

RFP-2011-10 - Answers to Queries from potential bidders

Reporting requirements 1.3.2: To what extent should countries be included in the analysis matrix? Should the analysis include **all** UNAIDS countries, or feature a few case studies from each UNAIDS region? This information will be helpful in determining the level of effort to be used in the mapping.

Answer: Information for each country is not required, but information what are the sources for technical support and where they are located.

Paragraph 1.3: Could we please have more information on the composition of the UNAIDS Interagency Working Group on HIV and HSS? How many representatives are there on HQ, regional and country level? Would there be an opportunity, in the course of the interview process, to meet and interview the entire working group at the same time?

Answer: The UNAIDS Interagency Working Group on HIV and HSS has completed its work. It is however expected that 4-5 of former working group members would be interviewed, and that they might suggest additional key informants, as indicated in the Request for Proposals. .

Reporting requirements 1.3.2: With regard to the possible use of the matrix as another snowballing method for gathering information on TS, does UNAIDS expect to see this activity included in the bidder's proposed methodology?

Answer: Yes

1.3 The RFP refers to key areas of HIV-related health systems components including "human resources for health, procurement and supply management, service delivery models and health information systems and health financing". Was the sixth WHO building block of health systems, governance and leadership, purposefully omitted or would it make sense to include it in the mapping exercise?

Answer: Yes, it was purposefully omitted, and information on technical support on governance and leadership should not be included.

1.3 The RFP refers to mapping out "agencies' and institutions' capacity and expertise in HIV relevant health system strengthening". How would UNAIDS expect us to map "capacity"? Or would we be expected to really just map sources/suppliers of expertise?

Answer: The mapping should be mainly on sources/suppliers of expertise, but information on capacity should be also included, e.g. in relation to expertise on different building blocks and experience on regional/country level.

1.3.1 How many interviews are currently anticipated for the Interagency Working Group, and how many interviews are UNAIDS likely to recommend?

Answer: 4-5 of former working group members should be interviewed, as well as additional key informants they might suggest. UNAIDS will provide some contacts to start with, and contractor is expected to identify additional key informants.

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1.3.1 What would be the specific role of the Interagency Working Group in relation to this piece of work?

Answer: Working group has completed its work, and it does not have a specific role in relation to this assignment, although some former working group members are expected to be interviewed.

1.3.2 According to the RFP, the 20 page report would need to summarize key findings "including main gaps and opportunities". Regarding the "main gaps", would we be expected to explore areas of the health system with limited sources of technical support expertise, HIV-related health systems issues still not being addressed adequately by technical support, country requests for technical support for health systems which have not been provided? This would seem to be a separate and more complex study.

Answer: Yes, while demonstrating on what areas technical support is available, it is expected to be also highlighted what areas lack technical support capacity.

1.3.2 According to the RFP, the 20 page report would need to summarize key findings "including main gaps and opportunities". Could UNAIDS clarify who would we consider as the beneficiaries of these opportunities? Who is the bigger audience for this report/matrix?

Answer: Some of the technical support providers are expected to address some of the identified gaps. The main audience for the report and beneficiaries are users of technical support at country level including e.g. National AIDS Programmes.

1.3.2 Would the report need to point out where technical support efforts might be duplicative, particularly among agency departments etc?

Answer: No, there is no need to report possible duplicative sources as we assume that provision of technical support is demand driven.

1.3.2 No end date is specified in the RFP for this Mapping exercise. Does UNAIDS have an estimated end date to finalise this work?

Answer: It should be finalized by the end of June 2011.

1.3.2 Is the matrix of key sources/providers of TS expected to cover each individual country within the 7 UNAIDS regions or just the region as a whole?

Answer: No information for each country is expected.

1.3.4 Who would approve the report?

Answer: UNAIDS Secretariat will approve it.

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