

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) INVITATION NOTICE

| RFP Information Table           |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| RFP Number                      | TGF-24-72   |  |
| RFP Title                       | HIV Prevention Evaluation   |  |
| Issue Date:                     | 03/10/2024  |  |
| Deadline for Questions:         | 18/10/2024  |  |
| RFP Closing Date1:              | 14/11/2024  |  |
| RFP Closing Time <sup>1</sup> : | 14:00 (Local time in Geneva, Switzerland)   |  |
| Virtual information session     | There will be one virtual information session in October for this RFP. Registration: Please express interest in participating to the information session by sending an email to manon.vanrijswijk@theglobalfund.org |  |
| Proposal Submission Address:    | Following URL for TGF Sourcing Application: <a href="https://fa-enmo-saasfaprod1.fa.ocs.oraclecloud.com/">https://fa-enmo-saasfaprod1.fa.ocs.oraclecloud.com/</a>   |  |

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the "Global Fund") invites all potential suppliers (the "Bidders") to submit proposals for the above-captioned RFP.

This RFP is comprised of the following sections and attachments:

Section 1: Terms of Reference

Section 2: Proposal Requirements and Evaluation

Section 3: Proposal Submission

Section 4: Legal Matters

Annex 1: Certificate of Conformance

Annex 2: The Global Fund Terms and Conditions for the Purchase of Goods and Services

("Terms and Conditions")

Annex 3: Cost proposal template

## SECTION 1 TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### A. SCOPE OF WORK

#### Introduction

- 1. These terms of reference (ToR) describe the planned independent evaluation on HIV Prevention at the Global Fund. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess to what extent and how the increased Global Fund efforts in HIV prevention have led to grant cycle 7 (GC7)<sup>2</sup> grants that are optimally configured and coherent to enable maximizing HIV prevention outcomes and impact and are being implemented in line with the grant design.
- 2. The evaluation is strategy-based as it directly ties in with the ambition of the GF 2023-28 Strategy to strengthen HIV Prevention. The evaluation objectives and Key Evaluation Questions (KEQ, see paragraph 21 and Table 2) reference the three OECD/DAC evaluation criteria: effectiveness, coherence and sustainability, with a focus on the former. It entails summative elements as it assesses the actual shift towards prevention interventions in the design of grants and the first year of implementation (GC7). In addition, formative elements such as recommendations to inform continuing GC7 grant implementation, GC8³ grant design and HIV Prevention efforts are expected to enhance the utility of the evaluation.
- 3. The Global Fund Secretariat is the primary audience of the evaluation results and will utilize its findings and recommendations in providing support to countries in grant-related HIV prevention programming. Secondary audience includes the Global Fund Board, in-country HIV programs, including implementers of GF grants (Principal and Sub-Recipients (PRs and SRs)) and technical partners involved in HIV programming on country level (e.g. UNAIDS, WHO, PEPFAR).
- 4. The evaluation will be managed by the Evaluation and Learning Office (ELO) of the Global Fund under the oversight of the Global Fund Independent Evaluation Panel (IEP). These ToR outline the purpose, background, context, audience and expected use of the evaluation, objectives and KEQ, methodological considerations for the evaluation, timeline and deliverables, and the requirements that the prospective evaluation team should meet.

#### **Background**

5. The Global Fund is a worldwide partnership to defeat HIV, TB and Malaria (HTM) and ensure a healthier, safer, more equitable future for all. The Global Fund raises and invests more than US\$5 billion a year to fight the deadliest infectious diseases, challenge the injustice that fuels them, and strengthen health systems and pandemic preparedness in more than 100 of the hardest hit countries. Since 2002, the Global Fund partnership has saved 59 million lives and has reduced the combined death rate from the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Global Fund operates in three-year grant cycles, when funding requests submitted by eligible countries are transformed into grants and funded during the three years of implementation. Funding Request Form, Performance Framework and Detailed Budget constitute the core of a Funding Request. Grant cycle 7 covers 2023 – 2025.

<sup>3</sup> Grant cycle 8 will cover 2026 - 2028.

three diseases by more than half in the countries in which it invests<sup>4</sup>. Out of the overall investment, 25.7% in grant cycle 6 (GC 6)<sup>5</sup> was directed to HIV/AIDS (US\$ 4.8 billion over the period of 2020 – 2022). The figure for GC7 will become available once all grants have been signed.

