

Terms of Reference

The consultancy contract is requested by:

Unit:	End Tuberculosis
Division:	WHO Country Office, Solomon Island

1. Purpose of the consultancy

The purpose of the consultancy is to provide technical assistance to the National TB Program, Solomon Islands to review the Community Based Integrated Project and to undertake the specific tasks as reflected under duties and responsibilities.

2. Background

The NTP is one of the six priority programs of Solomon Islands. Although the program has been highly effective in containing the TB epidemic and meeting the targets up till 2015, and as set its National Strategic Plan, there are still some gaps, the country still has the second highest number of tuberculosis cases in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories. Every fifth person with TB goes undetected and patients are diagnosed late causing ongoing transmission. Access barriers, lack of diagnostic service at rural health centers and lack of sample transport mechanism play a major role for 'missing cases'. Treatment success rate is reported high. However, adherence in continuation phase is of grave concern. Lack of supervision and support at the community level during continuation phase of TB treatment results irregular adherence to the treatment. Community based DOTS has been difficult to implement owing to the dearth of strong health systems and community systems at the grass-root level. In the current model, TB patients need to stay first two months in the hospital, which causes enormous family and financial burden.

Solomon Islands conducted its first Joint TB Programme Review in July 2019. During this review lack of community engagement was recognized as a major challenge contributing to patient delays in seeking health care. The JPR recommended reducing this access barrier and to strengthen community networks. The lack of community awareness remains one of the major barriers to early case referrals and support during continuation phase of treatment. Considering this challenge, Solomon Islands initiated a community based integrated service delivery project in 2020 with the objective to demonstrate community based integrated service delivery model in 3 project sites in the Solomon Islands with a primary focus on Tuberculosis.

1. Duties and responsibilities

Specifically, the consultant will work with the NTP and its partners to:

- 1) to review of the community based integrated service delivery project
 - i. To develop the project evaluation plan including data collection format and focus group discussion format

- ii. Guide data collection and organization of focus group discussion
 - iii. Analyse and prepare an evaluation report
 - iv. Advise/recommend strengthening the project and rollout to other parts of the country
- 2) provide guidance and recommendations to strengthen contact tracing and review the monitoring tools
 - 3) advise/recommend on the sustainability of the project in future, considering the low resource setting in Solomon Islands.
 - 4) provide guidance and recommendations on how the project's activities can be included in the provincial microplanning budgets
 - 5) identify how the project can strengthen links from communities to the health system
 - 6) conduct seminar for medical doctors on LTBI
 - 7) any other related work as assigned by the supervisor

3. Deliverables

- a. Evaluation report
- b. Scale up plan
- c. Monitoring tool for contact tracing
- d. LTBI seminar conducted for doctors

4. Planned timelines (Approximate):

Duration: 2 months

Start: 1 September – 31 October

5. Technical Supervision

The selected partner will work on the supervision of:

Responsible Officer:	Dr Sevil Huseynova	Email:	huseynovas@who.int
Manager:	Dr Sonja Tanevska	Email:	tanevskas@who.int

6. Specific requirements

Education Qualifications

Essential:

First level university degree in Medicine and/or epidemiology/and /or Social Sciences

Desirable:

Master's Degree in Medicine (MD, MB BS) and/or Public Health, and/or Epidemiology, and/or Social Sciences or related area

Experience

Essential:

At least 5 years of public health work experience of which at least 3 years in communicable diseases, including TB;

Related experience in managing resources and working effectively in a multi-stakeholder international environment including developing and promoting collaborative actions with national authorities.

Desirable:

Previous experience with WHO, in UN organizations/agencies, international institutions or nongovernmental organizations, particularly in developing countries;
Experience of working in Solomon Islands

Skills/Technical skills and knowledge

- Good technical knowledge of WHO policies and guidelines on TB
- Excellent analytical, planning and organizational skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work in a team with limited supervision
- Ability to work under pressure
- Ability to work as part of a team, and high level of interpersonal skills to work with National Department of Health and partners
- Ability to communicate via internet and have the capacity to organize and facilitate online meetings

7. Competencies

- Moving forward in a changing environment
- Fostering Integration and teamwork
- Communication in a credible and effective way

8. Medical clearance

Consultant will be expected to provide a medical certificate of fitness for work.

9. Place of assignment

Online, no travel required.

10. Detailed Cost and Budget Breakdown

Description	Estimated Cost (USD)	Total Cost (USD)
Monthly pay (P3/4)	\$400	\$16,000
	Total Cost (USD)	\$16,000

*All **travel arrangements** will be made by the WHO. The WHO will not be responsible for tickets purchased by the Consultant without the express, prior authorization of the WHO. While on mission under the terms of this consultancy, the Consultant will receive **subsistence allowance**.*

***Visa requirements:** It is the Consultant's responsibility to fulfil visa requirements and ask for visa support letter(s) if needed.*