

## Terms of Reference

Results-Based Financing for Health Impact Evaluation  
[Country] Evaluation Team

### Principal Investigator

January 2011

#### **PURPOSE OF THIS CONSULTANCY**

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The purpose of this consultancy is to design and oversee all aspects of the implementation of a prospective, rigorous impact evaluation of a Results-Based Financing for Health program in [Country].

#### **HEALTH RESULTS INNOVATION TRUST FUND (HRITF) BACKGROUND**

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The objective of the HRITF is to design and implement sustainable Results-Based Financing (RBF) pilot programs that cost-effectively improve maternal and child health outcomes (i.e MDGs 4 & 5). The hypothesis is that RBF can be used to increase access to appropriate medical care, improve the quality of medical care, and encourage individuals to adopt health-improving behaviors.

The HRITF is financing RBF pilot interventions - both supply-side (provider payment schemes, contracting out) and demand-side (conditional cash transfers). A central element of the HRITF is to learn about and document the extent to which RBF policies are effective, are operationally feasible, and in what circumstances. As such, rigorous evaluation of all HRBF programs is essential for generating new knowledge that can inform governments and partners to effectively design and use RBF mechanisms. The eventual learning objective is not only to assess the impact of the RBF intervention(s) in [Country], but also to compare these impacts across the other countries with similar interventions, and to be able to provide externally valid advice on the feasibility and effectiveness of these approaches to other countries.

[Country] is seeking a Principal Investigator (PI) to lead the impact evaluation of its RBF program. The PI will be responsible for the design, implementation, analysis and dissemination of results for the impact evaluation. The PI will collaborate with the Results-Based Financing for Health anchor team, the country Task Team Leader (TTL) and project team, and key country counterparts (e.g. Government and survey firm) to develop an impact evaluation design that measures the causal effects of the program, is compatible with operational requirements and ensures results are comparable with other HRBF impact evaluations.

#### **SCOPE OF WORK**

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The assignment includes the following tasks:

## Establish an in-country advisory panel

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The Principal Investigator will work with the [Country] RBF TTL to establish an in-country advisory panel made up of key stakeholders: project design team members, government counterparts, local researchers, etc. This team will provide guidance to the impact evaluation team on the policy relevance, country context on other country specific issues for the impact evaluation, as well as generate buy-in from the relevant stake-holders on the impact evaluation design.

## Develop an Evaluation Design

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The Principal Investigator will develop an impact evaluation design which isolates the causal impact of the intervention on key outcome indicators (standard measures of poverty and health, facility costs, quality of care, use of services, household out-of-pocket payments for health care, health outcomes, and administrative costs), in consultation with the [Country] team and Results-Based Financing for Health anchor team.

S/he will propose a preliminary experimental or quasi-experimental design for the impact evaluation in [Country] that is consistent with the common framework detailed in the Results-Based Financing for Health Impact Evaluation Toolkit. The evaluation design will be developed with the HRBF country team and country counterparts. S/he will seek stakeholder feedback on the preliminary experimental design and revise design based on feedback.

S/he will develop a detailed Impact Evaluation Concept Note and Gantt Chart with the [Country] RBF team which details the agreed upon identification strategy, data collection and analysis plan, staffing, budget and time frame. The Impact Evaluation Concept Note will be integrated into the overall RBF project implementation plan.

## Identify and Contract a Qualified Survey Firm(s)

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The Principal Investigator will support the [Country] RBF TTL to recruit and contract the survey firm(s) required to complete data collection and entry activities. This includes:

- Draft/Adapt TOR for survey firm
- Review technical and financial proposals
- Provide recommendations on preferred firm(s)
- Negotiate and recommend detailed survey firm budget(s)

## Oversee Questionnaire Development/Adaptation

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Together with the Results-Based Financing for Health anchor team, identify key outcomes indicators and other variables that will be measured as part of the impact evaluation. This will include individual, household, community, facility and programmatic indicators. It will also include defining the data sources and methods of collection and preferred measurement methods. This will include:

- Reviewing Results-Based Financing for Health Questionnaire templates and adapting them to the country specific context
- Participating in questionnaire pretesting
- Review questionnaire with advisory panel
- Finalize questionnaire based on feedback from pilots and advisory panel

## Develop Research Protocol

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The Principal Investigator will collaborate with the Survey Firm(s) to identify all requirements for ethical clearance of the impact evaluation activities. In addition, the Principal Investigator will lead development of the research protocol, which will include:

