

Leadership, Management and Government –Transition Support Project (LMG-TSP)

Scope of Work

Review of Viet Nam’s Family Planning Program in the context of declining donor funding

Background

The Leadership, Management and Governance-Transition Support Project (LMG-TSP) is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Management Sciences for Health (MSH). The project supports PEPFAR and VAAC to achieve transition of the country’s HIV/AIDS response to being increasingly owned and led by the Government of Viet Nam (GVN) as donor funding declines. This includes informing policy, coordination and planning for a smooth transition process.

As part of a transition communications strategy, the project is commissioning a series of brief (10-15 pages) discussion papers to inform and encourage evidence-based decision making for the transition process. One such paper is a review of Viet Nam’s Family Planning (FP) Program in the context of decreasing donor funding.

Objective

The discussion paper will highlight experiences and lessons learned from the FP Program that may be applicable to the HIV/AIDS Program transition. This will include a brief history of the FP program, its policy environment, organizational and governance structure, funding mechanisms and sources, human resources, and key stakeholders. It will review when and how transition to greater country ownership and leadership was planned and implemented, and how successful this transition has been.

The paper will seek to answer the following questions:

- What was the general context in which transition occurred?
- What was the general design of transition? What key factors influenced planning?
- What resources, references or tools were helpful in planning and implementation transition?
- How did elements of the FP program—such as policy, finance, service delivery, logistics, commodity procurement—change as a result of transition?
- What were the challenges and successes of the FP program transition process?
- To what extent did transition result in independence from donor support?
- What types of ongoing donor assistance, if any, are ongoing for the FP program?
- What are the most important lessons learned from the FP program transition process that can be applied to transitioning the HIV/AIDS program?

Key Tasks

The consultant will review reports, papers and data in order to address the questions above in a clear and concise manner that is relevant to the objective. References should be included as endnotes.

To the extent that material from the literature review needs to be clarified and supplemented, the consultant will identify key informants for interview and/or focus group discussion. Records of these interviews/discussions must be kept in a way that is available to LMG-TSP for verification as needed. Material from these primary sources which is directly used in the report must also be referenced using endnotes.

The paper must be written clearly, concisely and in a way that provides analysis and meaningful discussion that address the key questions and achieves the overall objective.

Deliverables and timeline

1. A DRAFT discussion paper, in English, will be submitted to LMG-TSP by 15th July, 2013, for review and discussion, followed by further editing by the consultant as needed.
2. A FINAL discussion paper of no more than 15 pages will be submitted to LMG-TSP by 30th July, 2013.

Consultant qualifications

The Consultant is expected to possess the following skills and experience:

- Post-graduate degree in a relevant field (eg., medicine, public health, social science).
- Experience in public health writing and technical editing for international publication.
- Experience with Viet Nam's FP and HIV/AIDS programs. Good understanding of Viet Nam's health care system.
- Proficiency in spoken and written English.