

India HIV/AIDS Alliance

Invites talented professionals to consider joining our Alliance India at national level

Technical Specialist: MERL

(Location: Delhi Office; full-time)

Introduction:

India HIV/AIDS Alliance (Alliance India) is a diverse partnership that brings together committed organisations and communities to support sustained responses to HIV in India. Complementing the Indian national programme, we work through capacity building, knowledge sharing, technical support and advocacy. Through our network of partners, we support the delivery of effective, innovative, community-based HIV programmes to key populations affected by the epidemic.

Alliance India works through NGO and CBO partners to support efforts that have a sustainable impact on HIV. We place communities at the center and work to ensure that vulnerable and marginalised people are meaningfully involved in all aspects of our response, including sex workers, men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender individuals, and people living with HIV. Our programming and policy efforts are driven by evidence of what works; quality and accountability are core priorities in our interventions, technical support and grant management.

To learn more about our organisation, please visit our website: www.allianceindia.org

Summary of Responsibilities:

The Technical Specialist: MERL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning) will be based in Delhi and responsible for managing research activities of Alliance India. The person will support the Associate Director: Strategic Information in designing, implementing and monitoring research and evaluation activities. This position will most immediately focus on launching a multi-state program focussing on LGBTQi communities regarding drug use and SSU and its related research. The position will also support the Monitoring Evaluation and Research related activities and reporting to donor.

The key responsibilities of the position are as follows:

A. Research Design & Execution

- Facilitate the design and implementation of strategic research initiatives across the organisation, including formative research, baseline and endline evaluations.
- Lead the development of research tools, survey instruments, analysis frameworks, field protocols, consent forms, and ethical guidelines.
- Support thematic leads in developing standardised research methodologies that inform program planning and foster organisational learning.
- Independently prepare research and evaluation proposals for competitive bidding and donor-funded projects

B. Research Operations & Management

- Oversee day-to-day operations of research projects, including field management, quality assurance, data management, and digital tool development.
- Lead training and capacity-building initiatives for internal staff, trainers, consultants, and data collectors involved in research activities.
- Manage research grants and ensure adherence to timelines, deliverables, and quality standards.
- Coordinate the hiring and onboarding of research agencies/consultants in collaboration with program, procurement, and administrative teams.

C. Reporting, Publications & Dissemination

- Lead the drafting, review, and finalisation of high-quality research reports, ensuring they meet internal and external quality benchmarks
- Facilitate the publication of research findings in peer-reviewed journals, policy briefs, and white papers.
- Promote dissemination of findings to relevant stakeholders, including program teams, donors, partners, and policymakers.
- Enhance research visibility through networking, partnerships, civil society engagements, and media outreach.

D. Strategic Planning & Organisational Development

- Contribute to the development of annual thematic program plans, ensuring research is embedded as a core component.
- Actively participate in organisational strategic initiatives, including the formulation of country strategy and cross-functional planning.
- Provide technical input in the development of budgets and work plans for research components within proposals.
- Maintain and update the database of research institutions, academic collaborators, and expert consultants.

E. External Representation & Collaborations

- Represent the organisation in external research forums, committees, consortia, and technical working groups, as delegated by the Line Manager.
- Cultivate and manage partnerships with academic institutions, think tanks, and international research organisations.
- Ensure ongoing collaboration with external agencies to align organisational research with global best practices.

F. Internal Coordination & Organisational Support

- Collaborate with other departments to ensure cross-functional alignment and integration of research outcomes into programmatic decisions.
- Support internal knowledge-sharing mechanisms, promoting the use of research findings in learning and innovation.
- Contribute to resource mobilization by supporting proposal writing, budget development, and donor reporting.

G. General Responsibilities

- Adhere to team objectives and individual activity plans, ensuring timely and high-quality deliverables.
- Undertake additional responsibilities consistent with the role, as agreed with the Line Manager.

Qualifications:

- PhD and or postgraduate degree in Social Work / Social Sciences / Statistics / Demography / Population studies / Anthropology / Development studies, or equivalent from a reputed globally recognised institute

Experience:

- Minimum 6 to 8 years of work experience in the development sector, of which at least 5 years should be in Research and M&E projects in a large organisational setup
- Demonstrated understanding and knowledge of HIV/AIDS. Working with HIV affected communities and key populations (MSM/TGH/FSW/ PUD) is preferred.

Skills & Knowledge:

- Strong knowledge of public health research methodologies and sampling frameworks.
- Hands-on experience in conducting cohort studies, randomised controlled trials (RCTs), and other contemporary research designs.
- Advanced analytical and research skills involving both quantitative and qualitative data, with the ability to draw meaningful insights from complex information.
- In-depth understanding of various monitoring, evaluation, and research methodologies.
- Strong focus on data quality, with solid knowledge of quality assurance mechanisms to ensure consistently high standards.
- Highly developed writing skills with a proven track record of producing high-quality research reports, articles, and peer-reviewed journal publications.
- Good understanding of HIV/AIDS and community-based approaches to HIV response in India, as well as broader national and international development issues related to HIV.
- Experience working with diverse and marginalised populations, including transgender individuals/Hijra, MSM, PWUD, and sex workers.
- Proficient in MS Office applications, including Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint.
- Familiarity with statistical software such as SPSS, R, STATA, SAS, and Epi Info, as well as qualitative research tools like NVivo, Atlas. ti, and Anthro.
- Strong networking skills and ability to manage internal and external stakeholders effectively for research-related collaboration.

- Excellent understanding of public policy formulation processes at national and state levels, with insight into India's policy landscape, the role of government and NGOs, international aid agencies, and trends shaping the social sector.

The position requires a strong commitment to HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and NGO activities in India, and a strong interest in and understanding the relevant issues.

Alliance India is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are welcomed and encouraged by people most affected by the epidemic and living with HIV and the members of the key population we work for.

As a matter of policy, **Alliance India** operates rigorous recruitment and selection procedures and checks.

The compensation package will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Interested candidates meeting the above criteria are requested to submit their application along with a cover note to recruit@allianceindia.org before the closing date. Please indicate the title of the post applied for in the subject line of your e-mail. **Mention your current payment details in the cover note.**

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Closing date for receipt of complete applications: 20th May 2025

Please note that we will not be able to notify all applicants. Only short-listed candidates will be notified about the interview date.