

Job title:	Project Coordination Support for PAHO-WHO-UNDP Mental Health and Psychosocial support Project
Type of contract:	Individual Contractor
Post level:	National Consultant
Duration of Assignment:	6 months
Period:	August - December 2022
Application deadline:	13 July 2022

1. Background

As the leading cause of death globally, NCDs were responsible for 40.5 million (71%) of the world's 56.9 million deaths in 2016.¹ In the Region of the Americas, NCDs are responsible for an estimated 5.5 million deaths annually (80.7% of all deaths), with 38.9% of these deaths occurring prematurely in persons aged less than 70 years.² The costs of NCDs extend beyond premature deaths and include preventable suffering, disability, as well as losses in productivity and economic burdens to individuals, families, communities, and nations. In addition, mental health conditions generate high social costs as mental health is critical to personal well-being, interpersonal relationships, and successful contributions to society.

With NCDs and mental health conditions holding back not just health but social and economic objectives more broadly, the high burden of mental health conditions remains a major challenge for social and economic development worldwide and within the Region of the Americas.

Within this context, the Pan American Health Organization/World Health organization (PAHO/WHO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are committed to strengthening Member States' capacity to generate and use economic evidence on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) and mental health and contribute to effective advocacy for the implementation of intersectoral NCD and mental health conditions prevention and control policies.

The motivation of this project is to validate the linkages between NCDs and mental health conditions, and national social and economic development priorities to highlight the importance of investing in NCD and mental health conditions prevention and control. The products will serve as a tool for the Ministry of Health to advocate with the highest level of Governments and with other Ministries to invest in prevention and control of NCDs and mental health conditions, and to ensure an appropriate level of domestic resources allocation.

Overall, the project aims to develop advocacy evidence to support the development, financing, and implementation of national multisectoral NCDs and mental health conditions prevention and control strategies.

2. Objective and Scope of Work

a. Objective

The objective of this assignment is to provide technical and administrative support for the completion of the MH and NCD Investment Cases in Guyana and follow up actions in Suriname. In addition, the consultant will support the coordination mechanism for suicide surveillance and the MH and Psychosocial Support initiatives under the "Health systems strengthening for universal health coverage partnership" of the WHO/PAHO/UNDP, with support from the European Union.

b. Scope of Works

Guyana

¹ World Health Organization (2018). Global Health Observatory (GHO) data. World Health Organization.

² Pan American Health Organization. Noncommunicable diseases in the Region of the Americas: facts and figures. Washington, D.C.: PAHO, 2019.

1. Support Mental Health and NCD Investment Case Studies in Guyana (WHO/PAHO/UNDP-led), including:
 - a. Organizing virtual forums, interviews and meeting with relevant national stakeholders and RTI International to:
 - i. Present to country officials with the objectives, methods and expected impact of the investment case analysis;
 - ii. Identify and agree on data needs, sources and collection procedures; populate all data templates with final (or where necessary, provisional) estimates;
 - iii. Undertake an assessment of the national mental health system, including analysis of the policy and development context, relevant stakeholders and institutions as well as service structures and delivery mechanisms
 - iv. **Relevant stakeholders to be engaged include (i)**Ministry of Health (including National psychiatric hospital); (ii) Ministry of Finance; (iii) Ministry of Education; (iv) Ministry of Labour; (v) Ministry of Human Services and Social Security; (vi) Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture; (vii) Ministry of Legal Affairs; (viii) Ministry of Housing and Water; (ix) Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development; (x) Parliament of Guyana; (xi) Cabinet members; (xii) Municipal and Town Councils; (xiii) Regional Democratic Councils; (xiv) Neighbourhood Democratic Councils; (xv) Development Partners; (xvi) UN Agencies; (xvii) Academia; (xviii) Civil Society; (xix) Private Sector.
 - b. **Organize** online presentation of preliminary results and presentation of results at a national stakeholder forum (launch of report at high-level meeting involving multiple ministries, health and other sectors, UN agencies and development partners, civil society and media).
 - c. Prepare press release, social media posts and articles to provide visibility to the project and its activities.

2. Suriname:

- a. Support the evaluation and/or update of the national suicide surveillance mechanism, using a whole of government approach and informed by the findings of the Investment Cases (WHO/PAHO-led)
- b. Support the coordination and completion of virtual training to representatives of different government sectors (e.g. health, finance, education etc.) and community-based organizations to coordinate and strengthen mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) (WHO/PAHO-led)
- c. Support other follow-on activities of the Suriname NCD/MH investment case as required.

3. Guyana and Suriname

- a. Identification and regular scanning of broader (UN and beyond) support to the Government on NCDs and mental health, including in the context of COVID-19 and the SDGs, to ensure effective integration of project activities into the whole-of-society response.
- b. Capturing emergent project lessons, impacts and results, filtering these regularly to regional and HQ levels, and supporting communications, in relation to both WHO/PAHO-led and UNDP-led activities.
- c. Providing regular inputs into process and outcome monitoring as well as reporting for both WHO/PAHO-led and UNDP-led activities.

4. Deliverables

The Consultant will submit the following deliverables:

1. Workplan in accordance with the scope of assignment described in the ToR
2. Monthly reports on achievement of targets set in work plan, (monthly reports are envisioned).

5. Duration of the Assignment

The projected timeline for the completion of this assignment is 5 months and will commence on 5 August 2022 and end on 5 December 2022.

6. Payment Schedule

Payments will be made upon the submission and acceptance of the deliverable, in accordance with these ToR and based on the following schedule:

#	Dates	Amount	Deliverable
1	2 weeks of commencement	\$220,000	Submission and acceptance of approved workplan
2	Within 2 weeks of the end of 1 st month	\$220,000	Submission and acceptance of 1 st monthly report
3	Within 2 weeks of the end of 2 nd month	\$440,000	Submission and acceptance of 2 nd monthly report
4	Within 2 weeks of the end of 3 rd month	\$440,000	Submission and acceptance of 3 rd monthly report
5	Within 2 weeks of the end of 4 th month	\$440,000	Submission and acceptance of 4 th monthly report
6	Within 2 weeks of the end of 5 th month	\$440,000	Submission and acceptance of 5 th monthly report

7. Requirements:

a. Qualification:

- University Degree in Public Health related field from a recognized institution

b. Experience:

- At least two years' experience in health programming and coordination. Practical experience in capacity building, programme planning, development, implementation, and evaluation.
- Relevant work experience in WHO/PAHO, UNDP, other UN agencies, international institutions, or international NGOs.
- Experience in analysing health policies, standards, guidelines, and priorities for individual countries.
- Excellent command of English (Read - Write - Speak).

8. Institutional Arrangement

The first level of supervision will be Mrs. Karen Roberts, Specialist, NCDs and Family Health, PAHO; Ms. Vedyawattie Looknauth, Programme Analyst, Governance, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and Dr Claudina Cayetano, Regional Mental Health Advisor, PAHO, WDC.

9. Duty Station

The duty station is PAHO, Guyana.