

(CONSULTING SERVICES– INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

AFRICA CENTRES FOR DISEASE CONTROL SUPPORT PROGRAM TO COMBAT CURRENT AND FUTURE PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS PROJECT (P178633) – IDA-E1110

TERMS OF REFERENCE

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR ASSESSMENT, ESTABLISHMENT, STRENGTHENING AND ENHANCING CAPACITIES OF NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTES WITHIN MEMBER STATES IN NORTH AFRICA

Reference No. ET-AUC-354804-CS-INDV

The African Union has received financing from the World Bank for the " Africa Centres for Disease Control Support Program to Combat Current and Future Public Health Threats Project".

Development Objective of the Project: Enhance the capacity of Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) to support AU Member States in preventing, detecting, and responding to current and future public health threats.

A. BACKGROUND

The Africa CDC, an autonomous health institution of the Africa Union (AU), was officially launched on the 31st of January, 2017. In 2013, an extraordinary summit of AU Heads of State and Government summit on HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Abuja requested the African Union Commission (AUC) to work out the modalities of setting up the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention¹ (Africa CDC). Following the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in West Africa in 2014, the AU Ministers of Health convened in Luanda – Angola in April 2014 and called on relevant stakeholders to provide technical support on the establishment of the Africa CDC. In January 2016, the Assembly of the AU endorsed and adopted the statute establishing the Africa CDC² with the responsibility of prevention and control of diseases in Africa³. Africa CDC has developed the second five years strategic plan (2022—2026). In both the first (2017-2021) and the second (2022-2026) Africa CDC strategic plans, establishment and strengthening of National Public Health Institute (NPHI) is one of the key pillars^{4,5}.

National Public Health Institutes (NPHIs) are science-based government institutions that promote health by coordinating public health functions and programs to prevent,

¹ [30729-doc-abuja_declaration_on_hiv_etc_special_summit_-_english.pdf \(au.int\)](#)

² [Ministerial meeting adopts Statute of the Africa CDC Urges fast tracking of the establishment of the continental mechanism on disease control and prevention | African Union \(au.int\)](#)

³ [30730-doc-africa_centre_for_disease_control_validated_and_clean.pdf \(au.int\)](#)

⁴ <https://africacdc.org/africa-cdc-strategic-plan-2017-2021/>

⁵ <https://africacdc.org/download/africa-cdc-strategic-plan-2022-2026/>

detect, and respond to public health threats, including infectious and non-infectious diseases and other health events. NPHIs contribute to compliance with International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005) and advance the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) by consolidating and organizing core functions. They provide leadership and coordinate IHR activities, support national accountability for the GHSA, and strengthen the overall health system⁶.

To support and accelerate NPHIs development in Southern, East, Central and West African Member States, the Africa CDC with a financial support from African Development Bank (AfDB) has recruited four senior consultants (one per each region). The North Africa Region has not been covered by the AfDB project so far. Thus, with the new World Bank project, the Africa CDC has identified a need to provide support to strengthen NPHIs for North Africa Member States⁷ that currently have one and to assist with establishing an NPHI in those that do not have one. The ultimate thrust is to have fully functional NPHIs in all African Union member states.

B. Objective of the Assignment

The objective of the consultancy is to assess the organizational structures and program priorities of NPHIs North African countries, with the aim of assisting Member States to ensure that NPHIs become fully established and functional. To also enhance the capacities of the NPHIs for effective and efficient implementation of essential Public Health functions and ensure their sustainability.

C. Scope of the Assignment

An Individual Consultant will be recruited to support Member States in North Africa. The Consultant will complement the Africa CDC's efforts to strengthen, establish and operationalize NPHIs in North African Member States, the Consultant will have the following roles and responsibilities:

- 1) Support development of NPHIs in North Africa
 - Review and Evaluate the Strategic Plans of the NPHIs in Member States
 - Develop a road-map and where feasible, support the development of legal frameworks to assist Member States that are planning to establish an NPHI, adaptable to specific Member States' needs
 - Conduct mentorship and Advocacy visits in collaboration with national stakeholders to obtain Government buy-in and provide technical support to assist Member States without NPHIs to establish functional NPHIs
 - Support the Peer-to-peer and twinning program between NPHIs in North African Member States
- 2) Support the development of Regional Centres of Excellence (COE) in North Africa
 - Develop criteria for NPHI COEs
 - Develop assessment tool to be used during the assessment visits
 - Conduct assessment visits in the selected NPHIs Member States
 - Develop an action plan to build capacity of the potential COEs in the Region
- 3) Conduct scorecard assessment for selected NPHIs in North African countries
 - Conduct assessment of NPHIs development using the Africa CDC NPHI monitoring scorecard in selected North African Member States

⁶ Framework for development of National Public Health Institutes in Africa – Africa CDC (2019)

⁷ Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), Tunisia

- Develop action plans for capacity building in each member state following the assessment.

