

Title	Gender Assessment for SKPA Countries
Duration	25 days
Period	7 October - 15 November 2019
Location	Home-based, one consultant for each of the following Countries: Bhutan, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Philippines, PNG, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste
GF Grant #, if applicable	QMZ-H-AFAO

Background

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) is the national federation for the community response to HIV in Australia. It provides leadership, coordination and support to the country's policy, advocacy and health promotion on HIV. AFAO's International Program is based in Bangkok and contributes to the development of effective policy and programmatic responses, particularly in the Asia and Pacific region. It has supported community-based responses to HIV across the region for three decades.

AFAO is the Principal Recipient of the *Sustainability of HIV Services for Key Populations in Asia Program* (SKPA Program). The program is a multi-country grant funded by The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) covering eight (8) countries: Papua New Guinea (PNG), Timor-Leste, Malaysia, Philippines, Laos, Mongolia, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. It aims to promote sustainable services for key populations (KPs) at higher risk of HIV exposure including sex workers, men who have sex with men, transgender people and people who use drugs, in the region.

The grant will promote the scale-up of necessary interventions and their long-term financing in each country. Specifically, the objectives of the program are to scale-up prevention services to key populations and retain people living with HIV/AIDS in the treatment cascade (Service Delivery); Secure strategic information to inform program design (Strategic Information); secure long-term sustainability of service delivery (Financing Sustainability); Strengthen community responses and systems for scale-up of delivery services (Community Systems Strengthening); and address barriers to service access including human rights and gender-related (Stigma and Discrimination).

Rationale

The Global Fund's *Sustainability, Transition and Co-Financing Policy* requires that all eligible countries, regardless of income level, include in their funding proposals programs that respond to key and vulnerable populations and to human rights and gender equality-related barriers. It is therefore necessary that concerted efforts to ensure that these programs are

fully described in the funding requests and taken through to implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Gender inequality affects service access through gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, disempowerment in the negotiation of safe sex and discrimination related to the infringement of traditional gender roles among key populations. During consultations on the SKPA Program in some countries, gender discrimination was identified as a cause of violence against key populations as well as positioning sexual transmission of HIV as a moral issue rather than a health issue.

Scope of Work and Tasks

AFAO is seeking the National Consultants to analyse gender-related barriers to HIV prevention and treatment that are tailored to the needs of KPs for each of the SKPA countries; and develop costed country implementation plans with strategies and actions for addressing these, including in relation to advocacy for resource mobilization. SKPA will contribute some funds for the implementation of these plans.

Under the guidance of a Regional Consultant, the National Consultant will have the following roles and responsibilities:

- If necessary, undertake in-depth desk review of relevant policies, data or reports, plans and other information that are available in each country
- Coordinate and meet with SKPA Sub-Recipient (SR), national HIV/AIDS program, AIDS council and other key stakeholders in-country to facilitate gathering of information, and support for logistical arrangements during project implementation and field visits
- Prepare for country assessments, modify/revise assessment tools, etc.
- Lead the in-country consultations with KPs, health care providers and others to identify gender-related barriers
- Conduct country assessments/data gathering
- Analyse data/information gathered, draft a 3-5 costed implementation plan, advocacy plan, and preliminary report per country
- Debrief country stakeholders of preliminary results, recommendations and plans
- Draft the final country report, and revise plans based on inputs from key stakeholders in country

Methodology

The gender assessment framework, tools and exact methodology will be developed by the Regional Consultant. This however may include a combination of desk reviews, key informant interviews and group discussions.

Activities and timeframe

The National Consultants will be hired for **25 working days** prorated from **07 October – 15 November 2019**, as per the activities and deliverables below.

Activities	Duration (days)	Outputs or Deliverables	Deadlines
If necessary, undertake in-depth desk review of relevant policies, data or reports, plans and other information that are available in each country	5	Preliminary results of desk review per country	14-Oct
Prepare for country assessments. This includes coordinating and meeting with SKPA Sub-Recipient (SR), national HIV/AIDS program, AIDS council and other key stakeholders in-country to facilitate gathering of information, and support for logistical arrangements during project implementation and field visits. Modify/revise assessment tools, etc.	3	Assessment tools and country schedules are finalised	18-Oct
Coordinate inputs from key country partners including relevant ministries, UNAIDS, other relevant UN agencies, lead donors and national KP networks	2	Inputs from country stakeholders are included in the assessment tools and reports	31-Oct
Conduct country assessments/data gathering	7	Country assessments completed	31-Oct
Analyse data/information gathered, draft a 3-5 costed implementation plan, advocacy plan, and preliminary report per country	5	Preliminary results, recommendations, and costed implementation and advocacy plans	4-Nov
Debrief country stakeholders of preliminary results, recommendations and plans	1	Debriefing meeting with country stakeholders done	TBD per country
Draft the final country report, and revise plans based on inputs from key stakeholders in country	2	Final country report submitted by National Consultants to the Regional Consultant	15-Nov
TOTAL	25		

Selection Criteria

Essential

- Proven knowledge and experience in HIV, sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender vis-à-vis key populations
- Proven knowledge and experience in research and analysis, including in analysing and synthesizing quantitative data
- Knowledge and experience in HIV-related monitoring
- A good understanding of the primary audience of the advocacy report, (mostly country program decision makers) resulting from the gender assessment

- Excellent writing, research and analytical skills
- Experience in preparing and presenting clear and concise oral and written communication
- The ability to analyse data, summarize information and innovatively depict information, such as through infographics

Desirable

- Demonstrated knowledge of the HIV and AIDS epidemic of the assigned country
- Experience in conducting gender assessment
- Experienced in dealing with various sectors such as government, and civil societies in the assigned country

Accountability

This review will be carried out by the selected technical assistance providers under the direction of AFAO with advice by regional and national working groups composed of SKPA SRs, UNAIDS, UNFPA, WHO, UNICEF, national programs and other country partners. Within AFAO, the consultant/s will be guided by and reporting to the following:

1. Regional Consultant (TBD)

2. Maria Lorela Averilla

Country Lead, SKPA Program

Email: Lorela.Averilla@afao.org.au

3. David Fowler

International Program Manager, SKPA Program

Email: David.Fowler@afao.org.au