TERMS OF REFERENCE

Impact Evaluation Field Coordinator for the Nigeria Subsidy Reinvestment & Empowerment Programme (SURE-P) Maternal and Child Health Initiative

Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME)
The World Bank

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1. Summary

The Field Coordinator will work on research design, implementation, and analysis for the impact evaluation (IE) of the Nigeria Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P) Maternal and Child Health Initiative, which is implemented by the Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME) of the World Bank. SURE-P itself is implemented by the Federal Ministry of Health of Nigeria, and the Field Coordinator will support in-country capacity development for the client team.

The Field Coordinator will be hired as a short term consultant (STC) for 150 days total during the period September 2012-June 2013 and will be based in Abuja, Nigeria. The Field Coordinator’s main responsibilities will be to support (i) the finalization of the impact evaluation design and the preparation, implementation, and analysis of the baseline survey, (ii) capacity development for the client team, (iii) reporting on IE-related activities, and (iv) SURE-P implementation support.

2. Project Description

The SURE-P impact evaluation is managed by the World Bank’s Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME). DIME works to mainstream impact evaluation into World Bank-supported operations, and build government capacity for impact evaluation and evidence-based policy making.

Impact evaluations use rigorous experimental and quasi-experimental methods to identify the actual impact of a program against a scientifically valid counterfactual. Unlike traditional performance monitoring, impact evaluations ask what would have happened to the beneficiaries if the program had not taken place, or if a different program design had been chosen. If impact evaluations are undertaken prospectively, i.e. before scaling up an innovative policy intervention, they are a powerful tool to identify the most promising and cost-effective policy options. In that sense, impact evaluations are a key instrument for improving aid effectiveness and increasing fiscal accountability. At the same time, they are a management tool for results-based policy planning.
DIME emphasizes client ownership of impact evaluations in order to maximize their use and relevance for the client’s policy learning needs; and client capacity development through learning by doing.

In Nigeria, the World Bank has partnered with the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) and the Gates Foundation to carry out a series of IEs FMOH maternal and child health programs. The first such program selected for IE is the Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P) Maternal and Child Health Initiative.

SURE-P aims to improve maternal and child health outcomes particularly for the poor who cannot easily access health services. This will be achieved through a combination of supply and demand side interventions. On the supply-side SURE-P will recruit, train, and deploy midwives and community and village health workers to previously understaffed public primary health facilities. Additionally, essential facility infrastructure will be rehabilitated, and the facilities will receive key supplies and equipment. On the demand side, a conditional cash transfer (CCT) scheme will be introduced, with pregnant women receiving cash payments conditional on attending antenatal care (ANC), skilled birth attendance, and postnatal care. Additionally, behavior change communication activities will target all women of reproductive age to encourage them to register with their nearest PHC.

The SURE-P IE is currently in the design phase. It is proposed that the IE will focus on the empirical estimation of program effects in order to address the following research questions (subject to modification):

1. **What is the overall impact of SURE-P?** The IE will estimate the short and medium term causal incremental impact of SURE-P on the rate of skilled birth attendance, other healthcare seeking behavior, and observable health outcomes. This will provide an overall estimated of the impacts of the program as a package.

2. **What are appropriate supply-side incentives?** The IE will identify the short and medium term causal effect of alternative incentive schemes for midwives on attrition rates (lack of health worker motivation is believed to have hampered previous interventions aiming to provide human resources for health).

3. **What is the additional impact of the CCT?** The IE will the short and medium term incremental causal effect of the CCT scheme on the skilled birth attendance rates and other healthcare seeking behaviors. This will provide an estimate of the marginal impact of the CCT over-and-above the supply-side interventions.

4. **How can loss of commodities from health facilities be reduced?** The IE will examine the impact of an innovative mobile-phone enabled community monitoring system to understand its impacts on reducing health facility stock-outs of key commodities.
3. Tasks

The Field Coordinator will work with the IE research team and the SURE-P team. His/her main responsibilities will be to support (i) the finalization of the impact evaluation design and the preparation, implementation, and analysis of the baseline survey, (ii) IE capacity development for the SURE-P team, (iii) reporting on IE-related activities, and (iv) SURE-P implementation support. The consultant will be based at the SURE-P office in Abuja, Nigeria for the duration of this assignment. In-country travel will be required, subject to security precautions.

