



Terms of Reference

(Service Mapping)

Under

(Gateway to better health – Improving access to healthcare for vulnerable populations in Lebanon)

Funded By

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. NGO BACKGROUND

SIDC is a Lebanese Nonprofit civil society organization established in 1987 and officially registered 9/AD in 1992. SIDC meaningfully engages vulnerable populations, to promote their health and wellbeing pertaining to HIV, Harm reduction, SRHR, and mental health, to support them in enjoying their human and gender rights, and to work towards an inclusive society free of stigma and discrimination at the national and regional level. SIDC ensures that vulnerable populations enjoy their health and human rights and fulfill their potentials in a society free of stigma and discrimination.

B. PROGRAM BACKGROUND

While 91% of people living with HIV (PLHIV) know their status, only 63% are on ARTs, and only 58% have an undetectable viral load. These figures show that progress in treatment access is insufficient and reflect the distance still to be covered to reach the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets. Despite the decentralization efforts of the National AIDS Program in Lebanon (NAP), most HIV testing, care and treatment services are still concentrated in the capital and major cities, where most health facilities and CSOs serving VPS are located. This results in significant travel costs for VPs, and therefore health care costs that are difficult to bear given their social and economic precariousness. This poor geographical and financial accessibility of services is a first obstacle for PLs living in certain regions such as South Lebanon and the Bekaa regions, which outreach actions can help to alleviate.

Socio-cultural norms are another barrier to HIV testing and care and access to sexual and reproductive health. In a patriarchal society where gender inequalities remain strong, women are not able to negotiate safe sexual practices and the use of family planning, which generates harmful coping mechanisms (early marriage, survival sex, etc.). They are also frequently victims of violence from their spouses and partners. In these conditions, it is crucial to provide them with a safe environment that respects their rights, by training and equipping health professionals in Lebanese health centers and CSOs.

In addition to these structural constraints, the security and health situation has worsened in recent years. In recent years, the massive influx of refugees, widespread civil unrest coupled with the restrictions imposed, and the resulting political and economic instability have already weakened the ability of households to generate income and severely limited access to services, including health services. The Beirut Port explosion in August 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit the country hard, have exacerbated this situation by overwhelming Lebanon's health system, further limiting access to services and medicines for PLs, and leading to HIV de-prioritization. It is therefore imperative to address the psychosocial support and mental health care needs of PLHIV.

Through this project, SIDC intends to strengthen and expand the range of its services to VPs residing in Beirut, South Lebanon and the Bekaa region, but also to contribute to building the skills of health professionals to improve the accessibility of existing services, and to advocate for the recognition of PLs' rights by the Lebanese health authorities and society.

II. PURPOSE

To increase access to HIV services and promote decentralization of care for key populations all over Lebanon. **The specific objectives:** SIDC will recruit a consultant to undertake service mapping for HIV services and to develop referral guidelines as follows:

- To map health and HIV services for key populations all over Lebanon.
- To develop a referral guideline on health and HIV services for Key Populations all over Lebanon.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

The consultant's first primary responsibility is to map the existing services provided in Lebanon for key populations (prevention, care, and treatment), with a focus on medical services, case management, legal, and mental health services. This task includes:

- Consulting existing NGOs, government institutions, KPs, etc.
- Hold a meeting with SIDC and partners to discuss the purpose and objectives of the mission.
- Discuss the expectations from the consultancy from all partners and the support they can provide.
- Undertake a literature review.
- Develop methodology (quantitative, qualitative) and tools (in-depth interviews, focus groups, questionnaire) in close collaboration with SIDC and partners.
- Follow on the implementation of the study methodology (train partners on data collection tools and guidelines to implement them)
- Data collection and analysis
- Presenting the assessment findings in a comprehensive written report and organizing a validation consultation with SIDC and partners. The results should also be presented during the final event of the project.

The second primary responsibility is to develop health and HIV services referral guideline for the KPs based on the service mapping and tailored to the needs identified of the KPs and resources available in Lebanon.

1. TIME SCHEDULE

SIDC shall contract the consultant for the anticipated consultancy agreement term from the start date as per the contract and for 4 months.

2. GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

- MA degree public health, epidemiology, political or social sciences or related field.
- At least 10 years+ experience in HIV/AIDS and KPs responses described above and excellent knowledge of the key population theme especially in the context of Lebanon and of issues related to service delivery.
- Excellent knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).
- Expertise in the field of human rights and gender.
- Ability to organize, train and lead focus group discussions.
- Ability to collect empirical data; design questionnaires and conduct surveys and analyses of the data.
- Ability to process and synthesize information from various stakeholders
- Ability to critically analyze qualitative and quantitative data, including documents and service delivery reports and any relevant research papers and other resources.
- Ability to work in unstable circumstances and under pressure
- Ability to preserve confidentiality of all data.

3. LANGUAGE SKILLS

- English - required
- Arabic – required
- French – additional

4. COMPUTER SKILLS

Good computer skills with good command of commonly used software: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Power Point, Google Drive (google form, google sheets, google doc... etc) and use of online meeting platforms

5. SPECIFICATION OF INPUTS

The consultant shall submit a filled timesheet table in addition to a report outlining the details of performed tasks as part of each invoice.

The first payment will be conducted upon the signature of the contract and the late payments to follow will be completed after the submission of each milestone.

The consultant shall submit a technical and financial proposal alongside his/her CV.

6. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, COPYRIGHT AND CONFIDENTIALITY OF DATA

All documents shall clearly indicate that they were produced on behalf of **SIDC**.



In consideration of the fees paid, the Consultant expressly assigns to **SIDC** any copyright arising from the works the Consultant produces while executing this contract.

The Consultant may not use, reproduce, or otherwise disseminate or authorize others to use, reproduce or disseminate such works without prior consent from **SIDC**. All materials, reports, plans, maps, and other works provided to or developed by the Consultant on behalf of **SIDC** remain the property of **SIDC**. Upon completion of the work, all raw data must be submitted to **SIDC**.

7. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

All tangible or intangible property created or acquired under this contract shall be the exclusive property of the SIDC and the donor but could be used by any of the member with a prior consent. The term “property” includes all data and reports associated with this engagement