

Terms of Reference

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

Data Analyst

January 2011

PURPOSE OF THIS CONSULTANCY

The purpose of this consultancy is to provide support to the [Country] RBF Impact Evaluation team on data cleaning, analysis and dissemination of results from a prospective, rigorous impact evaluation of a Results-Based Financing for Health program in [Country].

HEALTH RESULTS INNOVATION TRUST FUND (HRITF) BACKGROUND

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.

The [Country] RBF team is seeking a Data Analyst to work in collaboration with the Principal Investigator on conducting data cleaning, merging, analysis and dissemination for the impact evaluation data.

SCOPE OF WORK

The assignment includes the following tasks:

Data Cleaning and Merging

The Data Analyst will:

- Review data files and basic data cleaning to ensure all observations are uniquely identified and reported data is internally consistent
- Conduct merging across data files to ensure clean merges

Data Analysis

The Data Analyst will:

- Construct variables in accordance with international and local definitions (see JHU indicator report)
- Construct baseline difference in means tests and export to excel
- Produce summary statistics of key outcome and covariate variables

Dissemination

The Data Analyst will:

- Produce a written descriptive report following the RBF for Health Descriptive Report template
- Produce PPTs summarizing report

ESTIMATED LEVEL OF EFFORT

All activities include the provision of direct support to the [Country] RBF Impact Evaluation Principal Investigator. The level of effort for the Research Assistant/IE Coordinator required for these responsibilities is currently estimated at **XX** working days.

Deliverables	Expected Delivery Date	Days
Data Cleaning and Merging STATA do files		
Data Analysis STATA do files, excel files and tables		
Dissemination: Descriptive Report and PPTs		
Total Days		

REQUIRED SKILLS/ EXPERIENCE

- Master's level degree(s) or equivalent in relevant field, such as health, public health, or economics; PhD student preferred
- Minimum 2 years experience with statistical analysis software (STATA)
- Relevant experience conducting, managing and designing field work and data collection for empirical research
- Excellent written English communication skills, with focus on research protocols, research papers and descriptive reports for diverse audience
- Fluent in local language in [Country] preferred

- Exceptional organizational skills, ability to facilitate communication between various levels of management and work independently in order to meet deadlines
- Previous experience with project impact evaluation in developing countries highly desirable

Estimated Schedule

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

Management and Logistical Support

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

Payment

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.