**TITLE OF CONSULTANCY: Consultant to Support the national HIV/AIDs prevention and treatment response through the nationwide Red Ribbon Express IV Train Initiative (National)**

**DUTY STATION:** Delhi with travel to specified states/ selected districts as required

**DURATION OF CONSULTANCY: 3 months (October – December)**

**CLOSING DATE: 13 September 2017**

**Background:**

India has achieved a significant reduction in new HIV infection rates with a 66% reduction from 2000 to 2015. Despite this significant success, the country still has one of the largest disease burden globally with an estimated 2.11 million people living with HIV/AIDs. As per the 2015 India HIV estimation report, national HIV prevalence among the 15-49 years of age is estimated at 0.26% (0.22%-0.32%). HIV prevalence is highly variable among the different with Manipur (1.15%) having the highest prevalence followed by Mizoram (0.80%),Nagaland (0.78%), Andhra Pradesh & Telangana (0.66%), Karnataka (0.45%), Gujarat (0.42%) and Goa (0.40%). Besides these States, Maharashtra, Chandigarh, Tripura and Tamil Nadu have estimated adult HIV prevalence greater than the national prevalence (0.26%), while Odisha, Bihar, Sikkim, Delhi, Rajasthan and West Bengal have shown an estimated adult HIV prevalence in the range of 0.21– 0.25%. All other States/UTs have levels of adult HIV prevalence below 0.20%. India continues to portray a concentrated epidemic with relatively high HIV prevalence among different risk groups. National Integrated Behavioural and Biological Surveillance (IBBS) has estimated HIV prevalence among Female Sex Workers (FSWs), nationally, at 2.2% (95% CI: 1.8 - 2.6). HIV Prevalence among MSM recorded at the national level was 4.3% (95% CI: 3.7 – 5.1) while among IDU, the prevalence of Annual Report 2015-16 338 HIV recorded among IDU at the national level was 9.9% (95% CI: 9.0 - 10.9). While HIV incidence and mortality across all age groups has declined over the past years, new infections and deaths among adolescents have not shown a similar decline.

HIV/AIDS is a significant contributor to mortality among adolescents 10-19 worldwide. In fact, the number of AIDS-related deaths among adolescents aged 10 -19 has doubled in the past 15 years as children who acquired HIV through MTCT who are either not on ART or fall out of care, have progressed to AIDS. The few studies that include adolescents from low and concentrated HIV epidemic countries, especially outside of sub-Sahara Africa, suggest that HIV prevalence is disproportionately high among adolescent “key populations,” that include (a) adolescents who inject drugs, (b) gay and bisexual adolescent boys, (c) transgender adolescents and (d) adolescents who sell sex, including children (aged 10 - 17) exploited through the selling of sex.

Information and knowledge on protection from HIV infections among the general public and at risk populations is essential to control the HIV epidemic. According to NFHS 4 data of 2016, only 32.3% of men and 20.9% of women in India had comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDs indicating the large information gap prevalent among the population on this major public health challenge. Information, education and counselling (IEC) interventions to raise the awareness of the public on HIV/AIDs have been implemented through various advocacy and communication strategies including media and community advocacy interventions. In addition flag ship advocacy and communication campaigns such as the Red Ribbon Express Train national initiative have had a tremendous impact on raising national awareness on HIV/AIDs particularly among the rural populations.

