



JOB DESCRIPTION

IDENTIFICATION	
JOB TITLE	Country Assessment Consultant
REPORTING TO	Group Programs Director
DURATION OF CONTRACT	3 months
DUTY STATION	West Africa Region

BACKGROUND

Amref Health Africa was founded in 1957 and has since grown to become the largest African-based international health development organisation; currently implementing more than 180 programs, reaching more than 40 million people across 35 African countries; and a staff complement of over 2,000. Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, Amref Health Africa has offices in ten countries in Africa – Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guinea (Conakry), Kenya, Malawi, Senegal, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. An additional eleven advocacy and fundraising offices are located in Europe and North America.

Amref Health Africa is driven by its vision of *Lasting health change in Africa* and its mission *To catalyze and drive community-led and people-centred health systems while addressing social determinants of health*. We believe that the power to transform Africa's health lies within its communities, and therefore strive to ensure that health systems are not only functional but that communities are empowered to hold these systems accountable for the delivery of quality and affordable health care.

CONTEXT

Amref Health Africa established a Hub in West Africa (WA) in 2011 as part of the journey and ambition towards lasting health change. The WA Hub implements pioneering initiatives with innovative solutions that address a range of public health issues, including: (i) reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health; (ii) communicable diseases; (iii) access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene; (iv) access to specialized medical and surgical care; and (vi) innovation and research. These interventions are implemented within a framework of strengthening public health systems in general and community health systems in particular.

The ambition for the WA Hub is to gradually expand to strategic Francophone and Anglophone countries in West Africa. Amref has been working in a number of countries in WA including Senegal (2011), Guinea (2014), Ivory Coast (2015) and recently in Sierra Leone and Burkina Faso. Further Amref's footprint in the larger WA includes programmes such as PHSSA (JICA), SPARC (Gates), ACS (USAID) and SLL that are implemented through partners.

Amref implemented a prior assessment where data was collected through in-depth desk review specific to selected countries as well as Key Informant Interviews (KII) with West African partners (MoH, NGOs, donors, technical partners etc.) where Amref has active direct or indirect relationship. Additional insights were sought from Amref West Africa, relevant colleagues and review of selected past internal reports with useful information related to expansion of the WA Hub.

The following countries constituting West Africa as defined by the UN were considered for mapping: Benin, Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo

Assessment criteria: The scoping was based on country specific information on the following key parameters:

- i. Demographic data
- ii. Key socio-economic data including poverty index
- iii. Key health indicators: HIV/TB, Malaria, RMNCH, WASH&NTDs, HRH, NCDs,
- iv. Major donors (top 8) within health and WASH including country's attractiveness to donors on health/WASH funding
- v. Major CSO's (top 8) in health and WASH, national and international
- vi. Conduciveness of the NGO legislative environment for CSO's
- vii. Security and stability using the UN security index
- viii. Review of country's health strategy and health spending accounts (where applicable)
- ix. Potential for public-private partnerships
- x. Past and present engagement with Amref

The results of this initial assessment allowed the organization to shortlist four countries where it would begin looking for opportunities to expand its activities: Burkina Faso, Gambia, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

JOB PURPOSE

Amref Health Africa is looking for a highly motivated and dynamic person to serve as a consultant for in-depth country assessments for a geographical expansion in West Africa. The consultant will build from the initial assessment and come up with an assessment tool to be administered in each country. The assessment will be implemented in the initial 15 countries (listed above) to confirm the countries where Amref should focus its expansion in West Africa.

The successful candidate will therefore provide high-quality technical report highlighting areas of focus for Amref and potential partners.

Responsibilities:

- Develop a comprehensive inception report outlining (but not limited) the methodology, data collection and analysis process, country assessment tool(s), initial list of key informants and stakeholders, workplan, and proposed outline of the final report.
- Design country assessment tool and list of key informants and stakeholders to interview
- Conduct consultations with key informants and potential stakeholder in all 15 countries
- Map existing donors in the 15 countries and show their areas of investment in public health and their funding trends. In addition, assess medium and long-term market interest/commitments for each of the donors.
- Map existing implementing partners in each of the 15 countries and show their areas of intervention, strengths and weaknesses.
- Flag any significant national level development within/directly related to the health sector that has occurred in each of the countries post the 2021 assessment report.
- Identify high-level risks for each country that Amref should consider while determining expansion
- Develop and submit one comprehensive technical report for all 15 countries highlighting gaps in public health and key opportunities for Amref in line with its 2023-2030 strategy.
- Develop a high level powerpoint presentation based on the findings of the assessment

Competencies

- Strong interpersonal and communication skills;
- Strong analytical, reporting and writing abilities skills;
- Ability to plan, organize, implement and report on work;
- Ability to work under pressure and tight deadlines;

- Comprehensiveness knowledge and development of strategic frameworks and drafting strategic documents
- Proficiency in the use of office IT applications and internet in conducting research;
- Outstanding communication, project management and organizational skills;
- Excellent presentation and facilitation skills.
- Demonstrated integrity and ethical standards;
- Positive, constructive attitude to work;

Required Skills and Experience

Educational Qualifications:

Minimum Advanced degree in International Development Studies, Public Health, Economics, Social Sciences, International Relations, Political Sciences, sociology or anthropology, demography or related fields required.

Experience

- Over 15 years' relevant experience (including market analysis) and proven expertise with development of strategic frameworks required;
- Experience drafting strategic documents highly desirable;
- Excellent analytical and writing skills including ability to review and synthesize information rapidly, distinguishing major trends from minor details
- Desired – bilingual (English and French) capabilities
- Experience working in multiple countries in West Africa will be an added advantage

Education requirement: An advanced degree in public health, international development or related field.

Period of performance: November 15 2023 – February 15 2024

Please submit proposals by email only, no later than Tuesday, October 31st, 2023 at 5pm GMT to the following email address: Procurement.wa@amref.org

Put in the subject line of the email: "Amref WA Geographical Expansion" - (name of the Bidder) » The technical offer (including also ToRs, workplan, methodology, timeline and duration, etc.), the CVs and any other document that may justify the experience and expertise of the consultant(s) will be sent in PDF format. The financial offer will be sent in PDF format and in EXCEL format.