



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
P. O. BOX 10 – 9009
1000 MONROVIA 10, LIBERIA
WEST AFRICA

Terms of Reference (TOR) for Local Technical Assistant to conduct a barrier study on effective Case Management of Malaria in Liberia.

I. Background

“Malaria is a disease caused by plasmodium parasite, and transmitted by the female mosquito “anopheles”. Though preventable and treatable, it causes millions of illnesses and deaths globally with the highest burden in Sub-Saharan Africa with over 95%. According to the World Health Organization 2018 malaria report, the disease caused 219 million illnesses and increase of two million from 2016 (217 million) and 435,000 deaths compared to 451,000 in 2016 with 92% (cases) and over 80% (deaths) in WHO African Region (2). In Liberia, malaria is the leading cause of outpatients’ morbidity and inpatients mortality accounting for 42% and 39% respectively (LHFS, 2013).

Over the past decade, the Government of Liberia through the National Malaria Control Program scaled up malaria control and prevention activities through three core interventions: prevention of malaria transmission through integrated vector management (IVM); prompt diagnosis and effective treatment of clinical cases at all levels (health facilities and communities); and prevention, treatment of malaria in pregnancy. The current strategic plan 2016 – 2020 has a specific goal of reducing morbidity and mortality due to malaria by 50% by the year 2020. In addition to the strategic plans, series of national documents: malaria case management guidelines, vector control guidelines, malaria communication strategy and plan, and malaria diagnostic guidelines have all been developed and updated over the years.

Despite the increased investment and scale up of malaria interventions coverage over the past years, uptake of malaria services remains relatively low thus creating fear that the goal of reducing by 50% morbidity and mortality may not be achieved. To understand the reasons for

low uptake of services, NMCP is conducting a study to determine the barriers to effective uptake of malaria case management.

Against this background, NMCP with support from the Global Funds to Fight HIVs/AIDS, TB and Malaria is hiring the services of a local Technical Assistant to support the program to conduct a barrier study on effective malaria case management in Liberia.

II. Objectives of the Consultancy:

The overall objective of this consultancy is to provide technical oversight and strategic directions for the conduct of a barrier study on malaria case management aimed at improving the quality of malaria service delivery in Liberia.

III. Scope of Work

Under direct supervision of the Deputy Program Manager, the TA will:

- Work with NMCP Research Coordinator to develop and submit the study protocol to the Institutional Review Board (IRB).
- Conduct training workshop for study team prior to data collection
- Conduct field visit/monitor field data collections processes
- Develop data entry screen, supervise data entry, and analyze data collected
- Consolidate findings from the study and prepare draft report
- Submit draft report for input prior to finalization
- Finalize study report and submit to NMCP
- Attend meetings as per the requirement of the study, in addition to weekly progress review meeting will be held at NMCP

The TA may perform oversight (e.g. observe recruitment, enrollment procedures, and the consent process for individuals, groups or units; oversee study interventions and interactions; review monitoring plans) and report their observations and findings to the Deputy Program Manager.

IV. Qualifications and Required Skills

The minimum qualifications and requirements for the position are:

- A Master's Degree in Public Health in a relevant area, such as tropical medicine, health systems, global health, or management; MD/PhD is an advantage with related work experience.

- At least 3 years work experience providing clinical care in the context of a developing country.
- Experience conducting field assessment or research (quantitative and qualitative research)

V. Key Deliverables/Output

- Submit inception report outlining the methodology and detailed work plan to conduct the study
- Submit final research protocol IRB
- Develop data screen for analysis
- Submit draft study report for input
- Submit final study report to NMCP

Duration of the Assignment: The assignment is expected to cover 3 months.

All applicants interested in the TA positions are kindly asked to submit applications to:

**Human Resource Department
Attn: James M. Beyan, Human Resource Manager
Ministry of Health, Congo Town
Monrovia, Liberia
Ref: MOH/NMCP/GF/TA/010/18/19**

Or via email: proumohsw@gmail.com

ALL INTERESTED APPLICANTS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATION ON OR BEFORE THE Friday, May 31, 2019 at 2:00pm. Interested applicants can also access this vacancy on the Ministry's website: www.moh.gov.lr

A multi-disciplinary selection committee shall convene immediately upon the closure of the application window to review submissions. It should be noted that only shortlisted candidates shall be contacted for further interviews. The successful applicant shall be notified through a written notification letter or phone call.