

Terms of reference for conducting Tuberculosis Inventory Study for the National TB Program (Somaliland, Puntland & South Central Somalia)

Background information:

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that more than three million tuberculosis (TB) cases are missed by national TB surveillance systems annually. Although the WHO declared that finding these missed TB cases is a top priority to reach global TB targets, still the number and characteristics of missed cases are largely unknown in most high TB burden countries. Often, TB cases are missed when they are not reported to National TB programs, which can occur if they are never diagnosed with TB, are not initiated treatment after diagnosis, are not recorded while on treatment, or are not reported to the national surveillance system. Missed cases can result in continued TB transmission in the community and hinder a program's ability to effectively monitor patient care and assess progress towards set TB targets.

TB Program in Somalia

World Vision has been GF (the fund Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria) principal recipient for TB grants in Somalia since 2004, consistently achieving targets despite the fragile context and insecurity. The projects aim at decreasing TB incidence and preventing the development of acquired drug resistance strains.

The current all forms of TB incidence for Somalia is estimated at 274/100,000 and TB mortality at 65/100,000. There has been a sustained annual increase of all forms of TB cases notified to reach the highest number of 14,203 cases in 2015. In spite of the good program performance (86% treatment success rate), Somalia, according to the WHO's Global TB Report 2016 is detecting only about 47% of the estimated incident cases of all forms of TB, This leaves a huge number of active TB cases in the community undetected and untreated hence enabling further transmissions.

Even though evaluating the extent of TB under-reporting in high TB burden settings is necessary to determine the true burden of diagnosed TB and to develop strategies to improve TB surveillance and control, very few studies have been done to assess TB under-reporting in low-resource or high TB burden settings. Somalia is among countries in such setting, which are yet to conduct such studies despite the acknowledged importance. To therefore address this gap, World Vision in close

collaboration with Somalia National TB, Program plan to quantify and describe under-reporting of sputum smear-positive TB cases to the national TB surveillance system in Somalia so as to strengthen TB surveillance and inform TB control policy. This will further assist the government understand the situation of initial loss to follow up in the TB surveillance.

Goal and objective of the study: The main goal of an inventory study is to measure the extent to which diagnosed TB cases are reported, as a basis for certification or strengthening of TB surveillance, improved estimates of TB incidence and better diagnosis and treatment of TB patients.

The Service & Scope of the contract:

Contract objectives and scope

The overall objective of this call for tender is to:

- 1) Conduct inventory study in Somalia to assess the completeness of TB notification data and determine whether data collected at TBMU level correspond to that reported to NTP/ PR/WHO.
- 2) Identify possible gaps in TB surveillance (e.g. incomplete data registers, lack of coordination, delays, problems with current tools etc.) at the country level.
- 3) Provide information to improve national TB surveillance system(s).

The intended target audiences for the reports are:

1. TB programme implementers at national level
2. Policy advisors and policy makers at national level
3. World Vision Somalia

Methodology:

Study area: The inventory study will be done in sampled TBMs in Puntland, Somaliland and South Central Zone.

Study Population: Sputum smear-positive TB cases in Somalia

Study design: A national retrospective inventory study of sputum smear-positive TB cases will be conducted following the WHO guidelines. Past 6 months data will be reviewed.

Data for smear positive cases diagnosed by health-care providers within selected TBMs retrospectively.

Process:

The successful consultant in close collaboration with World vision, WHO and MoH will carry out an inventory in the 3 States after thoroughly analyzing the current reporting structures and Reporting tools currently on use.

The successful proposal will be reviewed by the technical research team including WHO before commencement of the data collection exercise. A constant communication with World Vision will be ensured. Upon completion of data collection, the consultant will perform data analysis and interpretation. The study findings will be presented to the technical team before a final report is submitted to World Vison.

Timelines

Activity	Location	Timeframe (days)
Nairobi meeting the GF PR team and health partners	<i>Nairobi</i>	1
Review of tools	<i>Nairobi</i>	2
Recruitment and training of enumerators	Somalia	9
<i>Data Collection (by field based team)</i>	Somalia	30 (10 days per zone)

Analysis	Nairobi	5
Preparation of Draft report	Nairobi	3
Assimilation of comments	Nairobi	1
Monitoring & Evaluation	Field	15
Final Report	Nairobi	4
	Total	40

Total number of consultancy days: 40

OUTPUT

At inception, the consultant is expected to submit a detailed plan on how the survey will be carried out including the data collection tools and an elaborate methodology.

Deliverables, reporting and project schedule

1. Participation at the kick-off meeting at World Vision Premises and the detailed report on the discussions and conclusion of the kick-off meeting, including the key issues discussed and decisions made (to be delivered two weeks after the kick-off meeting).
2. The updated project work plan for the entire duration of the contract, including general methodological approach, milestones and timelines in accordance with the objectives of the project and decisions of the kick-off meeting.
3. The two-page synopsis of the project outlining the general scope and purpose of the project to the relevant stakeholders for their information about the project (to be delivered two weeks after the kick-off meeting).
4. The work plan, including study protocol, describing study design, methodological approach, analysis plan, expected outputs and timelines according to the WHO guidance “Assessing tuberculosis under-reporting through inventory studies” and relevant literature on capture re-capture studies taking into account the country specific situation.
5. Detailed high quality summary report on the studies performed (to be delivered according to the approved project work plan or 1 month before expiring of the contract).
6. High quality summary report on the study performed (to be delivered 1 month before the end of this contract).
7. Five (5) hard copies and one electronic copy will be submitted to World Vision at the end of the exercise.

Conditions:

1. Sharing with WHO Somalia

Since WHO has technical mandate for TB in Somalia. In this regard, World Vision will share the Terms of Reference and proposal documents (methodology of the study, the tools, results and analysis once the consultant provides them.

2. Immediately after completion of the survey, a summary report should be presented for discussion by the main stakeholders – (WV, MoH and WHO) and once this is endorsed then the final report be printed.

Management of the Evaluation / survey

While executing this assignment, the consultant and the parties involved shall be guided by the protocol summarized in the matrix below:

No	Stakeholder	Stake / role
1	Consultant	Undertake the study based on the approved design and methodology and timeline
2	GF/PR technical team	Initiate the TOR and seek approval from WV and WHO Lead the technical recruitment of consultant Provide technical and managerial leadership to the consultant throughout the study process
3	WV QA / GF Technical team / Research team / WHO / NTP /WVUK	Technical reviews to the ToR, Inception report, study design & methodology Participate in the technical evaluation of consultants Review draft report and recommend approval or non-approval
4	Supply Chain Manager	Advertise and complete bid selection processes
5	WV QA / GF Technical team / Research team / WHO / NTP /WVUK	Review of the study findings

Qualifications/ Skills

The successful consultant (team) should have at least a solid understanding of health system strengthening, TB management and robust statistical experience. The team/individual should have the required technical skills and supporting statistics degree from a recognized institution. They should have proven records of multi-site implementation of surveys/Studies and project management.

Evaluation Criteria

- 1) A research team with solid technical skills on TB related studies and supporting statistical expertise
- 2) Experience in implementing multi-site surveys
- 3) Good knowledge of TB management
- 4) Evidence of undertaking similar assignments in the past in the Region will be an added advantage

INVITATION TO BID

Interested Consultants and Firms are expected to submit a technical and financial proposal) with the following components;

- Their understanding of TOR
- Proposal document detailing the implementation plan of the inventory study including a detailed study methodology
- Proposed work schedule
- Proposed Budget in USD
- A profile of the firm including full name(s), physical addresses, telephone numbers.
- Copies of CVs of all the consultants who will undertake the evaluation.

Applications from qualified **firms/individuals** should be submitted by **26th June, 2017** to somo_supplychain@wvi.org

World Vision reserves the right to Award the contract to a bidder of its choice, even if its bid is not the lowest. World Vision shall not in any way be obliged to reveal, or discuss with any bidder, how a proposal was assessed, or to provide any other information relative to the evaluation/selection process or to state the reasons for elimination to any bidder.

NOTE:

1. Evaluation of proposals and selection of the service provider will be performed in accordance with the request for Proposal (RFP), which is based on World Vision's procurement rules and regulations.