

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultancy Assignment:	National Symposium on post stroke rehabilitation and Evidence Based therapy techniques enhancing recovery
Name of Project:	“Towards the improvement of inclusion of people with disabilities in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPR Korea) through effective implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD), in particular articles 19,26 and 27”
Duration of Assignment:	12 days
Expected Start Date:	20 th November 2017
Submit Application to:	dprk.hi.director@handicap-int.org.cn
Application Deadline:	10 th October 2017

1. General context:

Handicap International (HI) is an independent and impartial aid organization working in situations of poverty and exclusion, conflict and disaster. We work alongside people with disabilities and vulnerable populations, taking action and bearing witness in order to respond to their essential needs, improve their living conditions and promote respect for their dignity and fundamental rights. Since it was founded in 1982, Handicap International has gone on to work in over 59 countries worldwide.

Handicap International (due to political reasons known in DPR Korea as European Union Programme Support Unit 7) has been operational in DPR Korea since 2001 and implementing various humanitarian and development projects in collaboration with our national partner; Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled People (KFPD). KFPD is a quasi-civil society organization with mandate to work on all issues related to people with disabilities in the country.

Currently HI is implementing projects in DPRK based on a 5 year operational strategy (2014-2018.), which has been jointly defined through a participatory process with our national partner. The overall objective of HI’s current operational strategy in DPRK is to *“strengthen the capacities of KFPD to promote equal opportunities, protection of rights and the participation of people with disabilities and the perception that they are contributing citizens of DPRK”*. The HI program currently follows three main pillars; identified in the strategy and being implemented in Pyongyang and 6 provinces:

(1) Support to disability focused actors in promoting rights and equal opportunity for people with disabilities with focus on **special education**, promotion of the Korean Disability Law (KDL) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and implication of decentralised local actors;

(2) Improve the access and support to functional rehabilitation services for people with disabilities including children and women, putting emphasis on improving the access to the functional rehabilitation services through decentralization of services, outreach mobile camps and a sustainable training system for rehabilitation professionals.

(3) Promote inclusive DRR practices, increase community resilience and reduce risk of disaster at school and community levels.

For more information concerning the context of work in this country, please visit HI website www.handicapinternational.be.

2. Background of functional rehabilitation service in DPRK

In DPRK, Modern functional rehabilitation services are hardly available in terms of access and diversity. Within DPRK, the physiotherapy and occupational therapy professions are not recognised. Physiotherapist (often graduated in traditional Koryo medicine) and medical staffs do not have enough understanding on contemporary approach of functional rehabilitation services (including physiotherapy and occupational therapy) and multidisciplinary approach. Physiotherapy treatments are mainly focused on passive techniques such as heat, cold, electrotherapy, massage, etc. Furthermore the rehabilitation care often starts quite late in the recovery process which can lead to secondary complications and a minimized the chance of functional gain. However the concept of functional rehabilitation services (Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy) is growing day by day and getting better recognition as both KFPD and health institutions see physiotherapy/occupational therapy as an important vehicle to complete the functional/physical rehabilitation care for persons with disabilities.

However the availability of functional rehabilitation services is still very limited and more or less confined to the few specialized national level institutions such as Humhung Orthopedic Factory (South Hamgyong), Songrim Orthopedic Factory (North Hwanghae), Roaknang Orthopedic Factory, KRCCD, Munsu rehabilitation Centre (Pyongyang) etc. Access to these institutions for people with disabilities who are living in remote areas is remained challenging and due to various reasons such as distance, means of transportation, delay in receiving the travel permit and need of long stay in institutions to receive the services and so on. To extend the reach of these services to people with disabilities who are living in remote parts of the country; Some effort has been made through organization of sporadic mobile rehabilitation camps in those remote areas , but these efforts are far below to meet the demand of services.

In order to address these gaps, Currently HI in collaboration with KFPD and with financial support of European Union, is implementing a project “Towards the improvement of inclusion of people with disabilities in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPR Korea) through effective implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD), in particular articles 19,26 and 27” with the main objective to increase the access to physical rehabilitation services through three main strategic approaches/initiatives;

- Decentralization of physical rehabilitation services through establishment of Physiotherapy unit in county, district and community level health facilities.

