



Scope of Work and Deliverables

USAID Advancing Nutrition Technical Team

Date of Request:	<i>January 12, 2022</i>
Purpose:	<i>The consultant will conduct interviews and analysis to support a country case study on how to implement multi-sectoral programming for children</i>
Place of Performance:	<i>Remote/Washington, D.C.</i>
Technical Team:	<i>Child Health Task Force Secretariat</i>
Period of Performance:	<i>February 1 – May 31, 2022</i>
Activity Manager:	<i>Dyness Kasungami</i>
Activity Code:	<i>1.2.1d</i>
Activity Internal Project #:	<i>37462.3030.0002</i>

SERVICES/SCOPE OF WORK¹: *The Contractor shall use all reasonable efforts to perform the following services in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement:*

A. Background

Practitioners, policymakers and implementers recognize the need for multi-sectoral action to enable children across the globe to not only survive, but also thrive. Yet, the question remains how to successfully operationalize multi-sectoral programs and coordinate between sectors to advance child health, wellbeing and development. Two key recommendations emerged from the Child Health Task Force commissioned [Landscape Analysis of Survive, Thrive and Transform Interventions for Children](#): 1) to support countries to institute and maintain mechanisms for multisectoral collaboration and coordination that will be sustainable over time, and 2) to learn about experiences in additional countries in Africa (beyond Kenya, Senegal, and Zambia) and other regions. In response, the Task Force Secretariat will conduct a literature review and country case study – in the African or Latin American region – demonstrating how to operationalize effective cross-sectoral collaborations for child health. This activity supports the first priority of the [Child Health Task Force Strategic Plan \(2021-2025\)](#), to “engage global and

¹ USAID approval is required prior to any travel and payments associated with travel, travel-related tasks/responsibilities/deliverables or payments are contingent upon receiving USAID approval. The consultant will also need to provide documentation of medical clearance.

country stakeholders about the need for increased resources, accountability, and a multi-sectoral approach to child health.”

B. Objectives

The [Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health \(2016–2030\)](#) set out an ambitious new agenda calling for all children to survive *and thrive*, and for society to transform in ways that make this possible. The thrive agenda focuses on the optimal growth, development, and protection of children to make sure they are able to achieve their full potential. In support of this agenda, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) [redesigned the vision for child and adolescent health](#) and development, emphasizing the important role of sectors beyond health. Actions need to expand from a sole reliance on health services and families to the inclusion of schools, WASH, roads, transport, agriculture, and others. Multi-sectoral interventions can address persistent health inequities and expand coverage, reaching children beyond those regularly accessing health services.

In response to this global call to action, the Child Health Task Force established a working group to address the expansion of child health services, the [Re-imagining the Package of Care for Children subgroup](#). The subgroup commissioned a [position paper](#), published in February 2020, on integrating packages for child health services within and across sectors, including nutrition and early childhood development. School health and nutrition has also been a focus of the group, sharing lessons from countries on collaboration between health and education sectors and reviewing WHO’s new Health Promoting Schools guidance. Building on these work streams, this activity aims to increase understanding of how to implement multi-sectoral programs. While most actors acknowledge the importance of a multi-sector approach, working across ministries and sectors has its challenges, such as fragmentation (between and within sectors), resource allocation (who pays?), and governance (who leads?) ([WHO 2018](#), xii). When it comes to school health, additional gaps include limited donor investments in child health for children older than five, undefined roles between ministries of health and education, and a lack of documentation on successfully run programs. The COVID-19 pandemic has further disrupted health service delivery through schools ([Shors & Shultz 2021](#)). The subgroup will create a mechanism to share stories of successes and failures in implementing multi-sectoral action for children, learning from countries collaborating across sectors. In this way, the Task Force aims to inform operationalization and strengthen multi-sectoral programs for children. In addition, the Task Force will identify evidence and knowledge gaps to articulate a research agenda on multi-sectoral approaches to child health.

C. Activities

JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI R&T) serves as the Secretariat of the Child Health Task Force. JSI has worked with a consultant to conduct a literature review of approaches to multi-sectoral programming for children in Africa and Latin America. The literature review will inform the next phases of this activity, for which JSI is seeking a second consultant to work collaboratively with the other consultant and Secretariat team. This consultant will take lead the following activities for the Task Force Secretariat.

- conduct interviews in English and Spanish with key informants involved in policy and implementation to understand facilitators and hindrances to multi-sectoral programs for children. The consultant team will chose key informants from promising programs
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identified in the literature review (referenced above). The findings from these interviews will form the basis of a case study highlighting evidence from at least two countries, one in Africa and one in Latin America, to illustrate effective multi-sectoral programming (to inform multiple sectors, including health, education, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene or WASH).

- transcribe and analyze the interviews to develop the country case study final report.
- present findings from the report to the Child Health Task Force members through one or more webinars
- collaborate with the Re-imagining the Package of Care for Children subgroup and school health and education team to facilitate learning on multi-sectoral approaches through the Task Force

D. Deliverables and Schedule

The Contractor is responsible for the timely submission of the following deliverables, as part of the SOW:

Del. No.	Deliverable Name	Deliverable Description	Due Date
1	Interview guide	Develop an interview guide including interview questions, protocol, script, and method for identifying participants. The participants should be involved in programming in the countries identified for the case study.	February 28, 2022
2	Interview transcripts and summaries	Conduct interviews with key informants in English and Spanish. Provide summaries of key messages from each interview, along with keeping a record of interview transcripts to use for qualitative analysis.	March 30, 2022
3	Webinar presentation	Present the report findings during at least one Task Force webinar, coordinating with the Re-imagining the Package of Care for Children subgroup.	May 31, 2022

The total LOE is approximately equivalent to **21** days.

All required deliverables and reports shall be submitted to the JSI Activity Manager listed on Page 1.

E. Consultant Qualifications

- Masters degree in a development field e.g. public health or international development
- Minimum 8 years experience in global development
- Advanced Spanish language skills
- Proven experience in leading multi-sectoral programming (experience in Latin America preferred)
- Strong interpersonal communication skills

- Qualitative research skills (including experience with interviews)
- Experience in high level collaboration with partners from a multi-sectoral and multi-cultural perspective