Making the case for investing in NCDs

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: CONSULTANT HEALTH ECONOMIST BETWEEN AUGUST 2017 AND DECEMBER 2018

19 July 2017

The United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases was established by the UN Secretary General in 2013. Its role is to bring the United Nations system together to tackle non-communicable diseases, mental health and other non-communicable conditions. It uses its networks and expertise to help governments develop and introduce effective responses to prevent and control NCDs. Bringing together over 40 UN agencies, as well as the World Bank and regional development banks, the Task Force promotes a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. In catalyzing action for NCDs, it moves countries a step closer towards universal health coverage and the Sustainable Development.

Under the Task Force, WHO and UNDP have developed a joint programme to catalyse multisectoral action on NCDs at the country level. This includes providing support to countries to develop the case for investing in NCDs.

To date, 8 investment cases have been conducted. Over the next 16 months it is expected that approximately 15 further investment cases missions will be undertaken. The investment cases seek to quantify the social and economic costs of NCDs in country, supporting governments to calculate the costs of inaction and the return on investment. The investment case uses the WHO-led OneHealth Tool and UNDP’s approach for undertaking institutional context analyses. Guidance for conducting the Institutional Context Analysis is available and guidance for conducting the economic component of the investment case is currently being finalized. The team undertaking the investment case in each country will include an economist and social development specialist. The former will have experience of working with the OneHealth Tool and will either have had experience of conducting NCD investment cases or have received training on how to undertake them. The latter will have experience in doing institutional context analyses.

The Task Force is now looking for a Consultant Health Economist who is able to provide support to the teams undertaking the investment case in each country between mid-August 2017 and 31 December 2018. The role of the Consultant Health Economist will be to provide backup technical support on specific queries on the economic aspects of the investment case during country missions as well as the analysis and writing of the report.

The scope of work for this contract consists of: (i) providing technical support regarding the economic component of the investment case via email and telephone during NCD investment case missions; (ii) providing technical support to the team in finalizing the analysis and drafting of the report; and (iii)
undertaking a final review and sign off on each investment case report ahead of submission to the Task Force Secretariat. The consultant will also be expected to participate in a 3-day NCD investment case training programme and undertake additional tasks as deemed necessary by the Task Force Secretariat.

The expectation is that the consultant will provide a total of 45 days’ support between mid-August 2017 to the end of 2018, with three additional days to participate in the investment case training.

The Task Force is now inviting eligible individuals to indicate their interest in undertaking the role of the Consultant Health Economist. Interested parties must provide information indicating why they are qualified to perform the described tasks, including CV, description of similar assignments and motivation for applying. The contracting party will be selected through a competitive process in accordance with WHO’s operating policies and procedures on procurement of services.

The expected start date is 14 August 2017. The contractual parties will be remunerated at a rate that is commensurate with their experience.

**Qualifications and Experience required:**

- Master’s degree or higher in health economics or policy, planning and financing;
- Demonstrated experience with conducting investment cases in countries;
- Experience in economic modelling and using the OneHealth Tool;
- Experience in project management;
- An understanding of the work of the Task Force and NCDs more broadly;
- Experience working in international organization settings, with multiple stakeholders;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English, including evidence of relevant publications in peer-reviewed publications;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- Experience working for WHO would be an asset.

**Deadline:**

Expressions of interest are to be delivered to the Task Force email address at: unncdtaskforce@who.int no later than 17:00 CET (Geneva time) on Friday 28 July 2017.