Vacancy notice

Digital health and sexual and reproductive health consultant

The WHO Department of Reproductive Health and Research (RHR) seeks an early career public health professional with experience in digital health to appoint in this newly created position. The consultant will support the Adolescents and At-risk populations (AGH) team to develop a handbook to support countries in developing client-side digital health communication interventions aimed at improving adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH). The consultant will report to the Technical Officer for Sexual Health.

The candidate will have extensive experience in digital health, preferably client-side communication interventions. The position requires excellent writing and communication skills in English. The candidate will work as a part of a team of experienced staff working on sexual health, digital health, and adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

This position is based in Geneva, Switzerland and will be commensurate with experience.

Please submit (i) a letter of motivation, and (ii) your curriculum vitae to gonsalvesl@who.int, indicating “Digital Health Consultant” in the subject line. All applications received will be acknowledged. Closing date for applications is 3 August 2019.

Terms of reference

Organizational Background

The Department of Reproductive Health and Research (RHR) works to enable people to protect their own health as it relates to sexuality and reproduction and to receive quality health care in matters related to sexual and reproductive health. To achieve this, the Department advocates and promotes sound public health strategies, sets norms and standards, engages in technical cooperation activities, and supports research. RHR’s overall strategic framework is provided by the WHO Global Reproductive Health Strategy approved by the 57th World Health Assembly in 2004. More information about RHR can be found at http://www.who.int/reproductive-health.

RHR includes the UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP). HRP is the main instrument within the United Nations system for promoting, conducting, evaluating and coordinating interdisciplinary research on sexual and reproductive health; for collaborating with countries in enhancing national capacities to conduct this research; for promoting and facilitating the use of research results in policy-making and planning for sexual and reproductive health care; and for the setting of standards and guidelines, including technical and ethical guidelines, in the field of sexual and reproductive health research. More information about HRP can be found at http://www.who.int/reproductive-health/hrp.

Purpose of the consultancy

The purpose of this consultancy is to write a handbook to support country adaptation and integration of ASRH content for the purposes of client communication into national digital systems supporting ASRH.

Summary of duties:

Under the guidance of Technical Officer, the Consultant will:

1. Conduct desk reviews (related to best practices in digital client-side communication interventions, as well as ASRH and digital) of the peer-reviewed literature as well as existing resources from WHO, other UN agencies, and non-governmental organizations (to inform the scope of the handbook)
2. Organize a meeting of experts in digital for ASRH to inform handbook content, prepare pre-meeting materials, post-meeting notes, and coordinating follow-up communication with specific participants to provide content for the handbook itself.

3. Write the handbook and coordinate and incorporate feedback from digital health experts inside RHR and outside of the Organization.

4. Liaise with RHR’s broader digital health team to ensure the handbook complements a digital accelerator kit for ASRH.

5. Assist the Technical Officer in other projects as necessary.

6. Prepare and contribute to updates, presentations and other documents as necessary.

WHO Competencies

1. Producing results
2. Communications
3. Building and promoting partnerships across the organization and beyond.

Essential knowledge and skill

1. Faultless written English.
2. Extensive familiarity with digital health, particularly client-side communication interventions.
3. Exceptional research/analytical and writing skills.
4. Strong planning and organizational skills, demonstrated ability to manage converging priorities and work with teams (in person and remotely) in order to deliver high-quality products under tight deadlines.
5. Ability to establish and maintain good working relations with colleagues, with senior WHO staff and with the international constituency with which the project relates.

Essential educational qualifications

Master’s degree in public health or a related field, concentration/major in behavioural science, research, or digital health (or related).

Essential relevant experience

At least 3 years of experience combining:

1. Proven competencies in conducting public health research/analyses and writing accessible health programming related content.
2. Experience in digital health, preferably at the intersection of making health content usable for digital systems (with familiarity of what works in developing and sustaining client-side digital health interventions at scale).
3. Experience working with multiple national and international stakeholders.

Desirable experience

Experience drafting tools related to digital health intervention development is desirable.

Language Skills

Essential: Excellent knowledge English.

Other Skills

Skills required to use e-mail, PowerPoint, Excel, and word processing software independently and efficiently.

Timelines

August 2019-December 2019