

CALL FOR PROPOSAL

Contractual Partner to support the Validation Process of the Updated Viral Hepatitis Estimates



1. Summary

The World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines is looking for an individual or institutional contractual partner to support the validation process of the updated viral hepatitis (VH) estimates under an Agreement for Performance of Work (APW) contract.

The proposals are due by 30 May 2022.

2. Background

In the Philippines, an estimated 7.3 million adults are living with chronic Hepatitis B infection. Chronic Hepatitis B infection is the leading cause of liver cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma in the Philippines. Hepatocellular carcinoma is the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths in the country. Committed to the elimination goals of the Global Health Sector Strategy on Viral Hepatitis 2016-2021, the Philippines' Department of Health ratified the Policies on the Prevention and Control of Viral Hepatitis through the National HIV/AIDS STI Prevention and Control Program (NASPCP). Such elimination programmes can only be implemented under the guidance of strategic information. Strategic information for viral hepatitis is key in understanding the country's epidemic, informing policy and programme decisions, and aiding in the monitoring and evaluation of established programmes for VH elimination.

One of the key components of the Viral Hepatitis Strategic Information Framework is to understand the epidemic pattern through modeling and data-driven projections. In order to provide a close-to-accurate estimate of the VH burden in the Philippines, it is crucial to review and validate the updated data inputs used in creating such estimates. The subsequent validated VH estimates will be utilized to inform policy and strategic decision-making by the government and other stakeholders and the expansion and implementation of various VH services in the country.

3. Timeline

The implementation timeline for the project is from **06 June to 05 December 2022**.

4. Place of Assignment

Manila, Philippines or can be conducted remotely.

5. Scope of Work

In collaboration with the Philippines Department of Health (Epidemiology Bureau and Disease Prevention and Control Bureau), World Health Organization, and Center for Disease Analysis Foundation, the contractual partner shall perform and accomplish the following tasks and deliverables:

- a. Document all outputs covering each activity/workshop conducted
- b. Validate data inputs used in creating the updated VH estimates (for both HBV and HCV)

Deliverables:

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| Deliverable 1: | Submit inception report with the following details: Project background, objective(s), methodology and implementation plan, and activities with timetable (or Gantt Chart if applicable) |
| Deliverable 2: | Review the final updated VH estimate report and validate through the conduct of literature review, data/statistical analysis, key informant interviews, and expert panel interviews through round table discussions |
| Deliverable 3: | Achieve consensus among experts after vetting the final data inputs and document key assumptions and agreements |
| Deliverable 4: | Submit final report with cost-effective analysis and recommendations to be endorsed to the national program |

CONFIDENTIALITY The results, products and reports of this APW are to be treated as confidential and must not be handed over to third parties. The DOH and WHO have the exclusive ownership of the reports and reserve the right to further disseminate relevant information. Documents, other information and/or statistics that are not publicly available and have been provided to the contractor for the purposes of undertaking this work may not be published, further analysed, disclosed to third parties, or used for any other purpose even after the end of the contract.

The contractual partner will also provide disclaimer on the reports: This document has been produced with the assistance of the World Health Organization. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the author, and does not necessarily reflect the opinions, recommendations, or advice of the World Health Organization.

Management of Conflict of Interest

Any interest by an entity (organization/company), expert or member of the project team that may affect or reasonably be perceived to (1) affect the expert's objectivity and independence in providing advice to WHO related to the conduct of a project, and/or (2) create an unfair competitive advantage for the expert or persons or institutions with whom the expert has financial or interests (such as adult children or siblings, close professional colleagues, administrative unit or department).

WHO's conflict of interest Rules are designed to identify and avoid potentially compromising situations from arising thereby protecting the credibility of the Organization and of its normative work. If not identified and appropriately managed such situations could undermine or discount the value of the expert's contribution, and as a consequence, the work in which the expert is involved. Robust management of conflicts of interest not only protects the integrity of WHO and its technical/normative standard setting processes but also protects the concerned expert and the public interest in general.

