

Terms of Reference

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

Cost-Analysis Expert

January 2011

PURPOSE OF THIS CONSULTANCY

The purpose of this consultancy is to design and oversee all aspects of the cost-analysis components of the 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.

[Country] is seeking a Cost-Analysis Expert to lead the data collection and analysis on critical policy and economic issues related to results-based financing, such as the relative cost-effectiveness of RBF mechanisms versus other interventions, potential impacts of RBF on the efficiency of service delivery, and financial requirements and sustainability of RBF mechanisms. The Cost-Analysis Expert will collaborate with the country PI, the country Task Team Leader (TTL) and project team, and key country counterparts (e.g. Government and survey firm) to meet the objectives of the cost-analysis component of the impact evaluation.

SCOPE OF WORK

The assignment includes the following tasks:

Develop the Cost-Analysis Concept Note

In consultation with the Impact Evaluation Principal Investigator, the consultant will determine the focus and scope of the economic analysis (CEA, efficiency, affordability, sustainability); the perspective of the analysis (social or government); the time frame (baseline, follow-up); and the level of the analysis (facility, health system, household, community, donor). The Cost-Analysis Expert will develop the Cost-Analysis Concept Note, including:

- Purpose/Research questions
- Methodology (i.e. cost-effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, etc.)
- Identify data sources (primary and secondary)
- Analysis Plan
- Budget for data collection and analysis
- Time line (Gantt Chart)

Ultimately the Cost-Analysis Expert must ensure that the economic/financial study conducted follows internationally peer-reviewed scientific standards.

Review/Adapt Data Collection Instruments

Together with the Impact Evaluation PI, 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:

- Together with the Impact Evaluation Principal Investigator, review primary data collection instruments (health facility, household, etc) to ensure collect all required costing data
- Oversee pretest of the instrument(s)
- Review questionnaire(s) with project team and key stakeholders to ensure cultural and policy relevance
- Finalize questionnaire based on feedback from pretest and stakeholders
- Identify secondary data sources (HMIS, administrative, Ministry-level, etc)

Data Collection and Entry

Together with the Impact Evaluation PI, the Cost-Analysis Expert will work in-country/provide remote support on data collection activities. This requires:

- Identifying local team members, including organizations, that may be subcontracted to undertake cost-analysis data collection and analysis.
- Organize and supervise data collection for the economic analysis, ensuring the highest quality, most reliable information possible. Assist in trouble-shooting data collection issues as they arise.
- Supervise development of data entry programs to facilitate analysis for the economic study, and provide oversight to data entry to minimize errors.

Analysis and Dissemination of Results

The Cost-Analysis Expert is responsible for all initial analysis and write-up of results from the qualitative research component. The final report should be presented to the project team and relevant stakeholders.

Manage Data Documentation and Storage

The Cost-Analysis Expert is responsible for ensuring proper, comprehensive documentation of the additional cost-analysis activities and ensuring all necessary data and corresponding documentation is stored on the Results-Based Financing for Health Data Catalog.

ESTIMATED LEVEL OF EFFORT

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

Deliverables	Expected Delivery Date	Days
1.1 Cost-Analysis Concept Note <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As detailed above 		
2.1 Final instruments with written summary of additions to primary data and secondary data sources		
3.1 Final report with initial analysis of results		
4.1 Final Data and Documentation uploaded on RBF for Health Data Catalog		
Total Days		

REQUIRED SKILLS/ EXPERIENCE

- Advanced degree(s) in relevant field, such as public health or economics
- Minimum 5 years experience producing costing analysis for journal publication
- Relevant experience working with impact evaluation methodology
- Excellent written English communication skills, with focus on research protocols, research papers and descriptive reports for diverse audience
- Ability to communicate well with various levels of management, and work independently in order to meet deadlines

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.