

Job description

Job title	Technical Specialist, Health Financing
Department	Technical
Post holder	Vacant
Reporting to	Senior member of Technical Department
Responsible for	Manage members of the Technical Department as required
Liaison with	Other UK Departments and overseas programmes
Hours	Full time, 35 hours per week
Type of contract	Permanent
Organisation	
<p>Options Consultancy Services Limited was established in 1992 and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Marie Stopes International. We are a consultancy organisation providing technical and management expertise in the health and social sectors to governments and international development partners to transform the health of women and children. We provide information, expertise and influence to governments, health workers, NGOs and businesses to catalyse change so that health services can be accessed by the people who need them most.</p>	
Main purpose of job	
<p>Options ensures high quality delivery of a considerable portfolio of health and nutrition programmes on behalf of a variety of clients, globally. We work with partners to strengthen all the health systems building blocks, often focussed on improving sexual, reproductive, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health (RMNCAH) and nutrition. Evidence, accountability and social change are important elements of our work.</p> <p>The role of Technical Specialist, Health Financing, is to provide technical support in health financing to Options' portfolio of programmes in low and middle income countries (both Anglophone and Francophone). The post-holder will be able to support design and implementation of approaches to leverage domestic financing for health as well as promoting the effective and efficient use of these resources to ensure sustained uptake of quality RMNCAH services. This may include, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of country-specific evidence briefs to be used by the Ministry of Health to advocate for increased investment in RMNCAH • Supporting the tracking of national and sub-national budgets and the use of this evidence to advocate for more and better spending on health • Working with programme staff to build the capacity of government officials to effectively develop and execute their budget • Provide technical assistance to governments as they design and implement health financing reforms, with particular focus on domestic resource mobilisation and purchasing arrangements • Provide technical assistance to governments to strengthen public financial management systems <p>You will contribute actively to the growth and development of the organisation and to the delivery of its strategy by contributing to generation of new business opportunities.</p> <p>The post is London based with regular overseas travel, as agreed with the line manager. Applicants must be eligible to work in the UK and must be willing and able to undertake this work in both French and English.</p>	

Main duties

Technical Assistance to Programmes

- As part of the core Technical Team, provide leadership, technical expertise and quality assurance for technical inputs across Options' Programmes in health financing, with a focus on domestic resource mobilisation and use.
- Undertake technical assistance assignments in health systems strengthening and health financing. This will be through on-going inputs to long term programmes and one-off assignments in both Francophone and Anglophone countries.
- Contribute to the development of project results frameworks, theories of change and support their use for effective programme delivery
- Provide technical support to national systems and skills development to country stakeholders including programme staff, government officials and civil society organisations.
- Interface with national governments and other stakeholders, solicit feedback and redress areas of concern
- Enable technical exchange and learning between programme staff
- Liaise with donors and other external development partners to ensure programmes meet objectives and expectations
- Advise on areas of potential risk and support the development of mitigation strategies

Proposal Development, communication and dissemination

- Lead the technical design and development of proposals, especially relating to health systems strengthening and health financing
- Provide oversight and inputs into technical components of proposals being developed by other members of the Technical Team

Prospecting for new business

- Identify and develop new programme opportunities, building on technical and geographic knowledge
- Build and maintain networks of donors, partners and influencers and use these to promote Options' work
- Utilise opportunities to represent Options effectively and help position Options' as a thought leader in health financing

Organisational learning

- Provide strategic support to Options' London team, overseas teams and consultants as required in relation to health financing
- Participate in and contribute to the Options' Community of Practice with a focus on health financing
- Contribute to the publication and dissemination of research and learning

Management

- Manage project consultants, Technical Advisors, Technical Officers or interns as required

Training

- Increase and maintain your own area of expertise 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:
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Person specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
An MSc or relevant qualification or related comparable experience in health financing, health economics or in a relevant field.	Essential	
Experience		
Experience of working in Africa and/or Asia in a relevant capacity and with governments; international agencies and local NGOs	Essential	
Experience delivering technical work on health financing in similar organisations	Essential	
Experience of developing strong relationships with government officials within health and finance authorities	Essential	
Experience in providing technical assistance to strengthen the annual planning and budgeting process in Africa and/or Asia	Essential	
Experience of developing the capacity of local counterparts/institutions including government officials in budget analysis, tracking and advocacy	Essential	
Experience of dialogue with government and donor clients to successfully negotiate solutions	Essential	
Experience of supporting technical bids		
Established networks which will contribute to Options business development		Desirable
Portfolio of publications		Desirable
Skills and attributes		
Technical specialism in Health Systems Strengthening with a focus on Health Financing	Essential	
Knowledge about Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH)/communicable diseases in developing countries		Desirable
Ability to analyse and interpret government budgets	Essential	
Excellent skills in communication, written and verbal	Essential	
Proven ability to network and manage relationships with clients, consultants and technical resource persons	Essential	
Self-starter as well as good team-worker	Essential	

<p>Ability to actively contribute to strategy and business development in their area of expertise and beyond.</p> <p>Demonstrated ability to contribute to technical delivery of programmes.</p> <p>Demonstrated interpersonal skills that enables effective team building and problem solving.</p> <p>Demonstrated ability to contribute to technical writing of bids.</p> <p>Excellent written and spoken French</p>	<p>Essential</p> <p>Essential</p> <p>Essential</p> <p>Essential</p>	<p>Desirable</p>
<p>Other Requirements</p>		
<p>Commitment to Equal Opportunities</p>	<p>Essential</p>	
<p>Commitment to the principles of Safeguarding</p>	<p>Essential</p>	
<p>First-hand experience of DFID policies and programming.</p>		<p>Desirable</p>