RTI International / Research Triangle Institute (RTI) is both a global research institute and a leading international development organization. We combine these powerful capabilities with those of our partners to co-create smart, shared solutions for a more prosperous, equitable, and resilient world. Based in North Carolina, USA, RTI is one of USAID’s top implementing partners. A commitment to making meaningful change energizes our 6,000 staff who deliver results across eight international development sectors and in more than 80 countries. RTI’s Sustainable Growth & Resilience (SG&R) technical unit within the International Development Group brings together RTI experts and capabilities across food security, agriculture, energy, environment, water, governance, and economic opportunity. SG&R will leverage RTI’s experience designing and delivering multisectoral programming and technical solutions to respond to climate change, build resilience, and promote economic growth around the world.

**SG&R’s Global Food Security and Agriculture Team** is working to strengthen agricultural markets, expand the on- and off-farm workforce, improve evidence-based program planning and policy development, and tackle the dual burden of malnutrition around the globe. RTI’s work helps foster stronger food systems, reduce malnutrition in all its forms, build resilience and engage the next generation of food security leaders.

**IDG’s Global Health Division** works in Neglected Tropical Diseases, infectious disease, including TB, HIV/AIDS, and Malaria; global health security, Heath Systems Strengthening - including Health Governance, Health Finance, Human Resources for Health, Capacity Building, and Health Policy and Advocacy; Public-Private Partnerships; and Maternal-Neonatal-Child Health and Reproductive Health and Family Planning. We address a range of public health problems to reduce disparities, lower disease burdens, and build locally owned sustainable health programs in lower- and middle-income countries.
Project Description

The goal of the $45 million USAID-funded Enhancing Nutrition Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning in the Health Sector (NuMERAL) program is to support USAID’s Office of Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (GH/MCHN) with collaborative generation and use of evidence in nutrition, and to enhance local capacity for nutrition monitoring, evaluation, research, and learning in the health sector. The Activity will fill evidence gaps to improve nutrition outcomes through health systems while ensuring local partners design, implement, disseminate, and use such evidence for policies and programs.

Position Description

Under NuMERAL, we are developing a NuMERAL Learning Agenda to guide local research and its translation in three Focus Areas—(1) mainstreaming nutrition in reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH) policies and services; (2) integrating responsive caregiving and opportunities for early learning into nutrition policies and programs; and (3) improving assessment and prevention of micronutrient deficiencies and anemia. The NUMERAL Learning Agenda is a document that lists illustrative learning questions, organized by themes and sub-priorities in the three Focus Areas. The NuMERAL Learning Agenda will also include illustrative questions that highlight linkages across the three Focus Areas, including optimizing monitoring, evaluation, and information systems in nutrition. There exist substantial research reports on these three Focus Areas in peer-reviewed and gray literature databases that have summarized the body of knowledge. We would like to include knowledge gaps and future research needs outlined in these research reports in our NuMERAL Learning Agenda.

RTI is seeking a consultant for the USAID-funded NuMERAL activity to undertake a rapid literature review. The objective of the rapid literature review is to summarize knowledge gaps, existing learning agendas, and future directions for research, monitoring, and evaluation across the three focus areas. The findings from this review will inform the Learning Agenda, prioritization of themes, sub-priorities, and illustrative questions, and suitable approaches for answering learning questions.

The NuMERAL team is currently undertaking a structured search to identify applicable published and gray literature that will be included in the review. The search is expected to yield approximately 50 documents. The consultant
is expected to review these documents and summarize the findings. A list of themes, sub priorities, and learning questions identified in the literature across the three focus areas should also be included in an appendix of the report. The expected output is a 15–20-page report (excluding appendixes).

**Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Meet with NuMERAL staff to discuss objectives and expectations for the scope of work (2 hours).
- Draft rapid literature review outline (4 hours).
- Incorporate input and submit final rapid literature review outline (2 hours).
- Analysis, summarize, and interpret literature for inclusion in the rapid literature review (50 hours).
- Draft rapid literature review report that summarizes findings from the available literature provided (30 hours).
- Incorporate input from NuMERAL team and submit final rapid literature review report (8 hours).

**Total Estimated LOE: 12 days**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's Degree and 10 years of relevant experience, Masters degree and 5 years of experience, PhD and 3 years of experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Strong understanding of the state of current global evidence related to maternal, infant, and young child nutrition and early child development, and of current global guidelines and best practices.
- Familiarity with international development systems, policies, finances, and management in low- and middle-income countries.

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- Proficiency in English
- Excellent research skills, including experience in knowledge synthesis.
- Previous experience working on USAID programs is strongly desired.

**Timeline**
The contract will be awarded from December 27, 2023, to January 12, 2024. The expected level of effort is 12 days (96 hours).

**Instructions:**

Please submit CV + daily rate to Michael Bertino via email at [mbertino@rti.org](mailto:mbertino@rti.org) no later than December 17th.