- Overview of methodology, data collection and analysis plan
- Overview of measures taken for the protection of human subjects, including informed consent and respondent confidentiality
- Assessment of respondent risks and benefits

## Develop a Sampling Plan

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The Principal Investigator will define the sample sizes required to estimate program impacts, as well as the sampling strategy. This will include:

- The outcome indicator(s) that are used to determine the sample size(s)
- The minimum impacts that the study should be designed to measure
- The number of communities in each of the control and treatment groups
- The number of households and individuals in each community; and (if relevant) the number of repeat visits before and after the interventions
- Definition of the sample inclusion criteria
- Definition of central or field-based sampling methodology in collaboration with the Survey Firm(s)

## Oversee Impact Evaluation Preparation and Implementation Activities

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The Principal Investigator will oversee all activities related to preparation and implementation of the impact evaluation, including:

- Developing the Field Work Plan with the Survey Firm(s)
- Adaptation of Results-Based Financing for Health survey training materials
- Interviewer recruiting and training
- Pilot testing with field team(s)
- Production of Survey Firm progress reports
- Collection and compilation of any required secondary data (e.g., health provider reports, community surveys, etc.)

The Principal Investigator is responsible for ensuring data quality assurance mechanisms are in place for data collection, entry and management.

## Validation of Evaluation Design

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The Principal Investigator is responsible for initial analysis of the baseline data in order to validate the evaluation design (through baseline difference in means tests) and verify the quality of data produced.

## Manage Data Documentation and Storage

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The Principal Investigator is responsible for ensuring proper, comprehensive documentation of the impact evaluation activities and ensuring all data and corresponding documentation is stored on the Results-Based Financing for Health Data Catalog.

## ESTIMATED LEVEL OF EFFORT

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The level of effort required for these responsibilities is currently estimated at **XX** working days.

| Deliverables   | Expected Delivery Date | Days |
|--|------------------------|------|
| 1.1 Establish Advisory Panel   |                        |      |
| 2.1 IE Concept Note  |                        |      |
| 2. 2 Gantt Chart   |                        |      |
| 3.1 Survey Firm TOR(s)   |                        |      |
| 3.2 Comments on technical and financial proposals  |                        |      |
| 4.1 Final English Questionnaires with comments from pretest and advisory panel   |                        |      |
| 5.1 Research Protocol  |                        |      |
| 6.1 Sampling Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Includes power calculations</li><li>• Survey inclusion criteria</li><li>• Central or field sampling plan</li></ul>           |                        |      |
| 6.2 Assignment to treatment and control  |                        |      |
| 7.1 Field work plan with survey firm   |                        |      |
| 7.2 Final training materials   |                        |      |
| 7.3 Summary of pilot test  |                        |      |
| 7.4 Any required secondary data  |                        |      |
| 7.5 Detailed description of quality control measures implemented and assessment of success   |                        |      |
| 8.1 Report on Validation of Evaluation Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Includes STATA do files, tables and descriptive report on baseline difference in means</li></ul> |                        |      |
| 9.1 Final Baseline Data and Documentation uploaded on RBF for Health Data Catalog  |                        |      |
| <b>Total Days</b>  |                        |      |

## REQUIRED SKILLS/ EXPERIENCE

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- PhD in relevant field, preferably economics or health policy.
- Minimum 5 years of project impact evaluation experience
- Minimum 5 years experience in designing and implementing quantitative impact evaluations using randomized or otherwise controlled designs
- Relevant experience in measurement of health outcomes through household surveys
- Relevant experience designing and coordinating field work for large household surveys and health facility surveys
- Relevant experience analyzing quantitative data (household and facilities) using statistical analysis software (preferably STATA)

- Relevant experience in coordinating implementation of impact evaluation field work
- Excellent written English communication skills, with focus on research protocols, research papers and descriptive reports for diverse audience
- Ability to facilitate communication between various levels of management and work independently in order to meet deadlines
- Ideally, the country PI should have published evaluations in peer reviewed journals.

### **Estimated Schedule**

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This consultancy will run from [Date] to [Date]

### **Management and Logistical Support**

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The consultant will report directly to the [Country] Task Team leader.

### **Payment**

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The assignment will be remunerated upon delivery of the agreed outputs, at the agreed fee rate and the agreed number of days of professional fess chargeable, as per the normal procedures of the World Bank.