



Terms of Reference for Health Promotion, Risk Communication and Community Engagement consultant for COVID-19

1. Consultancy Information

Consultancy Title: National Consultant to update BHI Manual and Incorporate it to COVID-19 guideline for Ministry of Health- South Sudan

Directorate: Ministry of Health Directorate of Primary Health care

Supervisors: Director General for Primary Health Care and CORDAID Project Manager in Close Collaboration with Director for Health Education and Promotion as an immediate liaison

Duration: 21 working days

Starting Date: 15th May 2022

End Date:

Duty Station: Juba, South Sudan

Contract Status: Full time

2. Country and Organizational Context

Following the confirmation of the initial COVID-19 and BHI activities from March 2021 to March 2022 that included the Design and dissemination of training manuals for Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) and surveillance, there is need to incorporate BHI activities to COVID -19 response. The national consultant will be tasked with the review and updating the BHI training manual/tools to incorporate COVID-19 response and vaccination activities in the guidelines.

The development of the guidelines for BHI and COVID-19 was identified as critical and a coordination structure that includes the COVID-19 National Steering Committee Chaired by the D/G has been established. This was followed by establishment of service cluster for overall policy and strategic guidance; National Steering Committee and its eight Technical Working Groups, chaired by the COVID-19 Incident Manager for providing strategic and operational guidance; and the COVID-19 state Taskforce committees for coordinating the frontline implementation of recommended COVID-19 interventions.

Coordination and establishment of technical working group (TWG) has been effective given the existing BHI preparedness structures, the partner mapping; effective leadership from the MoH and the trainings undertaken, thus leading to harmonisation of risk communication approaches and messages – considered to be one of the critical pillars of COVID-19 emergency preparedness and response.

In March 2022, an intra-action review (IAR) was undertaken to assess the capacity of the public health and emergency response systems and to identify practical areas for immediate remediation or continued improvement of the current response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The findings from the National

consultant indicated that there was robust mobilization of partners to support RCCE facilitated by presence of humanitarian partners countrywide; there was some level of engagement of community leaders /influencers; there was use of mix communication channels for dissemination of COVID-19 messages; and there was an evidence base- a guideline study that allowed targeted messaging. Key challenges were also teased out: limited systematic community engagement; progressive decrease of risk perception; limited enforcement of the recommended measures to support risk communication messages; and demand versus services imbalance due to weak coordination.

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with partners has developed several guiding documents to support the RCCE activities in the country. Standard operating procedures (SOP) for RCCE TWG; Communication Strategy for COVAX; Key Messages on COVID vaccination (updated on March to the end of year 2022) were some of of them. However, the existing national Health Promotion and RCCE documents need to be revised, the lessons learned thus far consolidated, and the national guideline and RCCE strategy developed in the context COVID-19. A national consultant to lead this exercise is, therefore, required.

Purpose of the Assignment

The main objective of this consultancy is to review the existing Boma Health Initiative Strategy in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and support the development of BCC Strategy. The specific objectives are:

- Review and update the BHTs training manual to incorporate covid-19 response and the ongoing vaccination efforts. The Boma Health Initiative Strategy was developed in (2018-2023) before the COVID-19 pandemic. (The soft copy is available)
- To support the development of BHI COVID-19 Strategy including the vaccination efforts and developed a ToR for the training.
- Support the development of BHI and RCCE Supportive Supervision checklist

Specific Tasks

The consultant will carry out the following tasks:

- Assess and revise the existing BHI strategy (2018-2023) and RCCE TWG plan and SOP to address the current risk communication and behavioral change needs
- Support the development of behavioral change communications (BCC) Strategy
- Guide the development and implementation of BCC that is gender and culturally sensitive communication and social mobilization plans
- Advice on how to integrate COVID-19 messaging into the response and the health promotion to other ongoing emergencies like COVID-19 vaccination, floods; polio; measles and other public health threats
- Design and disseminate Boma Health Initiative and COVID-19 strategy for targeted messages: (i) to combat mis-information, Disinformation, stigma and negative social norms through mix channels (ii) to protect the most vulnerable
- Design a strategy for identification and engagement of community leaders/influencers

Deliverables

Output (1): Review and update the existing BHTs training manual/tools in COVID-19 response

-Deliverable 1.1: Conduct Desk review of existing health promotion strategy and other strategic and relevant documents including but not limited to; National RCCE strategy, National Health Emergency Response Plan, Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Strategy, Country's National Health Sector Policy for Disaster Mitigation, National Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19, and other various response plans/documents on COVID, COVAX and produce a report.

-Deliverable 1.2: Plan and prepare a one-day consultative workshop with the relevant stakeholders involved in risk communication in order to update the BHTs training manual/Tools

- Moderation of the workshop.
- Documentation of the results and produce a report

-Deliverable 1.3: Update the draft of the BHTs Training manual/Tools with COVID -19 incorporated

-Deliverable 1.4: A finalized and endorsed BHTs training manual and other related Tools

5. Technical Supervision

The selected consultant will work under the supervision of:
The Director of Health Education and Promotion

Specific requirements

Qualifications required:

Essential

- Advanced University degree in public health communications or related fields

Experience required:

Essential

- At least 2 to 5 years of experience of drafting national and COVID-19 strategies or guidelines.
- Experience in risk communications and community engagement in developing countries, particularly with regards to disease outbreak responses and emergencies.
- Experience of working within the public health system, with partner organizations and government agencies.
- Proven experience in formulating and implementing complex communication strategies

-

Competencies

Technical Skills and competencies

- Excellent knowledge of BHI and RCCE on COVID-19 programme reviews
- Strategic planning and adequate understanding of the country's context.

- Excellent report writing skills, TOT training manual and the ability to deliver high quality products in a timely manner.

Functional Competencies:

- Strong analytical, negotiation and communication skills, including ability to produce high quality practical advisory reports and knowledge products.
- Professional and/or academic experience in one or more of the areas of international development, public health, or related field

Project and Resource Management:

- Ability to produce high quality outputs in a timely manner while understanding and anticipating the evolving client needs.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Ability to work independently **Communications and Advocacy:**
- Strong ability to write clearly and convincingly, adapting style and content to different audiences and speak clearly and convincingly.
- Strong analytical, research and writing skills with demonstrated ability to think strategically;
- Strong inter-personal, negotiation and liaison skills

Language:

- Excellent oral and written English

Institutional arrangements

- The consultant will be based in Juba on a full-time basis for a period of 21 days
- The consultant will report to the Director of Health Education and Promotion, while working closely with the RCCE TWG.
- Cordaid organization South Sudan will effect payment for the consultancy upon completion and certification of the deliverables.

Further information and how to apply.

Interested and qualifying applicants can submit their application letter including CV in English, copies of birth certificate, National ID and qualification documents, both phone and email contact details of at least 4 professional references, including most recent/current employer/supervisor to the following email to tendercordaidssouthsudan@cordaid.org

Applications can also be hand dropped at Cordaid Juba Office located behind the Equatorial/UAP Tower. Just a few meters after the Strome Foundation to the attention of the **Logistics and Procurement Manager - Cordaid**.

Deadline for submission is by the **16th May 2022**

Cordaid is an equal opportunities employer and women are strongly encouraged to apply

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. An integrity check will be part of the recruitment procedure

All applications submitted cannot be returned.