- Capacity Building of Provincial and National level health and rehabilitation professional.
- Supporting KFPD in carryout the rehabilitation needs assessment and develop the National rehabilitation strategy:

3. Justification of Assignment

The finding of rehabilitation need assessment conducted in 4 provinces of DPRK in 2016 has revealed that stroke (cardio-vascular accident) is the one of the major causes of disability in DPRK. The health and rehabilitation care professionals in DPRK have limited technical skills in providing post stroke rehabilitation care. The physiotherapy and occupational therapy training conducted in recent years has highlighted the needs of future technical support and recommended to train the health and rehabilitation care professionals on specific techniques in line with the latest evidence base available from the professional networks backed up by recent clinical trials suggesting a range of new interventions to manage walking, reach and grasp, aphasia, visual field loss, and hemi-inattention among others (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3679365/>) . Hence Handicap International; in collaboration with its national partner KFPD is organising a 2 days national symposium on Post-stroke rehabilitation. At least 50 Health and Rehabilitation professionals of various national and provincial health facilities will participate in this symposium and have the opportunity to discuss technical issues with national and international technical expert. This symposium will also provide a platform for different professionals to discuss and share good practices based on the latest available evidence. It will also give the opportunity to feed in to the initiative of a stroke rehabilitation protocol to be used as a provisional guideline document to promote and develop further stroke rehabilitation care across the country. Following the symposium, 1 week training on neurologic rehabilitation for stroke will also be organized for selected health and rehabilitation care professional from national level health facilities such as Munsu Rehabilitation Centre, Red Cross Hospital and Pyongyang medical university. It is expected that, this 2 days symposium and 1 week training on a range of therapies for Stroke rehabilitation will equip health and rehabilitation care professional with a thorough understanding of practical, evidence-based knowledge for early stroke identification, evaluation, treatment. Through lectures, interactive sessions and open discussion, this symposium will explore the critical issues surrounding the assessment and management of stroke patients.

4. Objectives

- Describe the pathophysiology of different type of stroke.
- Discuss the various secondary complication associated with stroke.
- Discuss various assessment and screening techniques.
- Discuss various therapeutic technique and approach of acute and post-acute stroke rehabilitation.
- Discuss various management and intervention technique
- Define the role of rehabilitation and health care professionals in stroke rehabilitation.

- Define appropriate acute and post-acute stroke intervention protocols.
- Multidisciplinary approach of stroke rehabilitation
- Describe best practices in transitions of care from the acute hospital to rehabilitation, home, or other appropriate levels of longer term care
- Describe the evidence based practice for acute treatment and management of patients with acute and post-acute stroke.
- Provide detail theoretical and practical skills on evidence based neuro rehabilitation therapies that foster recovery for Stroke patients

5. Knowledge and experience:

- The international expert should have strong knowledge on post –stroke rehabilitation (functional rehabilitation) and considerable experience in using / explaining the broad impact of Neuro facilitation techniques , exercise modalities neuro stimulation practice (among others) on the recovery process of the Stroke patient .
- Graduate or post graduate in Physiotherapy or Occupational therapy
- Strong training facilitation skills
- Certified or proven track record in using Neuro facilitation techniques in Stroke management (desirable)
- Valid medical and travel insurance

Note: The consultant will have to demonstrate an ability to understand the context, the political and logistical constraints prevalent in the country, and to be able to integrate these realities into his/her daily work.

The success of an expatriate in DPR Korea depends on both the personal and professional qualities that he/she brings to bare. An ability to demonstrate tolerance, patience, flexibility and self-reliance are important personality traits and are the key factors in determining the success of the applicant. The candidate should be psychologically strong enough to cope with the environment, be calm, and have well-tempered character showing maturity and diplomacy in decision-making. He/she must be a good communicator and know when and how to share information and to be able to organize his/her time with efficiency and flexibility according to possible restrictions imposed or administrative obligations.

6. Methodology:

Training facilitation methodology and final contend will be defined by International expert. However, it is expected that, it will be combination of presentation, theoretical discussion and practical hands on training.

The detailed agenda and curriculum of national symposium will also be designed and finalized by international expert.

7.Expected timeline of consultancy:

November the 13th to 25th 2017

Date of arrival to Pyongnag: 14th November 2017

8.Expected results:

- Pre and post training evaluation report
- Symposium report
- Training report.

9. Submission of Application:

Applicants should submit to the below mention address with following:

- CV of the Consultant and any team members;
- A Cover Letter;
- A technical and financial Proposal including the following components:
 - Background and Experience of the Consultant;
 - Proposed Methodological Approach;
 - Proposed Work plan for the field mission;
 - Proposed Daily Consultancy Fee including all applicable taxes

Note:

1. Air ticket, visa, accommodation and local transport costs will be organized by HI. Cost of per diem is not accepted;
2. The payment will be done after the submission and validation of final report.

Note that as stated above, mandatory repatriation insurance will be arranged and covered by HI with SOS International. However, the consultant is required to have his or her own adequate medical insurance and adequate professional/third party liability insurance (both not covered by HI).

Submissions can be accepted by email to the listed addresses:

Rajesh Chandra, Field Programme Director: dprk.hi.director@handicap-int.org.cn

The deadline for applications is the 25th September 2017.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.