



TANZANIAN TRAINING CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL HEALTH, IFAKARA

MATERNAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS OF MATERNAL AND PERINATAL DEATHS IN KIGOMA REGION.

SUMMARY

Type of contract	Consultancy Contract
Title	Consultancy for conducting root cause analysis of maternal and perinatal deaths in Kigoma region
Purpose	To carry out a comprehensive root cause analysis (RCA) of maternal and perinatal deaths in Kigoma region
Location	Kigoma
Duration	Six (6) weeks
Start date	27 th June 2025
Reporting to	TTCIH Management

1. BACKGROUND

Despite commendable national efforts and progress in reducing maternal and perinatal mortality in Tanzania over the past decade, substantial regional disparities continue to persist. One such region is Kigoma, which remains burdened with high rates of maternal and perinatal deaths, highlighting persistent gaps in access to and quality of maternal and newborn care. According to national statistics, Tanzania’s maternal mortality ratio stands at 104 per 100,000 live births (TDHS 2022), while the perinatal mortality rate remains around 39 per 1,000 births, with Kigoma region showing consistently higher-than-average figures.

These troubling indicators underscore the urgent need to better understand the context-specific causes of maternal and perinatal deaths in Kigoma. While several interventions have been rolled out nationally and regionally—such as improved access to skilled birth attendants, emergency obstetric care, and community health education—the effectiveness of these interventions in Kigoma has been uneven. Limited infrastructure, workforce shortages, referral delays, and socio-cultural factors may be contributing to poor outcomes, but a systematic, evidence-based analysis is required to uncover the root causes.

To address this, the Tanzanian Training Centre for International Health (TTCIH), in collaboration with Kigoma Regional Health Management Team (RHMT) and other key stakeholders, and with generous funding from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), is seeking to engage a qualified consultant to carry out a comprehensive Root Cause Analysis (RCA) of maternal and perinatal deaths in Kigoma region.

The purpose of this RCA is to identify the underlying systemic, clinical, logistical, and socio-cultural factors contributing to preventable deaths. The findings will be instrumental in guiding evidence-based interventions, health system strengthening, capacity building, and policy adjustments that are tailored to the unique needs of the region. Ultimately, the goal is to accelerate progress towards the reduction of maternal and perinatal mortality in Kigoma, thereby contributing to national and global targets such as the Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3), which calls for improved maternal and child health.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The primary objectives of this consultancy are to:

- 2.1. Conduct a thorough root cause analysis of maternal and perinatal deaths in Kigoma region.
- 2.2. Identify systemic, clinical, and socio-cultural factors contributing to these deaths.
- 2.3. Develop actionable recommendations to address identified root causes.
- 2.4. Enhance the capacity of local health authorities to implement and monitor interventions.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

The consultant will undertake the following tasks:

- 3.1. Review existing data on maternal and perinatal deaths in Kigoma region, including reports from health facilities, district health offices, and regional health authorities.
- 3.2. Conduct qualitative interviews with healthcare providers, district health officers, community health workers, and families affected by maternal and perinatal deaths.
- 3.3. Facilitate focus group discussions to explore community perceptions and experiences related to maternal and perinatal health.
- 3.4. Analyse the data to identify recurring themes, systemic barriers, and clinical challenges.

- 3.5. Develop a comprehensive report detailing findings and providing evidence-based recommendations.
- 3.6. Present findings to TTCIH, regional health authorities, and other stakeholders.

4. DELIVERABLES

The consultant is expected to deliver:

- 4.1. An inception report outlining the goal, methodology (including a structured evaluation matrix), work plan, and timeline.
- 4.2. A comprehensive root cause analysis report, including:
 - Executive summary.
 - Methodology and data sources.
 - Findings and analysis.
 - Recommendations for intervention.
 - Appendices (e.g., interview guides, data summary tables).
- 4.3. A presentation summarizing key findings and recommendations.
- 4.4. A final report incorporating feedback from stakeholder.
- 4.5. A concise policy brief summarizing high-priority recommendations and action steps.

5. DURATION AND TIMELINE

The consultancy is expected to commence on 27th June 2025 and conclude on 7th August 2025, spanning a total of six weeks.

6. REPORTING AND SUPERVISION

The consultant will report directly to established task force for this activity and the TTCIH Management. Regular updates and meetings will be scheduled to ensure alignment with project objectives and timelines.

7. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The selected consulting firm should meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrated institutional capacity with a team of experts holding advanced degrees in Medicine, Public Health, or related fields.
- A proven track record of at least 5 years of experience in implementing projects related to maternal and perinatal health, particularly in the areas of data analysis, health systems strengthening, and program evaluation.
- Documented experience in conducting root cause analyses and qualitative research, preferably in low-resource or sub-Saharan African contexts.
- In-depth familiarity with Tanzanian health policies, structures, and programs, including the Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) system.
- Demonstrated capacity in data analysis, report writing, and delivering high-quality presentations to a range of stakeholders, including government, donors, and community representatives.
- Availability of bilingual staff fluent in English and Kiswahili, capable of conducting fieldwork and stakeholder engagement in the local context.

8. REPORTING AND SUPERVISION

The consultant or technical support team will report to TTCIH throughout the assignment.

9. APPLICATION PROCESS

All interested consultants and firms meeting the above requirements are invited to submit the following to the email address provided below:

- A detailed inception report,
- A financial proposal outlining the consultancy fees and any associated costs,
- Curriculum vitae (CV) highlighting relevant experience and qualifications, and
- Samples of previous similar work or publications.

Procurement Officer,

Tanzanian Training Centre for International Health,
P. O. Box 39, Ifakara, Morogoro, Tanzania.

Email: procurement@ttcih.ac.tz

10. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

10.1 Relevance and quality of the technical proposal (50%).

10.2 Cost-effectiveness of the financial proposal (30%).

10.3 Demonstrated experience and qualifications (20%).

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

All information obtained during the consultancy will be treated as confidential and used solely for the purpose of this assignment.

DISCLAIMER:

TTCIH does **not charge any fee** at any stage of the application, processing, training, interview, testing or recruitment process. Any fraudulent notices, letters or offers should be reported to the TTCIH fraud hotline at: info@ttcih.ac.tz.

Job Posting: 06th June 2025

Closing Date: 19th June 2025, 11:59 PM

Email Subject Line: All email applications must include the following subject line: **Root Cause Analysis Consultancy.**

For more information about TTCIH please visit our website: www.ttcih.ac.tz

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for the next steps in the selection process.