

Job description

Job title	Senior Maternal and Perinatal, Death, Surveillance & Response (MPDSR) Advisors
Department	Programme Management
Location	Abuja/Lagos/Niger, Nigeria
Reporting to	E4A-MamaYe Country Lead
Responsible for	None
Liaison with	E4A-MamaYe State Advisors, Senior Evidence Advisor, Senior Impact & Sustainability Advisor, Snr. Health Financing Advisor, Technical Specialist & Technical Advisor
Hours	Full-time, 35 hours per week
Type of contract	Initial 1-year fixed term
Organisation	
<p>Options Consultancy Services Limited is a leading global health consultancy established in 1992 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Marie Stopes International. We manage health programmes that ensure vulnerable women and children can access the high-quality health services they need. We work with partners to co-create and implement locally informed solutions to complex health problems. This includes governments, development partners, NGOs, civil society and health workers. Our programming is flexible, evidence-based and politically informed. This means we adapt to changing contexts, use data to inform our decisions and ensure our approach is appropriate. Our focus is always on building local skills and systems that last.</p>	
Main purpose of job	
<p>Options ensures high quality delivery of a considerable portfolio of health and social programmes on behalf of a variety of clients, globally. Programmes range from focussed service delivery and reproductive, maternal and child health, to accountability and social change programmes.</p> <p>We are currently recruiting for up to two Senior Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance & Response (MPDSR) Advisors. As a MPDSR Advisor you will be expected to provide technical vision and guidance in the area of MPDSR programme to E4A-MamaYe in Nigeria. One of the Advisor positions will have a specific focus on community MPDSR.</p> <p>Projects Your responsibilities will mainly be on the Evidence for Action-MamaYe (E4A) project, with occasional support to other projects.</p> <p>The E4A- MamaYe project brings together groups (including government, civil society and health practitioners) to use existing information and resources to: (I) Identify the reasons why women and babies are dying (II) Agree on how available resources can be used most effectively to address these reasons. (II) Advocate for the changes needed. As a result, government and health practitioners are better able to respond appropriately to the issues causing unnecessary deaths and injuries. This means women and children have better access to improved quality health services, more women having safe births.</p> <p>E4A-MamaYe supports governments in Kenya and Nigeria to introduce, implement and strengthen Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) systems. In Nigeria we provide support in Lagos, Bauchi and Niger states and in Kenya our support is specifically to Nairobi and Bungoma County. To date, we have worked specifically with the state or county level MPDSR Steering Committees or Technical Working Groups (TWG). Our support has included, but is not limited to, supporting training for state and facility</p>	

representatives on the National MPDSR Guidelines and ICD-10/11 coding, assisting and mentoring on the analysis and reporting of data and identification of actions and recommendations to prevent similar deaths happening again.

In 2021, we are looking to implement a community MPDSR project in Nigeria, with a view to developing a sustainable and scalable model. You will have a specific focus on supporting and providing technical assistance to this project.

Main duties

The major responsibilities of the post holder include:

Technical Support

- Under the leadership of the Country Lead provide technical vision and guidance in the area of MPDSR programme to E4A-MamaYe in Nigeria.
- Support the development of internal evaluation systems for systematically tracking the “action” component of MPDSR, including whether actions are taken and their effectiveness.
- Support the development of standardised tools for the evaluation of the MPDSR system
- Provide training and capacity strengthening to the State Advisor to ensure the quality and strength of ongoing support to MPDSR in the states
- Working with the State Advisors, provide technical support to the States’ MPDSR Steering and Facility-level MPDSR implementation committees.
- Work with NPHCDA, State Ministries of Health, SPHCDA, and professional associations to implement MPDSR in the project states.
- Support the institutionalization of eMPDSR in Lagos State, and the use of MPDSR software tools as appropriate.
- Organize MPDSR trainings, refreshers and tailored mentoring for facilities/state steering committees as needed.
- Support the development of a sustainable and scalable community -MDPSR model
- Ensure the sustainability of MPDSR systems in Niger, Bauchi and Lagos State.
- For the Advisor role focusing on community MPDSR, the role will focus on developing and implementing the project in Nigeria. This will involve significant contribution to the technical design of the project, selection of communities to work with and support to implementation, quality assurance and reporting.

Organisational Learning

- Share MPDSR reports and lessons learned with stakeholders for programme & policy improvement, and impact documentation.
- Collaborate with the Senior Evidence Advisor and Senior Impact & Sustainability Advisor to implement E4A project’s operations research, documenting impact and engendering sustainability of supported interventions.
- Contribute to wider Options’ learning around MPDSR, contributing to the organisation’s role as a thought leader in this area.
- Liaise with other Options staff on representation in other global forums, including the WHO MPDSR Technical Working Group.

Management

- Coordinating with project consultants on short-term assignments or long-term programmes, as required.
- Assisting with identifying and ‘vetting’ new consultants, if required.

Technical Advice and training

- Increase and maintain your own area of specialism through continuous self-development.
- Participate in any relevant external training and capacity building undertaken by Options.

Note: this job description reflects the present requirements of the post. As duties and responsibilities change and develop the job description will be reviewed and be subject to amendment in consultation with the job holder.

Signed by:**Date:**

Person specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
A medical doctor or any other closely related health care professional; with specialization/experience in maternal and child health.	X	
Experience		
Experience of supporting an overseas programme in their technical area of expertise, ideally for at least two years.	X	
Experience managing project's technical and operation's staff.	X	
Minimum of 7 years working experience in the areas of maternal, newborn, and child health.	X	
Familiarity with the FMOH and SMOH structures and functions especially relating to maternal, newborn, and child health	X	
Experience of producing and/or contributing to external reports and/or research papers.		X
Demonstrable experience conducting relevant technical work in similar organisations		X
Ability and experience using Microsoft Office (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint), DHIS2, and Basic Data Analysis Software (SPSS, STATA, NVivo)		X
Experience of working in a relevant capacity and with governments; international agencies and local NGOs		X
Skills and attributes		
Demonstrated ability to operate within their technical area with oversight and supervision.	X	
Ability and willingness to respond independently to requests for technical inputs in their defined area.	X	
Experience in supporting and co-ordinating technical work in similar organisations, particularly in the field of advocacy and evidence-based policy		X
Excellent skills in communication, written and verbal	X	
Proven ability to network and manage relationships with partners, consultants and technical resource persons	X	
Pro-choice		
	X	

Commitment to Equal Opportunities	X	
Commitment to the principles of Safeguarding	X	
Commitment to reproductive health rights	X	
First-hand experience of Gates, FCDO and other donor policies and programmes		X