- 6. This evaluation is part of the Global Fund Board-approved Multi-Year Evaluation Calendar. The topic was prioritized as it relates directly to one of the critical areas in the 2023-2028 Global Fund Strategy where changes must be made to accelerate the pace of implementation. Independent evaluation was identified as a critical and complementary tool to the ongoing monitoring efforts in this area.
- 7. Substantial *progress has been made in the HIV response*, but significant gaps remain. Continued investments and services are crucial to maintaining the reduction in new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths. While new HIV infections have declined by 38% since 2010, there are still over 1.3 million new cases every year, far from the 2025 UNAIDS target of just 370,000 new HIV infections<sup>6</sup>. According to the 2023 UNAIDS Global Update, in 2023 for the first time in the history of the HIV pandemic, more new infections are occurring outside sub-Saharan Africa than in sub-Saharan Africa. This indicates success in reversing the numbers of new cases in the worst affected region, but at the same time lack of progress in the rest of the world, with the case numbers rising in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa<sup>7</sup>.
- 8. The world is off track to meet the global goal of ending AIDS by 2030 and the UNAIDS 2025 targets related to access to and use of HIV prevention services<sup>8</sup>. Drastic reductions in new HIV infections are needed to reach the SDG target<sup>9</sup>. Furthermore, the most in need remain further behind, including key populations globally and adolescent girls and young women in parts of Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)<sup>10</sup>.
- 9. In 2022, *key populations* gay men and other men who have sex with men, sex workers, transgender people, people who inject drugs and their clients and sexual partners, comprised 25% of all infections in SSA and 80% outside of SSA<sup>11</sup>. Key populations are marginalized as a direct result of criminalization, violence, discrimination, social exclusion, and harmful laws and policies that limit or prohibit access to health services, which heightens their vulnerability to HIV and reduces access to treatment and prevention services, with young Key Populations especially vulnerable and facing the greatest hurdles in accessing services. Women continue to face a greater risk of HIV acquisition particularly in SSA where *adolescent girls and young women* (AGYW, aged 15-24 years) and women aged 25-49 years

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For information about the Global Fund and how the Global Fund works to achieve its mission please visit the website <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/about-the-global-fund/">https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/about-the-global-fund/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Grant cycle 6 covered 2020 – 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026 - End Inequalities. End AIDS. UNAIDS, 2021 available at: <a href="https://www.unaids.org/en/Global-AIDS-Strategy-2021-2026">https://www.unaids.org/en/Global-AIDS-Strategy-2021-2026</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Path that Ends AIDS. 2023 UNAIDS Global AIDS Update available at: <a href="https://thepath.unaids.org/wp-content/themes/unaids2023/assets/files/2023">https://thepath.unaids.org/wp-content/themes/unaids2023/assets/files/2023</a> report.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> By 2025 90% of people at increased risk of HIV infection are using HIV prevention options

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The Path that Ends AIDS. 2023 UNAIDS Global AIDS Update available at: <a href="https://thepath.unaids.org/wp-content/themes/unaids2023/assets/files/2023">https://thepath.unaids.org/wp-content/themes/unaids2023/assets/files/2023</a> report.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The urgency of now: AIDS at a crossroads. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; 2024. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

are respectively up to 3 times and 1.4 times more likely to acquire HIV than their male peers<sup>12</sup>.

