**To Conduct Endline Assessment of ASTHA II**

**Terms of Reference (ToR)**







We are a leading organisation for the implementation of international development   
projects. We promote inclusive economic, social, and ecological development to make an effective contribution towards sustainable and widespread prosperity in developing and emerging economies.

Background

Swisscontact, Swiss Foundation for Technical Cooperation, headquartered in Zurich and was founded in 1959 by Swiss private sector and academia for sustainable development cooperation. Swisscontact promotes economic, social and ecological development by supporting people to successfully integrate into local commercial life. We create opportunities for people to improve their living conditions as a result of their own efforts. The focus of our systemic interventions in the private sector is the strengthening of local and global value chains. Through its projects, Swisscontact enables access to professional training, promotes local entrepreneurship, creates access to local financial service providers and supports the efficient use of resources with the goal of successfully promoting employment and income generation.

As an initiative to support Bangladesh in reaching the target of ensuring quality healthcare services at rural communities, Swisscontact, in association with Novartis, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Julius Baer Foundation, is implementing the ASTHA (Achieving Sustainability Towards Healthcare Access) project. The project facilitates the development and integration of Community Paramedic services in rural Bangladesh. Its focus is to increase healthcare outreach in the rural inaccessible pocket areas, with special attention to Maternal and Child Health (MCH), Family Planning (FP) and Basic Primary Healthcare Services.

‘Community Paramedic’ is a two-year full-time course, designed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) where students acquire and develop skills on Maternal and Child Health, Reproductive Health, Family Planning and Primary Healthcare services. Training institutes affiliated with the Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council (BNMC) are conducting this course to develop trained Community Paramedics for rural communities of Bangladesh. After completion of 2 years’ training, students must sit for a final exam organized by BNMC and BNMC also provides practice registration among qualified Community Paramedics. Qualified Community Paramedics are eligible to do self-practice at the grassroots.

ASTHA is currently in its Phase II (January 2019 to December 2022) which will emphasize on business viability of Community Paramedic Training Institutes (CPTIs) and Community Paramedics (CPs) and on acquiring important partnerships for nationwide scaling up and sustainability. The project operates in seven districts, namely, Sylhet, Sunamganj, Barguna, Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, Nilphamari and Patuakhali. The project is working in the following strategic areas:

1. Strengthening CP Programme
2. Enhancing the capacity and service provision of CPs
3. Sensitizing and involving public and private scale agents to promote CP service nationwide.
4. Creating mass awareness about CP profession and quality CP services.

For further information, please visit: <https://www.swisscontact.org/en/projects/astha>

**Objective** **of the assignment**

The overall objective of the assignment is to assess the attributable changes made by ASTHA in the lives of community members and Community Paramedics in the seven project districts: Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Nilphamari, Patukhali, Sunamganj, Sylhet, and Barguna. To specify:

* Evaluate the project in terms of effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, coverage and impact, with a strong focus on assessing the results against the project’s outcome and project goals;
* Generate key lessons and make recommendations for enhancing project implementation and performance;
* Undertake a comparative assessment on the progress achieved in delivering the program results and to identify key successes, gaps, and constraints that need to be addressed.

**Scope of the assignment**

Some of the more specific objectives of the assignment will be, but not limited to are:

* Conduct a comparative analysis of the existing primary healthcare service seeking behaviour/attitudes/constraints of rural communities in project and surrounding non-project locations.
* Assess the contributions made by the project in awareness raising/changing the behaviour of the rural communities in seeking proper healthcare.
* Understand the perception of local government health authorities and officials regarding Community Paramedics in both project and non-project areas.
* Asses the perception of patients and communities regarding Community Paramedic services and their level of satisfaction.
* Measure the percentage increase of child delivery/ANC/PNC by skilled providers in project districts.
* Evaluate the extent to which the project has established Community Paramedics in project locations in comparison to the neighbouring non-project districts.
* Gather information on the level of quality/confidence/capability of Community Paramedics and their improvements due to project interventions.
* Understand the overall challenges caused while highlighting COVID-19 crisis and persistent difficulties faced by CPs and measures taken by CPs to overcome these challenges. Likewise, evaluate the impacts/effects that the project had to cope up with due to the current Covid-19 pandemic.
* Evaluate any changes in perception on CP services and the level of awareness that CPs have created about COVID-19 among their patients after emergence of the pandemic.
* Assess Community Paramedic income trends/income categories/fees/patient referral trends/referral destinations etc. in project and non-project locations, followed by measuring the abovementioned factors for the year of 2022.
* Appraise project progress achieved to date in comparison with the performance indicators outlined in the project Monitoring, Results Measurement framework.
* Measure the systemic change of the market system in order to realize the project’s attribution to date.
* Collect a minimum of two success stories from the field to encapsulate how the project has impacted over the target groups (community patients and community paramedics).
* Draw lessons realizing the challenges caused (in general manner and due to COVID-19 crisis) and make recommendations for enhancing project implementation and performance to further impact on the lives of people living in the rural communities.

