

Adventist Development and Relief Agency International

Health and Nutrition Technical Director Job Description

Background

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is the global humanitarian arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. ADRA Madagascar is part of the ADRA Network and was established in Madagascar in 1992 to provide development and relief assistance to people who need it most. Madagascar is a country in southern Africa located in the Indian Ocean. It is the fifth largest Island in the world with a population of approximately 27 million people; but it is also one of the poorest countries of the world. ADRA works in central, south eastern and south western Madagascar. Vulnerable populations are exposed to economic hardships, low access to education, scarcity of water and sanitation, poor health services, lack of food, and impacts of natural disasters. The country is prone to natural disasters, mainly cyclone and floods, but also drought due to climate change impacts and El Niño phenomenon. ADRA is most active in parts of the country mostly affected by disasters and facing malnutrition and food insecurity challenges.

Purpose of the Position:

The Health and Nutrition Technical Director (HNTD) provides leadership and management of the ADRA Madagascar Health and Nutrition program. Based at the Country Office in Antananarivo, the HNTD will contribute to the development of the health nutrition strategy of ADRA Madagascar, provide technical support to the Health and Nutrition specialists/officers of the different projects and ensure that all health and nutrition components of projects implemented by ADRA Madagascar are in line with international standards, Government of Madagascar guidance and strategies as well as donor regulations. S/He will manage the relationship between ADRA Madagascar and the Ministry of Public Health, National Nutrition Office (ONN) and all other health and nutrition partners, keeping ADRA Madagascar Management abreast of prevailing health and nutrition issues. S/He will also work with the Head of Programs and the Business Development Manager to identify new funding opportunities in Health and Nutrition in line with ADRA Madagascar program priorities, and in developing proposals and funding requests that are of the highest technical standard. The Health and Nutrition Technical Director is expected to be someone good understanding global health and nutrition, with extensive experience working in both humanitarian and development settings and a strong passion for making a difference in the lives of people regardless culture, gender, or ethnicity.

Key Responsibilities

Technical leadership

- Provide technical leadership in designing, planning, implementing, and monitoring all Health and Nutrition field activities implemented by ADRA Madagascar.
- Ensure that all Health and Nutrition activities meet the sector standards and donor expectations.
- Provide leadership and mentoring for Health and Nutrition field teams.
- Develop and implement a capacity building plan for field assistants and other field officers making intentional efforts to build competent and committed teams.
- Promote the mainstreaming of Health and Nutrition programming in ADRA's projects and activities.
- Ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of Health and Nutrition programs, in accordance with the policies, procedures, regulations and practices of ADRA, donors and the government of

Madagascar, generating evidence for new initiatives, and learning and sharing for quality improvement.

- Participate in the development of new proposals and the revision of ADRA Madagascar's strategic plan.
- Present monthly reports to Head of Programs on the Health and Nutrition activities.
- Contribute to the updating of ADRA Madagascar Strategic Plan and other strategies taking into consideration changes in expectations from donors, the Government of Madagascar and the ADRA network.

Program Management

- Design and manage, in collaboration with the various project teams, innovative approaches in Health and Nutrition programming.
- Provide high quality technical support to field offices and to the Business Development Unit to ensure that the technical design and approach of ongoing and new projects are of sufficient quality to achieve the highest impact.
- Ensure that all Health and Nutrition outcomes of projects are delivered as defined in the project objectives.
- Oversee the quality and coverage of Health and Nutrition programming.

Coordination and Representation

- Establish and maintain internationally recognized humanitarian standards, e.g. SPHERE Standards, WHO and other UN agencies and government of Madagascar; and ensure that all ADRA Madagascar Staff, partners and beneficiary communities understand and accept these standards.
- Identify the technical capacity needs for the Field Health and Nutrition teams and advise ADRA Madagascar Management on the best ways to address the needs.
- Conduct the Health and Nutrition activities in such a way that will position ADRA as the organization of choice with potential and existing partners, donors and stakeholders.
- Travel regularly to various project sites across the country as may be required.
- Represent ADRA Madagascar in all Health and Nutrition related national, inter-NGO and similar meetings, unless otherwise directed by the Country Director or Head of Programs.
- Analyze and report on evolving humanitarian needs and provide clear recommendations for interventions.
- Collaborate with governmental, non-governmental and private sector partners to identify, design and pilot innovative actions in the fields of development and humanitarian aid
- Participate in the promotion of actions undertaken by ADRA Madagascar and projects through article submission, presentation, and active participation in the discussion forums.

Others

- Other responsibilities assigned by the Head of Programs or the Country Director

Educational Qualifications

- A degree in Medicine with at least five years of experience in health and nutrition within a development and humanitarian context. Alternatively, a Bachelor's Degree in Public Health **PLUS** additional related postgraduate degree; or a Master's degree in Nursing, Nutrition, Dietetics, or any other related health sciences with at least 7 years of experience in health and nutrition within a development and humanitarian context.
- A Master of Public Health will not be considered as an equivalent for any of the Health Sciences, unless used as an addition to a basic degree in any of the health sciences. A PhD or higher degree in international development will be a definite added advantage.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

Essential

- 5 – 7 years' experience designing and leading Health and Nutrition programming, preferably in sub-Saharan Africa and within an international organization, multilateral organization or the private sector.
- In-depth knowledge of the policies and regulations of the government of Madagascar regarding Health and Nutrition.
- In-depth knowledge of current and evolving Health and Nutrition issues globally and in Africa. Strong familiarity with health and nutrition issues in Madagascar will be an added advantage.
- Demonstrable experience in the implementation of Health and Nutrition programs in development and humanitarian settings.
- Demonstrable experience in health and nutrition related data analysis and interpretation
- Demonstrable experience in proposal development. Evidence of key participation in previous successful proposals will be a definite added advantage.
- Excellent skills in report writing and proposal writing. Writing samples will be requested if shortlisted for interview.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Strong experience with grant management.
- Excellent networking skills and a demonstrable ability to supervise teams.
- Working knowledge of English or French, preferably both.

Desirable

- Familiarity with and experience of applying Sphere Standards and other relevant international standards.
- Fluency in Malagasy language and previous work in Madagascar will be added advantage

- Demonstrable experience in developing policy and strategy, and policy analysis.

Personal Attributes

- Well-motivated individual, creative, innovative, and strong ability to work in a fast-paced multi-cultural, multi-disciplinary environment.
- Strong ability to maintain effective performance under pressure or adversity, to handle stress in a manner consistent with ADRA's values, manage own personal growth and development and manage emotions and stresses positively.