CONSULTANCY

Initial Terms of Reference

This consultancy is requested by:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Unit:</th>
<th>Research and Development</th>
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<tr>
<td>Department:</td>
<td>Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (MCA)</td>
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Closing date for submission: Monday 10 December 2018
Interested candidates are invited to send a letter of intent and CV to mncah@who.int

1. Purpose of the Consultancy
The consultant will support the overall project management of the young infants with PSBI and childhood pneumonia research projects.

2. Background
   i) Pneumonia is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in under-five children. Pneumonia attributed to an estimated nearly 900,000 under-five deaths, resulted in 16% of under-five deaths in 2017.
      a) In order to improve pneumonia case management MRD/MCA is coordinating a large scale, multi-country cluster randomised controlled trial in few selected countries in Africa and Asia. The first phase of this trial will be completed in the first quarter of 2019. As a next step, an implementation research will be conducted at few selected demonstration sites to evaluate the revised community case management of childhood pneumonia.
      b) Additionally, MRD/MCA under PREPARE project is undertaking in-depth analysis of pooled data from several regions of the world. The findings of this in-depth analysis will help MCA/MRD to propose a revised algorithm for pneumonia diagnosis and treatment at first level health facility level, which will then be field tested.
   ii) Of an estimated 6.9 million neonatal cases of possible serious bacterial infection (PSBI) in 2012, 0.68 million died, leading to case-fatality risk of 9.8%. WHO in 2015 launched PSBI guideline to improve management of young infants with PSBI. Afterwards, implementation research was conducted to implement the recently published guideline at 11 demonstration sites in seven countries. Seven sites have completed the implementation research and in the process of writing their key findings. However, four sites are still implementing and these sites will complete this by mid of 2019. Moreover, MCA/MRD is also planning to facilitate a technical review meeting of experts to review the current evidence of management of young infants with PSBI in the first quarter of 2019.

The consultant will be expected to work on a part time basis (7.5 days per month) over this 11-months period on the above mentioned research projects.

3. Planned timelines (subject to confirmation)
   Start date: 1 February 2019
   End date: 31 December 2019

4. Work to be performed
   Output 1: Support the ongoing research activities focused on improving pneumonia case management and especially Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM).
Deliverable 1.1: Facilitate in the development of generic protocol for the implementation research of pneumonia component of community case management.

Deliverable 1.2: Review and update standard operating procedures, training material and reporting tools for the next phase of pneumonia component of community case management research project.

Deliverable 1.3: Assist in preparing research articles based on the findings of pneumonia research projects.

Deliverable 1.4: Final draft of manuscripts

Deliverable 1.5: Site monitoring reports.

Output 2: Support in preparing manuscripts, and protocol to field test the revised algorithm under PREPARE project.

Deliverable 2.1: Final draft of protocol to field test the revised algorithm

Deliverable 2.2: Review and update standard operating procedures, training material and reporting tools for the field testing of the revised algorithm research study

Deliverable 2.3: Final draft of manuscripts

Output 3: Support in preparing manuscripts, and expert meeting reports under PSBI implementation research project.

Deliverable 3.1: Final draft of manuscripts

Deliverable 3.2: Final draft of meeting report

Deliverable 3.3: Final draft of concept note

5. Technical Supervision

The selected Consultant will work under the supervision of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Officer</th>
<th>Yasir Bin Nisar, Medical officer, MCA</th>
<th>Email: <a href="mailto:nisary@who.int">nisary@who.int</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Rajiv Bahl, Coordinator, MCA</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:bahlr@who.int">bahlr@who.int</a></td>
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6. Specific requirements

- Required Qualifications:
  - Education:
    - A degree in medicine or epidemiology or public health from a recognized university.
  - Experience:
    - At least 10 years of research in paediatrics or epidemiology or public health.
    - Track record of publishing at least 20 research articles in peer-reviewed journals.

- Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:
  - Skills in research methodology
  - Strong planning and organizational skills, demonstrated ability to manage converging priorities and deliver high-quality products under tight deadlines.
  - Ability to present clearly in oral and written presentations.

- Language requirements:
  - Expert knowledge of English
  - Beginners knowledge of French
7. **Place of assignment**
The consultant is required to work on WHO/HQ premises to conduct this work.
Site monitoring trips may be required.

8. **Medical clearance**
The selected Consultant will be expected to provide a medical certificate of fitness for work.

9. **Travel**
The Consultant is expected to travel to various study sites in Africa and Asia.

All **travel arrangements** will be made by WHO – WHO will not be responsible for tickets purchased by the Consultant without the express, prior authorization of WHO. While on mission under the terms of this consultancy, the Consultant will receive **subsistence allowance**.

**Visas requirements**: it is the consultant’s responsibility to fulfil **visa requirements** and ask for visa support letter(s) if needed.