Scope of Work and Deliverables

USAID Advancing Nutrition Technical Team

**Date of Request: *October 10, 2023***

**Purpose: *The consultant will provide technical assistance to ensure continuity of capacity strengthening support around ECD for Transform Nutrition and Alcancar activities in Mozambique***

**Place of Performance:** ***Mozambique***

**Provider(s):** ***Consultant***

**Period of Performance: *October 18, 2023- November 30, 2023***

**Activity Manager:** ***Abby Conrad***

**Activity Code: *3.2.A.2***

**Activity Internal Project #: *37462.2308.0010***

***SERVICES/SCOPE OF WORK[[1]](#footnote-1): The Contractor shall use all reasonable efforts to perform the following services in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement:***

1. **Background**

USAID’s Children in Adversity Team within the Development, Democracy and Innovation Bureau’s Inclusive Development Hub (DDI/ID) leads interagency efforts to the Global Child Thrive Act (GCTA) and Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity: A U.S. Government Strategy for International Assistance 2019-2023 (APCCA Strategy). The APCCA Strategy’s first objective and the GCTA promote integrated approaches to support optimal early childhood development (ECD).

In alignment with APCCA and the GCTA, USAID’s Center for Children in Adversity, in close collaboration with the USAID Mission in Mozambique, contracted USAID Advancing Nutrition to provide capacity strengthening support to the bilateral nutrition program, Transform Nutrition, and bilateral maternal and child health program, Alcançar, to integrate additional components to improve early childhood development outcomes. Through Transform Nutrition, this included integrating responsive care, early learning, and child development content into their community-based services for caregivers and children in the first 1,000 days. The community-based programs primarily include community-based nutrition groups facilitated by a volunteer under the supervision of the community health workers (Agentes Polivalentes Elementares or APEs) as part of the government’s community nutrition program (Pacote de intervenções de Nutrição or PIN).  In addition, support was provided to strengthen facility-based well-child services to promote responsive care, early learning, and child development monitoring through Alcançar, another bilateral program. These efforts began in 2020 and USAID Advancing Nutrition’s Mozambique office closed in September 2023. There is a need for ongoing technical assistance to ensure continuity of capacity strengthening support around ECD through the completion of Transform Nutrition and Alcancar activities in 2024. USAID Advancing Nutrition will support a consultant through the end of November 2023.

USAID Advancing Nutrition seeks a consultant to provide technical assistance to Transform Nutrition and Alcançar in the six program districts in Nampula, Mozambique (Nacala Porto, Larde, Lalaua, Rapale, Mossuril, and Meconta Districts). This support includes routine district visits to conduct mentorship for implementing staff and government workforce at the district and community levels.  This consultant will work under USAID Advancing Nutrition through November 2023, after which technical assistance will be provided through another mechanism.

**B. Objectives**

Under the supervision of USAID Advancing Nutrition, and in consultation with the Transform Nutrition Chief of Party and the Alcançar Chief of Party, the Consultant will:

Provide technical assistance to Transform Nutrition to strengthen activities to promote improved early childhood development outcomes at the community and health facility levels in six districts of Nampula Province. The consultant will work closely with the Transform Nutrition team to plan routine supervision and on-job coaching activities to ensure Transform Nutrition staff and volunteers associated with the project are able to appropriately deliver content on responsive care, early learning, and child development through the community nutrition groups and home visits. In addition, the consultant will work with Alcancar to follow-up with health workers trained on the Malawi Developmental Assessment Tool (MDAT) to support quality improvement efforts to ensure that developmental monitoring is occurring regularly and at appropriate times during health facility consultations with young children and that appropriate counseling and referrals are provided.

**C. Activities**

Major tasks and activities will include:

* Regular mentorship/coaching visits across all six districts, working in partnership with the Transform Nutrition, Alcancar, and government supervisors/mentors for sustainability. It is anticipated that approximately 3-4 days per quarter will be spent in each district.
* Consolidating and providing feedback to the Transform Nutrition and Alcancar staff through mentorship reports, summarized supervision checklist data, and routine meetings.
* Together with Transform Nutrition and Alcancar staff, support the district and provincial government on progress and areas of support required for intersectoral collaboration to improve ECD, through engagement in working group meetings or other fora.

Other tasks will include, and are not limited to:

* Creating a timeline and recommended schedule for mentorship visits across all supported districts, in alignment with quarterly schedules for Transform Nutrition and Alcancar as well as seasonal variation in accessibility to some program districts.
* Conduct debriefing meetings, as necessary, with USAID to share progress and challenges.
* Engaging with the national ECD technical working group, as appropriate.
* Additional activities as needed to strengthen capacity of the Transform Nutrition and Alcancar in the program components to support early childhood development outcomes.

**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*** | ***Total Deliverable Value\**** |
| 1 | Initial schedule for capacity strengthening activities | Consultant will coordinate with Transform Nutrition and Alcancar to develop a schedule of activities through November 30 | Within 2 weeks of hire |  |
| 2 | Memo (1-2 pages) summarizing technical assistance provided and recommendations for ongoing TA | The consultant will summarize the TA provided, noted gaps/needs and make recommendations for an ongoing plan and timeline for technical assistance | November 30, 2023 |  |

\**To be completed by the Contracts Manager.*

***[For consultants only:]***The total LOE is approximately equivalent to ***25*** days.

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

**E. Consultant Qualifications**

* Consultant must have thorough understanding of best practices on early childhood development.
* Consultant must have extensive experience in implementing and providing capacity-strengthening support for community and health facility based programs in Mozambique, including programs focused on promoting nurturing care to improve early childhood development.
* Consultant must be fluent in Portuguese, and ability to speak Macua would be an added advantage.

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. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)