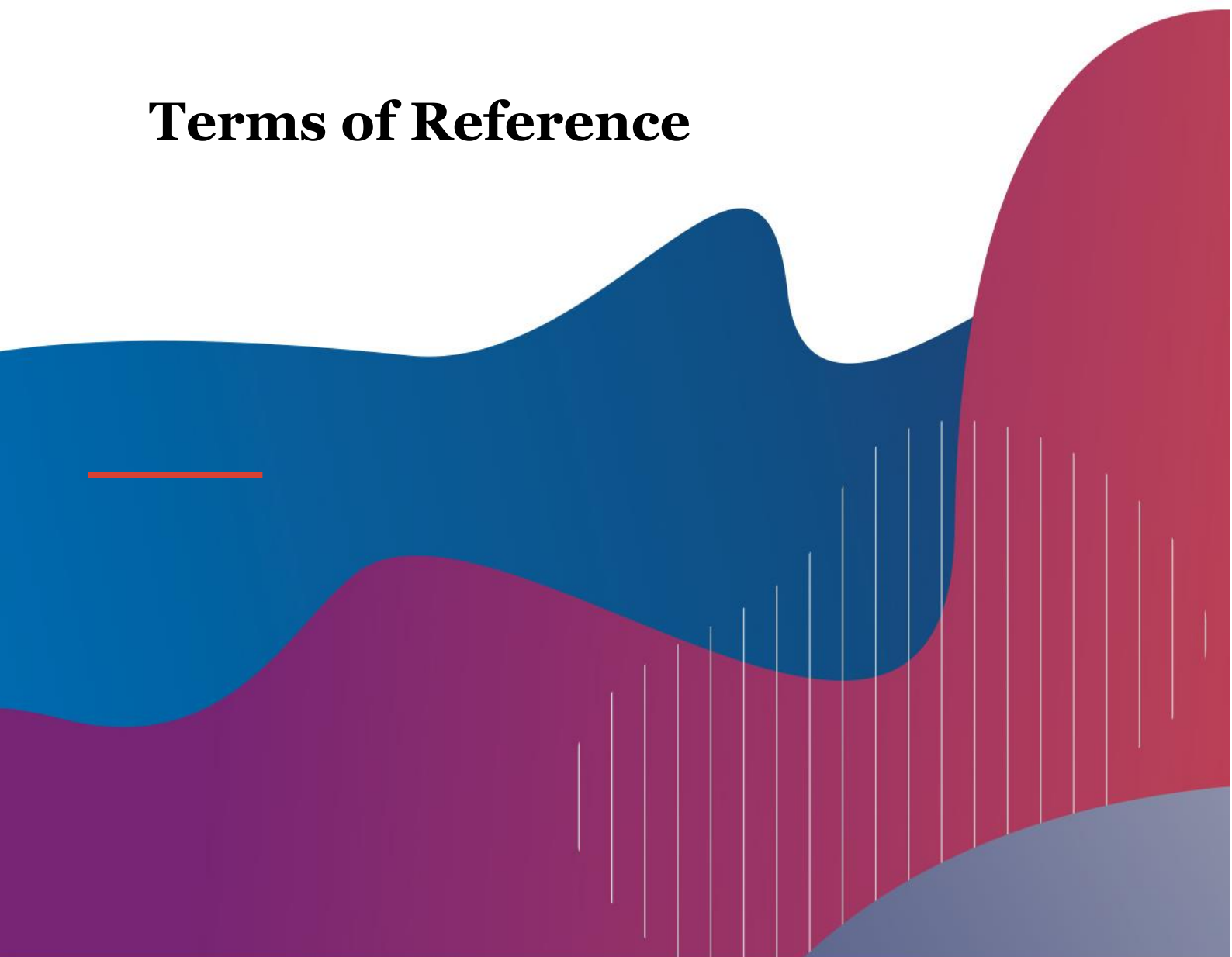


Health Data Management Volunteer

Terms of Reference



Health Data Management Lead Volunteer, DRC

Volunteer Brief and Terms of Reference

Summary

KGHP is looking for volunteer with expertise and experience in health data management to support the partnership in its expansion of their safe surgery programme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The volunteer will lead the component of the programme to strengthen the management of health data and support activities to strengthen health worker capacity on the use and management of data. The volunteer opportunity includes travel to the DRC for an estimated 2-4 weeks over a 24 month period. This is a fantastic opportunity for a French-speaking volunteer interested in global health with experience in health data management and LMICs settings to lead on an exciting new project in the DRC.

King's Global Health Partnerships

King's Global Health Partnerships (KGHP) works with health facilities, academic institutions, and governments to strengthen health systems and improve the quality of care in four countries: Somaliland, Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. We bring together health, academic and international development expertise from King's College London, the UK's National Health Service (NHS) and our international partners to:

- Educate, train and support healthcare workers
- Strengthen healthcare and training institutions
- Enhance national health policies and systems.

Our programmes are delivered by volunteers, with educators, researchers, health professionals, managers and health sector leaders taking up volunteering placements to deliver technical advice, teaching, training, and distance mentoring and on the job support to their counterparts in the global south.

King's Kongo Central Partnership

KGHP has been working in the DRC to help strengthen the health system and improve the quality of care since 2013. We work in the Kongo Central province, in the southwest of the country where there is a high burden of trauma due to road traffic collisions on the arterial route connecting the Atlantic port cities of Boma and Matadi with the capital Kinshasa. We work with our partners to provide education and training of healthcare workers, and to strengthen the trauma system, clinical services, policy and research. Key partners include the provincial Ministry of Health and Education, the Hôpital Provincial de Référence de Kinkanda (Matadi) and the Université Joseph Vubu (Boma). These institutions provide services for a population of 6 million.