D. Work Plan and key Deliverables

Scope of work	Activity	Expected outcome/Deliverables
1. Support development of NPHIs in North Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and Evaluate the Strategic Plans of the NPHIs in Member States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Plans reviewed and modified where necessary to ensure they effectively Support and guide the strategic technical activities of the NPHIs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a road-map and legal frameworks to assist Member States without NPHIs to establish one 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed road-map and legal frameworks to assist Member States that are planning to establish an NPHI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct mentorship and Advocacy visits to obtain Government buy-in and provide technical support to assist Member States without NPHIs to establish functional NPHIs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mission reports of the mentorship visits conducted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support Peer-to-peer and twinning program between NPHIs in North African Member States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peer-to-peer exchange programmes conducted
2. Support the development of Regional Centres of Excellence (COE) in North Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop criteria for NPHI Centre of Excellence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed criteria for NPHI CoE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop assessment tool to be used during the assessment visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment tool for NPHI Centre of Excellence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct assessment visits in the selected NPHIs Member States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NPHIs assessment reports
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop an Action plan to build capacity of the potential centres of excellences in the Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed Action plan to build capacity of the Centres of excellence
3. Conduct scorecard assessment for selected NPHIs in North African Member sates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct assessment of NPHIs development using the Africa CDC NPHI monitoring scorecard in selected Member States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report of NPHI scorecard assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop action plan for capacity building following the assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan of Action to support Member States to fill capacity gaps identified during the scorecard assessment

E. Key Deliverables and Payment terms

SN	Deliverable	Payment rate (%)
1	Strategic Plans reviewed and modified where necessary to ensure they effectively Support and guide the strategic technical activities of the NPHIs	10%
2	A Road-map/legal frameworks developed based on the Africa CDC framework for NPHI development in Africa.	15%
3	Report of Peer-to-peer exchange programmes conducted	10%
4	Assessment report for NPHI capacity assessment for regional Centers of Excellence	15%
5	Developed Action plan to build capacity of the Centers of excellence	20%
6	Report of NPHI scorecard assessment	15%
7	Plan of Action to support Member States to fill capacity gaps identified during the scorecard assessment	15%

F. Qualification and Experience

The Consultant would be selected based on the following minimum educational and experience criteria:

Education

- Master's degree or higher in public health- preferably with at least a degree in Epidemiology, health systems management, or other related biomedical science field is a must

Note: Fluency in French or Arabic will be an added value

Experience

- Proven experience and track records in developing at least Public Health documents for policy implementation;
- At least Ten (10) years of experience at national and/or international level of progressively responsible experience in development of actions plans/national strategies/strategic plans preferably in Africa;
- At least Ten (10) years of Health Systems Strengthening experience, preferably in the global or national public health sector, with demonstrated recent successes in meeting client requirements in completing complex projects;
- At least Ten (10) years of experience working in a multilateral or bilateral agency in which programs or initiatives required diplomatic coordination between governments or Ministries bodies;
- Significant experience working on the African continent, preferably including experience with or exposure to the African Union.

Required Skills

- Strong understanding of business principals and public health functions
- Demonstrated effectiveness in oral, written, and interpersonal communication.
- Demonstrated management and leadership skills

- Demonstrated collaboration skills
- Demonstrated analytical, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills
- Conflict resolution and negotiation skills
- Proven writing skills + computer literacy;
- Fluency in English, French, and/or Arabic and any other African Union recognised language

The African Union Commission now invites eligible **Individual Consultants** to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested candidate must provide information demonstrating that he/she has the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. Consulting firms may propose individual consultant, but only the experience and qualifications of individual shall be used in the selection process, and that his or her corporate experience shall not be considered, and the contract would be signed directly with the proposed individual.

G. Duration of Consultancy

Successful creation of a NPHI requires political buy-in, experienced and committed national champion that leads the process, shared vision and plan among key stakeholders. This underscores the need for strong advocacy to obtain political support, government buy-in, and sustainable investment in order to have a functional NPHI. Preparation of legal document, road map, strategic plan, and getting government buy-in for the creation of new NPHI takes time. Thus, the duration of the Consultancy service is twelve (12) months.

H. Remuneration

Payment will be fixed amount of USD 120,000 this amount includes all the Consultant's fees, reimbursable expenses, such as air ticket to and from Africa CDC HQ, accommodation in Addis Ababa, etc..., and profits as well as any tax obligation that may be imposed on the Consultant. This is a lump sum contract and payment will be against deliverables. If there is any travel related to the assignment, which is from Addis Ababa to any Member States, Africa CDC will cover the cost of the Travel ticket and DSA.

I. Governance and support

The Consultant will work under the guidance and supervision of the head of Division. The following shall be made available by the Africa CDC:

- Office accommodation;
- Photocopying, Stationery and printing for reports and documents related to the assignment;
- Facilitation of Visa and travel logistics to Member States
- Internet Access while visiting the Africa CDC HQ

J. Evaluation and Qualification Criteria

1. Relevant Education, Qualification and Relevant Training - 20 Points
2. Specific Experience relevant to the assignment – 70 Points
3. Language – 10 Points

K. Required Documentations

- a) Cover letter

- b) A detailed and updated curriculum vitae (CV) with supporting documentations
- c) Two (2) referees with good knowledge of the candidate's work, furnishing full contact details, telephone, fax and e-mail addresses.

L. Invitation

The African CDC now invites eligible Individual Consultants ("Consultants") to submit their CVs in providing the Services and required documents as listed in the ToR. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Selection method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00-13:00hrs and 14:00-17:00 hours, Addis Ababa Time.

CVs must be delivered in a written form following the above shortlisting criteria to the emails below before 15:00 Hours Local Time on 06 December 2023.

African CDC,
Attn: Supply Chain Management Division
Administration Directorate
Africa CDC Office Building, Tower A2, Floor 7th, Room Number 712.
Haile Garment Area, Lafto Square.
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mails: afriacdcctender@africa-union.org; selamg@africa-union.org and zemenua@africa-union.org