



## **CROSS TEAM ANALYSIS AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT CONSULTANCY FOR THE COMMUNITY APPROACH TEAM, THE MANSON UNIT, MSF UK**

### **BACKGROUND MSF UK**

Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) provides life-saving emergency relief and longer-term medical care to some of the most vulnerable and excluded communities around the world. As an independent medical humanitarian organisation, we deliver care based only on need, regardless of ethnic origin, gender, religion or political affiliation.

MSF relies on donations from private individuals and organisations for the majority of its income. This private funding gives MSF the freedom to respond where needs are greatest and to speak out publicly, free from any political interference.

MSF has around 40,000 local and international staff working in over 70 countries, in some of the most challenging places in the world. Our medical humanitarian projects are supported by teams in 32 countries, including the UK, spread across Europe, North and South America, Asia, Africa and Australasia.

At MSF UK, we support MSF's operations by building relationships with our supporters, increasing awareness of our work, raising funds, providing specialist medical expertise, catalysing change on medical humanitarian issues, and recruiting field staff. MSF UK personnel are dynamic, hard-working, enthusiastic and committed to MSF's values and aims.

### **THE MANSON UNIT, MSF UK**

The Manson Unit is a multi-disciplinary medical team within MSF UK and is the London based part of Operational Centre Amsterdam's (OCA) Public Health Department (PHD) which is responsible for providing strategic direction and integrated advice on medical and public health issues to the field and headquarters. In addition to providing medical management of MSF's field operations, the PHD gives technical and strategic guidance across a range of fields including infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, mental health, nutrition, paediatrics, and vaccination as well as epidemiology, social science, health promotion, laboratory, pharmaceutical quality/medical supply, and water/sanitation. We aim to improve the quality of MSF's medical programmes worldwide, so the best possible care is delivered to our patients.

### **THE COMMUNITY APPROACH TEAM (CAT)**

Community approaches involve working with communities and supporting them to take an active role in developing a response that fits with their needs and priorities. This includes an understanding of contextual circumstances and a focus on strengthening social cohesion, building on existing knowledge and coping strategies, and complementing the communities' autonomy and ability to care for itself.

The Community Approach Team (CAT) was formed as part of the OCA COVID-19 Taskforce to help consolidate community assessment learning, integrate this learning into COVID-19 technical documents and build capacity for working with communities at a project level. There is a recognised need to expand the CAT's remit to support a broader range of functions to

support the re-orientation of our programming towards the communities we serve, with increased emphasis on community engagement and a community approach. Greater understanding of these terms and what they mean in practice was identified as an early action for the group to support.

For the remainder of 2021 the CAT will focus on:

- mapping current community-level activities at field and headquarter level to help understand staff priorities and support needs e.g. (guidance, tools, etc).
- reviewing current usage of terminology describing community-based activities to help provide common language that supports connections across community-related work taking place in different projects.

## **RATIONALE**

A consultation tool is being disseminated across OCA field projects to inform part of this mapping activity while information is being gathered from functional strategy teams. Commonly used community terminology has been collated along with principles on how to best to determine definitions where there are gaps and/or multiple definitions.

Dedicated support is required to analyse the findings of the mapping and to present the terminology review in a format that supports understanding and use.

## **OBJECTIVES**

An analysis of the CAT mapping activity and focus for the CAT to take forward in 2022. Reformatting of the terminology review to identify the best structure and to provide common language and examples to deepen understanding of what is meant by community approach work.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS/OUTCOMES**

The consultant will analyse the results from the initial survey and use additional intelligence to help develop a summary report and a position statement for how and what the Community Approach Team should focus on to support OCA's ambition to expand our support for community approaches.

Additionally, the consultant will produce a reference tool to provide clarification about what we mean by a community approach; how this relates to other functional strategy priorities such as person-centred care and to its relationship to other areas of our work, for example health promotion, surveillance, primary health care, water and sanitation support etc.

## **DELIVERABLES**

- a) Analysis of the mapping exercise carried out by the CAT to identify current community-level components of OCA activities at field and HQ level, priorities and support needs and understanding of community activities.
- b) A report and accompanying presentation of the above.
- c) Completion of the terminology table, including gaps reviewal and recommendations for determining which definitions to use when more than one is included.
- d) Development of user-friendly definitions, highlighting similarities and differences, examples of MSF practice, and making links with other related MSF resources.

## PROFILE REQUIRED

- Public Health master's degree level or equivalent experience.
- Previous experiences on analysis and interpretation of qualitative data and ability to use NVivo or other qualitative software
- Understanding and commitment to potential of public health community approaches in humanitarian settings.
- Previous experience of setting up and planning for community activities to improve the health of populations in humanitarian contexts.
- Ability to work successfully in an inter-disciplinary team environment, including recognising different viewpoints and identifying ways to build consensus.
- Excellent relevant analytical, written skills including ability to set out complex ideas in language that is accessible and easy to understand using different presentational formats (for example, written reports, PowerPoint slides).
- Ability to meet specified deadlines.
- Fluent in written and spoken English
- Proven experience of working independently and creatively under minimal supervision.
- Working knowledge and understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion principles.
- Cross cultural awareness and a global perspective and understanding.
- Motivated by the humanitarian principles and belief in the values of MSF.

## HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit the following (as one document):

1. Your proposal
2. Proposed methodology
3. A high level plan
4. What you see as being in/ out of scope
5. Assumptions made, questions or areas of uncertainty
6. Examples of previous work- give a summary of similar work that you have developed and delivered before- what worked well? what lessons you learnt?
8. Total fees including expenses

### Timetable:

**Closing date: 30 October 2021, 11.59pm**

**Place of work:** Consultant works from their independent place of work.

**Equipment:** The consultant will need to use their own computer and software for this work.

For any question, clarifications and queries please write an email to [admin.mu@london.msf.org](mailto:admin.mu@london.msf.org)