

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### **Consultancy for the development of the Reproductive Maternal New born Child and Adolescent Health Policy**

**Post Title: International Consultant or National Consultant**

**Duration: 42 working days**

#### **1. Background**

Policies are essential for ensuring that all women and children have the opportunity to achieve the highest standard of health.

In the last 15 years, Rwanda has successfully designed and implemented set of policies and programs in the health sector to improve the health status of its population.

As a result Rwanda made tremendous achievements in the area of Maternal and Child health.

However despite tremendous progress in reducing maternal mortality, there are still challenges;

- The unmet need for Family Planning (19%, DHS 2015) is still high
- More progress needed on gender equality when it comes to FP decisions between couples
- The drop out of FP users is high and reasons not well known
- Limited number of health facilities that provide the full range of ASRH services, and youth friendly services
- Ratio Midwives/Population is still low
- Modern Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (mCPR) among sexually active adolescents stands at 33%; much lower than the total mCPR of 47.5%.

Some of the above mentioned policies are now expiring and the development environment is has evolved with the new SDGs hence the need to write and/or revise existing policy. In this context the Ministry of Health has decided to have one comprehensive MCH policy from which strategic plans for ASRH and Family Planning will be drawn.

#### **2. Purpose of the consultancy**

The purpose of the consultancy is to lead and provide technical support to the process of the development of the draft Maternal and Child Health Policy; taking into consideration national development goals (EDPRS II and Vision 2020), international post 2015 Development Agenda and other global strategic documents such as SDGs. The policy will be a comprehensive document encompassing Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health.

#### **3. Scope of work:**

The consultant is expected to:

- a) Undertake a literature review on recent global, regional and local evidence (from 2012 onwards) in the field of RMNCAH and national policy and programmatic developments/issues that have a bearing on RMNCAH in Rwanda.
- b) Undertake an assessment of implementation of the expiring policy using secondary data plus primary data if necessary.
- c) Undertake consultations with key stakeholders to get information to feed into the draft MCH policy document.
- d) Coordinate the convening and documentation of a one- day stakeholders' consultation meeting to solicit inputs for the development of the draft policy

- e) Conduct an agreed number of key informant interviews with selected stakeholders and focus group discussion sessions with young people to complement the literature review, and inputs from the one-day consultation
- f) Draft a comprehensive MCH policy
- g) Lead the process of validation of the draft policy through a workshop to get stakeholders' inputs
- h) Submit the final agreed draft submission to the Ministry of Health

#### **4. Approach**

The consultant is expected to work directly under supervision of the MCH Specialist of the Ministry of Health and use a consultative and inclusive approach to ensure that all key stakeholders are actively involved during the process of the design of the draft policy. This will require working closely with UNFPA.

#### **5. Expected Deliverables**

- a) An inception report outlining the findings from the literature review, detailed methodology and grant chart with timeline to complete this assignment.
- b) A synthesis report containing the evidence presented and main discussion points raised and agreed at the stakeholder's consultation meeting;
- c) An outline of the draft policy informed by recent evidence
- d) A completed, formatted and edited final draft policy.

#### **6. Assignment duration and management arrangements**

This assignment is for 42 working days, the consultant will work from the MoH office with field work if necessary.

#### **7. Qualifications and Experience:**

- Advanced university degree in public health, medicine or related field;
- At least 10 years- of progressive professional experience in development, design, and implementation of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)/RMNCAH programmes in developing countries;
- Demonstrated successful experience in developing of evidence based publications, strategies, guidelines, reports;
- Experience of working in Africa especially Rwanda either with Governments or UN systems will be an asset;
- Experience in the management of county or national level RMNCAH or Health related programmes;
- Fluency in English with excellent writing, analytical and communication skills

#### **8. How to apply:**

Interested consultants should submit technical and financial proposals to UNFPA Representative, United Nations Population Fund at Aurore Building, Umuganda Avenue, Kacyiru or via email at [rwanda.office@unfpa.org](mailto:rwanda.office@unfpa.org) not later than 28th July 2016, at 5:00 pm.

Only pre-selected candidates will be contacted.

Done at Kigali on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Jozef MAERIEN,

UNFPA Representative, Rwanda