

## Helen Keller International JOB DESCRIPTION

**Position:** Consultant- Research Officers

**Required number:** 12 (2 in each Province listed below)

- Sudurpaschim Province: Kanchanpur -2
- Karnali Province: Surkhet - 2
- Bagmati Province: Sindupalchowk -1; Dhading - 1
- Gandaki Province: Syangja -1; Nawalparasi East – 1
- Madesh Province: Dhanusha -1, Rautahat -1
- Koshi Province: Jhapa district -2

**Department / Location:** Program/ District Based (Either one districts listed above)

**Note:** *Please mention your choice of districts in the cover letter while applying for the position.*

**Duration:** 66 days (spanning from July 2024 – October 2024)

**Reports to:** Research Coordinator

**Project:** Introduction of Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation (MMS) For Pregnant Women in Nepal (Demonstration study)

**Collaboration with:**

Internal: In Helen Keller with MMS project team

External: Provincial and local government, I/NGOs working in nutrition sector, and health facilities.

**Job Purpose:** Micronutrient deficiencies in pregnant women pose a significant and pressing public health challenge in Nepal. During pregnancy, there is an increased demand for essential micronutrients to support the growth and development of both the mother and the developing fetus. However, a substantial portion of pregnant women in Nepal continue to suffer from inadequate intake of essential micronutrients, such as iron, folic acid, vitamin A, and others. This deficiency risks the health of pregnant women and has a serious implication for the well-being of their newborns.

Within the context of maternal nutrition and micronutrient supplementation, there are evidence suggesting that the multiple micronutrient supplement (MMS) based on the United Nations International Multiple Micronutrient Antenatal Preparation (UNIMMAP) to addressing the complex micronutrient needs of pregnant women and improved birth outcomes compared to IFA supplementation.

Considering the evidence base, Helen Keller International in collaboration with various other stakeholders conducted landscape analysis in Nepal which recommended to conduct the implementation research for exploring the acceptability and adherence of MMS in the pregnant women. The evidence generated from this research will guide policymakers and stakeholders in the decision making for IFA to MMS transition.

**Overall responsibilities:** The Research Officer position based at district levels of six provinces except Lumbini Province will coordinate with the purposively selected health facilities within the district for research purpose, work together with them in quantitative data collection through households' visits, data quality control of the demonstration study on MMS. The Research Officer will work in close coordination with Research coordinator and Research Manager. The Research Officer will follow Helen Keller's research ethics.

**Specific roles and responsibilities:**

- ✓ Coordinate data collection efforts at selected health facilities and communities for quantitative data.
- ✓ Data collection through household visits of the demonstration study.
- ✓ Build rapport and coordination at the provincial and local levels for smooth conduction of the study.
- ✓ Weekly review and verify collected data for accuracy and completeness. .
- ✓ Ensure data collection activities in the field are executed efficiently and according to the research implementation plan.
- ✓ Collaborate effectively with research team members, stakeholders, and health facilities and support in the overall MMS project where required.

**Qualifications and Competencies:**

- **Educational Degree:**
  - ✓ Should have at least bachelor's degree in public health, nursing, nutrition or relevant field.
- **Experiences:**
  - ✓ At least three years of past experiences in research related activities of I/NGOs in nutrition/health sectors.
  - ✓ Sound knowledge on quantitative research methods.
  - ✓ Experience working in the district-based position.

*(Note: Preferences will be given to candidates with experience working in the chosen district)*

- **Communication skills:**
  - ✓ Excellent written and spoken Nepali and English language skills.
- **Flexible and multitask:**
  - ✓ An ability to maintain balance when under stress.
- **Communication skills:**
  - ✓ Computer literate and proficient with Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint.
- **Others**
  - ✓ The position is district – based position and is expected to travel in the field 100% of the time during the job.