

**Terms Of Reference (TOR)**

**Research Associate- ICT UHC Unit In charge**

**HPSIU-Ministry of NHSR&C**

**Purpose of APW:**

The purpose of this APW is to facilitate the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (NHSR&C) by accelerating progress towards implementation of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Pakistan by providing the institutional development and local analysis required to incorporate evidence into national priority setting processes. This also includes support of district health departments’ in adequate planning and execution of these action plans to move towards achievements of the UHC index.

**Introduction and Background:**

The Ministry of NHSR&C is committed to helping the people of Pakistan in maintaining and improving their health and making our population healthier in the region. Under the National Health Vision, the Government strives to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) that is efficient, equitable, accessible, and affordable to its entire populace. The federal ministry with all the provincial departments of health is working to improve the health outcomes of all citizens while ensuring the delivery of quality health services through a resilient and responsive health system. Such a system is also envisioned to respond to the Sustainable Development Goals of the country.

The SDGs and UHC are the practical expressions of concern for health equity and the right to health and contribute to sustainable development and poverty reduction. The National Health Vision 2025 provides a way forward to confront the challenges that face the national health system such as inequities, rising exposure to health risks, increasing healthcare costs, and low levels of access to quality.

Evidence-based development of a generic costed essential package of health services is one of the steps towards a UHC benefit package of Pakistan based on DCP3 and is a critical step towards UHC. Designing a comprehensive package of health services considering the burden of disease, cost-effectiveness, and political-economic context is critical to defining which services are to be covered through different platforms: i) community level; ii) health center level; iii) first-level hospitals; and iv) referral level hospital; and v) population-based. In addition, interventions related to inter-sectoral prevention and fiscal policies can also play an important role in moving toward UHC.

The Ministry is now focusing to implement the UHC Benefit Package of Pakistan through programmatic reforms along with strengthening of the health system. WHO is collaborating with the Ministry of NHSR&C in the above reform initiative. The consultancy support will help the ministry during 2023.

**Objectives:** To support district health departments in planning and execution of DHO action plans and provide technical support to implement towards achievements of the UHC index

**Planned timelines**

**Start date:** July 7, 2023

**End date:** December 15, 2023

**Tasks:**

* Overall lead in UHC Unit activities
* Coordination with DHO Office ICT on M&E activities of PHC in ICT
* Develop district action plans for Phase 01 UHC districts as advised by the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination.
* Coordinate operationalization of UHC Unit / Cell in ICT and Phase 01 UHC districts as advised by the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination.
* To monitor the implementation of the Family Practice approach along with community engagement at model district ICT and provide a monthly progress report in line with planned interventions.
* To facilitate and coordinate orientation facility-level staff on Family Practice approach/ Community engagement and their training using capacities available at the district level on:

* + HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, TB, and Malaria (especially active case finding);
	+ Coordination with IHRA on MSDS
	+ integrated RMNCH
	+ integrated noncommunicable diseases, active screening, diagnosis, and treatment of major NCDs/ Mental disorders, and promotion of best byes
* Develop and maintain active coordination with development sector partners, and CSOs working on Social Determinants of Health (SDH)
* Support and Coordinate implementation of LHWs strategic plan 2022 — 2027 in Phase 01 UHC districts
* Develop research proposal on relevant public health issues of interest
* Support in facilitating a joint external evaluation process
* Support in Implementation of M&E framework and M&E tools in phase 01 districts

**Deliverables:**

1. Report on the District Level Consultations for Development of district action plans of Phase 01 UHC districts as prioritized by the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination
2. Operationalization of UHC Unit / Cell in ICT and Phase 01 UHC districts
3. Implementation and reporting of FPA and Community Engagement in pilot health facilities including SDH

**Technical Supervision:**

The selected assignment will work on the supervision of:

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| Responsible Officer:  | Dr HassanAli Dalvi Shirazi, Health System Cluster Coordinator | Email: | dalvih@who.int |
| Manager: | Dr Palitha Mahipala, WR Pakistan | Email: | MAHIPALAP@who.int |

**Required Skills / Experience:**

* Qualification: University degree in Public Health
* Experience: At least 2 years in the Public Health domain in the public sector/ development organization.

**Additional Requirements:**

* Broad knowledge of the situation in Pakistan regarding Public Health priorities.
* Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to promote consensus and new approaches.
* Very good ability to build and maintain relations and network with authorities and other stakeholders. Excellent knowledge of MS Office applications.
* Proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking English and the local language is required.

**Place of assignment**

* Islamabad