- 10. According to the 2023 Global AIDS Monitoring Report, *HIV prevention efforts are still missing millions of people globally*. HIV prevention programs must greatly improve the combination and focus of proven interventions where HIV infection rates are especially high. The potential of interventions with proven efficiency, such as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), condom programs and voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) is not fully realized globally<sup>13</sup>.
- 11. The *Global Fund Strategy for 2023 2028* spells out the following subobjective related to HIV prevention: Accelerate access to and effective use of precision combination prevention, with behavioral, biomedical, and structural components tailored to the needs of populations at high risk of HIV infection, especially key and vulnerable populations<sup>14</sup>. The sub-objective further details how this would be achieved:
  - Close gaps in HIV prevention coverage by expanding the scale and reach of people-centered, effective HIV prevention options for people at risk of HIV infection;
  - (ii) Accelerate access to and use of new HIV prevention options, such as new PrEP formulations and technologies that provide dual protection against both HIV and pregnancy, alongside existing options such as condoms and harm reduction; and
  - (iii) Evolve and expand the range of platforms for access to and delivery of people-centered HIV prevention to respond to individuals' needs, leveraging the strengths of public sector, community, civil society and private sector delivery systems for greater differentiation, innovation, and sustainability of HIV prevention efforts<sup>15</sup>.
- 12. The Global Fund Strategy period covers two grant cycles<sup>16</sup> (GC7 and GC8<sup>17</sup>) and most countries are currently implementing GC7 grants. Preparations for GC8 have already begun, and therefore the immediate use of this evaluation will be to inform improvements and adaptations of Global Fund processes and guidance documents in advance for the 2026-2028 Global Fund Grant Cycle (GC8). In addition, learning and evidence from the evaluation is expected to inform current and future HIV prevention efforts, including implementation and scale up of national programs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Fighting Pandemics and Building a Healthier and More Equitable World Global Fund Strategy (2023-2028) available at: <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11612/strategy\_globalfund2023-2028\_narrative\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11612/strategy\_globalfund2023-2028\_narrative\_en.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The Path that Ends AIDS. 2023 UNAIDS Global AIDS Update available at: <a href="https://thepath.unaids.org/wp-content/themes/unaids2023/assets/files/2023">https://thepath.unaids.org/wp-content/themes/unaids2023/assets/files/2023</a> report.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Fighting Pandemics and Building a Healthier and More Equitable World Global Fund Strategy (2023-2028) available at: <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11612/strategy\_globalfund2023-2028\_narrative\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11612/strategy\_globalfund2023-2028\_narrative\_en.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Fighting Pandemics and Building a Healthier and More Equitable World Global Fund Strategy (2023-2028) available at: <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11612/strategy\_globalfund2023-2028\_narrative\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11612/strategy\_globalfund2023-2028\_narrative\_en.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The Global Fund operates in three-year grant cycles, when funding requests submitted by eligible countries are transformed into 2grants and funded during the three years of implementation. Funding Request Form, Performance Framework and Detailed Budget constitute the core of a Funding Request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Grant cycle 7 covered 2024 – 2026, and Grant cycle 8 covers 2027 – 2029

#### Context

13. In 2020, the Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) carried out a Thematic Review on HIV Primary Prevention<sup>18</sup>. The evaluation concluded that there has been an increased prioritization of HIV prevention (proportion of Global Fund funding allocated to HIV primary prevention of total HIV funding increased from 10.8% in 2015-2017 to 13.3% in 2018-2020), increased commitment from Global Fund leadership, and introduction of some key initiatives emphasizing HIV primary prevention.

14. The review also noted the lack of an overarching framework or approach to the results the Global Fund aims to achieve through its investments in HIV prevention. It also concluded that more prioritization and increase in HIV prevention funding and more effective and quality programming for HIV primary prevention is needed. It emphasized that monitoring efforts should focus on coverage/reach and on the achieved outcomes, such as behavior change.

15. Since then, the Global Fund has developed an *HIV primary prevention results Theory of Change, Results Framework and M&E Framework* (Annex 1). It has also further intensified its efforts in HIV primary prevention. Moving from grant cycle 5 (GC5) to grant cycle 6 (GC6) <sup>19</sup> there has been an approximate 15% rise in HIV prevention investments from 737 million USD (GC5) to 874 million USD (GC6). Early analysis of partial GC7 (2024-2026) cohort suggests a continuation of these upward trends<sup>20</sup>. Determining a number of Program Essentials that countries are encouraged to prioritize in their funding requests further reflects Global Fund increased focus on HIV prevention. They are described in the HIV Information Note along with the focus on broadening the range of HIV prevention service delivery platforms to increase service accessibility.<sup>21</sup> <sup>22</sup> The Global Fund has also developed an *HIV Prevention Outcome Monitoring Toolkit* (POMT)<sup>23</sup> to address the need for rapid, easy to administer and cost-effective methodologies that provide more frequent HIV prevention outcome data.

