

Candidate Statement

Section A. Contact Information

Country	USA
Name	Elena McEwan
Position/ Organization	Senior Health Technical Advisor/Catholic Relief Services
Email	emcewan@crs.org

Section B. Statement of intent (max. 300 words)

In no more than 300 words, please describe how your professional background makes you a suitable candidate for this post and also describe what you would like to achieve if you were elected to this post.

I have had the opportunity to share innovative solutions from the field at different levels: at the global level through different working groups (TB working group at the CORE Group, ACSM Country Level and the TB/HIV working groups). In those venues I have shared CRS experience in community based TB Programming and community engagement from our PEPFAR countries (South Africa, Zambia, and Uganda), The Philippines, and Cambodia.

At the Country level, I have shared with CRS Country Programs best practices from partner's organizations aiming to improve their TB programs. I have also facilitated the development of ACSM Strategies, using the BEHAVE framework to identify principal and support groups, behaviors and key factors that influence those behaviors; and developed advocacy plans to organize community members in effective lobbying groups for resource mobilization, to address stigma and to increase case detection and treatment compliance.

My position as Senior Health Technical Advisor and member of different TB working groups has provided me with the opportunity to share, learn and influence different TB agendas and as a member of the Core Group I would continue supporting ACSM efforts to decreasing the burden of Tuberculosis.

Section C. Short biography (max. 300 words)

In this section, please provide a short biography outlining your academic background, professional experience, and any major project/initiative that highlight your knowledge of advocacy, communication and social mobilization at country level.

Dr. Elena McEwan has extensive experience in the area of tuberculosis. Her medical degree thesis was: *Quality of Tuberculosis Programs in three Municipalities in Nicaragua*. From 1987 to 1991, she was the director of TB program in three municipalities of Nicaragua and her main responsibilities included quality assurance to three TB programs, training MoH staff and CHWs in TB and related topics. From 1991 to 1995, Dr. McEwan was employed as a pediatric specialist providing secondary care to children with TB referred from primary

hospitals and health centers.

Since 2006, Dr. McEwan has served as the Health Senior Technical Adviser and the technical backstop for the Tuberculosis Project in the Philippines. She has provided technical assistance to the MoH and CRS staff in countries where CRS is implementing TB/HIV programming in Community Empowering, Social and Behavior Change, Quality Assurance, Advocacy and Operation Research. Dr. McEwan is the co-chair of the CORE's Tuberculosis working group which shares best practices and lessons learned with the larger PVO community and provide updates and training to the field staff and MoH partners. The group held a Lessons Learned Exchange Workshop on ACSM last February and reviewed some abstracts from the field related to TB experience and innovations. Dr. McEwan is member of the TB/HIV and ACSM at The Country Level Working Groups and has participated in two writing committees, the first one to write the Guidelines on Community Involvement (companion piece of ACSM guidelines), and the second one to write a companion piece to the guidelines for implementing the protocol to engage all health providers in TB/HIV services (PPM TB/HIV). She also provided feedback to the IPT guidelines.