



Job Advertisement for Short-term Consultant Statistician

PROJECT OVERVIEW

USAID is a development partner to the Government of Sindh and is currently supporting the Department of Education and Literacy with implementation of the Sindh Basic Education Program (SBEP) in the districts of Dadu, Jacobabad, Kashmore, Khairpur, Larkana, Qambar-Shahdadkot and Sukkur as well as selected Karachi towns of Bin Qasim, Gaddap, Lyari, Kemari, and Orangi. The overarching goal of SBEP is “Increased and Sustained Student Enrollment in Primary, Middle and Secondary Schools in targeted geographical locations in Sindh”. The Sindh Reading Program (SRP) is a five-year USAID initiative in the same geographic areas as the parent SBEP. SRP will support the SBEP goal based on lessons learned from USAID and the Government of Sindh’s legacy of early grade teaching and learning.

Over the life of project, SRP aims to:

- Improve teacher competencies for effective early grade reading instruction (Component 1);
- Improve early grade reading assessment practices (Component 2);
- Improve student access to supplementary reading materials (Component 3);
- Enhance participation of parents and caregivers in support of early grade literacy for out of school children (Component 4).

To measure the effectiveness of SRP, School-to-School International (STS) is conducting a baseline (2014), midline (2016), and endline (2018) using the Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) in Grade 3 and Grade 5 students, teacher surveys, and Head Teacher surveys.

The SRP intervention has been implemented to varying degrees, by cohort, since 2014. The surveys include detailed skip logic to target questions specific to either Cohort 1, Cohort 2, or Cohort 3 schools. The EGRA was the same in all cohorts.

The statistician will work in coordination with a team of STS’s home office statisticians to divide up analysis and reporting of the eight datasets.

SCOPE OF WORK

Under this Consulting Agreement, the Consultant will assist the Sindh Reading Program team at STS with data cleaning of the eight midline datasets:

1. Grade 3 EGRA – Urdu language

2. Student survey (attached to EGRA dataset) – Urdu language
3. Grade 2 teacher survey – Urdu language
4. Head teacher survey – Urdu language
5. Grade 3 EGRA – Sindhi language
6. Student survey (attached to EGRA dataset) – Sindhi language
7. Grade 2 teacher survey – Sindhi language
8. Head teacher survey – Sindhi language

SPECIFIC TASKS

Over the assignment period, the Consultant will complete three levels of data cleaning.

The purpose of the first level review is to transform raw data into “usable” data. Steps involved in the first level review include:

1. Open the files coming from different sources (e.g. cohorts) and merge cases
2. Label the questions and the answer options, using the information from the codebook
3. Label missing data
4. Check the consistency of the data
5. Flag problematic cases and create descriptive statistics to inform the next round

The purpose of the second level review is to apply disposition codes and make decisions about these and other problematic cases. Steps involved in the second level review include:

1. Apply disposition codes on the data
2. Make decisions based on the disposition codes
3. Take actions for other remaining problematic issues
4. Create descriptive statistics to inform the next round

The purpose of the final cleaning is to finalize the actions around disposition codes and to make decisions on the cases that are not meeting statistical/data expectations. The two steps involved are:

1. Take actions for the remaining disposition codes
2. Take actions for the data that is not meeting statistical/data expectations

Upon completion of data cleaning, the Consultant will assist with data analysis of the same datasets as needed and in collaboration with STS statisticians. Data analysis tasks might include:

- Analyze data from datasets mentioned above
- Work with STS senior staff to draft findings reports and presentations
- Provide additional technical support and complete other reasonable tasks as requested by the STS senior staff.

TERM OF AGREEMENT

This agreement will commence on December 15, 2016. The estimated completion date is on or before January 31, 2017.

PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

Consultant shall perform services in the United States. No travel is required.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit CVs to info@sts-international.org with the subject line, "Short-term Consultant Statistician."