



Request for proposals (RFP): Technical Associate services for medical oxygen infrastructure projects in sub-Saharan Africa

Reference	RFP/CHAI/GEMENG/TA-002
Posting Date	24 April 2025
Proposal Submission Deadline	08 May 2025
Anticipated Start Date	02 June 2025

BACKGROUND

The Clinton Health Access Initiative, Inc. (CHAI) is a global health organization committed to our mission of saving lives and reducing the burden of disease in low-and middle-income countries. We work at the invitation of governments to support them and the private sector to create and sustain high-quality health systems. CHAI was founded in 2002 in response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, with the goal of dramatically reducing the price of life-saving drugs and increasing access to these medicines in the countries with the highest burden of the disease. Over the following two decades, CHAI has expanded its focus. Today, along with HIV, we work in conjunction with our partners to prevent and treat infectious diseases such as COVID-19, malaria, tuberculosis, and hepatitis. Our work has also expanded into cancer, diabetes, hypertension, and other non-communicable diseases, and we work to accelerate the rollout of lifesaving vaccines, reduce maternal and child mortality, combat chronic malnutrition, and increase access to assistive technology. We are investing in horizontal approaches to strengthen health systems through programs in human resources for health, digital health, and health financing. With each new and innovative program, our strategy is grounded in maximizing sustainable impact at scale, ensuring that governments lead the solutions, that programs are designed to scale nationally, and learnings are shared globally. Learn more about our exciting work: <http://www.clintonhealthaccess.org>

JOB SUMMARY

The Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) is a sub-grantee of FHI360 on the Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC), a global project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), provides strategic technical assistance and direct service delivery to achieve HIV epidemic control among at-risk and vulnerable populations and strengthen global health security, including COVID-19 response. EpiC is led by FHI 360 with core partners Right to Care (RTC), Palladium, and Population Services International (PSI). Starting in early 2020, EpiC responded to the global COVID-19 pandemic by supporting partner governments to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 and bolster health systems including improving access to liquid oxygen (LOX). The funding presents an opportunity to implement infrastructure and market-shaping interventions that secure the supply of LOX at more affordable prices and foster a more robust and sustainable oxygen market. This includes negotiating favorable supply agreements, increasing supply-side competition by engaging additional oxygen producers, establishing cost-effective transportation arrangements from large air separation units (ASUs), and strengthening ancillary infrastructure, including bulk cryogenic storage tanks and cylinder filling stations.



PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Liquid Oxygen Infrastructure Project's scope of work includes the provision of technical guidance, expert advice, implementation oversight and innovative solutions to CHAI focus countries on various medical liquid oxygen projects with a specific focus on delivering timely and industry compliant deployment of Vacuum Insulated Cryogenic Equipment installations, testing and commissioning, cylinder filling, storage and transport operations, installation of Medical Gas Piping Systems and other associated technology management services.

TECHNICAL ASSOCIATE SUPPORT

The Essential Medicines team at CHAI is seeking a Technical Associate to provide technical and operational guidance to the Essential Medicines team, CHAI country teams, and other stakeholders as needed on the relevant supply mix to scale up access to oxygen—including support in the selection, installation, and operational aspects of respiratory care equipment—and to coordinate relationships with key stakeholders in government, private sector partners, donors, and NGOs. Through rigorous analysis, the Associate will work alongside program teams in a collaborative manner on high-impact strategies in program countries, in a globally complex landscape. This position is intended to support several country teams that are at various stages of implementation, with a range of programmatic needs. The level of responsibility for execution will vary, from research/drafting of materials to coordination of activities, to implementation support. **The Associate may be involved with team travel up to 20-25% of the time.**

PROPOSED GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

- Eswatini, Mozambique, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania (Core Project Implementation and Technical Advisory Support).
- Other CHAI focus countries: Lesotho and Zambia (Operational project oversight, Knowledge Management, Evaluation and Learning Support).

Please note that the location for this position is flexible and should be based in any CHAI Program Country depending on Country Leadership approval and on residency/work permit status of applicant.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Technical Guidance and Tool Development

- Create and maintain high-quality technical documentation (e.g., design standards, toolkits, FAQs, and SOPs) to guide the planning, deployment, and operation of oxygen systems across CHAI-supported countries.

2. System Design and Planning Support

- Assist stakeholders across the full equipment lifecycle—including system planning, technology selection, safety assessments, specifications, and risk mitigation—to optimize the use of oxygen and diagnostic equipment for pneumonia and hypoxemia.

3. Technical Review and Quality Assurance

- Review and validate technical proposals, engineering drawings, piping layouts, civil briefs, and electro-mechanical requirements.



- Support the procurement process for oxygen technologies with evidence-based recommendations and quality assurance inputs.

4. Project Implementation and Vendor Oversight

- Coordinate and supervise day-to-day construction and installation activities.
- Monitor vendor compliance with contract terms, verify deliverables, and contribute to performance scorecards and continuous improvement efforts.

