

## **Analysis of Sri Lanka's Policy on Healthcare Delivery for Universal Health Coverage – 2018**

### **Request for Proposal**

#### **Summary**

The Data for Health Initiative's Data Impact team in Sri Lanka is seeking a consultant to support the in-country team with the analysis and review of the country's Universal Health Coverage policy.

#### **Background on Universal Health Coverage in Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka's Policy on Healthcare Delivery for Universal Health Coverage (herein referred to as "the UHC policy") was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The goal of the UHC policy was to ensure universal health coverage to all citizens, relevant to the disease burden experienced in the country through a well-integrated, comprehensive, and efficient health service.

The following are the objectives identified in the UHC policy:

1. Responding to evolving needs with quality years of life added, resulting in a reduction in elderly people living with disabilities,
2. Reduced catastrophic health spending in lower-middle income groups,
3. Improved overall satisfaction of people on health experience.

The UHC policy also has introduced the concepts of a shared care cluster (a unit where a specialist care institute functions as the apex hospital providing general specialties of care together with its surrounding primary care curative institutions to form a cluster), a family doctor for all, and a minimum level of specialty care for each cluster to the Sri Lankan health system.

The main policy document does not specify a year to end the policy cycle. But the Annexure V of the policy – the action framework for the implementation – has detailed the activities from 2018 to 2024. Therefore, it can be assumed that the policy cycle ends in 2024. The policy also has identified a results framework for the implementation of shared care clusters in Sri Lanka.

Several other policies also support in achieving the objectives of the UHC policy, including the National Health Policy 2016 – 2025, the Health Master Plan 2016 – 2025, The National Policy and Strategic Framework for Prevention and Control of Chronic Non-communicable Diseases in Sri Lanka, and the National Elderly Health Policy of Sri Lanka.

Since its enactment in 2018, the UHC policy has not yet been analyzed to assess whether it covers the areas to provide health universally to people of Sri Lanka and whether the policy is effectively achieving its intended objectives through its proposed strategies. Furthermore, the cost to provide universal health coverage to Sri Lankans has not been calculated.

#### **Scope of work**

Working closely with the in-country Data Impact team and other members of the Ministry of Health, the consultant will help:

1. Review and provide feedback on the concept note prepared by the Sri Lankan team on the evaluation of Sri Lanka's Policy on Healthcare Delivery for Universal Health Coverage - 2018 (the UHC Policy)

- a. Assist the UHC Policy Analysis team of Sri Lanka (hereafter referred to as “the UHC team”) in updating the concept note based on the inputs provided for improvements.
2. Assist the UHC team in identifying indicators for relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability of the existing UHC policy of Sri Lanka.
3. Assist the UHC team in developing the matrices for desk reviews.
4. Review the availability of secondary data and identify the important areas that need primary data collection (in terms of key informant interviews or separate surveys), with the feasibility of collecting such data within the given timeline.
5. Assist the UHC team in developing the questionnaires/guides for key informant interviews (KII) and tools for collecting primary data.
6. Review the quality of data and provide inputs for improvement.
7. Assist the UHC team in analyzing the data collected through desk review, key informant interviews, and primary data collection (if any).
8. Review the list of issues to achieve UHC in Sri Lanka and provide inputs for improvement.
9. Mentor the UHC team to identify the most appropriate strategies to address the relevant issues identified to achieve UHC in Sri Lanka.
10. Advise the UHC team on the structure of the final report of the evaluation of the UHC policy.
11. Review and provide feedback on the draft report of the evaluation of the UHC policy.

#### **Delivery of technical assistance**

1. The consultant is expected to remotely join weekly virtual meetings with the UHC team.
2. The consultant may need to participate in an in-person workshop in Sri Lanka to mentor and assist the UHC team in analysis, strategy development, and report writing.

#### **Expected outputs**

1. Revised concept note for the analysis of the UHC policy.
2. A summary report detailing the review of the methodology with recommendations on primary data needs.
3. Reviewed tools for collecting primary data, including a questionnaire for KII.
4. Reviewed report on results of desk review and primary data with the list of issues to achieve UHC in Sri Lanka.
5. Draft report of the analysis and evaluation, in coordination with the UHC team.

#### **Qualifications of the consultant**

- Post-graduate degree in a relevant field (public health, policy analysis and evaluation, epidemiology, etc.)
- Minimum of 5 years of work experience in
  - Policy analysis/evaluation
  - Program evaluation
  - Economic analysis
  - Data collection and analysis of qualitative research
  - Policy/program implementation
  - Universal health coverage/primary healthcare
- Previous experience mentoring and supervising multi-disciplinary teams.

- Previous experience working with government stakeholders.
- Proficient user of Microsoft Office suite, as well experience in database management and analysis software (SPSS, STATA, R, EpiInfo).
- Ability to work independently.
- Strong organizational and verbal and written communication skills.
- Knowledge of and previous working experience in Southeast Asian Region is a plus.

#### *Other essential requirements*

- Ability to work with various time zones.
- Available to start the consultancy no later than **15 February 2024**.
- Ability to possibly travel to Colombo for in-country workshops.

#### **Place and timeline/duration of assignment**

- This is a consultant position and deliverables are expected to be completed by **31 July 2024** with potential to be extended. Note that contracts are executed and paid in the currency of the country where the consultant is based and that payments are tied to deliverables.

#### **Instructions for Respondents**

1. Contact Person. Independent contractors shall submit a CV and cover letter to **fmalik@vitalstrategies.org**. Please use **“Sri Lanka UHC Policy Analysis Consultant”** as subject in your submission. Provide a quote for the total consultancy, including an estimate of the days needed per deliverable and the daily rate. Note any additional services you provide that you think may benefit this project.
2. Due Date. Interest must be submitted in PDF format by **31 January 2024, 5:00 PM EST**.