



Job description

Job title	Provincial Health Systems Strengthening Lead (Two positions)
Geographic Area focus	Provincial & Local level (NHSSP Focal provinces: Madhesh, Lumbini and Sudurpaschim provinces) Post holder to work across one of the focal provinces
Reporting and Accountability to	RHITA+ Team Leader
Line management responsibility for	Provincial Quality of Care Coordinator and Provincial Equity-based planning Coordinator
Liaison with	Federal level Governance and Accountability Lead Advisor, Quality of Care Lead Advisor and Equity-based planning Advisor
Location	Butwal / Janakpur (50%time travel)
Type of contract	Fixed-term, full-time contract, 40 hours per week, until 31 December 2023

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

Background

The Nepal Health Sector Support Programme 3 (NHSSP 3) had begun in March 2017 as the technical assistance (TA) component of FCDO's Nepal Health Sector Programme 3 (NHSP3), and included two TA components, the General Health Technical Assistance (GHTA) to support the federal MoHP to deliver its Health Sector Strategy 2015-2022; and the Retrofitting and Health Infrastructure TA (RHITA) to MoHP and Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) to support the retrofitting and rehabilitation of two priority hospitals in earthquake affected areas. A no-cost extension for the programme was confirmed recently, to provide support for completion of retrofitting of the two public hospitals, and to enable essential components of health reform in the context of federalism. The no-cost extension is referred to as RHITA+ reflecting this dual purpose and will be delivered by Options.

The health systems strengthening component of RHITA+ will mainly have a sub-national focus and provide support for the early implementation phase of the new Nepal Health Sector Strategic Plan, 2022-2030. The federal constitution mandates local governments to deliver the Basic Health Services package (BHS) and provincial governments are now responsible for most of the referral services. Support is required to enable these sub-national governments to strengthen their capacity for governance and accountability, and to provide quality health services which everyone can access without financial burden.

Main purpose of the Job

The aim of this post is to provide effective technical inputs to the Provincial Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) and its associated departments - the Provincial Health Directorate (PHD), the Provincial Health Logistics Management Centre (PHLMC) and the Health Sections of selected local levels to enable them to deliver against the objectives of NHSP 3, especially improving policy performance at the sub-national level through better formulation and implementation of new and existing policies, at the Provincial and palika level. The Provincial HSS Lead will work closely with the RHITA+ federal team sub-national levels and oversee its technical delivery to ensure thematic priorities are met.

Main duties

The Provincial HSS Lead has overall responsibility for providing strategic technical direction to the health systems strengthening work within the focal province and supporting alignment between the three governance levels. S/he will also support MoSD policy, planning, budgeting and programmes to be evidence-based by proactively seeking opportunities to feed evidence and influence decisions.

Overall responsibilities

- Provide technical leadership and technical delivery within the focal province, to guide design and implementation of strategies and programmes, ensuring that activities lead to planned outputs and outcomes, and the ultimate results/impact.
- Lead on a co-ordinated technical approach at the provincial and local level for the focal province that draws inputs from all RHITA+ areas of work and supporting the implementation of an integrated health systems strengthening at the local level.
- Support the government annual work-planning and budgeting (AWPB) processes to ensure local health priorities are adequately planned and budgeted for. Employ a selection of tools to identify the gaps in health system to support government plans and identify TA needs.
- Support MoSD, PHD and PHLMC in the focal province, to design and deliver on policies and programmes ensuring that they meet the health functions assigned to the sub-national levels by the Functional Analysis and Assignments (FAA) and where relevant as per the Local Government Operation Act (LGOA).
- Provide strategic leadership and technical oversight to the selected cluster of local levels on a visiting/rotational basis within the focal province and build capabilities Health Section Chiefs.

