



Request for Proposals

Consulting Services: Interim Scientific Lead - Vaccine Enterprise

Closing date and time: 31 July 2021 23:00 CET

1. About the IAS

IAS – the International AIDS Society – 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 vaccine and cure research; optimizing treatment and care for infants, children and adolescents with HIV in resource-limited settings; promoting person-centred care; 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 advocating to protect and fulfil human rights by combatting punitive laws and discriminatory policies.

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

2. About The Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise

The search for a safe and effective HIV vaccine has been a priority since the start of the epidemic. With multiple efficacy-stage programmes underway and new vaccine concepts in the clinical pipeline, stakeholders working in the field are now confronted with new questions and challenges. Funding for HIV vaccine development has grown stagnant and potential HIV vaccines face a complex and uncertain path to market. Solutions to the challenges of late-stage product development and new approaches to vaccine design require increased collaboration.

In this context, **the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise** ([the Enterprise](#)) unites stakeholders to promote collaboration, build knowledge and increase support for the accelerated development of and future access to an HIV vaccine.



As part of its mission, the Enterprise aims to increase knowledge of HIV vaccine research and development and of ongoing clinical research “as it happens” among actors not immediately involved in research (regulators, communities, development agencies, funders).

3. Purpose of the Consultancy

The IAS invites proposals from an individual consultant to serve as the interim Scientific Lead of the Enterprise, between July and December 2021.

The consultant will provide oversight for the scientific direction of the key objectives and deliverables for the Enterprise’s workplan during this period. The consultant will work closely with the Director, HIV Programmes and Advocacy, and will be supported by a project manager, an associate, and consultants working on specific components of the programme. The consultant will have significant experience in a similar capacity, working with HIV and vaccine research and development, complex programme management, stakeholder engagement and research communication in virology, life sciences, immunology and public health.

4. Scope of the work

Specifically, the consultant will

- Provide scientific direction and oversee the implementation of the workplan of the Enterprise (deliverables outlined below)
- Lead the response of the Enterprise to clinical trial developments as they happen, including scenario planning for HVTN 705
- Provide technical leadership for the work of staff and consultants delivering components of the Enterprise workplan
- Track progress on key objectives and deliverables for the Enterprise
- Support IAS Enterprise staff
- Attend key scientific meetings on behalf of the IAS.

5. Deliverables

- Draft relevant reports and manuscripts for peer-review related to the work of the Enterprise by December 2021 (at least two)
- Oversee and guide content in online events organized as per the Enterprise workplan, which include a series of workshops on experimental medicine trials (estimated three), retreat style events to progress the development of active immunization (estimated two), and roundtables to engage industry partners (estimated two)
- Represent the IAS and guide implementation of in-person events organized by the Enterprise at conferences such as ICASA
- Draft the 2022 Enterprise workplan and seek input from the External Advisory Group and other key stakeholders, including developing a plan for engagement at CROI 2022
- Oversee and contribute to social media and website content about HIV vaccines and their development



- Plan a series of scenarios with key stakeholders in relation to the forthcoming results from HVTN 705
- Coordinate and convene Enterprise Advisory Group (EAG) meetings (at least two)
- Oversee a strategic review for the Enterprise in a post- and current- COVID-19 world
- Coordinate and present monthly reporting to the donor
- Attend and report back from key scientific meetings on behalf of the IAS and the Enterprise.

6. Period

Availability from 15 July 2021 to 31 December 2021, up to an estimated time for the whole consultancy of 80 days.

7. Location

Virtual consultancy, home-based.

8. Proposal requirements

The proposal should include the following:

- An expression of interest responding to the scope of work detailing relevant areas of expertise
- A Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- A sample of recent work of a relevant nature
- Contact information of two professional referees
- Recent evidence that the consultant is a registered freelancer in their country of residence
- Details of daily fee for consultancy services of a similar nature.

9. Submission Details

Proposals must be sent by email to Noura El Rassi, noura.elrassi@iasociety.org by 23:00 (CET) on Wednesday, 30 June 2021. Late proposals will not be considered. For further information, please contact Lucy Stackpool-Moore, lucy.stackpool-moore@iasociety.org.