



TANZANIAN TRAINING CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL HEALTH, IFAKARA

MATERNAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANCY FOR SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS ON OBSTETRIC FISTULA TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL OBSTETRIC FISTULA STRATEGY IN TANZANIA

SUMMARY

Type of Contract	Consultancy Contract
Title	Consultancy for situational analysis on obstetric fistula to inform the development of a national obstetric fistula strategy in Tanzania
Purpose	To conduct a comprehensive situational analysis to inform the development of a National Obstetric Fistula Strategy in Tanzania.
Location	Eight Zones in Tanzania Mainland
Duration	2 Months
Start date	30 June 2026
Reporting to	TTCIH Management

1. Background

Obstetric fistula is a preventable and treatable childbirth injury caused primarily by prolonged and obstructed labor in the absence of timely access to quality emergency obstetric and newborn care (EmONC). Women and girls living with obstetric fistula experience chronic incontinence, infections, infertility, stigma, and profound social and economic exclusion. The condition reflects broader systemic challenges, including inequitable access to sexual and reproductive health services, weak health systems, poverty, harmful gender norms, and gender inequality. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, with financial support from UNFPA and other partners, has implemented interventions across the continuum of prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and social reintegration. Despite progress, significant challenges remain, including limited and fragmented data, uneven geographic availability of services, shortages of trained fistula surgeons and multidisciplinary care teams, weak referral systems, inadequate financing, and low community awareness.

In line with national health priorities, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the global commitment to end obstetric fistula, UNFPA Tanzania seeks to support the development of a National Obstetric Fistula Strategy. A comprehensive situational analysis is required to assess

the status of obstetric fistula prevention and response in Tanzania and to identify strategic priorities, gaps, and opportunities to guide the national response.

2. Rationale

Obstetric fistula remains a major public health and human rights challenge in Tanzania despite improvements in maternal health services and expansion of CEmONC facilities. A national situational analysis is needed to generate evidence on the burden, service capacity, gaps, and opportunities across the continuum of care. The findings will inform a costed, multisectoral National Obstetric Fistula Strategy aligned with national priorities and the SDGs.

2.0 Objective of the Assignment

2.1 Specific Objectives

The situational analysis will aim to:

1. Assess the epidemiology, magnitude, types, causes, and geographic distribution of obstetric fistula in Tanzania, including available data sources and estimates.
2. Review existing policies, laws, strategies, and programmes related to the prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration of women and girls affected by obstetric fistula.
3. Map and assess the availability, accessibility, quality, and coverage of obstetric fistula services across the continuum of care, including prevention, identification, referral, surgical repair, post-operative care, psychosocial support, and socio-economic reintegration.
4. Analyze health system capacity related to obstetric fistula, including human resources, infrastructure, equipment, commodities, financing, referral systems, and health information systems.
5. Assess community-level factors influencing obstetric fistula, including awareness, socio-cultural norms, gender dynamics, stigma, and barriers to care-seeking.
6. Identify key gaps, challenges, best practices, and opportunities for strengthening the national response to obstetric fistula.
7. Provide strategic, evidence-based recommendations to inform the development of the National Obstetric Fistula Strategy, including implementation priorities and a monitoring and evaluation framework.

3.0 Scope of Work

The consultant will collaborate with the Ministry of Health, through the Department of Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health (DRMCH), UNFPA and a designated Technical Working Group to undertake this assignment.

3.1 Desk Review

- Review national policies, strategies, guidelines, research, and programme reports related to obstetric fistula, maternal health, and sexual and reproductive health.
- Review available data sources, including HMIS/DHIS2, surveys, facility records, and partner reports.

3.2 Stakeholder Engagement

- Identify and map key stakeholders involved in obstetric fistula prevention and response at national and sub-national levels.
- Conduct key informant interviews (KIIs) and consultative meetings with government officials, development partners, civil society organizations, professional associations, service providers, and survivors' networks.

3.3 Health System and Service Delivery Analysis

- Assess service availability, readiness, and quality at different levels of care, including EmONC facilities, fistula repair centers, outreach services, and referral mechanisms, labour ward with competence use of Labor Care Guide.
- Review human resource capacity, training, mentorship, and retention of fistula surgeons and multidisciplinary care teams.
- Assess infrastructure, equipment, supplies, and quality assurance mechanisms.

3.4 Community Analysis

- Analyze community awareness, perceptions, stigma, and socio-cultural determinants related to obstetric fistula.
- Identify barriers and facilitators to timely access to prevention and treatment services, with courtesy to equity, gender, age, disability, and geographic disparities.

