

TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP A STRATEGY, MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AND RESOURCE PACK FOR HEALTH PROTECTION OF INFORMAL WORKFORCE

Contract type: Consultant

Duty Station: WHO Headquarters, Geneva

Duration: Twelve months

Organizational Unit: PHE/IHE/Workers' Health Team

Desired period: 01 November 2014 - 30 October 2015

WHO focal person: Dr Ivan Ivanov

Background and context for the consultancy:

WHO is implementing a global plan of action on workers' health (2008-2017) endorsed with resolution WHA 60.26 from 2007. The Resolution and the plan of action include several activities that aim at improving the level of health protection in low resources work settings and disadvantaged working populations:

- (1) working towards access of all workers, in particular those in the informal economy, agriculture, small and medium enterprises and migrant and contractual workers to essential intervention and basic health services for the prevention and control of occupational and work-related diseases and injuries;
- (2) developing practical tools for assessment and management of occupational risks, and minimum requirements for health protection at the workplace; and
- (3) incorporating workers' health into economic development policies and poverty reduction strategies.

Of particular concern is the protection and promotion of health of the informal workforce in low and middle income countries in terms of lack of access to health coverage and occupational health services, regulatory and social protection against occupational health and safety risks. In this context WHO is implementing a project to protecting and promoting the health of informal workforce to address these concerns. The project includes the following elements:

- (1) strategy for action by the health sector, at the international and national level to enhance health protection of informal workforce;
- (2) minimum requirements for workplace health protection applicable to all workplaces, including informal work settings; and
- (3) a set of cost-effective interventions and practical tools for workplace health protection for low-resourced informal work settings.

The primary audience for this package would be ministries of health, district health authorities, primary health care and occupational health providers and communities/organizations of informal workers in low and middle income countries.

Specific tasks

The Scope of Work for this consultancy consists of the following tasks:

1. Identify and review national policies, programmes and projects for enhancing health protection of informal workforce
2. Conduct a literature review of existing strategies and approaches for protecting health and safety of informal sector workers
3. Carry out a systematic review of evidence on the cost-effectiveness of interventions for protecting and promoting health in low resourced work settings
4. Organize and carry out a survey on the applicability of international standards for workplace health protection (compiled already by WHO) to low resourced work settings, including micro and small enterprises and farms.
5. Prepare a proposal for a global strategy for enhancing health protection and health coverage of informal workforce and a project for implementation in partnership with ILO and international development agencies.
6. Prepare a resource pack with tools for informal workers, communities/organizations of informal workers and primary care services to provide a minimum level of health protection at the workplace.

Expected deliverables and time frame for the delivery of products/outputs:

Deliverable	Expected timing for delivery
<p>1. Report on strategies and interventions for health protection in low resourced settings</p> <p>This report will be based on the review of the existing national policies, literature review of the strategies for protecting health and safety of informal sector workers and will include also the methodology, results and discussion from the systematic review of evidence on the cost-effectiveness of interventions.</p> <p>Scientific article presenting the results of the review for publication in peer reviewed journal</p>	<p>Report – March 2015</p> <p>Journal article – June 2015</p>
<p>2. Minimum requirements for workplace health protection in low-resourced settings and resource pack for implementation</p> <p>Technical report on the review of the applicability of the international standards to low resourced setting, a summary of the standards found, and summary of the available cost effective practical tools and intervention for implementation in typical high risk settings in the informal sector, e.g. farms, artisanal workshops, production of building materials and construction, transport etc.</p>	<p>Technical report – January 2015</p> <p>Resource pack – June 2015</p>
<p>3. Strategy for global action on enhancing health protection of informal workforce</p> <p>Proposal for the main elements of a global strategy and operational project for the health sector to enhance health to be developed in collaboration with WHO programmes on health governance/financing and social determinants, ILO and international development agencies.</p>	<p>September 2015</p>

Remuneration:

- 12 working months at Band Level B (P3) USD 6,600 monthly.
- The work to be done under this consultancy will require full time presence in WHO premises in Geneva. Consultants who are not residents in the Geneva area can receive a stipend (CHF 3,990 monthly) to cover living costs in Geneva.

Required competencies:*Qualification*

University degree with post-graduate specialization in occupational medicine, nursing, or hygiene

Experience

At least 5 years of practical experience in occupational health at the district, national or international level and practical experience in working with informal work settings in low and middle income countries. Good track record of publications (journal articles and reports) in occupational health.

Skills

Strong analytical skills, ability to carry out systematic review of evidence, excellent writing skills in English

Languages

English as working language. Other UN languages (French, English, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese) are desirable

Applications

Persons interested to apply are invited to send a motivation letter explaining the reasons for which they are interested to carry out this consultancy, highlighting their relevant professional background and experience and indicating their availability. It is necessary to attach complete CV with list of publications and a sample of report/article written by the applicant.

Applications should be sent by email to workershealth@who.int by 26 September 2014. Shortlisted applicants will be approached for personal interview by Skype.