6. Completion of Work

The work to be done under this contract shall be Contractual partner to support the Validation Process of the Updated Viral Hepatitis Estimates as set out in the Terms of Reference. The contract shall be completed in not more than 6 months from the commencement of the Work, or otherwise as agreed in writing among the Owner and the Contractor. The work shall be done in strict compliance with the Contract, Specifications, Schedules, and all other Contract documents and all Instructions. Failure to do so shall be at the Contractor's risk and account. Submission of Bid by the Contractor shall constitute acknowledgement by the Contractor that it is aware of and concurs with all the requirements or conditions incorporated in the Call for Proposal and the other documents.

As time is an essential element of this Contract, for failure to complete all work within the stipulated as set out in the Terms of Reference, the Owner shall charge the Contractor liquidated damages. This shall be in the amount the sum of 0.5% of the total contract amount per day (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays are included) but not to exceed on total 10% (ten percent) of the contract amount. These liquidated damages shall be for the added cost incurred by the Owner for such delay and also for the inconvenience caused to the users of the Work. It is understood that this is not a penalty but a fixed sum representing the liquidated damages for each calendar day of the delay. Delay shall be counted from the agreed completion date, considering further time extensions approved by the Owner, to the date of completion of work.

7. Qualifications

The contractual partner or institution's members must fulfill the following educational qualifications and work experience:

Education of staff involved:

- Essential: University degree in public health, epidemiology, or other related fields
- Desirable: University degree in medicine; Postgraduate degree in medicine, public health, epidemiology, health economics or other related fields

Experience required:

- Essential:
 - Experience in disease modeling, estimates, and projections including various methods of economic evaluation
- Desirable:
 - At least 5 or more years of experience working in the field of viral hepatitis with or for government health agencies in a multi-stakeholder environment
 - Publications in international peer-reviewed scientific journals

Technical Skills and Knowledge:

- Excellent knowledge in disease incidence and prevalence projections
- Strong technical skills and experience in mathematical modelling and other statistical analyses
- Strong knowledge of economic evaluations
- Sound knowledge of priority populations in viral hepatitis elimination efforts
- Good technical knowledge on the status and landscape of the viral hepatitis epidemic in the Philippines
- Strong communication skills (written and verbal)
- Can work within a required timeline

Language requirements:

- Written and spoken fluency in English is essential

Competencies:

- Technical competence in the field of public health and epidemiology
- Ability to engage and communicate with multiple stakeholders
- Skills to respect and promote individual and cultural difference
- Capability of working harmoniously with a positive attitude at work

Other requirements:

The contractor shall have no direct or indirect involvement or interest, in any form, in arms dealing, drugs, alcohol industry, tobacco industry or human trafficking. The contractor and personnel involved in this work shall have no conflicts of interest in relation to the work being undertaken.

Ethical and Professional Standards

- WHO prides itself on a workforce that adheres to the highest ethical and professional standards and that is committed to put the WHO Values Charter into practice.

- WHO has zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment and other types of abusive conduct (i.e., discrimination, abuse of authority and harassment). All members of the WHO workforce have a role to play in promoting a safe and respectful workplace and should report to WHO any actual or suspected cases of SEA, sexual harassment, and other types of abusive conduct. To ensure that individuals with a substantiated history of SEA, sexual harassment or other types of abusive conduct are not hired by the Organization, WHO will conduct a background verification of final candidates.

8. Submission Requirements

Interested institutions and/or individuals should submit electronic copies of the following:

- Cover letter
- Proposal with financial details and proposed timeline
- Company profile and qualifications of team members (if institution) or curriculum vitae (if an individual)
- Link to a portfolio of previous work relevant to the TOR (uploaded on file-sharing services such as Dropbox or Google Drive)

Address all proposals to:

Dr Rajendra Yadav

Acting WHO Representative to the Philippines
Ground Floor, Building 3, Department of Health San Lazaro Compound
Rizal Avenue, Sta Cruz, Manila

Please submit the electronic copy of the documents with the title, **Contractual partner to support the Validation Process of the Updated Viral Hepatitis Estimates** to Mrs Ying Chen (cheny@who.int) and wpphlwr@who.int. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted by WHO Philippines.

The deadline for submission of proposals is on **30 May 2022**.