Position: Senior/ Product Manager
Location: Delhi

India's Learning Crisis

With over 1.5 million schools and 260 million students, India has one of the largest and most complex education systems in the world. Through effective public policy, tremendous progress towards achieving universal primary education has been made. However, the pressing challenge of improving learning outcomes still remains. OECD'S PISA, Pratham's ASER, NCERT's National Achievement Survey all conclude that learning levels of students are well below age-appropriate levels. For instance, the ASER 2018 report found that only half of grade 5 children could read a grade 2 level text correctly.

Foundational Literacy and Numeracy

The National Education Policy (NEP) – 2020 is a major milestone in India's education reforms- shifting from increasing access to education to ensuring quality of education. The NEP makes a strong pitch for the National Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) Mission, setting a deadline for 2025 to ensure universal acquisition of critical FLN skills (reading with comprehension and basic Math) among children. The policy states that achieving universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary school and beyond is the highest priority for all the states and upon which, the achievement of all other goals are contingent on.

Language and Learning Foundation (LLF)is uniquely poised to contribute to the FLN mission and has been recognized as an advisor to the Government of India and literacy partner to multiple state governments for the same. LLF is therefore at a pivotal stage of its growth with a mission to improve foundational skills for 30 million Indian children in Grades 1 to 3 by 2025.

Language and Learning Foundation (LLF)

Language and Learning Foundation (LLF) was founded in 2015, with a vision to develop strong foundational language and literacy among all children, to facilitate thinking and reasoning, through capacity building of teachers and teacher educators. LLF works with various state governments and has been recognized as a domain leader in language and literacy learning and multilingual education. LLF is also implementing India's first CSR-funded education Development Impact Bond (DIB) through its Learning Improvement Program in Haryana.

LLF's work has garnered support from leading education philanthropies including Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Central Square Foundation, Tata Trusts ,HT Parekh Foundation, and UNICEF. With the support of their partners, LLF now works with the state governments of Haryana, UP, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Odisha in various capacities to design and deliver state-led foundational learning programs.

About the founder

Dr. Dhir Jhingran is an IAS-officer, whose deep interest in primary education led him to a PhD in the subject and eventually become a social entrepreneur. He has worked in the primary education sector for over two decades, within and outside the government. Within the government, he has served as Principal Secretary, Education with the Government of Assam, as a Director in the Ministry of Human Resource Development among others. Dr. Jhingran has also been associated with UNICEF India and Room to Read in various leadership   and   advisory   capacities   He   has   made   significant   contributions   to   the   development   and

Position Summary

LLF is looking to hire passionate professionals to take up key leadership positions to help shape its journey towards improving the quality of foundational learning for Indian children.

LLF is looking for an experienced and dynamic Senior Manager to lead ongoing development and growth of its digital products. The Senior Product Manager will create and own the Product Roadmap for online courses for teachers and teacher educators and other digital products and work to make them best-in-class in terms of user experience, technological robustness and learning impact. He/ she will work with the courses team, instructional designers and tech developers in enhancing LLF's digital courses to ensure high learner engagement. He/she will also work with the program delivery teams to support roll-out, engage with users, collect relevant data and continuously iterate and improve content, structure, presentation and delivery of courses.

Key Responsibilities:

Core Product Development and Enhancement

- Initiate and anchor strategic discussions for product roadmap development for LLF's suite of online and blended courses for teachers and teacher educators
- Provide a product vision and prioritized list of features keeping the end-user in mind
- Work closely with the courses team, instructional designers, and tech vendors to enhance and implement prioritised product features with an eye to maximise user experience and learning impact
- Liaise with tech vendors to ensure glitch-free functionality of all courses

Product Delivery and Iteration

- Work closely with program teams across LLF focus states to ensure smooth delivery of digital and blended courses
  - Lead development of LLF's learning management system - web and mobile app- and its integration into existing platforms like DIKSHA
- Lead project planning for all courses: closely monitor progress of activities using relevant tools and escalation mechanisms, prepare and manage the budget and all project deliverables
- Manage all relevant external stakeholders to ensure smooth development and delivery of courses
- Ensure continuous feedback from and interaction with end-users to gain relevant insights and feed them back into the product roadmap
- Identify ways to improve user engagement on all products by leveraging required analytics, and building new analytics layers as necessary

New Product Categories

- Identify and set-up new digital initiatives, especially to support remote learning and improve parent engagement in existing large-scale state programs
- Build long-term strategy for development of new in-classroom digital tools to support teachers
- Work closely with data analytics, vendors and technology teams in designing a roadmap for new products:

○ Lead LLF's Community of Learning and Practice - Digital Platform (app)
○ Manage other tech components of courses such as IVR calls, SMS support and WhatsApp engagement.

Qualifications, Skills, and Abilities

- 7+ years of relevant work experience preferably in product management in education technology
- A bachelor's or master's degree in technology/business education or related field.
- Excellent understanding of the process of development of digital content with a good understanding of the technology required to create and deliver online courses
- Excellent product management skills - roadmap, features, data analytics, continuous iteration

Desired Qualities

- Entrepreneurial spirit; strong sense of ownership for quality of work, deliverables and outcomes with a willingness to learn about new software/ products
- Exhibit innovation in thought process and delivery
- Be highly organized and agile with an ability to manage and prioritize competing priorities in a dynamic environment
- Strong interpersonal and communications skills including the ability to liaise effectively with multiple stakeholders; fluency in English and Hindi is prefered
- Excellent people management and relationship management skills
- Team player, with the ability to work collaboratively as part of a small dynamic team
- Alignment with LLF's values and mission to help India's children learn

Compensation

- Compensation and designation would be commensurate with candidate's experience and qualifications
- Remuneration will be competitive with Indian philanthropy pay scales and will depend upon the candidate's experience levels.

Apply: To apply, fill in the Google Form.

If you face any issues or have a specific query, you can send an email to: hiring@languageandlearningfoundation.org