CONSULTANCY

Terms of Reference

Consultant to assist the TB Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Global TB Programme with its work on national anti-TB drug resistance surveys, with a particular emphasis on provision of technical assistance to countries

This consultancy is requested by:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit:</th>
<th>TB monitoring and evaluation (TME)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Department:</td>
<td>Global TB Programme (GTB)</td>
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1. Purpose of the Consultancy
Provision of technical assistance to countries that are planning or conducting national anti-tuberculosis (TB) drug resistance surveys.

2. Background
The Global Project on anti-TB drug resistance surveillance hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO) is the oldest and largest project on surveillance of antimicrobial drug resistance worldwide. In settings that do not have the capacity to conduct surveillance of drug-resistant tuberculosis (TB) based on routine drug susceptibility testing for all TB cases, national surveys should be conducted periodically, as per WHO’s Guidelines for surveillance of drug resistance in tuberculosis (5th edition, 2015). The design of these surveys requires the development of a protocol detailing inclusion and exclusion criteria, sampling frame and sample size, sample collection and transport, laboratory testing algorithm, data management, and monitoring and evaluation. Throughout survey implementation, ongoing monitoring of progress is essential, particularly in relation to patient enrolment, data collection and management, and laboratory testing results.

An epidemiologist or public health expert with experience in TB and conducting surveys in developing countries is required to provide support to countries for the design and implementation of national anti-TB drug resistance surveys.

3. Planned timelines (subject to confirmation)
Start date: September 2017
End date: August 2018

4. Work to be performed

Tasks
High-quality technical support provided for the planning and implementation of anti-TB drug resistance surveys in eight countries in Africa and Asia. The specific countries will be decided according to national timelines, but could include: Angola, Burundi, Bangladesh, Eritrea, Gabon, Guinea, Indonesia, Laos, Mali, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Togo. Each mission is expected to require 10 days of work: 7 days for conducting the mission, including travel, plus 3 days for mission planning and report-writing.
Deliverables
Well-structured reports provided to survey team and to GTB/TME after each mission, which clearly summarise the activities undertaken, key findings and recommendations to rectify any survey shortcomings that may be identified.

5. Specific requirements

Qualifications required:
• Epidemiologist or public health expert with an advanced (at least Masters level) degree in epidemiology and/or public health

Experience required:

Essential
• At least five years of experience working in public health and communicable diseases epidemiology, including experience in TB;
• Experience working in developing countries;
• Excellent oral and written communication skills;
• Strong data management skills.

Desirable
• Experience and expertise in the design, implementation, analysis, interpretation and reporting of public health surveys;
• Experience working in a laboratory setting;
• Statistical skills.

Language requirements:

Essential
• Excellent level of English (reading, writing and speaking)

Desirable
• Advanced level of French (reading, writing and speaking)

Other essential requirements:
• Willing to conduct approximately eight country missions of typically one week’s duration during the period of the consultancy;
• Available to start the consultancy in September 2017.

6. Place of assignment
The consultant is expected to be based in their country of residence and will undertake approximately eight country missions from that location to support national anti-TB drug resistance surveys. In addition, one visit to Geneva is required during the first month of the consultancy.

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

All travel arrangements will be made by WHO and all costs will be covered 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 a daily subsistence allowance to cover costs of meals, accommodation and other needs. It is the consultant’s responsibility to fulfil visa requirements and ask for visa support letter(s) if needed.

9. **Fee rate, contract duration, timing of payments and performance evaluation**

It is anticipated that the daily rate will be in line with WHO consultants’ pay band ranges, from US$350 to US$499, depending on the level of expertise and experience of the selected consultant. The total number of days of work over a 12 month period will be between 90 and 120 days. Other terms and conditions of employment will be in accordance with WHO policy on the employment of consultants (details available upon request). In line with WHO norms, payment will be made in instalments on completion to WHO’s satisfaction of tasks listed. An extension of the contract may be possible, depending on performance of work, availability of funding and availability of the consultant. This vacancy notice may be used to fill other similar positions.