16. Evaluations of other large-scale prevention efforts provide useful insights into their effectiveness. PEPFAR-implemented Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe (DREAMS) program to reduce HIV incidence in AGYW in sub-Saharan Africa that started in 2015 was the largest global initiative to date attempting to address the full range of structural, behavioral and biomedical drivers of HIV incidence amongst AGYW at scale. Several evaluations of DREAMS indicate that although it has likely impacted some mediators of change, there is only weak or disparate evidence of the program's impact on HIV incidence. Some of the reasons behind it include considerable effect of ARV treatment and HIV testing scale up on HIV incidence prior to DREAMS implementation and the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Technical Evaluation Reference Group: Thematic Review on HIV Primary prevention, available at: <a href="https://archive.theglobalfund.org/media/11152/archive\_terg-hiv-primary-thematic-review\_report\_en.pdf">https://archive.theglobalfund.org/media/11152/archive\_terg-hiv-primary-thematic-review\_report\_en.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Grant cycle 5 covered 2018 – 2020, and Grant cycle 6 covers 2021 – 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Trends in HIV Prevention Investments at the Global Fund: A Comprehensive Analysis, Global AIDS Conference 2024 poster THPEE560

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> HIV Information Note, Allocation Period 2023 – 2025 available at: <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4765/core">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4765/core</a> hiv infonote en.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Global Fund does not determine the recommended interventions but relies on technical partners' (UNAIDS, WHO) guidance for that. Disease information notes provide a summary of these interventions. HIV Information Note, Allocation Period 2023 – 2025 is available at: <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4765/core">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4765/core</a> hiv infonote en.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Please refer to Annex 2 of Measurement Guidance for Global Fund Supported HIV Prevention Programs (<a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me\_measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs\_guidance\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me\_measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs\_guidance\_en.pdf</a>)

delayed nature of results of addressing structural drivers of HIV among both men and AGYW<sup>24</sup>.

- 17. The HIV Prevention Roadmap 2025<sup>25</sup> stresses the importance of adopting a precision prevention approach that entails:
- identifying the populations and locations with the greatest HIV prevention needs, as well as those who are not being reached with services,
- (ii) adopting or adjusting interventions and approaches shown to reduce new HIV infections, with an appropriate balance between biomedical, behavioral and structural approaches, and
- (iii) focusing resources and setting coverage and uptake targets that are high enough to achieve large impact.
- 18. While the Global Fund approach to funding disease programs does not directly determine the distribution of resources at the country level, technical guidance and funding request review processes are used to encourage country partners to implement precision prevention approaches. Evidence coming from HIV prevention programs globally and intensified Global Fund efforts moving from GC6 to GC7 (increased portfolio-wide investment in this area of approximately 15%) call for an assessment of whether the latter have translated into more effective and coherent allocation of investments at the country level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Mullick, S; Cowan, F. (2022) Evaluating the Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe programme, what's worked and what more needs to be done? *AIDS* 36(Supplement 1):p S1-S3, <a href="https://journals.lww.com/aidsonline/fulltext/2022/06151/evaluating\_the\_determined\_resilient,\_empowered,.1.aspx">https://journals.lww.com/aidsonline/fulltext/2022/06151/evaluating\_the\_determined\_resilient,\_empowered,.1.aspx</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> HIV Prevention 2025 Road Map available at: <a href="https://hivpreventioncoalition.unaids.org/sites/default/files/attachments/JC3053">https://hivpreventioncoalition.unaids.org/sites/default/files/attachments/JC3053</a> 2022-HIV-Road-Map-Publication En v4.pdf

