JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Malaria Technical Advisor for MAPS Programme

Reports To: Chief of Party, MAPS programme

Direct Reports: Two specialists and one officer

Organisational Background:
Malaria Consortium is one of the world’s leading non-profit organisations dedicated to the comprehensive control of malaria and other communicable diseases in Africa and Southeast Asia. Malaria Consortium works with communities, government and non-government agencies, academic institutions, and local and international organisations, to ensure good evidence supports delivery of effective services, providing technical support for monitoring and evaluation of programmes and activities for evidence-based decision-making and strategic planning. The organisation works to improve not only the health of the individual, but also the capacity of national health systems, which helps relieve poverty and support improved economic prosperity.

Malaria is highly endemic in Nigeria and it remains one of the leading causes of childhood and maternal morbidity and mortality in the country. Nigeria is deeply committed to making progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and it recognizes the fact that, without firm efforts to control malaria, achievement of the targets related to child mortality, maternal mortality, and reducing the burden of communicable disease will not be possible. Malaria therefore constitutes a significant development challenge for Nigeria. In 1998 the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Partnership was launched in Nigeria as a dynamic movement involving all stakeholders affected by or concerned with Malaria. Although Nigeria is a signatory to the Abuja Declaration of year 2000, the agreed targets have not been achieved.

Project Background:
The USAID funded Malaria Action Program for States (MAPS) project is a 5-year (2010 – 2015) comprehensive malaria program to increase coverage and use of life-saving malaria interventions in support of the Nigeria National Malaria Strategic Plan and the National Malaria Elimination Program (NMEP). This project is also tasked with increasing the quality, access, and uptake of the identified malaria prevention and control interventions in Nigeria by helping to implement and scale-up these interventions in 9 focal states (Cross River, Nasarawa, Zamfara, Oyo, Benue, Ebonyi, Kogi, Kebbi and Akwa - Ibom states). MAPS will also support the strengthening of program management and monitoring and evaluation capacity at both the national and state level.

MAPS is jointly managed by a consortium led by an international NGO, FHI 360, Malaria Consortium and Health Partners International.
**Job Purpose:**
To provide overall technical leadership of the MAPS programme ensuring that the interventions are of high technical quality and implemented on time and within budget. The position holder will work closely with the National and State Malaria Programmes to see that the optimal benefits from MAPS are realized.

**Key accountabilities:**
The main roles and responsibilities of the Malaria Technical Advisor will be
- To provide strategic technical directions of the programme, working with other senior staff and Chief of Party (CoP) to develop and periodically refine programme strategies.
- To coordinate the development of the technical aspects of the programme implementation approaches, ensuring appropriate consultations with stakeholders at all levels
- To provide technical support to relevant branches in NMCP.
- To support NMCP stewardship role on public-private partnership in collaboration with MAPS Implementation Team Leader
- Ensure MAPS, NMCP and states link malaria control activities within a health systems strengthening approach
- To provide technical input into the programme monitoring and evaluation
- To represent the programme in malaria technical sub-committees and other meetings as agreed with the Chief of Party (CoP)
- Line manages Case Management Specialist, Diagnostics Specialist and Public Sector Prevention Specialist.
- Line manages medium to long-term consultants as agreed by the Chief of Party (CoP)
- Liaise with the Malaria Consortium Country Office to plan and ensure quality and adequate management and technical support for the project

**Person Specification**

**Qualifications and experience:**
**Essential**
- Medical degree and postgraduate qualification in public health, epidemiology, international health or related discipline
- Extensive experience in malaria control in Nigeria or other parts of Sub Saharan Africa.
- Proven technical understanding of malaria control, particularly malaria case management
- Experience and understanding of working with Ministries of Health in policy and strategy formulation
- Experience and understanding of Nigerian health systems context

**Desirable**
- Significant experience in project management
- Experience working on USAID/PMI funded programmes would be an advantage
- Experience of training health workers, preferably both public and private sector
- Demonstrable experience in technical writing such as peer-reviewed publications
Work Based Skills:

Essential:
- Strong technical knowledge and skills in malaria control
- Familiar with monitoring and evaluation of large scale malaria control programmes
- Excellent writing and presentation skills
- Strong analytical abilities
- Excellent project management and planning skills
- Good budgeting skills
- Good communication skills with a variety of audiences inside and outside the organisation
- Able to delegate efficiently and technically support teams with no direct line management responsibility over them
- Strong skills in negotiating with and engaging Ministry of Health Officials at all levels of the health system
- Excellent team management skills
- Excellent time management skills

Desirable:
- Good understanding of cost effectiveness analysis
- Good understanding of Value for Money and application of the principles in programme design and implementation

OTHER KEY INFORMATION

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length of contract</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Abuja, Nigeria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel involved</td>
<td>Some in-country travel (20%) and occasional international travel</td>
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