

African Health Economics and Policy Association (AfHEA)

Terms of Reference for Consultancy Services

Analysis of Health Service Delivery Indicators Surveys of Tanzania, Togo, Nigeria and Kenya

1. Background

Service Delivery Indicators (SDI), an Africa wide program initiated by the World Bank, aims to measure the performance and quality of health and education services using cutting edge methodologies and a high degree of quality assurance for decision makers to track progress over time, and for citizens to hold governments accountable for public spending. The surveys generate nationally representative indicators, disaggregated by rural and urban location, and public and private provider type. The Service Delivery Indicators are a set of 20 indicators that examine the effort and ability of staff and the availability of key inputs and resources that contribute to improving Primary Health Care. (WWW.Worldbank.org/sdi).

Presently, the survey is completed in Tanzania (2 rounds), Senegal, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Togo, Nigeria, Mozambique and currently underway in Niger, Mali and Democratic Republic of Congo.

Moving a step further, AfHEA desires to carry out analysis of the SDI large data set in a minimum of two (2) countries where the survey is completed to develop evidence supporting the case for improving Primary Health Care performance by providing answers to but not limited to the following questions:

- How to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of resource utilization (eg. addressing low quality which discourages facility attendance and contributes to chronic under-utilization of facilities, imbalance in facility resources eg. budgets provided for some supplies and equipment but without running water or electricity to operate, etc)
- How to effectively target the poor for needed health services (affecting mechanisms, equity of allocation)

Also,

- Identify benchmarks for high and low performance based on comparative analysis of high and low performers
- Develop a framework for countries to prioritize PHC financing using data from SDI and other sources.

AfHEA thus seeks to commission a senior researcher / consultant with capacity to perform complex analysis as pertain to Health Services Delivery Indicators surveys in Africa to generate scientific-evidence that would be used to enhance Primary Health Care (PHC) performance.

2. Overall objective

The overall objective of this study is to Improve Quality of Care and Primary Health Care Performance (iPHCp) in selected African Countries through evidence-based health delivery indicators.

Specifically, the study (assignment) seeks to

- Conduct comprehensive literature review of Health Services Delivery Indicators in African countries that have SDI data survey completed to learn the best practices for improving PHC performance.

Using a range of standardized health delivery indicators of the World Bank and WHO assess:

- What services providers provide (do) –provider effort (caseload and absence rate)
- Provider Knowledge and Ability:
 - Diagnostic accuracy
 - Adherence to clinical guidance
 - Management of maternal and neo-natal complications
- Inputs (Availability of Resources: Availability of essential medicines, Medical equipment, infrastructure
- Health Facility Information and Communication facilities

3. Scope of Service:

The consultant would be expected to carry out the following task within a time frame of 10 months. Using appropriate methodology and techniques the consultant shall:

- I. Engage stakeholders on the project objectives, the methodology and data collection process from inception to final report.
- II. Conduct comprehensive literature review of Service Delivery indicators' (SDIs) surveys being conducted in recent times in many African countries with the aim of using the evidence to improve Primary Health Care.
- III. Analyze large data sets, using STATA or SPSS, on Service Delivery Indicators surveys including those on health financing in Africa (e.g. Tanzania and Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria and Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, and South Sudan.) in order to develop the necessary evidence and best practices to improve primary health care spending and performance.
- IV. Assess Government expenditure on health services using trend analysis.
- V. Assess equity of resource use in order to increase access to underserved populations and the poor.
- VI. Synthesize results of various studies to identify best practices and lessons learned on primary health care financing and interventions.
- VII. Propose strategies, base-on scientific evidence, to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of resource utilization.
- VIII. Using evidence to develop strategies to improve quality of health services
- IX. Assess factors that impede physical access to health care
- X. Assess the factors that contribute to low utilization of health care (eg. Low facility attendance, delivery at home)
- XI. Assess quality of service provided at the facilities including availability of resources and essential amenities such as running water, constant supply of electricity.
- XII. Determine the strategies to effectively target the poor for needed health services (effective targeting mechanisms, equity of allocation)
- XIII. Identify benchmarks for high and low performance based on comparative analysis of high and low performers
- XIV. Develop a framework for countries to prioritize PHC financing using data from SDI and other sources

4. Deliverables

The consultant will deliver the following outputs:

- An inception report that identifies key issues arising from the internal analysis, and high level options on the way forward.
- A draft comprehensive report on the analysis of the SDI data set for review
- Comprehensive report on the analysis of the SDI data set.
- Final composite report of the assignment

5. Qualification

In selecting the right candidate for this task, the following will be considered:

- Expertise and experience in carrying out similar task
- Language skills (English), Knowledge of French will be an added advantage
- Knowledge in Health Policy and Financing and a good research background on health issues
- Candidates must have at least a Masters Degree, (preferably, PhD) in Health Economics , Health Policy, Public Health Social Policy or related field with track record of carrying out similar assignment.

6. Tender Standards

The tender should be no more than 7 pages (excluding CVs) and is expected to include;

- Introduction demonstrating understanding of the assignment
- Methodology and Work plan
- Budget detailing fees and expenses
- CV of consultant(s) and references of related work conducted by the consultant(s)
- Completed Bio-data form (to be provided on request)

7. Level of Effort (LOE)

10 Months

Deadline for Submission: APRIL 17 2015