



Building Inclusive Governance with CARE International

CARE believes in a world where inclusive and accountable governance systems promote social justice through the equal distribution of resources and opportunities.

CARE International is a multi-sector humanitarian and development agency working in 80 countries to fight social injustice. Focusing on women and girls, we do this by supporting their right to food and nutrition security; sexual, reproductive and maternal health; a life free from violence and access to and control of economic resources (among other priorities). CARE International's Global 2020 Strategy prioritises three approaches that will help us meet and sustain our ambitious goals through promoting gender equality, resilience and inclusive governance.

CARE recognises that poverty is created and sustained through unequal power relations and the resulting unjust distribution of resources and opportunities, often with a damaging and disproportionate effect on women and girls. Promoting inclusive governance is therefore at the core of CARE's approach to addressing the **underlying causes of poverty and social injustice**.

The value of CARE's inclusive governance approach lies in strengthening voice and accountability between citizens and power-holders (e.g. national or local government, business, community or religious leaders) through promoting **inclusive and accountable services**. This necessitates:

1. **Empowered communities - including women's participation and leadership,**
2. **Responsive institutions,** and
3. **Accountability processes** that build a constructive relationship of participation and accountability between power holders and their citizens/clients.

In **fragile and conflict affected states**, where most poor and marginalised people live, the provision of services is the most immediate link between citizens and their power holders. As a less overtly 'political' point of engagement, adaptive service delivery is a powerful vehicle for building and sustaining inclusive governance. In addition, CARE often prioritises highly local engagement with communities and their proximate leaders in fragile contexts, often finding that this approach is productive for building a grassroots-upward consensus around accountability and inclusive governance.

Understanding our own role and prioritising our **own accountability to our beneficiaries** is also why inclusive governance is core to CARE's approach as a humanitarian and development agency.

CARE's Inclusive Governance Objectives:

CARE works across the civil society, business, formal state, and informal governance sectors to:

1. Empower poor people to know and act on their rights and represent their interests;
2. Influence those in power, such as governments, traditional leaders and the private sector, to be more responsive to the poor and marginalized; and
3. Broker linkages and convene spaces which enable effective and inclusive relations and negotiations over rights and resources between citizens and power-holders.



As inclusive governance (IG) approaches are becoming more central to our ways of working, the IG team want to recruit consultants to work with us on a range of projects and tasks, spanning across our global Confederation. We are looking for experienced and self-starting technical experts based in the different locations where CARE works. CARE works in a wide variety of global locations, including but not limited to all regions of Africa, the Middle East, South and Southeast Asia, the Pacific, and Central and South America.

Possible tasks could include:

Providing governance technical assistance to CARE International offices, partners and 'clients' on five thematic areas: **citizens' participation, social accountability, women's voice and leadership, state capacity/responsiveness and internal organisational accountability.**

This includes leading or providing technical assistance (TA) in relation to:

- a. Undertaking political-economy and conflict analysis;
- b. Designing and setting up accountability systems, including components on transparency, participation, budget tracking and complaint/feedback mechanisms;
- c. Supporting national advocacy initiatives around basic rights and service needs of local communities;
- d. Facilitating strategic planning processes around IG;
- e. Undertaking programme design and proposal writing with country offices;
- f. Managing governance and accountability projects;
- g. Supporting monitoring, evaluation and learning processes in relation to IG;
- h. Production of IG case studies, publications, policy and research reports.

These services will be delivered with/in support of CARE offices, civil society, business and/or state institutions in any of the 80 countries where CARE International is present.

Skills & Competencies

Skills

- In-depth understanding of key concepts in governance and expertise in applying these in international development programmes.
- In-depth understanding of participatory governance and social accountability approaches.
- In-depth understanding of key concepts and debates on internal accountability for NGOs and CSOs.
- Knowledge of specific accountability mechanisms and standards.
- Good understanding of principles of participation, gender equity and women's empowerment.
- Ability to support and advise non-specialist colleagues, communicate complex ideas clearly.
- Ability to facilitate learning and reflection activities.
- High level of writing and communication skills in English.
- Additional language skills will be valuable, including skills in French, Arabic, Spanish, Swahili (or related), Hindi (or related).

Experience



Experience supporting governance work, in particular design and implementation of participatory governance and/or social accountability approaches. This could include:

- Experience of setting up and/or working with accountability systems, including the promotion of transparency, beneficiary participation, feedback/complain mechanisms.
- Experience in management of governance projects.
- Experience in monitoring & evaluation of projects/programmes including demonstration of impact.
- Experience contributing to research/evaluation and/or learning and development publications and/or policy analysis and/or advocacy work related to governance.
- Experience supporting proposal development, including experience of working with institutional donors such as DFID / EC / USAID.

Other

- Takes responsibility for problem solving and delivering quality results on time.
- Capacity to relate effectively to a variety of audiences.
- Experience living in a developing country context and working with colleagues from different cultures.
- Good communicator.
- Willingness to undertake extensive travel.

If you wish to be added to our consultants' database/roster, please submit your current CV, along with a supporting statement, detailing your availability and daily rate.

This is an ongoing advert and we will review CVs as and when received.