

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Technical Assistance to support the creation of the National HIV Adaptive Plan



**World Health
Organization**

Representative Office
for the Philippines

1. Summary

The World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines is looking for an organization or an individual who will be tasked to support the HIV Team of the WHO Philippines Country Office in various activities involving the creation of the National HIV Adaptive Plan under an Agreement for Performance of Work (APW) contract

Proposals are due by 28 May 2021.

2. Background

The COVID-19 pandemic's impact in the HIV service delivery in the Philippines from prevention, testing, and treatment, has emphasized the urgent need to reconfigure the health system blocks to ensure the delivery of life-saving services. Epidemiology bureau, Department of Health, reports have shown at least 60% decrease in HIV diagnosis and 30% fall in ART enrolment from 2019 to 2020. Furthermore, HIV incidence is estimated to increase further from pre-COVID projections up to 34% in 2025.

Given the impact of COVID-19 in the current service delivery and the implementation of numerous programs both by the government, the community-based organizations, and various development partners, the Department of Health released the Department Memorandum 2020-0311 "Interim Guidelines on the Continuity of HIV and STI Services in the Midst of Varying Community Quarantine Systems" in July, 2020 to guide the implementers and other stakeholders on how to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in the HIV service delivery. The DOH also issued a memorandum on the "HIV Catch Up Plan" in Sept 2020. While these documents state the importance of continuous coordination with implementers and development partners in the context of the COVID quarantines, a more detailed and costed adaptive plan for the HIV Program implementation is needed to ensure clear and comprehensive collective action towards our goals amid the challenges in the pandemic. The technical assistance (TA) for the development of the HIV Programs Adaptive Plan was included in the agreements during the meeting of "Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM) on HIV items request list prioritization" with NASPCP, HIV TWG and Partners on May 6, 2021.

3. Timeline

The implementation timeline for the project is from **01 to 30 June 2021**.

4. Place of Assignment

Metro Manila, Philippines

5. Scope of Work

In close collaboration with the National AIDS, STI Prevention and Control Program (NASPCP), the Pilipinas Shell Foundation Inc. (PSFI) - Global Fund Primary Recipient and relevant partners, under the supervision and guidance of the HIV Technical Officer of WHO Country Office Philippines, the contractual partner shall perform the following:

Deliverables: National HIV Adaptive Plan in the COVID-19 pandemic

Task 1: Desk review of supporting policies, guidelines, memoranda, and documents on adverse effects of COVID-19 on HIV-related services and its mitigation, which include reports from the Epidemiology Bureau, AO No. 2020-0015, DC No. 2020-0167, and DM 2020-0311

Task 2: Site-level and above-site level assessment of program status in prevention, diagnosis, care, and treatment, with special focus on each key population (cis-MSM, TGW, PWID, SW, and YKP)

Task 3: A detailed and costed HIV Program Adaptive Plan (for 2021 and 2022)

Task 4: Documentation of a validation meeting on the HIV Program Adaptive Plan with the HIV TWG

Task 5: Provide weekly update on the progress of the development of the adaptive plan

Task 6: Finalized HIV Program Adaptive Plan and submission to the NASPCP

6. Qualifications

The contractual partner must fulfil the following qualifications:

Education and Certifications

- Essential: University degree in public health, social sciences, or any related field
- Desirable: Postgraduate degree in public health

Work Experience

- Essential: In-depth knowledge on public health, HIV care and treatment, and experience on working with HIV KP groups (MSM, TGW, SW, and PWID)
- Desirable: Experience working in HIV with or for government health agencies in a multi-stakeholder environment in Philippines

Technical Skills and Knowledge

- Extensive skills in research, data collection and analysis, and scientific and technical writing
- Sound knowledge in public health and HIV care and treatment, in the Philippine context
- Sound knowledge in planning, implementation, and evaluation
- Sound knowledge on costing of HIV-related interventions
- Sound knowledge in the culture of key population groups
- Ability to work harmoniously as a member of a team, adapt to diverse educational and cultural background and maintain a high standard of personal conduct

Language Fluency:

With excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Filipino

In addition, the contractual partner must have no direct or indirect interest in the tobacco industry, alcohol industry, arms dealing or human trafficking.

7. Other Requirements

Competencies

- Technical competence in research and public health
- 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

Able to adapt to relevant and reasonable project demands and submit deliverables within timelines.

8. Submission Requirements

Interested institutions should submit electronic copies of the following:

- Cover letter
- Proposal with financial details and proposed timeline
- Company profile and qualifications of team members (if Institutions) Curriculum Vitae (for Individuals)
- Example of relevant previous works

Address all proposals to:

Dr Rabindra Abeyasinghe

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 proposals with the title “**Technical Assistance to support the creation of the National HIV Adaptive Plan**” to Mrs Ying Chen

(cheny@who.int) and wpphlwr@who.int Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted by WHO Philippines.

Deadline of submission of proposals is on **28 May 2021**.