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MEL Director – USAID/Mozambique Improved Maternal, Newborn, Child Health, Immunization and Nutrition Activity

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Company: Pathfinder International

Location: Mozambique

Category: other-general

Pathfinder is seeking an experienced MEL Director for the anticipated USAID **Improved Maternal, Newborn, Child Health, Immunization and Nutrition Activity in Mozambique**. The purpose of this project is to accelerate reductions in maternal, newborn, and child mortality and morbidity in high-burden regions of Mozambique by increasing the capacity of host country institutions, including local organizations, to improve access, quality, and sustained use of evidence-based maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) services, including routine immunization and nutrition services, as well as, promoting optimal MNCH, child development, and nutrition behaviors and practices.

The MEL Director will be responsible for developing and managing the monitoring, evaluation, and learning plan to inform program and adaptive management and strategic direction.

This position is contingent upon project award and funding.

Major Responsibilities

Develops and implements a project MEL system according to Pathfinder standards and practices.

Consults with USAID and other stakeholders to establish a transparent, reliable, and valid MEL system that can easily be tracked and verified.

Ensures that the MEL system is a cost-effective, results-oriented system that provides USAID and the program with necessary information to assess the progress, effectiveness, and

outcome of activities.

Facilitates data use among project staff and key stakeholders through key analyses and established feedback loops and supports activity adaptation in coordination with program and technical teams.

Collaborates with partners to develop individual and MEL work and training plans as appropriate.

Develops/adapts tools for data collection; designs and implements surveys and other data collection tasks.

Oversees implementation of routine data quality assurance activities, in collaboration with district health authorities and community partners.

Designs/adapts project performance monitoring database to report national and global indicator and performance indicator data quarterly to senior managers, COP, and Pathfinder headquarters.

Leads the development and supports implementation of the project's learning agenda.

Documents project achievements against targets using monitoring data and works with project staff to document the factors behind gaps and over achievements.

Institutes regular use of performance monitoring data among project managers, Country Offices, and other relevant Pathfinder staff.

Disseminates information on project evaluations through written reports, conference presentations, and publications, and assists project staff to do likewise.

Builds capacity of project staff, on the use of data for decision making and performance improvement.

Provides technical assistance and training to program teams and partner organizations as necessary.

Provides technical support to strengthening MEL systems at national and community level.

Provides overall guidance and manages all the MEL related efforts, including the MEL activities

budget and recruitment and supervision of MEL staff, communicating and coordinating as needed with headquarters MEL and other staff.

Any other duties as assigned by the Chief of Party.

Minimum Education and Work Experience

A master's degree in epidemiology, statistics, or health related field.

Minimum of 8 years of relevant experience in MEL for USAID-funded large-scale health programs.

Experience leading MEL for previous projects focused on integrated health, community engagement, and accountability preferred.

Experience working on the issues covered by the scope of the project such as maternal, newborn, and child health, immunization, nutrition, behavior change, and health systems strengthening, ideally in Mozambique or similar context.

Demonstrated research experience and skills, complemented by experience in collaborating with various types of partners.

Experience interacting with Mozambican agencies, including central and local government, development partners, civil society, and community-based organizations is essential.

Minimum of six years of successful supervisory experience.

Experience working with data system platforms, including DHIS2.

Excellent representational and communication skills, written and oral proficiency in English and Portuguese is required.

Demonstrated ability to lead a project team and achieve results.

Travel throughout the project area in Mozambique will be required.

Preferred Education and Work Experience

In-depth knowledge of USAID project regulations, compliance, and reporting.

Demonstrated knowledge and skills in financial planning and management, human resources, and procurement, among other management support areas/functions.

Previous direct supervisory experience of MEL staff.

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