The Red Ribbon Express Train national advocacy campaign on HIV AIDs is a unique national initiative to raise awareness on HIV/AIDs related issues among the small urban centers and rural communities of India through a multisectoral and multistrategy advocacy campaign. The specially designed multi coach train including a large dedicated team including a health team to provide HIV counselling, testing and treatment services (including HIV testing facilities and medical check-ups for sexually transmitted diseases; an advocacy and communications team which performs street plays and other awareness programmes by artiste campaigners as well as a dedicated program management and coordination team which assures that the yearlong train trip across the States of the nation proceeds smoothly. The program is closely planned and coordinated with States to assure maximum participation of communities. The stated objectives of the RRE Train include: informing people about primary preventive services; removing the stigma and overcoming discrimination against people living with AIDS; strengthening people's knowledge about preventive measures and convincing them to adopt preventive health habits and life-style. Equipped with innovative and interactive communication devices, the specially designed 'smart train' covers thousands of kilometers during its year-long journey across the vast country, halting at 162 stations in 24 States for a few days to make sure that its message reaches far flung rural villages. The three consecutive phases of RRE Train initiative: RRE I (2007-2008); RRE II (2009-2010) and RRE III (2012-2013) were executed by the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) with support from Nehru Yuva Kendra, UNICEF and other partners. A total of 22.5 million people across the country were reached through the RRE I-III Initiatives. NACO has planned to undertake the annual RRE IV Train implementation in 2017-2018 and preparations for the successful implementation have been initiated along with partners. The year long journey will focus on health advocacy on HIV/AIDs; adolescent health; tuberculosis; malaria and reproductive and child health in rural and difficult to teach areas. The specific focus of RRE IV Train will be on women and children’s health.

UNICEF India has fully engaged and provided technical support in designing exhibits and panels, materials for mass media for all RRE I-III undertakings. UNICEF State offices have been involved in planning and logistical support at the state level along with State AIDS Control Societies (SACS). This TOR is intended to solicit the services of a national consultant to support to NACO towards the implementation of the RRE IV.

**SCOPE**

Provide technical support to the NACO team in the planning and organization of RRE IV Train national advocacy on HIV/AIDs with particular focus on women’s and adolescents.

The work will be at the National level with State level engagement as required

**OBJECTIVE**

The objectives of the consultancy undertaking include:

1. Provide technical support to NACO RRE IV train technical team in the preparation of concept and inception notes on the RRE IV
2. Based on the concept/inception notes provide technical support to the NACO teams in the development of detailed operational implementation plan with proposed budget for RRE IT Train
3. Provide technical support to NACO RRE IV train technical team in the organization of detailed sub groups on media and advocacy; health teams and administrative teams for the operationalization of implementation plan
4. Provide technical support to the smooth organization and conduct of detailed technical meetings of subgroups and national technical core team of RRE IV
5. Provide any additional technical support as required to the NACO RRE IV train organizing team

**SUPERVISOR:**

Health Specialist

MAJOR TASKS:

1. Provide technical support to NACO RRE IV train technical team in the preparation of concept and inception notes on the RRE IV
   1. Quick desk Review of RRE I-III implementation to summarize key implementation strategies employed; coverage in terms of States and Stations; key successes and challenges noted
   2. Based on results of desk review, develop a concept note/inception report and review with NACO RRE IV train implementation team with concrete suggestions on developing detailed implementation plan and budget on RRE IV Train implementation
2. Based on the concept/inception notes provide technical support to the NACO teams in the development of detailed operational implementation plan with proposed budget for RRE IT Train
   1. Identification of key implementation strategies, activities and goals to be implemented by RRE IV
   2. Identification and listing of key project monitoring and evaluation indicators and means of verification for the successful implementation of RRE IV
   3. Identification of required resources and potential sources of funding for the project
   4. Based on a-c, support the development of a detailed operational plan with budget for implementation of RRE IV train implementation
   5. Development of a detailed itinerary for the train journey across the country and draft plan for state and district level implementation support for the project
3. Provide technical support to NACO RRE IV train technical team in the organization of detailed sub groups on media and advocacy; health teams and administrative teams for the operationalization of implementation plan
   1. Support the RRE IV train team at NACO in identifying the core subgroups and technical support groups required for the implementation of the project
   2. Provide technical support in the preparation of terms of reference for the subgroups
4. Provide technical support to the smooth organization and conduct of detailed technical meetings of subgroups and national technical core team of RRE IV
   1. Technical and logistical support for deliberations and functioning of the various subgroups (overall management; finance and logistics; train fabrication; media/advocacy) through support in organizing and facilitation of meetings and follow up action plans of the various project implementation subgroups
   2. Provide technical support to the various subgroups to accomplish their specific tasks during the preparation of RRE IV Train
   3. Technical support to the NACO RRE IV Train organizing team in on boarding of various required agencies for train fabrication; media and advocacy and project management
5. Provide any additional technical support as required to the NACO RRE IV train organizing team

