

MEL Project Coordinator (Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning)

Self-Employed Women's Association - SEWA Bharat

About Us

Founded by Ela Bhatt in 1972, the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) works to empower poor women in India's informal economy by equipping them with the personal confidence, community support, and practical tools necessary to fulfill their needs and exercise their rights. With over 2 million active members across fifteen states, SEWA is a nationwide movement, as well as one of India's largest and oldest nonprofit organizations.



SEWA is set apart by its ability to integrate state- and national-level strategies with grassroots values and priorities. Through its close ties to an extensive, diverse, and multigenerational network of members, SEWA brings women together into a supportive network, tailors its wide range of large-scale development programs to specific community needs at the local level, and provides both capacity building support and a national platform for women on the ground to voice their concerns and advocate for their rights at the highest levels of policy and industry. Through its philosophy of women's empowerment, and its vision of securing self-reliance and full employment for one of India's most vulnerable populations, SEWA unifies members across cultural, geographic, and linguistic lines to bring about sustainable, inclusive change from the ground up. Comprising a nationwide network of over 100 autonomous grassroots organizations, SEWA is coordinated by its national office, SEWA Bharat (www.sewabharat.org).

Program Description

SEWA Bharat is undertaking a 3-year USAID funded programme called **W-GDP: Building Resilient Women Entrepreneurs**, to address the needs of women-owned collective social enterprises and women micro-entrepreneurs as part of COVID-19 preparedness and response. The COVID-19 pandemic has majorly impacted all businesses, especially women owned enterprises, who are either incurring income losses due to the recurring lockdowns, and/or are faced with additional burden of domestic chores. With supply chains being affected, and demand dwindling, these enterprises continue to pay fixed costs like salaries and rents forcing grave losses.

This programme aims to provide technical assistance to entrepreneurs to help them gain better access to markets, finance and assets. In particular, SEWA Bharat recognizes that the women will need extra resources to overcome the backsliding they faced during the lockdown. Training will assist women to use new tools and approaches for entrepreneurship through training in digital literacy and by linking women with e-commerce opportunities and digital market information.

The specific objectives of the programme are as follows:

- *To help women nano and micro entrepreneurs identify opportunities to diversify or expand businesses in the current COVID-19 context, understand their rights and entitlements and access avenues to improve their lives*
- *To strengthen social enterprises promoted by SEWA Bharat to help members prepare for and respond to COVID-19 through market-based approaches*
- *To support the creation of an enabling environment that allows micro entrepreneurs and enterprises to thrive*

SEWA Bharat will implement this programme in 10 states, such as Delhi, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Punjab, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Nagaland. Exact geographies will be defined based on budget and agreed results in consultation with USAID, and leverage partners.

Job Description

We are seeking a suitable candidate for the role of the MEL Coordinator, who will be responsible to anchor the process of continuous learning and assessment of all activities as well as intended impacts. The MEL Coordinator will act as the results monitoring lead of the project, documenting processes and reflecting on the lessons learned across all states. The MEL Coordinator will coordinate, accompany and build capacity of the field teams, ensure the quality of the monitoring and data gathering on the ground as well as rapid synthesis and data management to ensure feeding this into annual and quarterly reporting as well as SEWA's ongoing reflection about the programme.

The MEL Project Coordinator will be guided by and work under the supervision of the W-GDP Project Coordinator and will coordinate monitoring and reporting efforts with all State Coordinators. S/he will have to build a good understanding of the other projects in the organisation to ensure work is aligned to the overall organizational outcome.

Specific activities include the following:

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Design and finalize the MEL plan, gender analysis plan and the environmental reporting plan for the programme.
- Train and build capacities of all state teams to monitor and report according to the MEL plan, and the USAID formats.
- Monitor the ongoing delivery and management of monitoring systems to track progress on indicators annually;
- Using qualitative and quantitative techniques to assess the impact of the project on women's economic empowerment, including:

- capacity building of project field staff to collect results monitoring data;
- verification and collation of the data;
- support the state teams in organising and conducting regular semi-structured interviews with women in the project sites across the states depending on the activity to be monitored;
- commissioning and managing specific surveys/studies and managing the delivery of these.
- Ensure availability of up to date information on all critical issues in the project area and update information on the MIS system;
- Ongoing management of monitoring systems to track progress on indicators annually;
- Coordinate with the MIS software agency to ensure up-to-date information is readily available;
- Managing external evaluation, hiring and supporting external consultant

Reporting and Knowledge Management

- Identify and report any implementation challenges of the programme and design strategies to mitigate the same, so that maximum benefit to stakeholders and client is achieved;
- Ensure compliance reporting for gender and environmental plans, in accordance with the USAID requirements
- Liaising with the Project Coordinator to generate monthly, quarterly and annual results monitoring reports and lessons learnt reports, as required by the project. This will require both the collation of data as well as the writing of narrative reports.

Communication and Advocacy

- Supports knowledge building and knowledge sharing of the programme at relevant forums, and with relevant stakeholders;
- Design outreach, advocacy and communication plan for the program in collaboration with the SEWA communication team. Work closely with USAID to promote the learnings of the program to a larger audience through collaterals, events, social media advocacy.
- Organising dissemination events based on the lessons learnt/results of the project.

Salary and Compensation

Salary will be commensurate with the candidate's prior experience.

Key Skills and Qualifications

- Experience of theories of change based monitoring approaches, developing MEL systems, including MEL Plans, indicators, data collection tools, analysis methodologies, reporting and disseminating learning.
- 3-5 years' experience of MEL reporting for mid-size international donor funded projects.

- 2-4 years' experience of reporting on, evaluating and capturing lessons learnt from action research projects, especially in the areas of women empowerment, micro and nano-entrepreneurs, social enterprises, and gender.
- A Masters' degree from a recognized university is mandatory. Candidates with a Bachelors' degree and an exceptional work experience can be considered for the position too.
- Experience in qualitative and quantitative research.
- Good working knowledge of Microsoft excel, data management and analysis is essential. Experience of other analysis softwares (qualitative and quantitative) would be desirable.
- Experience of working closely with grassroot communities, thus having a deep familiarity of their requirements is a must.
- Willingness to travel and spend extensive time in the field across project location. Travel exceptions will be given due to the COVID situation but in case of an improved environment to travel, the candidate would be expected to visit field locations as per requirements.
- Strong oral, written, and interpersonal communication skills, in both English and Hindi. These will be assessed in the interview. Ideal candidates will have experience working, writing and communicating in Hindi.
- Ability to work in an organized and efficient manner within a relatively unstructured work environment
- Ability to take initiative and leadership even with minimal supervision
- Passion for bringing about real, sustainable, large-scale change for women in India's most marginalized communities

Location

Delhi (with travel to various project locations across the 10 states).

Application Process

Email a resume, cover letter to jobs@sewabharat.org. Please include specific details of your most recent salary. Preference would be given to female candidates and ready to commit to the tenure of the project.

Last Date to Apply

8th October, 2020
