

Term of Reference for individual consultant to provide technical assistance to AAP-Secretariat

Title: Nutrition Consultant

Background:

Malnutrition is a public health concern in Pakistan. The women of reproductive age (WRA) are suffering from an alarming level of macro and micronutrient deficiencies ; 14.4 % underweight, 41.7% anemic , and 24% overweight 13.8 % obese. These high rates of undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies among adolescents and WRA lead to a vicious cycle of malnutrition in the driven by inadequate household food and nutrition security, inadequate health services and care practices, and gender inequality . In Sindh, an estimated 45.3 percent, and 23.3 percent children under the age of five year are stunted and wasted respectively.

Nutrition is a multi-sectoral issue and inter-sectoral action is critical to addressing nutritional problem. Sindh province has made the progress by implementing a multi-sectoral program ' Accelerated Action Plan for stunting reduction' through multi sectoral platform by engaging eight sectors. Sindh province has also been advanced to finalize the provincial chapter of Multi Sectoral National Nutrition Action Plan (MSNNAP) through consultative process. To move further it is recommended that the multi sectoral interventions with focus on maternal and child nutrition, ECD and adolescents' nutrition should be emphasized in the planning and implementation.

Adolescent's health and well-being are crucial having the period of accelerated physical and psychosocial growth with increased requirements of macro and micronutrients. Based on the economic and public health implications of the adolescent's current malnutrition status, a multi-sectoral adolescent strategy was developed to address the immediate, underlying and basic causes of malnutrition among girls and boys of early (10-15 years) and late (16-19 years) age groups and there is a need to further strength the implementation of the key tasks at the provincial level through multi sectoral approach.

Purpose of Activity/Assignment:

To achieve the objectives, under the overall guidance of Program Coordinator AAP Secretariat and with technical support from UNICEF, the consultant will be hired to support AAP Secretariate in implementation of multisectoral nutrition activities of RWP-2023-24. The consultant will work closely with key stakeholders, planning and development, department of health, UN agencies, I/NGOs , private sectors and academia . The consultant will facilitate the workshops /consultative process to engage the key stakeholders around the key deliverables listed below.

Scope of Work:

The consultant will provide technical support to AAP Secretariate in planning, implementation & monitoring of multisectoral nutrition activities of RWP-2023-24, with specific attention to:

1. Provide technical support to AAP Secretariate in implementation of multisectoral nutrition activities of RWP-2023-24
2. Multisectoral and ECD coordination at Provincial, Divisional and District level and review of sectoral interventions with ECD nurturing care framework lens

3. Support AAP Secretariat in preparing technical briefs related to trends of malnutrition in Sindh & Pakistan and other nutrition related issues with a focus on maternal, adolescent and child nutrition.
4. Organize /facilitate and provide technical support in organizing provincial trainings, consultative/lessons learned workshops, coordination meetings,
5. Any other task assigned by supervisor

| <u>Work Assignment Overview</u> | | | |
|--|---|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>Tasks/Milestone:</u> | <u>Deliverables/Outputs:</u> | <u>Timeline</u> | <u>Estimate Budget</u> |
| Monthly provincial updates/ briefs on Multisectoral & ECD Coordination | Monthly brief submitted to AAP & UNICEF | December 2023 to July 2024 | |
| Monthly activity report with tentative workplan for the next month | Consultant's monthly activity report & workplan submitted to AAP & UNICEF | December 2023 to July 2024 | |
| Minutes of meetings (PSC on Multisectoral, ECD, MSCN, ECD-TWG) | Monthly summary of minutes of meeting with key actions submitted to AAP & UNICEF At least 2 provincial level meetings (PSCN/MSCN) conducted (minutes shared) | December 2023 to July 2024 | |
| Event Reports/ Proceeding of the workshops/ Trainings/ Meetings. | Training reports/ workshop reports submitted to UNICEF & MoNHSR&C # of capacity building trainings on financial tracking in public financing for nutrition # of advocacy/ consultative/ review meetings conducted | December 2023 to July 2024 | |
| Support in implementation of NNAP , adolescent nutrition action plan and school health and nutrition action plan | NNAP aligned with provincial AAP plans and implementation Implementation of Sindh Specific Packages for Adolescent Nutrition Action Implementation of Action plan developed for school health and nutrition | December 2023 to July 2024 | |
| Any other, as advised by the supervisor | | December 2023 to July 2024 | |

Recruitment staff:

- The consultant will be hired through the third party and will be based at AAP Secretariat for providing technical assistance to the AAP office on Nutrition specific and sensitive activities

Duration of assignment:

The duration of the consultancy contract is eight months, with a total period of contract starting from 1st December-2023 and ends on 31st July 2024

Reporting Line

- The consultant will work under the direct supervision of AAP Secretariat and reporting to Nutrition Specialist, UNICEF. The consultant will be technically supported by AAP office staff and UNICEF.

Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required

- An advanced university degree in one of the following fields is required: nutrition, public health, global/international health and nutrition, health/nutrition research, policy and/or management, health sciences, nutritional epidemiology, or another health-related science field
*A first University Degree in a relevant field combined with 2 additional years of professional experience may be accepted in lieu of an Advanced University Degree.
- A minimum of five years of relevant professional experience in the field of public health, maternal, neonatal and child health, nutrition and multisectoral interventions.
- Developing country work experience and/or familiarity with emergency is considered an asset.
- Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language or a local language is an asset.
- Previous experience with government/development partners at senior levels is an asset
- Proven ability to conceptualize, plan and execute ideas as well as transfer knowledge and skills.
- Proven ability to write briefs, concept notes, nutrition & health updates
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work independently and as team work to deliver quality results with limited supervision.