Job description

Job title	Evidence Advisor
Location	Kenya – National and County level (Possibility for remote inputs)
Reporting to	Programme Team Leader
Responsible for	Development, Adaptation and Rollout of tools and models to support the integration of M&E and PBMR processes at subnational level, and other inputs agreed on a case-by-case basis
Liaison with	Programme Team Leader, wider programme team and Options London Office
Hours	TBC – normal working hours of 9-5 will apply
Type of contract	Fixed term contract – Programme dates expected to be March 2021 – February 2022

Organisation

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.

Main Purpose of the Role

Options is seeking to establish core team of exceptional health systems experts to deliver a Technical Assistance (TA) programme that is focused at sub-national levels of the Kenyan health system. The programme will provide TA to build county capacities in planning, budgeting, monitoring, reporting, to promote the use of data for decision making and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) skills more generally. The over-arching goal of the project is to improve Reproductive Maternal New-born Adolescent and Child Health (RMNCAH) outcomes and reduce maternal and child mortality specifically.

We are seeking an exceptional technical expert with significant experience in health, and specifically the use of health data to inform decision-making at county level. The candidate will need to be skilled in the use of the Kenyan Health Information System, with knowledge on RMNCAH indicators, and how to select, analyse and compile reports on these using DHIS2. In addition, the candidate will have experience and knowledge of other data information systems, including Maternal Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response systems (MPDSR) and Emergency Obstetric & Newborn Care (EmONC) assessments.

The consultant will be expected to provide technical advice and guidance on how to strengthen M&E systems at county levels and draw critical links between M&E systems and planning and budgets processes. To achieve this the candidate will be expected to:
- Lead contributions to data components of training packages, including how to identify and analyse data, how to link different data sources, how to improve data collection, review, analysis and how to develop and package data so that it is accessible and usable by different stakeholders.
- Manage and quality assure the evidence-related work of County Consultants and provide guidance and support to the team on data related capacity strengthening activities.
- Lead on data review and analysis of key RMNCAH indicators, including data from MPDSR and EmONC systems and assessments.

- Coordinate with the Team Lead, PFM Mentor and County Consultants on how to link M&E and planning and budgeting processes to improve the probability of health resource allocation and spend matching health sector needs.

This role will report to the Team Leader, liaising closely with other members of the team. The post holder will ensure that specific outcomes and deliverables are met as required.

Main duties

Tasks will be agreed with consultants directed by the needs of the programme and county capacities, as well as the consultants' interests.

Expertise should include the following:
- Extensive experience with the Kenyan Health Information System, RMNCAH indicators and other health data systems and processes. Expertise should include knowledge on how indicators are measured and collated, the limitations to data within the respective systems, analysis techniques and reporting.
- Knowledge and experience of working with MPDSR systems, including MPDSR Committees at national, county and facility level.
- Knowledge and experience of supporting EmONCare assessments, analysis and reporting with a specific emphasis on how this data is used to inform decision-making at different levels.
- Experience strengthening the functionality of M&E systems at county and facility level, including strengthening the capacity for data review and reporting and improving the capacity of stakeholders to develop and use information products.
- Previous experience in supporting health sector decision-making through integration of data and M&E within planning, budgeting, monitoring, and reporting processes.
- Familiarity with the annual budget cycle and corresponding health processes and products including Annual Work Plans and Programme Based Budgets, Annual Performance Reviews, County Fiscal Strategy Paper, County Budget Review and Outlook Paper etc.
- Understanding of the governance structures and policy levers intended to support devolved health systems, including the structures that are tasked with decision-making, accountability, transparency and oversight of the budget cycle.
- Awareness of the contexts and limitations faced in Kenyan county health systems and the financial systems that support them.
- Experience developing modules and supporting capacity strengthening activities within the health sector including through formal trainings and individual and / or group mentorship.

A minimum 5 years relevant experience support strengthening health systems and or health policy and or implementation of health sector reforms.
Roles will be based in Kenya, candidates interested in long term positions must have the right to work in Kenya.
Experience working with World Bank, DFID, DANIDA, USAID or other similar donors is desirable