

CONSULTANCY

Terms of Reference

**Classified at NOC level
By Marwa K. on 16 June 2021**

This consultancy is requested by:

Unit:	WHE
Country Office:	Pakistan

1. Purpose of the Consultancy

The purpose of this consultancy is to provide technical support to the National Institute of Health (NIH) MONHSR&C in strengthening the public health surveillance through adopting the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) in Pakistan and support its implementation.

2. Background

The surveillance system in Pakistan is fragmented and largely vertical surveillance systems are implemented. The Need for establishing an Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response System (IDSRS) has been recognized in Pakistan for quite some time to improve surveillance capacities in the country. The Joint External Evaluation (JEE) report, conducted in May 2016, highlighted the surveillance gaps in the country which needed to be addressed for effective implementation of IHR 2005. This provided an opportunity to move forward on IDSRS in Pakistan. Subsequently the M/o NHSR&C and NIH with the support of Development partners initiated implementing the IDSR model based on the One Health approach and piloted in 12 districts of the country. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present major challenges to the current surveillance systems in the country. It has highlighted the fragmentation of data sources and activities of surveillance among several vertical programs. To fill the gaps in the surveillance during the COVID-19 pandemic the already existing Polio surveillance platforms was used for the emergency implantation of COVID-19 surveillance activities. The lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic led the national public health authorities to prioritize the implementation of the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) which has been piloted in some districts for the last few years. The MONHSR&C and Planning Commission of Pakistan has developed a Technical Framework to strengthening the IDSR implementation in the country. National Institute of Health (NIH) is the lead institution to Coordinate the implementation and strengthening IDSR in all the provinces and regions. NIH has requested WHO to provide technical support for the implementation of IDSR.

3. Planned timelines (subject to confirmation)

03 month

Work to be performed

The consultant is expected to complete the following outputs/deliverables:

- **Output 1:** Provide technical advice and advocate for WHO position on strengthening IDSR during coordination with NIH / MONHSR&C.
- **Output 2:** Coordinate with the National IDSR Focal Person at NIH to foster support to the government, of both WHO and partners supporting IDSR;

Deliverable 2.1: arrange IDSR related meetings, take minutes and follow up on agreed action points are implemented and reported in subsequent meetings.

Deliverable 2.2: participate in FEDSD / NIH meetings, in consultation with WHO/WHE cluster head.

Deliverable 2.3: Provide support in organizing meetings of the high-level coordination structure.

- **Output 3:** Review IDSR documents and provide technical input in finalisation of the documents for adaptation.
- **Output 4:** Prepare recommendations and draft the roll out plan for IDSR.
- **Output 5:** Conduct visits to the provinces and promote for roll out of IDSR with prior approval of WHO WHE cluster lead and WR
- **Output 6:** Monitor the implementation of IDSR and provide updates and recommendations to WHO country office through NPO Surveillance, WHE Cluster Lead
- **Output 7:** Track the performance of IDSR structures at the provincial level and provide technical advice to the surveillance team at FEDSD NIH.

4. Technical Supervision

Responsible Officer:	Dr Michael Lukwiya	Email:	lukwiyam@who.int
Manager:	Dr Palitha Gunarathna Mahipala, WR Pakistan	Email:	emacopakwr@who.int

5. Specific requirements

- Qualifications required:

- Medical Graduate (MBBS or MD) or Public Health Graduate, preferably Epidemiology and Biostatistics.
- FELTP Certification / MPH/ MSc/ PhD in the related field shall be asset.
- Excellent planning and coordination skills, with proven ability to work within a team setting, with multiple stakeholders and in a multi-cultural working environment.

Experience required:

- At least 5 years' experience in communicable disease surveillance and control.
- Working experience with international partners for surveillance and response will be preferred

- Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:

- Excellent planning and coordination skills, with proven ability to work within a team setting, with multiple stakeholders and in a multi-cultural working environment
- Good computer data analysis skills
- Good Epidemiological Report writing skills
- Good knowledge and skills of data analysis using Statistical software's and interpretation

- Language requirements:

Expert knowledge of English and local language.

6. Place of assignment

Islamabad (FEDSD NIH)

7. Medical clearance

The selected Consultant will be expected to provide a medical certificate of fitness for work.

8. Travel

The Consultant is expected to travel (prior approval of WR required) according to the itinerary and estimated schedule below:

Travel dates				Location:
From	xx	To	xx	
Purpose:				

All **travel arrangements** will be made by WHO – WHO will not be responsible for tickets purchased by the Consultant without the express, prior authorization of WHO. While on mission under the terms of this consultancy, the Consultant will receive **subsistence allowance subject to prior approval of WR**.

Visas requirements: it is the consultant's responsibility to fulfil **visa requirements** and ask for visa support letter(s) if needed.