

Consultant to advance PrEP in Asia and the Pacific Terms of Reference

1. Purpose of the Consultancy

The consultant will provide strategic, technical and coordination support to UNAIDS and WHO that will be specific to the portfolio of work on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in Asia and the Pacific region (UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and the Pacific, and WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, South-East Asia Regional Office, and Pakistan Office).

2. Background

WHO has long been recognized for its leadership in formulating normative guidance around novel interventions in HIV prevention. UNAIDS provides the strategic direction, advocacy, coordination and technical support needed to catalyse and connect leadership from governments, the private sector and communities to ensure HIV prevention is prioritized in the global response.

A critical piece of continuing work by WHO and UNAIDS is in the area of PrEP which is the use of antiretroviral (ARV) drugs by people who are not infected with HIV in order to block the transmission of HIV. WHO has led in the development of normative guidance, implementation tools, and providing technical assistance, while UNAIDS serves as a key partner to promote expanded availability and access at country and regional levels. The global HIV prevention coalition, jointly led by UNAIDS and UNFPA, identifies PrEP as one of the 5 pillars of a primary HIV prevention approach. The coalition promotes collaboration in the development of country prevention action plans with differentiated programme coverage targets and tracking of progress.

WHO has played a critical role in setting the research agenda for PrEP implementation, monitoring new evidence on the science of PrEP, convening experts and global stakeholders as well as developing guidance as evidence emerges. In 2015, WHO made a broad recommendation on the use of oral PrEP for any person at substantial risk for HIV.

This recommendation was included in the *WHO [Guideline on when to start antiretroviral therapy and on pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV](#)* released in September 2015. The current recommendation on oral PrEP is included in the 2016 *WHO [Consolidated guidelines on HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for key populations](#)*.

WHO and UNAIDS have been supporting countries in adopting WHO's recommendation on oral PrEP. In July 2017, WHO launched its PrEP implementation tool at the International AIDS Society conference in Paris, France, in order to assist countries with a step-by-step approach to PrEP implementation. WHO is receiving an enabling grant from Unitaid, to provide technical assistance to Unitaid's investment in a variety of PrEP implementation projects worldwide. One of the key areas of work under this Unitaid grant is the establishment of the [Global PrEP Coalition](#) (GPC), which is a WHO-led platform of coordination and sharing of information by PrEP implementing partners at the regional and country level. UNAIDS is a critical partner of the GPC and provides the link to the Global Prevention Coalition, a UNAIDS-led global coalition of UN Member States, donors, civil society organisations and implementers working toward the goal of strengthening and sustaining political commitment for primary prevention through setting a common agenda amongst key policy-makers, funders, and programme implementers.

Since the establishment of the GPC in summer of 2017, there has been growing recognition that Asia and the Pacific as a region requires additional support by WHO and UNAIDS, and that there is an unmet need for coordination and learning amongst countries. Two PrEP consultations have been hosted by Thai Red Cross and partners in Bangkok, Thailand over the past two years, and a call for WHO and UNAIDS has been made at both consultations

to establish a mechanism in Asia and the Pacific to provide this support. A number of countries in the region have PrEP as a policy, including Viet Nam, Thailand, Pakistan, New Zealand and Australia. Other countries are conducting or considering pilot work and demonstration projects, including Malaysia, China, Pakistan, Philippines, Indonesia, and India. The intention of this consultant position is to provide technical support to countries on request; to coordinate PrEP-related activities, particularly as they relate to the GPC; and to report on policy and regulatory progress in the region.

