

Mother and Newborn Information for Tracking Outcomes and Results (MoNITOR) Technical Advisory Group

Call for experts

The Mother and Newborn Information for Tracking Outcomes and Results (MoNITOR) technical advisory group was established by WHO in 2016 to act as an advisory body on matters of measurement, metrics and monitoring of maternal and newborn health.¹ MoNITOR's core function is to provide technical guidance to WHO to ensure harmonized guidance, messages, and tools so that countries can collect useful data to track progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through 1) providing independent advice to WHO on monitoring-related guidance and norms and data collection platforms; 2) convening maternal and newborn measurement initiatives to avoid duplication and coordinate messages to national and international communities; and 3) prioritizing metrics-related research priorities and capacity building. The first phase of MoNITOR ended in December 2019 and the second phase has been awarded to extend the activities through February 2023.

The key activities in the second phase include continuing to provide a coordinating function for multiple stakeholders in the maternal and newborn health measurement field to share learning from ongoing research and projects. This grant will also support pilot testing, translation and dissemination of MoNITOR guidance, tools and recommendations and to coordinate with partners to build capacity of countries to use MoNITOR materials. MoNITOR will provide regular updates to the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group of Experts (STAGE) for Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health, and Nutrition and will be available to respond to STAGE measurement questions for maternal and newborn health.

At present, the MoNITOR Advisory Group includes 14 experts. In the second phase, MoNITOR will expand its membership to strengthen expertise in several areas such as routine data systems, maternal and neonatal morbidity (i.e. small and sick newborn care) measurement, and maternal nutrition. In this regard, MoNITOR plans to expand the group's expertise and is specifically interested in having additional members who work at programme monitoring offices at country level as well as experts with expertise in morbidity and nutrition measurement. Members will be selected based on their qualifications and ability to contribute to the accomplishment of the MoNITOR activities as well as regional distribution.

The MoNITOR Technical Advisory Group will hold the first meeting of the second phase on 1-3 December 2020, with follow-on meetings twice per year.

¹ <https://www.who.int/data/maternal-newborn-child-adolescent/monitor>

Selection

Members of the Technical Advisory Group for Mother and Newborn Information for Tracking Outcomes and Results (MoNITOR) must have excellent technical knowledge, including the following:

- Knowledge of maternal, perinatal and newborn health epidemiology;
- Familiarity with the methods for generating and use of data on maternal, perinatal and newborn health, including through routine health information systems, health facility and household surveys, and demographic surveillance systems in global and country contexts;
- Knowledge and experience in tracking progress towards reducing mortality and morbidity including appropriate monitoring and evaluation of quality of care and health risk factors including nutrition;
- Knowledge and experience in measurement for maternal and neonatal morbidity.

The group will have gender and geographical balance, and broadly cover the main health issues related to maternal, perinatal and newborn health and mortality (maternal and newborn deaths, and stillbirths) and morbidity.

Process to identify expert members

- Candidates will be requested to submit:
 - A brief curriculum vitae (max. 2 pages);
 - A letter expressing the areas of interest;
 - A list of authored papers to demonstrate area(s) of expertise and contribution to the field of measurement;
 - One example of a work product or report in the relevant area.
- The WHO Secretariat will review the nominations and identify up to 6 (six) proposed members, considering:
 - Gender balance;
 - Geographic balance;
 - Technical expertise in metrics, research, epidemiology, monitoring and evaluation of maternal, perinatal and newborn health indicators, as related to:
 - Data collection instruments and analysis;
 - Data collection methodology;
 - Statistical methods and analysis;
 - Demographic principles and analysis;
 - Health Information System and its implementation;
 - Use of data in advancing maternal, perinatal and newborn health.
- The WHO Secretariat will contact all selected members with information on the 1st meeting to be convened 1-3 December 2020. Availability to participate in this meeting is mandatory, in-person or virtually.
- Each proposed member will be required to complete a WHO declaration of interest (DOI) form, and his/her appointment will be subject to:

- the WHO Secretariat having evaluated the completed declaration of conflict of interest form, and determining that his/her participation would not give rise to a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest; and
- counter-signature by the proposed member of WHO's invitation letter and accompanying Memorandum of Agreement, Terms and Conditions for Temporary Advisers.
- Candidates who are not nominated will be informed.
- Duration of term of appointment: October 2020 to February 2023.

All nomination submissions should be sent to *monitor@who.int* labelled "MoNITOR Expert".

Closing date for submission: 18 September 2020.

