

## **Terms of Reference**

Technical Expert to support MHPSS–P3/p4– Addiss Ababa, Ethiopia

### **MISSION LOCATION**

The expert will be based in Addiss Ababa, Ethiopia. Regular trips in the field for coordination and capacity-building purposes are planned.

### **DURATION**

The deployment is for an initial 3 months, with the possibility of extension up to 6 months

### **OPERATIONAL CONTEXT**

Mental health and psychosocial wellbeing are essential components of sustainable recovery and peacebuilding in conflict-affected settings. In Northern Ethiopia, prolonged conflict has severely disrupted individuals' psychological wellbeing and the capacity of local systems to provide MHPSS services. Although humanitarian, development, and peace actors increasingly recognize the relevance of MHPSS, a gap persists in translating this awareness into coordinated, meaningful programming within the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus.

Several UN agencies operating in Ethiopia have committed to durable solutions, peace support, and early recovery programming. However, there is limited in-house capacity to systematically integrate MHPSS into these efforts. This consultancy aims to provide the technical support necessary to bridge this gap, catalyze capacity-building efforts, and help generate a common vision for MHPSS within HDP programming.

## **Reporting and Coordination**

The expert will report to the Head of the Peace Support Facility (UNDP) and will coordinate closely with UN agency focal points in health, protection, durable solutions, and peacebuilding. Technical guidance may also be sought from global or regional MHPSS advisors of UN agencies.

The scope of work will be defined and evaluated by a Steering Group consisting of the two upcoming elected co-chairs of the MHPSS working group, in collaboration with the host agency (UNDP)

For technical support, the Global Lead on MHPSS of UNDP is available, through regular connection.

## **AIM OF THE MISSION**

The aim of the mission is to strengthen the integration of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) into HDP nexus programming by supporting UN agencies and partners to assess local capacities, identify strategic entry points, build skills, and develop a joint project proposal that enhances the sustainability and impact of peacebuilding, recovery, and durable solutions interventions.

## **MISSION OBJECTIVES**

The MHPSS Expert will support UN agencies notably UNDP, UNHCR and IOM working in Ethiopia to:

1. Strengthen the integration of MHPSS into HDP nexus programming, including peace support, durable solutions, and recovery.
2. Assess existing MHPSS service provision, gaps, and capacity of government and implementing partners at regional and woreda levels.
3. Identify entry points for enhancing access to sustainable and locally led MHPSS services.
4. Build the capacity of UN staff and partners to design, implement, and coordinate MHPSS interventions.
5. Support the development of a joint project proposal focused on MHPSS within the HDP nexus framework.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **1. Strategic Integration and Technical Support**

- Provide technical guidance to UN agencies on integrating MHPSS in peacebuilding, early recovery, and durable solutions programming.
- Facilitate strategic discussions to define realistic entry points for MHPSS integration into existing and upcoming interventions.

### **2. Mapping and Capacity Assessment**

- Conduct a rapid mapping of MHPSS actors, services, delivery models, and existing frameworks in PSF target regions.
- Assess regional and woreda-level government capacities (e.g. health, education, women and social affairs bureaus) to provide MHPSS services.
- Document what services are available, where and by whom they are provided, and key content/methodologies used.

### **3. Capacity Strengthening**

- Design and deliver practical training sessions for UN staff on MHPSS integration in programming and project design.
- Develop and implement capacity-building activities for implementing partners, including relevant government officials.
- Develop tailored guidance tools or briefing notes to support institutionalization of MHPSS approaches.

#### **4. Proposal Development and Resource Mobilization**

- Facilitate inter-agency discussions to shape a joint project proposal that positions MHPSS as a core component of durable solutions and peace support programming.
- Draft the technical narrative and advise on budgeting and partnership structures for the proposal.

#### **5. Coordination and Knowledge Sharing**

- Liaise with relevant national and regional MHPSS coordination mechanisms and working groups.
- Ensure coherence and complementarity with ongoing MHPSS efforts, especially by I/NGOs and government.
- Support advocacy efforts on the importance of MHPSS in recovery and peacebuilding processes.

- 6. Reach out to international and local CSOs to share information and assess CSOs needs and initiatives to strengthen mental health support for staff and stakeholders.****Perform such other duties as may be assigned**

### **Expected Deliverables**

1. MHPSS integration strategy/brief with prioritized entry points for HDP programming.
2. Mapping report and capacity assessment of MHPSS actors and systems in PSF regions.
3. Two to three tailored training sessions delivered to UN staff and key partners.
4. Capacity-building support tools (e.g. training materials, brief guidelines).
5. Draft project proposal for a joint MHPSS initiative under the HDP nexus framework.

### **PROFILE**

#### **Education**

- Master's degree in Medicine/Psychiatry, Psychology, Social Work, Counselling, Political Science, or a related field from an accredited academic institution with two years of relevant professional experience; or an

University degree in the above fields with four years of relevant professional experience.

### **Experience**

- Experience in MHPSS responses in peacebuilding contexts;
- Experience working in conflict/humanitarian and development contexts;
- Strong networking capacities for constructive relationships with all humanitarian actors, Donors and relevant Government Line Ministries;
- Experience in working in large scale complex crisis and fragile settings (previous working experience in Africa in general and especially in Ethiopia is an advantage);
- Willingness to serve in a capacity building role, fostering the capacities of actors on the ground and to accept advice from MHPSS coordination group Board members;
- For this position, fluency in English is required (oral and written).