Job Specification: Country Director

Department:	Programmes
Scale:	PSM 6
Line managed by:	Regional Director
Responsible for line managing:	International and national staff
Location:	International

MAG's Vision is a safe future for women, men and children affected by violence, conflict, and insecurity. People will live in communities where their rights are upheld, with dignity and choice and free from fear from mines, explosive remnants of war (ERW) and the impact of small arms and light weapons and ammunition.

MAG's Mission is to save lives and build safer futures. We will use our core skills and distinctive competence to save lives through the removal of mines and ERW, and reduce the impact of small arms, light weapons and ammunition on people and communities. How we do this is as important as what we do – we work primarily with and for communities, for us 'it's all about people'.

MAG's Values. Our values come to life through our actions, every day. How we act has an impact on others. As someone who works at MAG, you can help to create a positive culture by demonstrating our values through your own behaviour and actions. Everyone has a role to play in shaping our culture. Everyone should understand our values and is encouraged to think how they are relevant to their individual role.

DETERMINED - we work with purpose

EXPERT - through excellence and expertise we build trust

INTEGRITY - we strive to do the right thing

COMPASSION - people come first in everything we do

INCLUSIVE - we are inclusive, and we value diversity

Job Purpose:

Provide strategic leadership and representation for MAG in-country and maintain robust oversight of the programme to ensure quality delivery of MAG's activities.

Accountable to MAG UK for the delivery, effective management, monitoring and evaluation of MAG's activities in the country programme.

Ensure the effective integration of strategic, programmatic and operational management to maintain the relevance, quality and consistency of all activities in country.

Job Description

Strategic Leadership

- Take the lead to ensure that relevant policies and procedures are in place to enable the development, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of activities undertaken by the programme.
- Lead the programme Senior Management Team in developing annual business plans and monitoring progress against these.
- Work as part of MAG's Global Leadership Team (GLT) to maintain standards, advocate MAG's values and ensure efficient and effective delivery of the global strategy.

Contract Management

- Ensure that robust policies and procedures are in place to ensure effective financial management of the programme.
- Maintain strategic oversight and control of the programme budget, ensuring efficient use of MAG resources, maximizing contractual and financial returns
- Maintain oversight of all fiscal activities to ensure donor compliance, value for money and appropriateness of expenditure in line with MAG policies and practice.
- Support the planning, development and overall management of project budgets, in collaboration with relevant senior field managers and MAG UK staff.

Compliance and Risk

- Maintain a proactive approach to risk management, ensuring compliance with contractual requirements, statutory legislation, best practice and MAG policies to limit liabilities and maximise programme efficiency.
- Ensure all activities are completed in line with statutory, donor/client requirements and contracted agreements.
- Ensure that all activities are implemented in line with donor requirements and in accordance with MAG, donor, country and international standards, rules and regulations.
- Maintain corporate oversight of all contracted activities including the provision of fit for purpose progress reports to key stakeholders, incorporating variance analysis, corrective action points, etc.
- Oversee the contractual relationship with sub-contractors and partners to MAG, ensuring all activities are delivered in line with the Head Contract

Representation

- Provide effective representation for MAG to donors, national and local authorities, partners and other relevant stakeholders in the country and region to ensure that MAG's mission, values and specific project objectives are clearly understood and supported.

Donor Liaison and Business Development

- Build effective relationships and develop networks with all stakeholders including local and regional authorities, donors, partners and commercial and UXO operators.
- Proactively identify and pursue business development opportunities to enhance MAG's impact within the country, ensuring the programme's continuity and stability.
- Support broader business development initiatives across Syria, adapting to emerging opportunities as they arise.
- Oversee the production of all proposals and operational and financial reports related to the country programme, in collaboration with the relevant senior field managers and HQ staff.

Security & Asset Management

- Maintain oversight of programme health, safety and security plans, policies and controls to ensure the safety and security of MAG staff, assets and resources.
- Leads the Incident Management Team.

HR

- Build, manage and motivate a multidisciplinary team that enables MAG's objectives to be carried out effectively in the country programme.
- Ensure that HR policies and procedures are applied to ensure high performance and adherence to MAG's standards and values.
- Line manage and foster a positive and productive working relationship with the Technical Operations Manager (TOM) to ensure close collaboration on the effective integration of all strategic and operational activities in the country programme.
- Provide leadership, advice, and support to the country team.

All International staff are expected to undertake the following general duties:

- Work within the framework of MAG's core values, promoting its ethos and mission statement.
- Work towards achieving programme and/or department business plan objectives.
- Ensure familiarity with and adhere to all MAG policies and procedures and keep informed of MAG activities.
- Undertake and apply learning from appropriate training and development programmes.
- Undertake role in developing countries and areas in conflict where standards of living may be basic.
- Undertake the role in a manner appropriate to the cultural context and within the local legal framework.
- Understand and uphold the standards outlined in MAG's Safeguarding Framework, acting with due care and attention to safeguard the wellbeing of anyone that comes into contact with MAG's work and reporting concerns if they do arise.

This is a non-contractual document that can be varied from time to time as circumstances dictate. This job description is intended to summarize the main duties and responsibilities of the post; this is not intended to be a full and exhaustive list of tasks. All MAG staff are expected to demonstrate flexibility and willingness to perform appropriate tasks when the need arises.

Some Job Descriptions may be supplemented by specific Terms of Reference.

Person Specification

Essential Experience

- Experience of working overseas at senior management level in an international context
- Experience of working in the Middle East region
- Experience of strategically managing and directing large scale projects including, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation, risk assessment and mitigation and contract compliance.
- Strong people management experience with proven ability to lead and manage multidisciplinary and multicultural teams, often remotely.
- Proven expertise in the development of new business, including programme design and development, networking, and contract negotiations.
- Experience of having developed successful relationships and negotiated with donors, government bodies, other NGOs, and local partners.
- Experience of managing finance, administrative and human resource systems to ensure project efficiency.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

- Effective financial management skills, including demonstrated experience of ensuring robust financial management across a multiple grant portfolio and effective oversight of budgets.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to establish effective working relationships at all levels internally and externally.
- Strong writing skills to be able to write strategy, proposals, business plans, budgets, and reports.
- Knowledge and understanding of relevant institutional donors e.g., EU, UN, government departments.
- Strong representation, communication, and negotiation skills.
- Excellent organisational skills with the ability to coordinate multiple activities.

Essential Aptitude

- Innovative, creative and proactive with an analytical and solution-focused approach to work
- Ability to exercise sound judgment and make decisions with limited supervision
- Ability to meet deadlines and work calmly under pressure
- Ability to represent and promote MAG at the highest level
- Commitment to MAG's strategic direction and core values

Desirable

- Awareness of and understanding of humanitarian mine action approaches.
- Knowledge of relevant languages, particularly Arabic.
- Advanced university degree in relevant field (for example, international development, international relations, economics, politics).

Signed employee:	**Date:**
Signed manager:	**Date:**

December 2024