

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Epidemiologist

Department: Technical

Reports To: Programme manager. **Technical support:** Asia Technical Director and Information Systems Specialist

Date Written/Last Reviewed: 18 July 2011

Background: Malaria Consortium is an international non-government organization dedicated to improving delivery of prevention and treatment to combat malaria and other communicable diseases in Africa and Asia. It works with communities, health systems, government and non-government agencies, academic institutions, and local and international organizations, to ensure good evidence supports delivery of effective services, particularly providing technical support for monitoring and evaluation of programs and activities for evidence-based decision-making and strategic planning.

Malaria Consortium is one of the key partners working with the National Centre for Parasitology, Entomology and Malaria Control (CNM) to implement its national malaria control strategy and is a Sub-Recipient (SR) of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) Round 9 (GFR9) grant: "Containing artemisinin-resistant *Plasmodium falciparum* parasites and moving towards malaria pre-elimination status in Cambodia." As a SR, Malaria Consortium works closely with CNM (the Principal Recipient, or PR) and provides technical assistance and capacity development to the national programme and identified implementing partners (Sub-sub Recipients) of the GFR9 grant.

Job Purpose:

As part of a country team, the epidemiologist will provide technical support in strengthening surveillance systems at all levels, contribute to improved monitoring and evaluation, and generation and analysis of data from routine information systems as well as national surveys as planned under the GFR9 grant. The Epidemiologist will work closely with and provide technical guidance to CNM's Epidemiology Unit to achieve the goals set by the grant with GFR9 partners and the PR. He/she will work under the line management of the Programme Manager in Cambodia, with technical management and support provided by the Asia Technical Director and Information Systems Specialist based in Bangkok.

Key Accountabilities:

As part of the Project team, the epidemiologist will provide technical oversight and support for the strengthening and use of malaria and health information systems for improved surveillance, including the following tasks:

- Provide support to the national programme to improve and strengthen the overall malaria information system in Cambodia.
- Provide support for the harmonization of routine monthly reporting of Village Malaria Worker (VMW) and health facility data and integration of village-level data through a central Malaria Database;
- Develop standardized approaches for producing and updating village-level malaria risk stratification and mapping based on incidence and other relevant data;
- Support development and testing of innovative systems to detect and respond to artemisinin resistant malaria cases at health facility and community levels in the context of strengthening overall malaria surveillance systems
- Assist in the implementation and design of operational research activities to test new strategies and systems for surveillance (e.g., point-of-care reporting of all confirmed cases using SMS);
- Take a lead role in facilitating and in strengthening the Malaria Surveillance Working Group (MSWG) for coordination with existing Health Information Systems (HIS) and among various partners and stakeholders;
- In collaboration with CNM and partners, support the design, implementation, and analysis of surveys as required, including the national malaria surveys;
- Contribute to the strengthening of cross-border surveillance and information sharing (e.g., malaria bulletins and participation in relevant working groups);
- Support capacity-building at central and peripheral levels through training and systems support in surveillance, epidemiology, and monitoring and evaluation ;
- Support preparation of and participate in relevant project meetings and workshops;
- Support documentation and dissemination of results through technical reports, presentations, and publications; and
- Submit quarterly progress reports to CNM and MC, clearly identifying progress and achievements made, challenges faced and recommendations for the way forward.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications: Graduate degree in epidemiology, public health, or other related fields with at least 5 years of relevant experience

Essential:

- Extensive experience with assessing, setting up, and monitoring infectious disease surveillance systems, specifically for malaria
- Experience in the design and implementation of surveys
- Strong skills in using statistical packages such as STATA, EpiData, and SPSS
- Strong analytical skills in monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects
- Fluency in English required.

Desirable:

- Working knowledge of Khmer

Work Based Skills and Competencies:

- Demonstrated ability to work independently as well as collaboratively in a team, particularly with Ministries of Health and/or other government sectors and partners
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including ability to work and interact with government and non-government colleagues and partners
- Demonstrated skills in effective verbal and written communication, including presentations

ANY OTHER KEY INFORMATION

Contract duration: Initially 1 year with possibility of contract extension (subject to availability of funding)

Travel: frequent travel expected within Cambodia.

Application information: Please send your CV and a letter detailing how you meet the selection criteria to HR.Recruitment@malariaconsortium.org by 15 August 2011.