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**ADVERTISEMENT FOR CONSULTANCY**

The South Sudan HIV/AIDS Commission (SSAC) is seeking to recruit South Sudanese national who is dynamic, self-driven, result oriented and highly motivated to apply for the following position:

***Position Title:*** *National Consultant (HIV Prevention Specialist)*

***Positions required:*** *One (1)**National consultant (HIV Prevention Specialist) to support the HIV Mode of transmission study (MOT) 2017*

 Duty Station: Juba

Closing dates: 23nd June 2017 at 5:00 pm

**The length of consultancy**

The consultancy is expected to last thirty (30) working days from the date of signing the contract. The successful consultant is expected to start the study not later than second week of July, 2017.

Interested candidates are kindly requested to send their updated CV to Mr. Maika Lisok, contact: maika\_lisok@yahoo.com and copy Mr. Gabriel Atillio (gab.atillio@gmail.com, 0955658052), or drop hard copy at SSAC office- former central Equatoria State Ministry of Health and Environment building–Jubek State- Juba

***Terms of Reference for HIV Modes of transmission Study.***

# Background

## HIV epidemic and response in South Sudan

The epidemic in South Sudan is generalized with pockets of high concentration among key populations, communities close to urban centers, cross border and mobile populations that tend to have higher prevalence than those in remote and inaccessible areas and the general population. The HIV epidemic in South Sudan also has a humanitarian dimension due to a high number of internally displaced persons and refugees resulting from the conflicts in 2013 and 2016. According to spectrum estimates of 2017, HIV prevalence among adults is estimated to be 2.71% in 2016

**Rationale for the MOT study:**

The Modes of Transmission study is a noble opportunity for South Sudan to analyze national evidence of where, in what context and which population groups most new HIV infections are occurring, and conduct an assessment of current allocation of prevention activities and resources to populations most in need. This will test the hypothesis that South Sudan is targeting those with increased risk of HIV infection and will help ensure a stronger and more effective national prevention strategy that is evidence-driven. This is expected to have an impact on the HIV response in the Country.

The fundamental question that the MoT study will answer is whether HIV prevention programmes and resources are aligned with the HIV prevention needs. Patterns of transmission of HIV are dynamic and change over time. As part of the preparation for the periodic monitoring of the National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2017-2021, South Sudan now intends to undertake know-your-epidemic (KYE) and know-your-response (KYR) initiatives in order to develop its modes-of-transmission (MOT) model in order to adapt cost-effective prevention strategies to changing patterns of risk. This process will assess behaviours that put people at risk of HIV infection and how new infections are acquired and distributed among risk groups.

**Study Objectives**

The overall objective of the modes of transmission study is to analyze national evidence of where, in what context and which population groups most new HIV infections are occurring, and conduct an assessment of current allocation of prevention interventions and resources to populations most in need.

**The specific objectives are to:**

1. Review and update the available data on HIV incidence, prevalence, risk factors and drivers of the epidemic, disaggregated by sub-population and geographic location.
2. Review the scope, relevance and comprehensiveness of the current HIV prevention policies, programmes, resources and gaps in strategic information in relation to HIV Prevention.
3. Identify appropriate recommendations in prevention policies, programmatic action, and resource allocation to ensure a robust and more effective national prevention strategy

## Consultants

The HIV Modes of Transmission Study will be facilitated by one International consultant assisted by one national consultant. The consultants will be responsible for developing a road map including document review, the adaptation of data collection tools, and the identification of all data sources relevant to the study. The national consultant will organize consultative meetings with relevant stakeholders and the HIV Technical Working Group (TWG).

# Terms of Reference for HIV prevention specialist

The HIV Prevention Specialist will work closely with the Epidemiologist (International Consultant) and Study Leader to collect data on national and regional HIV preventions responses and to interpret the study findings for the purposes of informing practical, action-focused programme recommendations.

# Scope of Work

The specific tasks of the consultant will include:

* Identifying key informants for policy and strategic information checklists;
* Identifying all significant governmental and non-governmental HIV prevention activities currently underway in South Sudan according to categories required by UNAIDS
* Describing the scope, extent and targeting of these prevention activities;
* Documenting the processes used in collecting the information for the report;
* Identifying, based on analysis of the distribution of most recent infections, the populations at greatest risk for infection;
* Establishing through an analysis of national behavioural, biological, socio-economic and demographic data the factors involved in driving the country’s epidemic;
* Assessing the degree of alignment of national prevention activities and resources with the priorities highlighted by this evidence; and,
* Making recommendations for prevention policy and programmatic action to ensure a stronger and more effective national HIV response.

In collaboration with the Epidemiologist and Study Leader, the consultant will produce a synthesis report that brings together the model outputs and the findings of the epidemiological review and then compares the alignment between these findings and where prevention efforts are actually being targeted. The synthesis report will conclude with a set of recommendations

It is also important to note that whilst academic rigour is vital for this process to yield valid results, the emphasis has to be on being pragmatic and realism given the importance of availability of the findings of analysis for the regular joint annual programme review and resource allocation exercises in planning.

# Deliverables

The following will constitute the deliverables:

1. Inception Report (compiled jointly with the Epidemiologist and Study Leader) to be completed 5 days after initiation of the study. The inception report will contain a detailed methodology and work plan for the study. It will also list the assumptions required for success of the study process and will provide a contents page of the final report.
2. Brief daily progress reports against agreed indicators/milestones that will describe progress in the last month including discussions of successes and obstacles.
3. Brief daily progress reports against agreed indicators/milestones that will describe progress including discussions of successes and obstacles.
4. A report reviewing the HIV prevention initiatives currently being provided in South Sudan that will contain the literature review, methods used, results and a discussion. This report will follow the templates provided.
5. A synthesis report that brings together the findings of the above two reports and the report on the country response.

# Competence and expertise required

* A Masters or higher degree in public health or social research
* Extensive knowledge, and experience in HIV and community based programs
* At least 5 years of experience in conducting evaluation/review studies in the health sector.
* Strong background in M&E of HIV programmes.
* Demonstrated track record of successful similar work in other settings.
* Fluency in English, and Arabic.
* Good communication skills.
* Knowledge of and experience with the health sector in South Sudan
* Computer literacy in word processing.