Context

Surgery is an integral component of a functioning healthcare system. In Kongo Central province, most of the population lacks access to safe, timely and affordable surgery. For patients who are able to access surgical care, peri-operative mortality and complications are high and outcomes are poor. The barriers to accessing safe surgery in Kongo Central include: the risk of financial hardship for patients, the lack of a trained healthcare workforce, poor infrastructure and equipment, weak strategic leadership and limited use of data to improve health service delivery.

We have recently started a two-year project that aims to improve surgical outcomes for rural and urban communities in Kongo Central province. The project is delivered in partnership with the provincial Ministry of Health and will tackle barriers to safe surgery at multiple levels of the health system. At provincial level, it works with the Health Division to increase capacity for leadership, strategic planning and management of surgical data; At tertiary level it works with four hospitals to strengthen communication and coordination with district hospitals; and at district level it will improve the knowledge skills and confidence of health workers in four facilities on safe surgery.

The health data management component of the project seeks to strengthen the collection and use of data at facility and provincial level. Data collection at the target facilities is limited and does not meet WHO standards required for safe surgical workforce and service delivery planning. At the facility level, we will support health workers to collect and report on a minimum set of indicators (surgical capacity, volume and results). At the provincial level we will support leadership to understand and use the new data in workforce and resource planning. An increased health data collection, monitoring and management capacity can allow partners to make well-informed decisions in improving the performance of the health system. The collection and analysis of data of good quality is critical to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of health-care delivery.

Aim

The health data management lead volunteer will be responsible for leading the data management component of this programme, with support from the partnership and other volunteers. This will involve travel to the DRC to deliver a workshop on workforce planning, surgical care mapping and data management with provincial health leaders.

Objectives

Lead the health data management component of this programme by:

- Reviewing existing health data management processes and tools, gathered as part of the project baseline data collection.
- Support partnership in organising health leader workshops in the DRC (drafting ToRs, agendas and workshop objectives). These will be virtual and face to face.
- Travel to DRC to deliver a workshop with provincial ministry of health colleagues (estimated max 15 participants). The aim of the workshop will be to equip provincial health leaders with a deeper understanding of use of health data and metrics to strengthen surgical care, workforce planning and data management. The workshop will consider how challenges in current data collection will be addressed, agreeing on a set of indicators and process for

surgical data collection from each facility and management across the province of Kongo Central. There are plans for a follow-up workshop a year later to review progress made.

- Support the establishment of a mentorship programme through which health workers at tertiary and district level will be supported to implement health data management processes.
- Work with and support the in-country data manager volunteer that will be monitoring data collection processes from all targeted health facilities and will be delivering health data collection training.
- Support partnership with evidence gathering of impact of programme during trip to DRC.

Timing

The project will run from March 2022 to March 2024. We are looking for someone that can engage with the project immediately and travel in September 2022 for two weeks to DRC, with a possible follow up trip in 2023. Suggested first trip dates are 10th -25th September, we would like to hear from volunteers who are able to travel close to these dates and for shorter periods of time, so please note your availability in your application.

Skills and experience

- **Qualifications:** Appropriate undergraduate degree. We are looking for individuals with a diverse set of expertise and experience in health data management, either from a clinical LMIC perspective or a health system policy perspective who have a sound understanding of uses of health data in strengthening clinical care.
- **Experience:**
 - **Essential:**
 - Written and spoken French.
 - Experience of working in a low-resource setting.
 - Expertise in healthcare information and data systems.
 - **Desirable:**
 - Experience of LMIC hospital management/ strengthening hospital documentation, data collection and monitoring.
 - Experience of delivering workshops, training and/or capacity building, ideally in LMICs.
 - Experience of implementing data improvement projects in LMICs.

Expectations

The volunteer lead will work in partnership across all activities. The volunteer will be expected to lead this piece of work, possibly leading other volunteers supporting the programme, coordinating inputs and contributions and working closely with a surgical lead volunteer that will be leading the surgical component of the programme. There is a strong emphasis on learning from and working with the healthcare workers in facilities, collaboratively designing solutions and training packages which are appropriate for the environment. All volunteers that participate in our programmes are expected to attend an induction and read the volunteer handbook. Volunteers will be supported to develop objectives for the engagement, which will include objectives for their own professional and personal development. Volunteers are expected to document the work that they deliver for the partnership and will be supported to do so in the form of logs or reports. Lastly, the volunteer lead

will be supported by King's Global Health Partnership's team in the UK and in DRC with operations, logistics, financial and project management support.

Our offer to you

You will have the opportunity to work as part of a dynamic team and contribute to improving health outcomes for a population in need. In addition, there is strong evidence that health partnerships like ours do not only benefit people in low-resource settings. They also bring real benefit to NHS staff and services as well as citizens in our partner countries. Among others, these benefits include the opportunity to develop:

- Leadership skills
- Skills in interdisciplinary team working
- Knowledge and skills in innovation and quality improvement
- Clinical and teaching experience
- Cross-cultural experience
- Personal resilience and efficiency

Volunteers on short term trips and longer placements will receive additional support which is listed below. Please note these are not applicable to all placements, so please make sure you clarify any expectations with the London team:

- Pre-departure and in-country induction
- Cost of return flights covered by KGHP
- Cost of visa covered by KGHP
- Cost of vaccinations and antimalarials covered by KGHP
- Enrolment onto King's College London Travel Insurance policy
- Food, accommodation and travel whilst in the DRC

Application

All volunteer roles are appointed following an application and interview process, scheduled for a few days after the application deadline. If you are interested in applying, please complete the online application form and submit a C.V. under the "Apply" tab on our Global Volunteering Scheme web page: www.kcl.ac.uk/kghp/volunteering. The deadline for applications is 23:59 at 24/07/2022 .

Thank you for your interest in King's Global Health Partnerships.

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