### Organisational background

Established in 2003, Malaria Consortium is one of the world’s leading non-profit organisations specialising in the comprehensive prevention, control and treatment of malaria and other communicable diseases among vulnerable and under privileged populations. We increasingly find our work on malaria can be effectively integrated with other similar public health interventions for greater impact and therefore expanded our remit to include child health and neglected tropical disease interventions.

We work in Africa and Asia with communities, governments, academic institutions, and local and international organisations, to ensure effective delivery of services, which are supported by strong evidence.

Our areas of expertise include:

- disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment
- disease control and elimination
- systems strengthening
- research, monitoring and evaluation leading to best practice
- behaviour change communication
- national and international advocacy and policy development

### Country and project background

Malaria is highly endemic in Burkina Faso, with a prevalence of 17% in children under five in 2017-18. Malaria transmission is highly seasonal and concurrent with the rainy season. Due to the transmission patterns of malaria, SMC was introduced in a phased approach by district starting in 2014, now covers all of the country’s 70 districts and follows the WHO recommended regimen of four monthly cycles throughout the rainy season, starting in July and ending in October. However, it has been observed that the rainy season now tends to start as early as June.
Malaria Consortium has been operational in Burkina Faso since 2015 and is currently operating in 23 of the country’s 70 Health Districts across nine regions, with one country office based in Ouagadougou. At present, Malaria Consortium has one active project in Burkina Faso – MC-SMC Project – which is managed from the country office. At national level, it provides technical support to the National Malaria Programme (NMCP).

In order to have a significant impact on the malaria burden in country, Malaria Consortium recently implemented a research project on an extension of SMC in the district of Mangodara. Future studies are planned to look at the various elements of SMC delivery in Burkina Faso.

**Job purpose**

The purpose of the role is to support the development of Malaria Consortium’s SMC research projects, and support the implementation of these projects in Burkina Faso. The RPC will provide technical assistance and coordinate research in identified regions on behalf of Malaria Consortium, working closely with partners and conforming to Burkina Faso health standards and norms.

**Scope of work**

The RC will be responsible for managing SMC research projects, by providing technical leadership in designing, planning, implementing and giving technical input on the Malaria Consortium’s SMC research projects. The RC will also be accountable for managing the resources needed for these projects.

**Key working relationships**

The RPC will have key working relationships with Malaria Consortium’s Country Technical Coordinator, Country Director, Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, Finance Officer and HR focal point. They will also interact with other Malaria Consortium staff working on the project, both in country and in the UK. Taking the lead on research, they will also engage with external stakeholders such as relevant government offices and other INGOs. They will supervise external research investigators and work closely with community health workers.

**Key accountabilities**

1. **Technical (40%)**
   - Provide technical input and day to day management on the programming, planning and implementation of all research projects as part of the MC SMC programme in Burkina Faso
   - Ensure quality and rigor in the collection, management and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data
   - Support the development and implementation of all necessary training before any research implementation, including supporting other research and MC staff as required
   - Proactively collaborate with wider Malaria Consortium’s Technical team (CTC, M&E, Research Specialist, etc.), including participating in relevant community of practice (COP) meetings, capacity development activities and any other required activities
   - Develop strong research concept notes as required, in collaboration with the Burkina Faso and UK teams

2. **Management (30%)**
   - Manage the planning of all resources (HR, Logistic, Finance) from an operational point of view in relation to all SMC research projects for MC Burkina Faso
• Manage the implementation of the SMC research projects at field level
• Participate in the process of procuring required resources for SMC research projects, including hiring research assistants, supplies, and all other requirements of these projects
• Understand and participate in relevant national research programmes and working groups as agreed with MC country team and feedback regularly to the MC Burkina Faso technical group on relevant research updates and developments at a national level

3. Reporting (30%)
• Compile, review, and prepare relevant research activity reports and ensure that they are technically appropriate, accurate, and in line with programme objectives and targets
• Document best practices and success stories for programme learning and improved programme performance
• Work closely with the finance team to ensure timely financial reporting and assistance for audits

Person specification

Qualifications and experience:

Essential
• MSc in Public Health, Global Health, Sociology, Anthropology, or a related social science discipline, or another postgraduate qualification with a substantial qualitative research component
• Substantial experience in social science research design, management, and implementation
• Demonstrable experience designing topic guides and carrying out qualitative interviews and/or focus group discussions
• Demonstrable experience in transcribing and analysing qualitative data
• Experience of building positive working relationships between NGOs and MoH
• Fluent in English

Desirable
• Experience in using qualitative data analysis software (NVivo/MAXQDA)
• Experience of working with an INGO

Work-based skills and competencies:

Essential
• Strong leadership skills and a supportive attitude towards team members
• Excellence in research technical skills (epidemiology, statistical analysis etc.)
• Excellent diplomacy and stakeholder liaison skills
• Excellent communication, writing, and presentation skills
• Experience in developing training materials, carrying out and supervising trainings
### Corecompetencies:

#### Deliveringresults

**LEVEL C - Supportsothers to achieve results**
- Displays a positive and enthusiastic approach and is not deterred by setbacks, finding alternative ways to reach goals or targets
- Supports others to plan and deliver results
- Supports others to manage and cope with setbacks

#### Analysis and useof information

**LEVEL C - Worksconfidently with complex data to support work**
- Interprets complex written information
- Works confidently with data before making decisions, for example; interpreting trends, issues and risks
- Acquainted with the validity, relevance and limitations of different sources of evidence

#### Interpersonal andcommunications

**LEVEL C - Communicates complex technical and/or sensitive/high risk information effectively**
- Communicates complex operational, technical and strategic issues clearly and credibly with widely varied audiences
- Uses varied communication to promote dialogue and shared understanding and consensus across a variety of audiences
- Influences internal and external audiences on specific issues
- Scans the internal and external environment for key information and messages to support communications strategies

#### Collaboration andpartnering

**LEVEL C - Builds strong networks internally and participates actively in external networks and think tanks**
- Builds strong networks internally
- Participates actively in external networks and/or think tanks
- Engages with relevant experts to gather and evaluate evidence
- Shares and implements good practice with internal and external peers

#### Leading andmotivatingpeople

**LEVEL B - Manages own development and seeks opportunities**
- Actively manages own development and performance positively
- Learns lessons from successes and failures
- Seeks and explores opportunities within Malaria Consortium which develop skills and expertise

#### Flexibility/adaptability

**LEVEL C - Supports others to cope with pressure**
- Responds positively to change, embracing and using new practices or values to accomplish goals and solve problems and supports others to do the same
- Adapts team approach, goals, and methods to achieve solutions and results in dynamic situations
- Sets realistic deadlines and goals for self or team

#### Living thevalues

**LEVEL C - Supports others to live Malaria Consortium’s values**
- Demonstrates personal integrity by using role position responsibly and fairly
Cultivates an open culture within the wider team, promoting accountability, responsibility and respect for individual differences

**Strategic planning and thinking and sector awareness**

**LEVEL C - Keeps up to date with the internal and external environment**

- Takes into account economic, political and other business factors when drawing up medium and long-term plans, covering both public and private sectors
- Looks beyond the immediate operations to prospects for new business
- Engages with appropriate internal and external sources to establish major influences on future plans