Terms of Reference

Temporary Advisor - Onchocerciasis Elimination Mapping Data Manager
(data management)

ESPEN, Regional Office, Brazzaville, Congo

Duration: (1 June, 2018 – 30 April, 2019)

Full time: Up to 220 days initially.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Expanded Special Project for Elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases (ESPEN) serves as the technical arm of the WHO/AFRO Neglected Tropical Diseases Programme and addresses all of the five Neglected Tropical Diseases responsive to Preventive Chemotherapy (PC-NTDs), namely Lymphatic Filariasis (LF), Onchocerciasis (Oncho), Schistosomiasis (SCH), Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis (STH) and Trachoma (TRA). It provides technical support on PC-NTDs to endemic countries, which will be coordinated to ensure achievement of PC-NTD goals and targets at country level in accordance with the Regional Strategic Plan for NTDs, 2014-2020. The provision of technical support primarily focuses on i) strategic and operational planning for the 5 PC-NTDs, ii) strengthening of technical quality of NTD Programmes to increase coverage so that more people can benefit from donated medicines with an emphasis on NTD activities such as mapping, surveillance, monitoring and evaluation; iii) improving financial management to enhance accountability and cost efficiencies of the delivery system; and iv) fostering effective links with interventions to strengthen health systems to deliver services including PC-NTD medicines to poor and hard-to-reach communities.

ESPEN works closely with partners to deliver technical support to Member States. Integrated NTD data management is a core component of the Regional strategy to control NTDs in the African Region. The management of NTD data in the region is currently focused on the urgent need to integrate all of the NTD data into a single repository accessible online by AFRO, WHO headquarters NTD staff and stakeholders. Progress has been made on the active data management efforts within the NTD programme with a view to unify these efforts and harmonize the data accumulated under the NTD Portal project with the data collected through the Mapping Project.

Purpose of the Consultancy

In line with the core functions of ESPEN, which is the provision of technical support to endemic countries to control and eliminate all the five PC-NTDs, an integrated data management approach will facilitate transparency, rapid response, sharing of information, and strengthening of collaboration and coordination of policy and decisions related to the programmes.

The main purpose is to provide support to ESPEN for the management of data in the NTD database and portal associated with the Onchocerciasis Elimination Mapping (OEM) project. The focus will be on enhancing compilation of mapping data, and uploading Joint Application Package's forms onto the NTD database. The position will
be based in Brazzaville, the appointment will help train/orient ESPEN staff on the management of the data flow system for the OEM project and potentially for other disease assessments that use a similar platform.

The consultancy agreement will be with Sightsavers, through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation funded OEM project. Depending on funding, there is the possibility for the duration of this contract to be extended.

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Under the direct supervision of the ESPEN Database Administrator and the ESPEN Senior Scientist, and in coordination with Sightsavers staff on the OEM project, the data manager will perform the following duties:

1. Work on onchocerciasis epidemiological data collected on elimination mapping:
   1.1 Compile the district level data on Ivermectin-naïve areas where onchocerciasis endemicity is categorized as hypo-endemic or unknown and where additional mapping may be needed
   1.1.1 Allocate IU_IDS to the districts
   1.1.2 Aggregate all data onto a single dataset
   1.1.3 Validate requests for onchocerciasis mapping via online OEM registration form
   1.2 Compile the epidemiologic data collected via the OEM project using format and processes developed by the OEM project
   1.2.1 Import datasets from processing database to NTD Database
   1.3 Upload from the NTD database, results of onchocerciasis mapping via the framework of the Joint Application Package (JRSM, JRF, EPIRF, AWP)
   1.4 Support in the merging of the system with the NTD Mapping Portal so as to have all data into one repository
   1.5 Make sure data comes in daily and there are no issues according to pre-specified QC checks
   1.5.1 Relay issues to the field and address data issues based on that feedback in the database
   1.6 Set up the webhook code and send test records to create the processing database
   1.7 Support national programs to run the analytic analysis code on the data to produce the final results

2. Work on NTD Mapping data:
   2.1 Support the finalization of the cleaning and compilation of site-level and individual-level NTD Mapping data
   2.2 Support the uploading of the individual-level NTD Mapping data onto the database

3. OEM Programme Support
   3.1 Direct new projects to the project sign up page
   3.1.1 Develop/modify the survey
   3.1.2 Load the survey into SDK for the project
   3.2 Procurement of the phones, setup the phones, shipment of the phones
   3.2.1 Support the phones during the project
   3.3 Support national programs to use the data they collected to drive programmatic decisions
4. On a weekly basis, provide brief update on progress against the ToR

2.0 DELIVERABLES

1. Demonstrate capacity to setup new project surveys
2. Configure back-up system for new projects and manage users and access roles
3. Review data flow from field teams daily and discuss data issues with field team lead
4. Configure mobile equipment
5. Ensure site-level and individual-level onchocerciasis mapping data have been cleaned and uploaded onto the NTD database

3.0 KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Sightsavers
• NTD Technical Director
• OEM Consultants
• OEM Project Director
• OEM Project Team

ESPEN
• Database administrator
• ESPEN Senior Scientist

External
• Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
• WHO Geneva
• WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for NTDs
• WHO OTS – Onchocerciasis Technical Subgroup
• OEEAC - national Onchocerciasis Elimination Expert Advisory Committees
• Neglected Tropical Diseases Support Center/ The Task Force for Global Health/ COR-NTD
• Mectizan Donation Program
• Onchocerciasis Non-Governmental Development Organization (NGDO) Network

4.0 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENT

Mode and timing of payment will be as agreed by Sightsavers and the consultant.

At $333-436 per day
5.0 CONSULTANT SPECIFICATIONS

Essential
- University degree in health or analytics related field.
- Experience in computer science, Information Systems or Information Technology, with specialized training in cloud data warehouse technologies and business intelligence tools preferred.

Skills and competencies
- Good knowledge of NTD data
- Proven experience of working with and creating relational databases using database client software (SQL Workbench, PHPMyAdmin, and related tools) and other analytics software (R, SAS).
- Ability to write queries and interrogate data.
- Proven experience working with GIS software, including ArcGIS and QGIS.
- Ability to conduct descriptive data analysis to summarize data
- Ability to communicate data analysis and findings to both technical and non-technical stakeholders.
- Ability to manage time and support multiple projects.

Languages
Excellent knowledge of English or French, working knowledge of other UN language