



**REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: INDIVIDUAL  
CONSULTING SERVICES**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO HIRE INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT FOR  
THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EVERY NEWBORN ACTION PLAN FOR LIBERIA**

**Reference #: MOH/FHD/IC/02/2017/2018**

**Date: April 17, 2018**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**BACKGROUND**

Over the past decade, child survival has improved in Liberia, but even today almost one in 11 children is unlikely to reach his/her fifth birthday. Under-5 mortality rate stands at 94 per 1,000 live births, infant mortality 54 per 1,000 live births, and neonatal mortality 26 per 1,000 live births (LDHS 2013). Mortality reduction has been particularly slow for neonatal mortality mainly due to persistently low rates of skilled birth attendance, low access to emergency neonatal care interventions, early pregnancies, high malnutrition rates among pregnant women and other socio cultural issues. Without sustained reduction in neonatal mortality, reduction in under five mortality will remain elusive. The first 28 days of life – the neonatal period – are critical for a child’s survival. Every year nearly a third (27%) of all under-five child deaths occur among newborns in neonatal period. Three quarters of all new-born deaths occur in the first week of life. Similarly, the ‘day of birth’ and ‘first week of life’ can be considered as the ‘most dangerous’ day for the Liberian newborns because most of them die during first day of their birth. Liberia has the highest rates of first-day deaths and still births during labour and delivery.

A renewed focus on neonatal care began late 2016 with the support to the government to elaborate and adopt a country specific Every New-born Action plan (ENAP). In October 2016, representatives from Ministry of Health and UNICEF attended an inter-agency forum on Neonatal health for Western and Central Africa. This Inter Agency Forum on Neonatal Health for Western and Central Africa with 16 countries represented mission activities included significant interactions involving different UN agencies, participants from Health Ministers, program managers, Child Health specialists and professors. There where presentations followed by questions and answers, preparation of countries action plan, benefiting from lessons learned and sharing information between countries; presentations of country reports highlighting contextual accomplishments, challenges, and the way forward. These country action plans were informative for formulation of countries’ plan and monitoring of ENAP implementation. Concluding the five days’ activities, countries were admonished to develop country’s ENAP plan to guild implementation and progress. A bottle neck analysis using the Global BNA tool was carried out on May 19, 2017 involving all stakeholders and national and county health teams. Based on this bottleneck analysis it was envisaged that the national Every New-born Action Plan (ENAP) will be designed around the following strategic objectives:

- To strengthen and invest in care during labour, delivery and the first day and week of life.
- To improve the quality of maternal and new-born care.
- To harness the power of parents, families and communities.
- To count every new-born through measurement, programme-tracking and accountability.
- To reach every woman and new-born to reduce inequities.

Considering the high and unacceptable maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality rate in Liberia, the Ministry of Health along with developmental partners is committed in ensuring that Liberia has ENAP policy document developed and costed for full implementation. As a result of the aforementioned circumstances, the Ministry of Health is seeking to hire the expertise of a qualified and well-experienced person who will work closely with the Ministry of Health to provide technical support for the development of the LENAP policy. The incumbent will also provide initial preparation support to launch LENAP implementation by initiating and steering key planning and implementation processes. The contract will last for a period of two months (2 Months)..

#### **ACTIVITIES AND TASKS:**

Under the direct supervision by Director, Family Health Division and in collaboration with technical working group, the incumbent will:

- Support drafting of a Liberia ENAP with key strategies, activities, monitoring evaluation and budget to achieve the following plan results:
  - Output 1: Policy, regulatory framework and service delivery models established and operational.
  - Output 2: Improved quality and of maternal and newborn care through capacity building that ensures continuum of care.
  - Output 3: Parents, families and communities mobilized to promote better newborn care.
  - Output 4: Measurement, programme-tracking and accountability system to count every newborn developed and operational.
  - Output 5: Increased understanding of underlying causes of inequities around newborn care and best practices analyzed and scaled up.
- Determine base line of key project indicators, put in place mechanism of monitoring and reporting;
- Help identify technical capacity gaps and develop capacity building plan including: identifying key gaps in skills and knowledge, training plan with timelines and draft training evaluation methods.
- Contribute to development of distribution plan for drugs and commodities to be aligned with capacity building plan in order to ensure prompt implementation of new skills and knowledge acquired during the training.
- Support the drafting of TORs, for both individual and institutional contracts required as well as for the NGOs to be partnered with to support the project implementation;

- Undertake mapping of national and international technical assistance resources that can be mobilized for implementation, based on identified technical resource gaps at national and regional levels;
- Scan the existing stock and develop procurement plan that will ensure continuity of essential drugs, equipment and supplies along with infection prevention and control commodities for the whole duration of the project.
- Provide administrative support and help draft initial contracts with key partners using appropriate partnership modalities;

## **QUALIFICATIONS, SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE AND ADDITIONAL COMPETENCIES**

The selected consultant must possess:

- University degree or equivalent in medicine, public health or other relevant discipline, with master's degree in public health;
- Five to eight years of work experience in National Child Health programme and monitoring and evaluation of ENAP is an asset;
- Work experience in development of ENAP policies, strategies and training guidelines;
- Excellent communication skills, including written and oral presentations;
- Good team player with ability to work independently and under considerably tight deadlines;
- Creative thinking, drive for results and strong commitments;
- Good inter-personal relationship even in diverse work environment;
- Work experience in Africa is an added advantage
- Language: Fluency in English is a major Asset.

## **CONDITIONS OF WORK**

The organization will assume responsibility for the following:

- The consultant will work with MOH with an effective collaboration with UNICEF MCH officer and CSD Specialist.
- The consultant should have personal computer but will be provided with supplies related directly to the task for the duration of the consultancy;
- UNICEF will provide technical support and cover the total cost of the consultancy through MOH who will manage the consultant;
- All documents, including data and reports, developed during this consultancy are the intellectual property of the MOH. The consultant should not share these products without the express permission of, and acknowledgement by MOH. The assignment should support and respect children's and women rights.

**LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:** Fluency in English is required.

Consultant may obtain further information from the address below and deliver their Expression of Interest (EOI) written in English, enclosed in an envelope clearly marked: “ **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EVERY NEWBORN ACTION PLAN FOR LIBERIA** “**Ref: IFB No: MOH/FHD/IC/02/2017/2018 and drop** in the tender box situated on the ground floor or electronically transmitted by the deadline specified above to: [proumohsw@gmail.com](mailto:proumohsw@gmail.com) no later than **Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 @ 2:00 PM/ 14:00 GMT.**

The address is stated below:

Jacob L.N Wapoe  
 Director of Procurement  
 Ministry of Health  
 Congo Town, Room#140 or via email: [proumohsw@gmail.com](mailto:proumohsw@gmail.com)

**This Expression of Interest can also be found on:**

- i. [www.emansion.gov.lr](http://www.emansion.gov.lr)
- ii. [www.moh.gov.lr](http://www.moh.gov.lr)

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Director of Procurement**

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Deputy Minister for Admin.**