**Specific Tasks and Roles**

1. **Roles of the Consultant/Firm**

* The consultant/firm will be responsible for conducting end-line assessment of the phase II of ASTHA project.

1. **Tasks of Consultant/Firm**

*The suggested, but not limited to, specific tasks of the Consultant/firm are:*

* Develop proposals and study design to meet the assessment objectives, followed by efficient methodology
* Prepare assessment tools
* Organize the training for the enumerator
* Conduct formal assessments using qualitative and quantitative surveys
* Transcription/Analysis of data
* Preparation of draft report for feedback
* Preparation of final report.

1. **Roles of Swisscontact**

* Assist in study planning activities and provide technical assistance (as required)
* Provide list of the Community Paramedics and their locations
* Share relevant project documents
* Provide support in enumerator and supervisor training
* Bear all costs (as per approved budget)
* Provide overall guidance.

**Required Qualification**

This guideline shall ensure uniformity of applications submitted by all Consultants and transparency of the evaluation process. However, the minimum eligibility criteria are:

* Minimum 5 years of proven experience in development project evolution.
* Preferably he/she should have a broad understanding of Bangladesh’s health care system and prior working experiences in healthcare sector.
* Expected to maintain a strong level and flow of communication with the project stakeholders for better assessment of the project.
* Demonstrated ability to produce high quality study, review and analytical reports.
* Should Demonstrate multidisciplinary expertise and skills necessary for monitoring and evaluation of project implementation.
* 3 years working experience with relevant industry will be preferred.
* Work experience with international organization will be a plus point.
* Adequate resource pool (human and financial), ability to mobilize additional resources.

**Evaluation Criteria**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Criteria | Score |
| Technical Proposal | Understanding of the assignment | 5 |
| Efficiency of the proposed work plan | 10 |
| Methodology | 20 |
| Professional capacity and qualifications to carry out the assignment (relevant skills, knowledge, resources) | 25 |
| Relevant experience in similar projects and/or in the sector | 5 |
| Presentation (top three proposals only) | 15 |
| **Sub-total** | **80** |
| Financial Proposal | Value for money | 20 |
|  | **Total** | **100** |

**Submission of the proposal**

All competitive tenders (Consultant/ firm) require submitting the followings:

* A technical proposal (Maximum 10-12 pages) showing understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology, timeline (activity plan), key staff profiles, roles and individual time to be spent in the assignment;
* A separate financial proposal setting out a detailed budget for the assignment;
* A summary of relevant assignment took place during the last 5 years;
* Submission of an organizational profile, with the CVs of key personnel who will be involved in the assignment;
* A list of the existing clientele of the organization;
* It is mandatory for the bidding organisations to submit documentary evidence demonstrating their legal, taxation and financial status. This includes:
* A certificate of incorporation (for individual companies, a trade license);
* NGO bureau registration (if applicable);
* An organizational organogram of key personnel, inclusive of the names of such personnel;
* Tax identification number (TIN);
* VAT registration number;
* Proof of a segregated account (providing the name and address of such account);
* A signed statement testifying that all information contained within the proposal is correct and true.

**Submission Details**

Interested Consultants/firms should submit soft copies of technical proposal and hard copies of financial proposal (separately) with other necessary legal documents by **2nd October 2022 before 04:00 pm**.

Soft copies should be emailed with **the subject line: “Endline Assessment of ASTHA II”** to the following address:

[**bd.procurement@swisscontact.org**](mailto:bd.procurement@swisscontact.org)

Hard copies should be submitted to the address below:

**Senior Officer - Procurement**

Swisscontact Bangladesh

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