



# Request for Proposals

## Consulting Services: Strategy Review - Vaccine Enterprise

Closing date and time: Thursday 22 July 2021, 23:00 CET

### 1. About the IAS

The IAS –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 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 about the IAS can be found at [www.iasociety.org](http://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 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 a consulting firm or an individual consultant to review the strategy of the Enterprise.

In light of recent changes in the field, due to COVID-19 and recent results from vaccines trials, a mid-strategy review is called for. The review should build on the Enterprise's past work and current [Strategic Plan](#), and position the IAS with a specific niche role in the HIV vaccine field. Recommendations should also align with the [IAS 2021-2025 Organizational Strategy](#).

More specifically, the review of the strategy should explore and provide recommendations on the role of the Enterprise in preparing the field for future progress towards an HIV vaccine. The strategy review should consider progress, results and shortfalls of the Enterprise in achieving the Strategic Plan as a basis to refine the role of the Enterprise in 2021 looking forward for the next 3-5 years.

In addition, specific areas for consideration include:

- What are the key contributions that the Enterprise can make in the quest for a safe and effective HIV vaccine?
- How should success be defined for the Enterprise in the next 1-3 years? And in the longer term (3-5 years)?
- How should the Enterprise respond and engage "post" COVID-19?
- How should the Enterprise prepare for vaccine equity if/when there is an HIV vaccine, including lessons learned from COVID-19 vaccine rollout for policy and production preparedness?
- How should the Enterprise complement the work of other stakeholders to communicate effectively about the latest progress towards an HIV vaccine, for whom, and how?
- What is the most useful contribution of the Enterprise in relation to experimental medicine and informing key stakeholders at timely moments on relevant topics in relation to the research and development pipeline?
- What role should the Enterprise play in galvanizing commitment to research and development for HIV prevention including investing in efforts to discover a vaccine?



- Which updates to the governance structure are required to reflect current and active stakeholders in the field and enable the Enterprise to achieve its strategic objectives?

#### 4. Scope of the work

- Review existing strategy documents, workplans and other relevant documentation to assess the state of the HIV vaccine research field and the role of the Enterprise to date
- Conduct 1:1 interviews with members of the Enterprise Advisory Group, IAS leadership and key stakeholders to seek perspectives on the current and future strategic goals for the Enterprise
- Develop a revised set of strategic goals and outline tactics to achieve these

#### 5. Deliverables

1. A slide deck presented to the IAS, including methodology (i.e., protocols for literature search, expert interviews), themes from the updated landscape of ongoing work and existing gaps in the HIV vaccine field (including identification of new actors or changes to key stakeholders), and recommendations in relation to the current strategic plan
  - a. Deadline: 5 October 2021
2. Revised slide deck in response to IAS feedback, for presentation to the Enterprise Advisory Group
  - a. Deadline: 20 October 2021
3. A summary report for an external audience, presenting the agreed revised strategy for the Enterprise incorporating comments from EAG
  - a. Deadline: draft 30 November 2021; final document incorporating feedback from IAS by 15 December 2021

#### 6. Period

Availability from 15 August 2021 to 15 December 2021. Estimated required time for the whole consultancy is approximately 30 days.

#### 7. Location

Home-based.

#### 8. Proposal requirements

The proposal should include the following:

- Expression of interest detailing relevant qualifications and experience
- CV/s of consultant/s



- 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](mailto:noura.elrassi@iasociety.org) by 23:00 (CET) on Thursday, 22 July 2021.

Late proposals will not be considered. For further information, please contact Lucy Stackpool-Moore, [lucy.stackpool-moore@iasociety.org](mailto:lucy.stackpool-moore@iasociety.org).