Specific technical delivery

- Lead and coordinate on the provincial level TA support to the health sector AWPB processes at the provincial level and implementation of the budgeted plans to meet the NHSP3 goals (integrated evidence-based, GESI and disability responsive budgets and plans), sustain and improve investments in BHCS, Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health, FP/SRH.
- Work closely with federal level Governance and Accountability Lead to facilitate establishment of a viable institutional mechanisms for coordination across the three spheres of governance for select health function(s) for planning, budgeting and implementation accountability.
- Lead on the support to budget analysis, annual reviews and other key planning processes arising at the provincial level, and technically support improving the regular reviews of health sector progress and results of investments by respective and responsible institutions and authorities.
- Provide effective oversight to the implementation of the Public Procurement Strategic Framework and assure the procurement quality at provincial and local levels
- Provide effective oversight to the implementation of the Public Financial Management Strategic Framework at the provincial level, to quality assure financial monitoring processes at provincial and local levels (across all spending units).This will include oversight on effective implementation of various internal and external mechanisms (e.g. audits) and ensuring any gaps identified are progressively addressed.
- Strengthen the capacities of the Health Section Chiefs to implement provincial policies and plans at the local level in the strategic areas, drawing on integrated data for more effective decision making.
- Adopt TA approaches which support government capacity (through its people, systems and organisation) to improve health governance and accountability in the long-run

Management responsibilities

- Support work-plan development for the respective province, and manage the budget in co-ordination with the Lead Advisors in the federal-based Health Systems Strengthening team, regularly track progress against workplans and ensure federal and provincial activities are aligned.

- Contribute substantively to payment and non-payment technical deliverables by providing inputs from the sub-national level learning and results, and writing relevant sections of these deliverables.
- Lead activities for and outputs (Logframe and other agreed) for the sub-national level and ensure that evidence of progress is tracked and documented.
- Contribute substantively to learning products as required and inputting to other programme learning documents
- Participate proactively in and provide strategic inputs to Strategic Leadership Team
- Identify, monitor and manage any risks to the quality and coverage results.

One-team approach, Collaborations and Relationships

- Adopt an "one team approach" to delivery of the programme and aim to achieve the cross-cutting objectives of building the resilience and improving the equity and quality of the Nepal health system while Leaving No-One Behind.
- Work collaboratively with any international and national technical advisors
- Lead and oversee relationships with MoSD, PHD, PHLMC and other provincial and local government counterparts on an on-going basis, and apply supreme diplomacy, influencing and consensus-building skills to build alliances with a range of stakeholders, external development partners and networks.

Note: This job description reflects the present requirements of the post. As duties and responsibilities change and develop, based on contextual changes, the job description will be reviewed and be subject to amendment in consultation with the job holder.

Signed by:

Date:

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
Advanced degree in Public Health Policy / Public Health Management / Public Administration or a related field Or Basic Degree in the subject area with substantial work experience in public health	✓	
Experience		
Significant and proven of experience (at least 10 years) in development and implementation of programmes within the health sector, governance and strengthening government health system in Nepal	✓	
Strong technical knowledge of governance, accountability and transparency issues within health sector and familiarity with latest advancements in the field particularly with a view to improve health system performance. Knowledge of international best practice on health policy, planning, financing, budgeting and governance	✓	✓

Knowledge of monitoring/critical analysis of planning and budgeting in health system	✓	
Knowledge of the health PFM system in Nepal	✓	
Knowledge of the public procurement in Nepal	✓	
Experience on communicating evidence effectively to better planning, decision making, and accountability within government.	✓	
Knowledge and experience of working closely with supporting / implementing health programmes with measurable outcomes (preferably large scale TA programmes)		✓
Deep understanding of the operations of the Government of Nepal, MoHP, MoSD and PHD and familiarity with all spheres of government.	✓	
Skills and attributes		
Strong leadership skills	✓	
Self-starter, able to work independently or as part of a team	✓	
Critical thinking and problem solving skills	✓	
Excellent planning and organising skills	✓	
Ability to make and articulate clear decisions	✓	
Strong internal and external communication and facilitation skills	✓	
Ability to influence and lead teams to success	✓	
Excellent negotiation abilities	✓	
Other requirements		
Commitment to equal opportunities	✓	
A commitment to the programme's and NHSSP principles of Safeguarding, Do No Harm, and to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights	✓	
Applicants must have the right to live and to work in Nepal	✓	
Ability to travel within Nepal as required	✓	
Fluency in written and spoken English	✓	