END PRODUCTS:

Expected deliverables from this consultancy include:

* Concept/Inception Note on RRE IV Train Project
* Detailed Implementation Plan with Proposed Budget for Implementation of RRE IV
* Core subgroups/committees for implementation of RRE IV duly constituted
* Monthly and Final report on support provided to the RRE IV train project
* Proposed strategies, actions (short term & mid-term) to identify possible sources and tools to collect missing data.

**OFFICIAL TRAVEL INVOLVED:** Travel to specified states/ selected districts as required

**PAYMENT TERMS**

* Payment is linked to receipt and satisfactory acceptance of deliverables.
* Travel expenses will be reimbursed at actuals based on receipt of invoices/reports.
* Per Diem will be reimbursed at UNICEF consultant rates.

**QUALIFICATION, SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

* Postgraduate degree in public health.
* At least 5 years or more of experience in Programme Development and Strategic Planning
* Experience in managing large scale health projects
* Research skills: data collection skills for both qualitative and quantitative data, data analysis, and report writing.
* Experience in writing reports of high quality and scientific standard.
* Familiarity with national frameworks for national programme assessment and planning is an advantage.

**Competencies:**

* Excellent knowledge of current Indian public health context
* Ability to liaise with relevant government ministries, NACO, public health partners and media agencies
* Excellent project management experience
* Good communication, facilitation and analytical skills mandatory

Please submit your application through the online portal by **COB 13 September 2017.**

**HOW TO APPLY: Please submit your online application along with the below mentioned documents through the online portal latest by 13 September 2017. The link to the online portal is:**

<http://jobs.unicef.org/cw/en-us/job/506989?lApplicationSubSourceID>**=**

Your online application should contain **FOUR** separate attachments:

* + 1. **A Cover letter** explaining the motivation for applying and also explaining how the qualifications and skill-set of the candidate are suitable for this position **(to be uploaded online under cover letter)**
    2. **Curriculum Vitae** (CV) **(to be uploaded online under CV/resume)**

**iii. Work samples (2) - 2 Samples of previous work relevant to this assignment is to be uploaded online under other documents (*Alternatively if any file is more than 10MB*, *attach a word document in which you can mention links to 2 relevant work samples or you can share your actual work samples at* *indconsultants@unicef.org*)**

***Please Note: Attaching/providing work samples is mandatory as these would also be evaluated and scored as part of the overall technical evaluation criteria.***

1. **A financial proposal** indicating deliverable-based professional fee as per template attached below. Please do not forget to specify your name in the file while saving. **(to be uploaded under financial proposal template).**

***Please Note: Without the financial proposal template your application will be considered incomplete and will not be evaluated.***

The selection will be on the basis of technical evaluation & financial offer in the ratio of 80:20.  The criteria for technical evaluation will be as follows:

1. Cover Letter – explaining the motivation for applying and also explaining how the qualifications and skill-set of the candidate are suitable for this position (8 Min Marks/ 10 Max Marks)

2. Relevant educational qualifications of the candidate (12 Min/ 15 Max)

3. Relevant work experience (12 Min/15 Max)

4. Work Samples (2 nos.) (8 Min/ 10 Max) – Including Reports of Previous Projects Accomplished; Published Articles; Chapters in Publications; Training manuals produced; Other relevant publications

Candidates that score a minimum of 40 in 1-4 above and also score the minimum score for each criteria will be short listed for interview.

5.  Interview with candidates (24 Min/30 Max)

Total technical score – 80. Minimum overall qualifying score is 64. Only those candidates who meet the minimum qualifying marks of 64 as well as score the minimum score in each of the above sub-criteria including the interview will be considered technically responsive and their financials will be opened.

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* Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF’s selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.
* Joint applications of two or more individuals are not accepted.
* Please note, UNICEF does not charge any fee during any stage of the process.

For any clarifications, please contact:

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