

JOB DESCRIPTION

Thematic Lead – Nutrition Measurement, Learning and Evaluation

1.0 ABOUT US

Sambodhi Research and Communications helps create high-impact knowledge and catalyse accountability in the public domain through its project management and monitoring and evaluation solutions. At Sambodhi, we offer objective, evidence-based support to implementers, government, donors and corporates. Over the past decade, we have emerged as a pioneer for developing cutting-edge methodologies for evaluation of large scale development interventions. With a close-knit team of 100 professionals we work across South Asia, South East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Headquartered at Noida (Delhi National Capital Region), India, we have full service regional offices in Phnom Penh (Cambodia) and Dar-e-Salam (Tanzania).

Sambodhi provides services to federal agencies, donors, foundations and corporates, in areas of public health, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, water and sanitation, environment, and renewable energy. We have made valuable contribution in monitoring, learning and evaluation programs and have influenced development policies and improved implementation efficiency.

2.0 WHY SAMBODHI

Sambodhi offers an exciting and challenging opportunity to contribute to high quality multi-input development programmes and to work closely with government, and with key development actors like the World Bank, UN and Bilateral agencies, Philanthropies like Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation etc. Being one of the leading and largest M&E service provider in South Asia, Sambodhi offers an extraordinary platform to learn, mentor and innovate in a perceptive environment. Driven by deep rooted wisdom of “Equity in Knowledge”, learning is integral to our work; be it investing in peer driven intensive professional development within Sambodhi or field building on M&E globally. In line with it, it offers an enabled environment for professionals to write, publish and network; to locate themselves in the contemporary discourse on M&E and be a part of the global think-thank.

3.0 JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Thematic Lead – Nutrition Measurement, Learning and Evaluation

Project: External MLE to UP TSU

Job Location: Noida

Job Summary:

In order to increase uptake and enhance quality of maternal and child health services in Uttar Pradesh, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) has entered into a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP) in December 2012 to provide techno-managerial assistance by establishing a Technical Support Unit (TSU) to implement the RMNCH+A strategy. The TSU envisages support to GoUP by improving the execution capacity at the block, district, divisional and state levels with the overall objective of accelerating progress against critical health and other key development indicators with focus on 25 districts (and within them 100 focus blocks). Interventions target outcomes and impact in the thematic areas of Maternal and Child Health, Infant Child and Maternal Nutrition; and Family Planning.

To strengthen results and to evaluate performance and outcomes of the TSU, an external Measurement, Learning and Evaluation (MLE) has been constituted by BMGF. As part of MLE mandate, various studies including baseline-midline-endline evaluations, process evaluations and need-based studies are furthered in the target geographies.

The current role is of the thematic lead for Nutrition MLE imperatives MLE. The candidate will be part of the external MLE team and will lead the Measurement, Learning and Evaluation imperatives specific to Nutrition. The candidate will report to the co – Principal Investigator of the project and work closely with the project coordinator on a day-to-day basis.

Essential Functions:

The candidate will perform the following key functions:

- Lead conceptualization and design of various studies towards measurement, learning and evaluation of the nutrition interventions of the UPTSU.
- Develop study protocols for the studies including finalization of research questions, measures and method, sampling design, instruments and analysis plan
- Provide necessary support in implementation of the various studies and monitoring of various studies in the field.
- Develop the capacity and technical expertise of project staff in the field and headquarters for efficient execution of the MLE activities and to use of data
- Lead the project team in the development of reports, presentations and other learning products as may be required for sharing and disseminating the findings
- Synthesize findings as articles for publication in peer-reviewed journal with significant impact factors
- Support the project team in deliver presentations of reports / proposals to project stakeholders
- Liaison with partner organizations, consultants, vendors and other relevant agencies as may be required
- Any other tasks necessary to effectively implement the MLE imperatives

The above essential functions are representative of major duties of positions in this job. Specific duties and responsibilities may vary. Other duties may be assigned similar to the above consistent with the knowledge, skills and abilities required for the job.

Desired Profile

- A post-graduate in Nutrition, Public Health or allied. Ph.D. is desirable.
- 5-7 years of extensive experience in design and implementation of research/evaluation studies on public health and nutrition, focusing on infant, child and maternal nutrition
- 3-5 publications in peer reviewed journals of high impact factors
- Experience of working in the social and development sector programs is desired.

Personal Competencies:

- Should have excellent understanding/ knowledge of the Nutrition policy landscape and regulatory environment
- Understanding of current research priorities in the Nutrition landscape.
- In-depth knowledge of research, evaluation, data analysis
- High level of involvement, engagement and ownership
- Flair for building quality relationships with clients
- Demonstrated competence in handling teams
- Strong interpersonal and negotiation ability
- Proven influencer and communicator with senior stakeholders within and outside the organization
- Strong time management skill and ability to prioritise
- Willingness to travel