for overseas tests. Additionally, the job includes written and verbal research dissemination through reports, scientific manuscripts, as well as international conferences and meetings. This position is based in Juba, Central Equatoria State, with frequent travel to the field (25%-40%).

Key Responsibilities:

- With strict adherence to The Carter Center rules and regulations
 - Supports the TPM and State Ministry of Health (SMOHs) in overseeing the technical strategy and field implementation of trachoma control activities, ensuring alignment with national guidelines.
1. **Technical Aspect,** In close collaboration with the Atlanta based staff, TPM, and SCR, lead the design, implementation, and oversight of operational research, epidemiological surveys, and laboratory capacity building within the TCC-TCP portfolio in South Sudan.
- Provide end-to-end support for TCP research activities, including; develop project proposals and concept notes, draft protocols, plan data collection, supervise research implementation, perform data cleaning and preliminary analysis, and disseminate findings.



- Coordinate laboratory-supported research activities, including sample collection protocols, cold chain quality control, interpretation of laboratory results, and collaboration with national and international laboratories.
 - Work with Atlanta-based staff to develop, implement, and trouble-shoot data collection tools, ODK-based survey forms, and other research materials.
 - Facilitate the ethical approvals of protocols by relevant ethics approval bodies at national and regional level.
2. **Program Planning and Implementation**, Develop and manage research timelines, fieldwork schedules, and study-specific budgets in coordination with the TPM and finance team.
 - Work closely with the TPM, Ministry of Health (MOH), State Ministry of Health (SMOH), County Health Directors (CHD), and National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) to ensure research activities are engaged as per the action plans and project agreements.
 - Ensure strict adherence to approved research protocols, consent procedures, sampling methodologies, and data collection criteria throughout implementation.
 - Forecast, procure, and manage research and survey supplies, including data collection tools, laboratory consumables, and other field supplies.
 3. **Stakeholder Engagement**, Build strong working relationships with MOH, SMOH, CHD, community leaders, NGOs, and international partners to strengthen research coordination.
 4. **Supervision**, Supervise field-based staff during trachoma surveys and other operational research activities. Provide ongoing mentoring and technical support to Program Officers (POs) and Data Clerks to strengthen research implementation and data collection.
 5. **Data Management and Reporting**, in collaboration with TCC-RSS and Atlanta based staff, oversee data cleaning, validation, analysis, and interpretation.
 - Evaluate the quality of fieldwork and collect data and propose improvements and new systems as appropriate.
 - Disseminate study findings using different platforms including publication in reputable scientific journals, presentations during conferences, and national workshops
 6. **Problem Solving and Decision Making**, Identifies operational challenges and proposes practical, evidence-based solutions to
 7. **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**, Ensures consistent communication between MOH, TCC-South Sudan, and TCC-Atlanta to maintain program alignment.
 8. **Stewardship and Accountability**, Manages research related expenses under the supervision of TPM, SCR, and finance team, ensuring compliance with financial protocols.

Person Specifications:

- South Sudanese Nationals, with willingness and ability to travel and work in remote and hard-to-reach areas of the country.
- A Master's degree in a related field of study and two years of related work experience, OR a bachelor's degree and four years of related field experience, OR an equivalent combination of experience, education, and training
- At least two years of experience working with an international organization or research entity in low resource settings. Four or more years of experience is strongly preferred.
- Proven track record designing, coordinating, and implementing public health operational research and/or related activities, with a preference for a focus related to eye health, neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), or disease control programs.



- Strong background in research protocol development and the creation and deployment of data collection tools. Experience utilizing electronic data capture tools is preferred.
- Foundational knowledge of epidemiological principles, including disease surveillance, prevalence estimation, risk-factor analysis, and evaluation of public health interventions. Biostatistical experience is an advantage.
- Familiarity with sampling methods, survey design, and laboratory techniques relevant to population-based health studies. Laboratory based experience is an advantage.
- Familiarity with ethical review processes, including preparation of submissions to institutional review boards, as well as ensuring compliance of personally identifiable information (PII) and biological samples management.
- Willingness to learn new technical skills related to trachoma research and diagnostics (e.g., data analysis, laboratory assays, ocular photography) with the appropriate support and training.
- Advanced skills in MS Office (Excel, Word, Outlook); familiarity with Open Data Kit (ODK) or data analysis software (RStudio, Stata, SAS, ArcGIS) is an asset.
- Maintain a high-degree of flexibility regarding research implementation, including the ability to quickly pivot, shift timelines, and problem-solve during field-based activities.
- Excellent written and spoken English required; Arabic and local languages are an advantage.

Application deadline: March 19, 2026.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Women candidates are highly encouraged to apply. Polite note: No original documents are required at this stage.

For Interested candidates, please submit your application comprising of: (1) a comprehensive CV that includes contact details, education and training background, work experience and 3 referees, and (2) Cover letter detailing how you qualify for this position to:

HR Dept. Applications may be submitted either by:

1. Email: recruitment-ssd@cartercenter.org (attachments in .doc or .pdf formats only)
2. Hand delivery to the TCC main office in Juba Town/Hai Jebel Nyoka.

