Request for Proposals

Consultant for the IAS HIV Programmes and Advocacy Department

Proposals will be received until 15 October 2020

Objective:

The IAS is seeking a consultant to work within the HIV Programmes and Advocacy Department to support background research on social inequality and HIV, including with a focus on the needs of people who use drugs during times of COVID-19.

The consultant can be based anywhere globally and will report to the Research and Policy Officer within the HIV Programmes and Advocacy Department.

About the International AIDS Society (IAS):

The International AIDS Society (IAS) leads collective action on every front of the global HIV response through its membership base, scientific authority and convening power. Founded in 1988, the IAS is the world’s largest association of HIV professionals, with members in more than 170 countries. Working with its members, the IAS advocates and drives urgent action to reduce the impact of HIV. The IAS is also the steward of the world’s most prestigious HIV conferences: the International AIDS Conference, the IAS Conference on HIV Science, and the HIV Research for Prevention Conference.

The IAS promotes and invests in HIV advocacy and research on key issue areas through our strategic programmes, initiatives, and campaigns that advocate for urgent action to reduce the global impact of HIV, including increased investment in HIV cure research; optimizing treatment and care for infants, children and adolescents with HIV in resource-limited settings; preventing and treating HIV-related co-infections; and expanding access to prevention, treatment and care for key populations vulnerable to HIV acquisition – such as men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, sex workers and transgender people – including protecting their human rights by combatting punitive laws and discriminatory policies.

More information on IAS can be found at www.iasociety.org.

Purpose of the consultancy:

The consultant will be expected to perform research and speak with key stakeholders in order to prepare a draft briefing document, with the draft title of: “Reaching beyond the usual boundaries: challenges and opportunities for meeting the needs of people who use drugs during times of COVID-19”, according to an outline discussed and agreed with the IAS. A draft version should be ready by the end of December 2020, at the latest, and be written in accordance with the IAS Editorial Style Guide. The estimated time to completion is 5-10 days, depending on the final scope and outline.
Key responsibilities and deliverables for the consultancy include, but are not restricted to:

- Draft, review and agree with the IAS an outline for the briefing document that considers the topic within an overall person-centred, inclusive and quality health approach.
- Draft, review and agree with the IAS a list of key informants and questions to be asked for the review (as needed).
- Undertake an online scoping and literature review on the topic, including in major cities.
- Include the epidemiology and best practice case examples in the data summary.
- Write a briefing note on the topic, summarising the findings from the literature and epidemiological review and consolidate case studies of good practice. The briefing note should include identification of gaps in knowledge as well as recommendations for improving the situation.
- Advise and tailor the findings outlined in the briefing note to a range of stakeholders, including, governments, civil society, health care professionals, law enforcement, social services, charitable organisations and people using drugs during times of COVID-19 and people living with HIV.
- Perform any additional tasks requested by the Research and Policy Officer or the Director of HIV Programmes and Advocacy within the timeframe and costs of the consultancy contract.

Proposal Requirements:

- A cover letter highlighting previous experience writing publications on a similar topic and in a similar style and contributions to the global health challenges of the HIV epidemic and people who use drugs.
- An updated CV with three to five references.
- Documented recent evidence that the consultant is a registered freelancer in their country of residence.
- In the event of an institution applying, a letter of institutional support is required.

Proposals should be addressed to Teri Roberts, Research and Policy Officer, HIV Programmes and Advocacy, and must be received via email by 15 October 2020.

All queries and proposals should be submitted by e-mail to teri.roberts@iasociety.org.