3.5 Financing and Coordination

- Review financing mechanisms, resource allocation, and sustainability of obstetric fistula interventions.
- Assess coordination, governance structures, and partnerships at national and sub-national levels.

3.6 Synthesis and Recommendations

- Create findings into a comprehensive analysis aligned with national priorities and global best practices.
- Develop prioritized, actionable, and cost-informed recommendations to guide the National Obstetric Fistula Strategy.

4. Methodology

- The consultant will apply a mixed-methods approach, including:
- Desk review and secondary data analysis
- Quantitative and qualitative data collection (KIIs and, where appropriate, focus group discussions)
- Field visits to selected regions and health facilities
- Stakeholder validation workshops to review preliminary findings

All data collection will adhere to ethical standards and national research guidelines.

5. Deliverables

The consultant is expected to deliver the following outputs:

1. Inception Report, including methodology, work plan, and data collection tools.
2. Preliminary findings presentation for stakeholder validation.
3. Conduct situation analysis
4. Draft Situational Analysis Report, including analysis and draft recommendations.
5. Final Situational Analysis Report, incorporating stakeholder feedback and including an executive summary and annexes.
6. Development draft of National Obstetric Fistula Strategy, including a costed implementation plan and monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) framework.
7. Share draft strategic plan to taskforce.
8. Final National Obstetric Fistula Strategy validated and incorporating stakeholder feedback.
9. Submission of the developed strategic plan to MoH.
10. Policy Brief and PowerPoint Slides preparation for dissemination.

All deliverables shall be submitted in English and in editable electronic formats.

6. Duration of the Assignment

The consultancy is expected to require approximately 62 working days over a period of 8 months from contract signing.

7. Required Qualifications and Experience

The consultant firm should demonstrate:

- Proven experience in maternal health assessments, health systems analysis, and policy development
- Specific expertise in obstetric fistula or related maternal and reproductive health areas
- Experience working in Tanzania or similar contexts
- A multidisciplinary team composition (public health, obstetrics, health systems, gender/social sciences, health economics)
- Strong capacity for fieldwork, stakeholder engagement, and analytical report writing

8. Reporting and Coordination

The consultant will report directly to the 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.

9. Ethical Considerations

Ethical standards must be upheld in all data collection and stakeholder engagement, including confidentiality, informed consent, and cultural sensitivity.

10. Payment Schedule

The payment will be 30% upon approval and satisfactory presentation of inception report, then 40% upon submission of satisfactory draft report and 30% upon approval and satisfactory presentation of final report.

11. Application Requirements

Interested candidates are requested to submit:

- Technical and financial proposal
- Firm profile and relevant experience
- Curriculum vitae(s) of the consultant(s)
- Sample of similar work

All applicants should send their applications together with a detailed technical and financial proposal, Firm profile and relevant experience, Curriculum vitae(s) of the consultant(s), Sample of similar work via email addressed to the following:

Procurement Officer,

Tanzanian Training Centre for International Health,

P. O. Box 39, Ifakara Morogoro Tanzania

Email: procurement@ttcih.ac.tz

12. Evaluation Criteria

1. Relevant experience (30%) – Demonstrated track record in similar assignments, including evaluation and capacity development work with comparable institutions.
2. Technical approach and methodology (30%) – Quality, rigor, and practicality of the proposed methodology, including stakeholder engagement and data collection techniques.
3. Qualifications of consultant(s) (20%) – Academic background, professional expertise, and team composition (if applicable).
4. Financial proposal (15%) – Cost-effectiveness and value for money.
5. Completeness of application (5%) – Submission of all required documents, including legal registration (for firms), CVs, and references.

13. TTCIH Policy and Ethics

The consultant is required to comply with TTCIH's Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Code of Conduct policies during his/her tenure.

14. Confidentiality

All information obtained during the consultancy will be treated as confidential and used solely for the purpose of this assignment. All information gathered and produced belongs to the client (TTCIH/MoH) and cannot be disclosed without written permission.

DISCLAIMER:

TTCIH does not charge any application, processing, training, interviewing, testing or other fee in connection with the application or recruitment process. Fraudulent notices, letters or offers may be submitted to the TTCIH fraud hotline [http: info@ttcih.ac.tz](http://info@ttcih.ac.tz)

Job Posting: June 2nd, 2026

Closing Date: June 17th, 2026, 11:59 PM

****Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted****