



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(vacancy announcement number – 020)

Position Title	:	Research Consultant for PLHIV Stigma Survey in Myanmar
Type of Appointment	:	Service Level Agreement
Focal points to be coordinated	:	Deputy Head of Program, Community System Strengthening Department
(with Myanmar Positive Group)		
Contract Duration	:	May ~ September 2024
Working Days	:	Maximum 45 days
Workplace Assignment	:	Home base with work-from-home tasks as described in the job description and some in-person tasks occasionally. Progress on tasks must be discussed with focal points at necessary occasions, particularly when initiating survey implementation and traveling to the state and regions where the survey will be conducted.
Field of work	:	PLHIV Stigma Survey in Myanmar

Background

MPG is a national network of PLHIV with a mission to build an equitable, humanitarian-minded, and self-reliant society for the PLHIV community in Myanmar. MPG represents the voices of the people, actively participating and spearheading activities to improve the health of PLHIV and KP in the country. MPG and ICAP have a long-standing partnership and ICAP provide technical assistance (TA) to promote the roles and responsibilities of peer PLHIV and KP and build the capacity of peer supporters to ensure meaningful involvement of PLHIV and KP in the National HIV response in the areas of HIV testing, linkage to care, treatment and retention, and reduction of stigma and discrimination. Under this service agreement, ICAP will support MPG in addressing stigma and discrimination through implementation of PLHIV Stigma Survey.

Several researches had been published that HIV-related stigma among people living with HIV (PLHIV) is related to several negative consequences on social, economic and health outcomes. According to the Myanmar National Strategic Plan IV (NSP IV), 2021-2024, conducting stigma index survey is one of the prioritized activities under Strategic Direction 3: Strengthening multi-sectoral Integration, gender and human rights based, people-centered community and health systems. This survey is community-led research to build the capacity of the PLHIV community in gathering evidence for advocacy. In Myanmar stigma index survey was conducted in 2010, hence, new survey is needed to understand changes in HIV related stigma and discrimination status.

Program Goals, Objectives, Indicators, and Responsibilities (SOW)

Overall Goal

The overall goal is implementation of the **PLHIV Stigma Survey in Myanmar** with the purpose to understand the causes and extend of stigma and discrimination faced by PLHIV in collaboration with National AIDS Program, UN agencies, technical partners and different stakeholders including international partners.

General Objectives

The general objective of conducting **PLHIV Stigma Survey in Myanmar** is to explore the experience of PLHIV on stigma and discrimination and its impact on HIV service uptake.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The consultant will spearhead the review, finalization of the submitted protocol, including methodological propositions, for a **PLHIV stigma survey in Myanmar**. The consultant's responsibilities will include conceptualization, proposal finalization, training for the application of diagnostic tools, quality assurance, field supervision, data curation and analysis, report development, and dissemination.

Scope of Work

1. Conducted the regular meetings of Technical Advisory Group for continuous technical support on ethical clearance on protocol for comments on Ethical Review Committee in local, international partners and donors, for oversights on the implementation process for **PLHIV Stigma Survey in Myanmar**.
2. To be a respective focal point in the dialogue meetings and technical discussions with the National AIDS Program, respective technical stakeholders, providing technical assistance to MPG in ethical review board meeting.
3. To properly engage with the focal points from MPG to discuss for the progress and advancement of explicit tasks.
4. The core scope involves team recruitment, protocol adherence, data quality supervision, and implementing data security measures. Collaboration with stakeholders, aligning strategies with research goals, and effective communication with the Research Consultant and MPG team are essential for the survey's success and the research report's production.
5. Organized the training for interviewers with field testing for questionnaires and establishing the REDCap platform with local server with the technical guidance of international partners and ICAP country team.
6. Research Consultant plays a key role in the Survey's success. Leads the data collection teams, ensuring data quality, troubleshooting, and data security. Responsibilities encompass collaborating with stakeholders, engaging with communities during validation meetings, and actively contributing to data analysis while maintaining ethical compliance.

7. Developed the draft survey report based on the data analysis on collected data for PLHIV Stigma Survey in Myanmar.
8. Implemented the data collection work with data collection teams and uploaded the data in REDCap data server.
9. Organize and facilitate a series of consultative meetings involving a wide range of stakeholders and community groups. These meetings will serve as platforms for discussions, feedback, and collaboration to ensure the survey's success.
10. Organize a validation meeting with diverse stakeholders and community groups to ensure that the survey findings and report accurately represent the experiences and perspectives of PLHIV in Myanmar.
11. To perform as a lead facilitator at the dissemination process of study report for findings and recommendations after finalizing by consultation with 2 Principal investigators and Advisory Group.

Qualifications

- A relevant bachelor's or master's degree in health, public health, social sciences, research, or a related field.
- Proven experience in developing and utilizing data and tools to assess and monitor HIV services targeting key populations in Myanmar.
- In-depth understanding of the local context, constraints, issues, and stakeholders relevant to HIV services for key populations, including outreach, testing, linkage to care, ART, and PrEP.
- Strong technical proficiency in qualitative and quantitative assessment methodologies.
- Experience with commonly used applications for data management, analysis, and visualization.
- Ability to develop or revise guidelines, standard operating procedures, and manuals effectively.
- Skill in designing and facilitating training for community members with limited education and experience.
- Excellent communication and facilitation abilities to engage effectively with partners and stakeholders.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS REQUIRE

- Strong Planning and Organizing Skills, Service Oriented, Planning & Organizing Skills, Self-motivated, Passionate, Creative, Ability to work under stressful conditions;
- Strong Negotiation Skills, Relationship Building, Leadership Skills with strong Team spirits;
- Ability to work in multi-cultural environment with High level of integrity with in depth knowledge of vulnerable community particularly PLHIV and HIV affected communities;

“MPG is committed to maintaining a Non-Discriminatory work environment that values diversity and inclusion and offer Equal Opportunity for any employee or candidate regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, and disability, history of incarceration, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. People Living with HIV are strongly encouraged to apply for this position. ”

Interested candidates are requested to send the email address hrd@myanmarpositivegroup.org with the below necessary documentation not later than 5:00 PM of 2nd May 2024 (Thursday).

Required Documentation: Applications must include the following:

- Cover letter highlighting relevant experience, skills
- Curriculum vitae
- Portfolio or samples of previous work (after removing sensitive/confidential information)
- Contact information for up to two previous clients we can reach out to for a reference.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for personal interview.

Myanmar Positive Group, Head Office

No. F6, Thandwe Street, Mya Kan Thar Villa, 14th Ward, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar

If you have anything to know associate this position, please contact to hrd@myanmarpositivegroup.org
OR (HP +95 9 78761 3048, + 95 9 7656 39775) within Office hour (Monday to Friday).

MPG has a zero tolerance to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of beneficiaries. Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) is everyone's responsibility and all staff are required to adhere to the Code of Conduct, that enshrines principles of PSEA, at all times (both during work hours and outside work hours).

