ONIONDEV
Working across layers

The coming together of   and

gramvaani

onmobile
Life Impacting Services Unit

Mobile Vaani is a voice-based (multi – channel accessible) interactive media service for underserved populations in developing regions. Even poorly literate people are able to use the service through low-end mobile phones to access and share useful information which empowers them both economically and socially. The service also provides a communication channel to social sector organizations, companies, and governments to engage with rural users and leverage our user familiarity to design promotional and behavior change campaigns.

Opening for Research Manager

Context:
OnionDev Technologies is recruiting a Research Manager for a Gates Foundation funded project in Bihar. The project involves multiple stakeholders, including a technical agency with expertise on health and nutrition, a large state-wide SHG network who is keen to layer Mobile Vaani as a communication platform on its offline structure, and an evaluation agency which will conduct an RCT on the efficacy of Mobile Vaani to accelerate behavior change.

Job Purpose:
The Research Manager will have an overall accountability for quantitative and qualitative data gathering and analysis which will be linked with the evaluation study for the project. S/he needs to be a strategic thinker with a strong research background and an experience in media, ICT4D and the development sector. S/he will need to work at a senior level with the different stakeholders specifically with the evaluation agency and the project team to give inputs on aspects related to the impact evaluation. S/he will need to be a self-starter with the ability to juggle priorities and maintain deadlines.

Program Objectives:
- Validation of Mobile Vaani as a medium that can accelerate the pace of behaviour change on health, nutrition, and WASH indicators (in terms of actual outcome indicators) over and above offline behavior change interventions already in place
- Validation of Mobile Vaani as a medium to collect feedback on the performance of different government run programs, understand the barriers to change faced by the communities, and instrument changes in awareness levels and inclination towards change of the community
- Build a close engagement with different stakeholders to demonstrate the efficacy and effectiveness of Mobile Vaani on the above objectives, build unit economics, and create sustainability models for large scale adoption of the platform

Main Duties of the Research Manager:

- Work closely with the project team to provide input to refine the results framework and theory of change
- Develop and maintain the data which can lead to a mixed methods quantitative and qualitative research
- Define the field based research activities and platform logging to collect inputs required for the research
- Build questionnaires to achieve rigorous inputs for evaluation
- Work closely with the evaluation agency for the baseline and endline evaluations
- Organize trainings of field officers, trainers, moderators & other data gathering staff to achieve the research outcomes
- Guide, monitor and supervise the MIS team for data gathering, cleaning, validation, and digitization
- Provide inputs to the content planning and field management teams based on research insights being gained
- Ensure high quality and timely deliverables, in line with the proposed strategy and targets, throughout the life of the project
- Play a representational role, both for the project and the organization, internally and externally

Skills, knowledge and experience required:

1. A graduate or higher qualification in Sociology or Econometrics or Population Studies or related fields
2. At least 8 years of experience in a research agency, or as a researcher/MLE specialist with a development organization
3. High levels of proficiency in operating statistical packages such as SPSS, SAS, STATA or SYSTAT
4. Experience in multivariate analysis/statistical modeling, good publication record, and willingness to learn
5. Should be a self-starter which is very important for a startup like us
6. Good interpersonal skills and the ability to manage teams

Job Location:

- Patna(Bihar) or Delhi

Benefits:

- Opportunity to work with a world class Programs team
- Salaries at par with industry standards
- Challenging and energetic work environment you will not find anywhere else
- Guaranteed learning: Everyone does everything, you choose what you want to learn
- Flexible working hours, work-from-home, and remote working options
- And finally the most important: Opportunity to contribute to the society professionally

Write to us

The position is based out of Patna/Delhi but will require travel to various parts of the country. Please email your CV to contact@oniondev.com

About us

Mobile Vaani is a product of the social enterprise OnionDev, formed out of partnership between Gram Vaani Community Media and OnMobile's Life Impacting Services unit.

Gram Vaani, meaning 'voice of the village', has been building innovative technologies and sustainability processes for the underserved population, to be able to reverse the flow of information and make it bottom-up instead of top-down. We want to empower poor and marginalized communities to voice their opinions and demands. Starting in 2009, we built a pioneering radio automation system that now runs at 40+ community radio stations in India and 10 in Africa, enabling an aggregate population of 2 million people to create their own local media. In 2011, we built a radio-over-phone citizen journalism service that in now deployed in central India, and in Afghanistan and Pakistan internationally, and has a usage of over 15000+ calls per day. Our technologies thus empower even poorly-literate and low-income communities to create and share local content.

OnMobile is a large global Value Added Services company delivering services in over 50 countries around the world. The Life Impacting Services division of OnMobile was formed with the vision to leverage the deep telecom integration of OnMobile to provide information and services that could change the lives of the underserved. Together with several internationally acclaimed development organizations and health service providers, we have built products for community health workers, for active citizens of the country to track corruption, enable people to access health services via mobile phones, and with agriculture companies to deliver information and advice to farmers working with them. With over 1800 nodes deployed across the country with all major telecom operators, and with a country-play in 10 other countries in developing markets, we bring the required expertise to provide information services to the poor in affordable and scalable ways.

Oniondev formed as a merger between Gram Vaani and OnMobile's LIS team brings together the competencies of both the teams in extremely synergistic ways.

Our teams have won several awards:

- Knight News Challenge in 2008 for low-cost technology for community radio stations
- Manthan Awards in 2009 for innovations in technology for development
- Economic Times Power of Ideas awards in 2010 for our unique business model
- mBillionth South Asia Award in 2012 for innovations in journalism for rural areas
- Grand Challenges Rising Stars award in 2012 for improving health services using tech
- mBillionth South Asia Award in 2014 for innovations in citizen journalism using mobiles
- Flame Rural Marketing Award in 2014 for our unique advertising and marketing model
- The NASSCOM Social Innovation Forum Challenge 2016! for "Mobile Vaani" under "ICT Led Social Innovation In Other Social Issues" category.