



Call for Applications for new members to serve on the GLI Core Group in 2017-2018

Closing date for applications: 17th March 2017

Background

The Global Laboratory Initiative (GLI) is a network of international partners dedicated to accelerating and expanding access to quality-assured laboratory services in response to the diagnostic challenges of TB. Organizationally, the GLI is one of the Working Groups of the Stop TB Partnership. The GLI secretariat is provided by the WHO Global TB Programme in Geneva.

Coordinated by the Core Group, the mission of the GLI is to serve as a collaborative platform for the development and uptake of practical guidance and tools for building and sustaining high-quality TB diagnostic networks, in the areas of:

- Implementation of WHO policy guidance on TB diagnostics and laboratory strengthening
- Health system solutions and innovations for ensuring rapid, accurate testing and linkage to appropriate patient management
- Continuous quality improvement (CQI) at all levels of the laboratory network
- Integration of laboratory diagnostic networks
- Human resource capacity development
- Advocacy and resource mobilization

GLI strategic priorities for 2017-2018

- Issue a *GLI Practical Guide for TB Laboratory Strengthening*, as an update to the 2015 *GLI Guide for Providing Technical Support*, with model diagnostic algorithms and an accompanying web-based training
- Develop practical guidance on use of new TB diagnostics recommended by WHO in 2017/2018
- Develop a training package for TB diagnostic network planning, including updated modules to account for advancements in diagnostic technologies
- Develop a standardized template for national TB diagnostic network planning and a tool for assessing and measuring network quality improvement
- Issue a *GLI Quick Guide to Developing an Integrated Specimen Transport and Referral System*
- Develop practical guidance on preparing for TB prevalence and drug resistance surveys
- Develop actionable guidance on quality indicators and corrective actions to optimize performance of TB laboratories
- Issue practical guidance on laboratory design, layout, and ergonomics for TB culture and DST laboratories
- Share best practices and country experiences in TB laboratory and diagnostic network strengthening (e.g., diagnostic network integration, use of algorithms providing universal access to rapid testing and DST, development of national TB laboratory research capacity, use of diagnostics connectivity solutions)

What is the GLI Core Group?

The GLI Core Group consists of individuals with expertise in multiple disciplines from different constituencies, stakeholders, and institutions involved in global and country-level strengthening of laboratory systems. A balance in Core Group Membership is sought to encourage active participation of and representation from high TB burden countries, technical partners, scientific and academic institutions, funding agencies and civil society.

Current membership of the GLI Core Group is online at: <http://stoptb.org/wg/gli/team.asp>

The term of membership in the Core Group is two years, with the opportunity for renewal for a second consecutive term of two years.

The GLI Core Group Governance and Operating Procedures are available at: <http://stoptb.org/wg/gli/assets/documents/GLIGOP.pdf>

What do GLI Core Group members do?

GLI Core Group members are expected to:

- Actively contribute to the collaborative implementation of selected GLI strategic priorities for 2017-2018
- Promote the uptake of GLI products for building and sustaining high-quality TB diagnostic networks
- Share relevant technical experience and needs from respective constituencies in the implementation of GLI strategic priorities
- Attend monthly teleconferences, and face-to-face meetings (typically 2 per year, depending on funding)
- Participate in all Core Group decision-making
- Participate in the periodic review and strategic planning of GLI activities, and annual development of strategic priorities

To apply for GLI Core Group membership:

Individuals may be nominated by their institution/organization or may choose to apply on their own behalf. Applications should contain a current CV with a cover letter expressing their interest in and suitability for GLI Core Group membership. A letter of endorsement from one's institution/organization may also be attached along with the application.

The selection of Core Group members is based on consideration of expertise and experience, and membership will be balanced by gender, region, and constituency.

Interested individuals are invited to send their applications to: gli_secretariat@who.int, no later than 17 March.

GLI Secretariat
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Global TB Programme
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