3. Work to be performed

Under the direction of UNAIDS RSTAP in Bangkok, Thailand, with support from the WHO SEARO, WPRO, and WHO HQ, the consultant will conduct the following activities and tasks:

1. Provide technical assistance (TA) and support to partners in countries in Asia and the Pacific region for PrEP implementation, including to Ministries of Health (or other policy makers), implementing partners, PrEP providers, community-based organizations and potential and current PrEP users. This TA will require travel between countries in the region.
2. Provide internal support to WHO and UNAIDS regional and country offices, and to countries at their request, on PrEP implementation guidance.
3. Develop annual PrEP implementation updates on regulatory status, pricing of PrEP drugs, availability, and policy development for all Asia-Pacific countries to inform the Global PrEP Coalition.
4. Provide coordination support to the Global PrEP Coalition by convening partners in Asia-Pacific region through a) quarterly calls, b) webinar seminars and c) video conferencing, with a focus on engaging health care workers (providers), government agencies (HIV programmes, national regulatory authorities on medicines), and civil society.
5. Support the planning and conduct of a Global PrEP Coalition consultation that will take place in the third quarter of 2018 in the Asia-Pacific region.
6. Facilitate the ongoing efforts by WHO to update its PrEP implementation tool (published in 2017) by identifying relevant research and programmatic information on PrEP.
7. Support the annual UNAIDS GAM validation of PrEP programme indicators through maintaining contact with PrEP programmes.
8. Provide information on sources of external funding for PrEP projects.

Expected outputs/deliverables

1. Coordinate a plan for webinar series hosted by the Global PrEP Coalition, focusing on providers, policy makers, and potential and active PrEP users in Asia-Pacific.
2. Development a slide deck for Global PrEP Coalition webinar, providing country-level updates and on WHO and UNAIDS activities.
3. Minutes from each of the webinars being hosted by the Global PrEP Coalition and the Global Prevention Coalition, with dissemination to Coalition partners.
4. Development of database on pricing of PrEP drugs for all Asia-Pacific countries, with inclusion of data from the WHO Global Price Reporting Mechanism (<http://apps.who.int/hiv/amds/price/hdd/>).
5. Development of repository (Dropbox) of PrEP policy and implementation documents for Asia-Pacific that can be hosted on WHO's Global PrEP Coalition and UNAIDS websites. <http://www.who.int/hiv/prep/global-prep-coalition/>
6. Draft concept note, agenda, and list of participants for Global PrEP Coalition Asia-Pacific consultation.
7. Detailed transcribed minutes and final report synthesizing key points coming out from the Global PrEP Coalition Asia-Pacific consultation.
8. Draft manuscript on PrEP implementation challenges and opportunities for peer-review submission.

9. Draft Global PrEP Coalition annual report on state of Asia-Pacific implementation of PrEP, including update on regulatory status of both originator and generic drug approval for each country.
10. Final comprehensive summary report outlining technical assistance to countries in Asia-Pacific.

4. Technical Supervision

The selected Consultant will work under the supervision of UNAIDS and WHO. Monthly reporting to the UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and the Pacific, WHO HQ and regional offices will also be required.

The consultant will report directly to the PrEP focal point at UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and the Pacific. The UNAIDS Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific will provide overall management of the consultant and the work.

5. Contract Duration

Start date: 1 August 2018

End date: 31 July 2019

6. Contract value and payment scheduling

The contract value will be discussed with the potential candidates. Contracting and justification for contract value will fall under the WHO/UNAIDS procurement processes.

Payment will be done on a monthly basis.

7. Specific requirements

- Qualifications required:

Master's degree in Medicine, Public health, or relevant Social Science.

- Desirable experience:

Technical or programmatic experience in HIV prevention, coupled with engagement with civil society and government agencies.

- Skills and knowledge:

- Good analytical and presentation skills
- Excellent organization and project management skills
- Demonstrated capacity to write and communicate in English

- Language requirements:

English (expert)

One of the languages in Asia and the Pacific would be desirable

8. Place of assignment

UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand.

9. Travel

Any travel related to this assignment will be organized separately following the WHO rules and regulations on duty travel. A separate travel authorization will be issued for any required travel.

10. Application

Candidates are requested to provide their CV, motivation letter and a budget proposal (indicating daily rate of consultancy) to rstap@unaid.org with the subject PrEP consultant. The motivation letter should state relevant professional experience in the work required.



Deadline for application is at **22:00 on 17 July 2018**. Late applications will not be considered. Only qualified candidates will be contacted by UNAIDS and WHO.

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