5. Costing and Value-Based Engineering

- Analyze BOQs, vendor quotations, and technical designs to determine cost effective options.
- Identify optimization opportunities and support the value-for-money assessment of different technology investment portfolios.
- Conduct site feasibility assessments to guide technology selection and deployment

6. Capacity Building, Cross-Team Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing

- Facilitate technical learning forums and knowledge dissemination across CHAI teams and the broader oxygen ecosystem to drive alignment and global best practice.
- Deliver orientation and maintenance training to hospital staff and technicians.
- Provide on-site technical support and troubleshooting to strengthen local capacity for sustainable system operations.

7. Research and Development

- Research and review technical dossiers of component suppliers and original equipment manufacturers.
- Stay informed on emerging technology and research developments in the field, both nationally and internationally, and disseminate this information to the broader engineering team.

8. Monitoring, Reporting, and Asset Management

- Draft and review project inspection logs, progress reports, and handover documentation.
- Support the development of equipment monitoring tools and asset management systems to ensure long-term tracking and performance.

9. Market and Industry Intelligence

- Conduct market landscaping, supplier research, and technology trend analysis to inform procurement strategies and stay ahead of emerging innovations in oxygen and respiratory care technologies.

10. Other Duties as Assigned

- Support additional responsibilities as requested to ensure successful execution of CHAI's oxygen systems programs.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ROLE

- Bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering, mechanical, chemical or a related engineering field required; an advanced degree would be advantageous.
- 4–6 years of relevant experience in engineering and/or health technology projects, ideally in low- and middle-income country (LMIC) settings.
- Strong understanding of medical device regulatory frameworks (e.g., IMDRF) and quality management systems for design, testing, production, and quality assurance.
- Demonstrated ability to quickly grasp complex technical concepts related to medical device design, manufacturing, and deployment.
- Experience engaging with diverse stakeholders including government agencies, Ministries of Health, international NGOs, and private sector partners.



- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with experience drafting technical guidance, reports, and presentations for multi-stakeholder audiences.
- Proven project management skills with the ability to manage multiple priorities, solve complex problems, and adapt quickly in dynamic environments.
- Exceptional analytical skills, with proficiency working with large amounts of quantitative and qualitative data; effectively extracting logical conclusions and providing recommendations.
- Skilled in stakeholder management and negotiation, with a track record of fostering consensus and maintaining effective, ethical working relationships.
- Entrepreneurial, self-motivated, and proactive, with a demonstrated ability to initiate and drive new ideas and initiatives.
- Ability to rapidly absorb and synthesize a broad range of technical information for critical decision-making.
- Comfortable working under pressure in fast-paced, multicultural, and ambiguous settings.
- Familiarity with health systems strengthening and medical equipment deployment in LMICs.

ADVANTAGES

- **Demonstrated expertise in medical liquid and gaseous oxygen systems:** Quantification, production, storage, distribution, delivery and sustainability planning.
- **Knowledge areas:** Biomedical equipment evaluation, selection, procurement, installation, maintenance and regulatory management aspects.
- **Affiliations:** Regional and international professional networks and memberships.
- **Languages:** French and/or Spanish are a plus.

COMPLIANCE TO CODE OF CONDUCT

- The CHAI code of conduct for suppliers is a minimum set of requirements that suppliers must meet to qualify to do business with CHAI and remain in good standing with the organization. Please read the document via this link [Code of Conduct](#) and apply for this solicitation only if you can comply with these requirements. All firms and contractors are expected to adhere to the [CHAI EM Code of Conduct](#) for suppliers.

HOW TO APPLY

CHAI invites proposals from qualified individual consultants with relevant technical expertise.

- Interested candidates must submit their resumes, educational certificates and a detailed proposal explaining the candidate understanding of the objectives of the solicitation, the approach/methodology for carrying out the scope of work to achieve optimal project outputs.
- Provide reputable references on at least 2 to 3 previous engineering consulting projects similar in nature to the scope of work.
- Submit a detailed summary of daily or hourly consultancy rates for the entire project duration. The total costs should be inclusive of taxes, duties, fees, and other impositions paid by the associate. Indicate the preferred schedule of payment and currency of remuneration.
- For submission of proposals or applications, please send your completed application via email to gemprocurement@clintonhealthaccess.org
- The deadline for the submission is May 8th, 2025, 11:59 pm CAT.



EVALUATION PROCESS

We will screen applications on a rolling basis - selected candidates/firms will be invited for our interview process to evaluate:

- Depth of technical expertise and knowledge,
- Previous experience with similar industry-based projects,
- Track record of successful project delivery and client feedback/references,
- Availability to commit to the project timelines and,
- Proposed costs relative to project budget.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Any official clarifications required related to this RFP should be submitted via the email gempurchasement@clintonhealthaccess.org quoting **RFP/CHAI/GEMENG/TA-002** in the subject line **by midnight Central Africa Time (CAT), May 1st 2025**. All responses will be shared via email.
- All quotations must be submitted on or before **12 midnight CAT, May 8th 2025** via the email: gempurchasement@clintonhealthaccess.org quoting **RFP/CHAI/GEMENG/TA-002** in the subject line.
- Should your submission exceed 2 MB and cannot be sent by email, please send an email to request an upload link with the subject 'Requesting upload link for **RFP/CHAI/GEMENG/TA-002**' to gempurchasement@clintonhealthaccess.org