The Field Coordinator’s tasks will include, but are not limited to, the following. All tasks will be performed in collaboration with the joint SURE-P/World Bank IE research team, under DIME supervision.

i. Work on the elaboration of a rigorous IE identification strategy. This includes confirming the key questions to be addressed, the outcome indicators to be used, data sources and sample sizes (including sampling framework and field procedures), timeline and budget.

ii. Work on the implementation protocol for the IE.

iii. Draft data collection instruments, including questionnaires, manuals, and field procedures.

iv. Draft/finalize the application for ethical clearance.

v. Support procurement of a baseline data collection firm. This includes drafting/finalizing terms of reference for data collection and other documents which might be necessary for procurement under World Bank procedures, and participating in proposal review, negotiations, and firm supervision.

vi. Monitor and participate in the entire data collection process, including finalization of data collection instruments, training of survey teams, and in-field supervision of survey implementation.

vii. Support SURE-P in program implementation to ensure this complies with the IE protocol.

viii. Support capacity development activities for SURE-P staff in areas related to impact evaluation in general and, specifically, data collection, management, and analysis.

ix. Prepare regular IE progress reports, and contribute to periodic monitoring/reporting to donors and to World Bank management.

x. Contribute to statistical analysis of baseline survey data.

xi. Perform background research, and contribute to policy/technical notes and research reports.

xii. Participate in workshops and other dissemination events.


xiv. Support other IEs in Nigeria as needed.
4. **Deliverables**  
The Field Coordinator will contribute to the following deliverables:

i. IE concept note  
ii. IE implementation protocol  
iii. Baseline survey instruments (questionnaires, manuals, field procedures, etc.)  
iv. Baseline data collection terms of reference  
v. Submission for ethical clearance  
vi. Field supervision reports  
vii. Baseline survey dataset  
viii. Baseline survey report  
ix. Policy/technical notes  
x. Periodic reporting.

5. **Skills Required**

- **Academic specialization.** Minimum of a Master’s degree in economics, public policy or related field with strong quantitative research skills, preferably with a concentration in development economics, impact evaluation and applied micro-econometrics.

- **Experience.** The candidate must have experience with data collection in a developing country setting. The candidate must have technical expertise in impact evaluation and econometric analysis, with proficiency in Stata desired. Ideally s/he will have some teaching experience and have previously worked with governments and in the health sector.

- **Capacity Building Skills.** Ability to deliver training and capacity building activities, with prior experience preferred.

- **Language.** Superior written and oral communications skills in English.

- **Interpersonal skills.** Motivated self-starter, with demonstrated ability to work effectively and sensitively in teams and across cultures.

- **Travel.** Willingness and ability to relocate to Abuja and to travel within Nigeria.

6. **Terms of Contract**

The Field Coordinator will be hired as a short term consultant for a total of 150 days during the period July 2012-June 2013. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. While in Abuja, s/he will not be paid per diem nor be reimbursed for accommodation expenses. The Field Coordinator is expected to use his/her own laptop and mobile phone. S/he will be reimbursed for travel expenses to/from Abuja and for travel expenses (including accommodation) for in-country travel outside Abuja. All payments and reimbursements will be conditional on the submission of outputs or receipts, as applicable.
The consultant will report to Vincenzo Di Maro (DIME Economist) and work under the supervision of Victor Orozco and Marcus Holmlund (DIME IE Health Coordinators), Pedro Rosa Dias and Marcos Vera-Hernandez (IE lead researchers; University of Sussex / University College London), and Bright Orji (Local IE Project Coordinator). S/he will work closely with the World Bank Nigeria Country Office in Abuja and with the SURE-P team.

Qualified candidates should send their resume and a brief (maximum 300 words) statement of interest to Felipe Dunsch (fdunsch@worldbank.org) by August 28, 2012. Applications received after this date will only be considered under exceptional circumstances.

Start date will be contingent on the availability of funding. However, applicants should be available to start work in early September. This position cannot be performed concurrently with full-time employment elsewhere.