

Job description

Job title	Health Systems Strengthening Advisor
Department	International Programmes
Location	Bauchi State, Nigeria
Reporting to	Senior Consultant, Health Systems and Financing
Responsible for	Not Applicable
Liaison with	MSION, Options Nigeria and other UK departments and overseas program
Hours	Full-time, 40 hours per week
Type of contract	Fixed term, 12 months

About Options

We are a global team of experts and innovators tackling some of the world's most pressing health challenges. We work with leaders and change makers around the globe to bring health strategies to life. We provide ideas, advice and technical know-how that enable our partners to build a path to lasting change.

With 30 years' experience in global health, we collaborate with our partners to explore existing evidence, combine expertise, scale up ideas and co-create solutions that accelerate change. This includes collaborating on policy design, managing initiatives, building powerful coalitions and galvanising social movements. Our impact is felt across whole communities, with a focus on women, girls and those who have been marginalised.

As part of MSI Reproductive Choices, all our profits go back into supporting MSI's own mission of children by choice, not chance.

We believe in a world where everyone can access the high-quality health services they need, without financial burden.

Our Values

In line with our mission, we are committed to safeguarding the rights and welfare of our staff, partners, and the clients and communities we serve, and expect our team members to share our values and commitments. We are committed to the following principles:

- Our expertise delivers sustainable impact
- Our work generates profit with a purpose
- Through growth and learning, we find new ways to solve complex problems
- We act with integrity, always

- We are building a truly equitable workplace

Main purpose of job

The **Health Systems Strengthening Advisor** will provide support to programmes in Nigeria, including specific activities focused in Bauchi. Key activities will include providing technical support on how to strengthen government ownership of sexual and reproductive health and family planning policy, financing and service delivery.

The Advisor will be expected to collaborate with other colleagues within Options, with Marie Stopes International Organization Nigeria (MSION) and with key stakeholders including government officials, civil society organisations and service delivery providers.

The Advisor will be expected to have significant experience in health systems strengthening, including motivating government prioritisation and leadership, data management, supply chain management, health workforce needs assessment and health financing. The Advisor will be able to appreciate the complexities of and dynamic interactions within health systems including the political context in which they function and have experience in developing capacity building materials across the key pillars of the health system. The Advisor will need to have a strong understanding of political economy analysis, capacity strengthening, behaviour and norm change etc.

Part of the role will include supporting stakeholders to develop sustainability plans and capacity building/training materials, with a view to ensuring key activities provided by implementing partners are fully transitioned to government and / or civil society. This will include working with stakeholders to review and build on previously conducted readiness assessments, identify and monitor progress markers for transition and provide on-demand technical assistance on key areas as required.

Note: All levels of position in the organisation assume some degree of responsibility for safeguarding. Your accountabilities will align with the level and scope of the position and appropriate training will be provided.

Main duties

Lead sustainability planning with key stakeholders

- Responsible for the implementation of all project deliverables in collaboration with key project stakeholders, geared towards achieving the project targets
- Lead the development of a capacity strengthening plan and materials for key stakeholders. Some of the key content of the capacity building relate to but not limited to PFM systems and processes including budget preparation, execution, and monitoring; effective advocacy strategies for increasing public sector investment in health, leveraging multisectoral groups to obtain government commitment for FP/SRH goals amongst others.

- Support development of an advocacy plan for engaging key stakeholders through sustainability planning exercises. .

Support development of a comprehensive roadmap for the sustainability of key project activities

- The roadmap will include the requirements and steps to be taken to ensure the sustainability of key project activities including data collection and management, data use in decision-making. It will also include the identification of key M&E indicators that will allow the roadmap to be tracked over time.

Track overall implementation of the project and routinely review status internally

- Lead the quality and timely completion of project activities and deliverables, through functional implementation plans and scheduling routine check-in with the client.
- Identify and monitor risks, constraints or escalating issues, and inform the management team accordingly.
- Establish relations and partnership with other organisations working in similar areas to maximize synergies and achieve project outcome /goal and impact across the project areas with a particular focus on analysing and exchanging the best practice

Other duties:

- Lead Options activities on this project as per the proposal deliverables. Ensure alignment of work plans and Options deliverable within the project, ensuring 100% financial and deliverables performance.
- Ensure compliance in reporting structures with project client, availing technical narrative reports aptly.
- Creation of a learning agenda for successfully supporting entities to transition from private sector /partner support to government ownership
- Assist in conducting operations research and sharing of the results in collaboration with Business development resource persons and support proposal writing as and when needed.

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.

Person specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
Bachelor's degree in Public Health or related field.	✓	
Master degree in similar field.		✓
Experience		
At least six (6) years of relevant work experience in managing health related projects at national level in Africa. Proven ability to develop relationships with state government and health MDAs. Experience working with Bauchi State government is an added advantage. Familiarity with Nigeria's health financing system.	✓	
Skills and attributes		
Strong administration and organisational skills, good time management	✓	
Other requirements		
Pro-choice	✓	
Commitment to equal opportunities	✓	
A commitment to the programme's and Options' principles of Safeguarding, Do No Harm, and to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights	✓	
Fluency in written and spoken English. Fluency in Hausa is an added advantage	✓	