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**NATIONAL FOOD AND NUTRITION COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

**Name of Project:** Mumbwa Nutrition Convergence Centre (MNCC) Project

Name of assignment: Consultancy services for conducting baseline evaluation for mncc

**reference no.** nfnc/unops/2020/09

**issuance date:** 11/09/2020

**Terms of Reference**

**BASELINE EVALUATION**

**Mumbwa Nutrition Convergence Centre (MNCC) Project**

**1. Background of the Project**

The National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC) of Zambia is spearheading the implementation of phase II of the First 1000 Most Critical Days Programme (MCDP II), a multi-sectoral Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) programme in various districts across the country. MCDP II is being executed with support from cooperating partners: DFID, SIDA, Germany Government, USAID, and the European Union whose goal is to reduce stunting among Zambian children under the age of two years. One of the major lessons learned from MCDP I was the lack of convergence of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions at community and household levels. It has been established that intervention convergence at the household level is critical in reducing stunting. The 2013-14 national demographic health survey (DHS) showed that the highest marginal reduction in stunting was within households with adequate access to resources and skills to address three key drivers of stunting: WASH, health services, and food and care practices. In the absence of one of these, reductions in stunting will be less likely. It is with this background that the MNCC project was conceptualised.

**1.1 About Mumbwa Nutrition Convergence Centre Project**

The MNCC project is a 14 months project being funded by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and implemented by the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC) in partnership with the Programme Against Malnutrition (PAM) to pilot the concept of “convergence” of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions in Mumbwa district in line with the MCDP II programme theory.

* + 1. **Overall Project Objective**
* To promote uptake of a package of high impact nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions by households for greater impact in reducing stunting and other forms of malnutrition
	+ 1. **Specific Objectives**
* To enhance the capacity of community level coordination structures to strengthen household and community level convergence of key nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions
* To sensitise households and the community through education sessions and practical demonstrations to stimulate adoption of appropriate behaviours promoted in the MCDP II package of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions.
* To stimulate community interest and raise demand for the package of nutrition interventions provided by line ministries and other stakeholders within their communities.
	+ 1. **Purpose and scope of the Baseline Evaluation**
* The purpose of this evaluation is to establish benchmark measures for all the project indicators as outlined in the project log frame.
1. **Expected Outputs and Deliverables**
2. Produce inception report stipulating how the consultant will conduct the baseline study within the stipulated time frame
3. Produce, *“Mumbwa Nutrition Convergence Centre Project Baseline Report”.* The report excluding the executive summary and annexes should not exceed 25 pages
4. The consultants are also expected to produce performance management indicators and tools based on their assessment during the baseline study
5. The executive summary (1-3 pages) should include key findings and explicit recommendations.
6. **Reporting Progress and Implementation Arrangement**

The Consultant will work towards timely submission of the above named documents. NFNC and PAM will make available the necessary documents and support to facilitate execution of this assignment.

All communication about this exercise shall be done through the Executive Director-NFNC.

1. **Required Qualifications**

The Consultant is expected to hold the following qualifications to be eligible for this assignment:

1. PhD or Master’s degree in Programme Monitoring and Evaluation, Human Nutrition, Food Science, Demography, Public Health, Agricultural Economics, and Economics from a recognised credible University with a proven track record of conducting similar assignments with reputable institutions
2. Experience in evaluating nutrition projects will be an added advantage
3. Demonstration of a high level of professionalism and ability to work under high pressure and strict deadlines
4. High proficiency in written and spoken English
5. High proficiency in statistical analysis (SPSS, STATA, etc.)
6. Must have practical and demonstrated experience in evaluating similar donor funded programmes/projects with government, local and international NGOs.
7. **Duration of Assignment**

The consultancy is estimated to take 25 working days including the submission of the draft and final reports.

1. **Procedures for Submitting Documents**

Consultants should submit a zipped folder of the following documents:

1. A cover letter summarizing suitability and qualifications for this assignment
2. List of relevant similar assignments and at least two (2) soft copies of actual outputs from these assignments and references.
3. A technical proposal which should clearly outline the evaluation methodology, work plan and data quality assurance measures to be applied during the evaluation
4. A cost/financial proposal with a proposed payment schedule

Kindly note that only electronic applications will be accepted. Documents should be submitted to the following address:

The Administration Manager

National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC)

P.O. Box 32669

Plot No. 5112, Lumumba Road

LUSAKA

Email: nfnchr@gmail.com

Should you require additional information/clarification during the application period, please contact the Head-Research and Planning Unit: fbmubanga@gmail.com.

**Deadline: Friday 18th September 2020**