Purpose, Objectives, Scope and Key Evaluation Questions

- 19. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess to what extent and how the increased Global Fund efforts in HIV prevention have led to GC7 grants that are optimally configured and coherent to enable maximizing HIV prevention outcomes and impact and are being implemented in line with the grant design.
- 20. While the evaluation is informed by the ToC/Results Framework of the Global Fund approach to HIV Prevention depicted in Annex 1, the evaluation is not designed to test the causal pathways from intervention to impact or the effectiveness of specific interventions. At the time of this evaluation, most countries will be at an early stage in implementing their three-year grants. Hence, the focus is to establish if the HIV prevention components of the grants have been appropriately designed and are being implemented according to the design.
- 21. Based on the purpose of the evaluation, the objectives are:
  - To assess the configuration of grants for optimal allocation of funds for HIV prevention considering four dimensions:
    - Geographical location vis-à-vis disease burden (national, sub-national levels)
    - Supported interventions (evidence-based)
    - Populations of focus (key and vulnerable populations identified at the national level)
    - Target coverage (numbers and percentage of population reached)
  - 2. Review implementation of selected/sampled grants following approximately one year of implementation based on the four dimensions outlined under (1) above, to assess: a) any shifts compared to GC6, b) early results, c) alignment with grant agreement and d) external coherence<sup>26</sup>.
  - Assess country monitoring systems of the sampled countries for measuring HIV prevention outcomes and subsequent use of this information – with specific attention on POMT if in use (see paragraph 15).
- 22. The Global Fund Secretariat and in particular the HIV technical team is the primary stakeholder of this evaluation and will take forward the utilization of its insights, findings and recommendations. The evaluation will also provide the Board and Committees with independent and credible evidence of collective progress towards the Global Fund Strategy objectives in HIV prevention. Additional users of the evidence and learning that will come from this evaluation include technical partners (UNAIDS, WHO, PEPFAR) who provide guidance and /or fund HIV prevention in countries and national HIV programs that can use the results to improve design and implementation of future HIV prevention efforts. The likely

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> OECD-DAC definition: External coherence considers the consistency of the intervention with other actors' interventions in the same context. This includes complementarity, harmonization and co-ordination with others, and the extent to which the intervention is adding value while avoiding duplication of effort. https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/543e84ed-en/1/3/4/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/543e84ed-

en&\_csp\_=535d2f2a848b7727d35502d7f36e4885&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book#section-d1e2935

update of the HIV Prevention Roadmap 2025 (see paragraph 17) may also be informed by the results of this evaluation.

- 23. The evaluation will cover the design of all GC7 HIV grants and the approximate first year of implementation of sampled HIV grants only, complemented by analyzing the design of respective GC6 grants for comparison. The evaluation will consider external factors in selected countries (see paragraph 26) that enable and/or inhibit implementation progress.
- 24. The evaluation will focus on people at increased risk of HIV infection, which includes key populations in all epidemic settings and AGYW and their male partners in locations with high HIV incidence.
- 25. HIV prevention interventions for the purpose of this evaluation refer to bio-medical, behavioral and structural interventions, as referenced in the HIV information note<sup>27</sup>. The evaluation will focus on primary HIV prevention, hence HIV treatment as prevention, prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) and HIV testing are not within the scope of this evaluation.
- 26. A proposed sample of 12 countries representing all geographical regions where Global Fund works<sup>28</sup> was selected for this evaluation to provide country insights. The list of countries is as follows: Cuba, Eswatini, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe.
- 27. The countries were selected purposefully to represent different epidemiological settings and different HIV prevention responses. They include eight of the fourteen Global Fund incidence reduction focus countries that were selected based on the largest overall number of new HIV infections in 2021 and increase in incidence from 2020 to 2021 (Congo, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia), two countries from the two regions that are not included in incidence reduction focus countries (Kyrgyzstan and Cuba), Eswatini, which is close to achieving the global UNAIDS treatment targets<sup>29</sup>, and Zimbabwe whose comprehensive HIV prevention program can provide relevant insights. The list of countries will be revisited and finalized during the Inception phase of the evaluation.
- 28. Table 1 below summarizes what is in and out of scope for this evaluation.

Table 1: Scope of the evaluation - summary

| Dimension | In scope   | Out of scope                 |
|-----------|--|------------------------------|
| •         | GC7, and GC6 as a reference point for comparison | GC5 and earlier grant cycles |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> HIV Information Note, Allocation Period 2023 – 2025 available at: https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4765/core\_hiv\_infonote\_en.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> East Asia and Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> UNAIDS treatment targets are: 95% of HIV-positive people know their HIV status, 95% of people knowing their status are on ARV treatment, and 95% of those on treatment are virally suppressed by 2025.

| Prevention components and interventions | HIV primary prevention that includes bio-medical, structural and behavioral interventions.  Under bio-medical interventions the following are included: condoms and lubricants, PEP and PrEP, sexually transmitted infections (STI) interventions, opioid substitution treatment (OST), needle exchange, voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) | Treatment as prevention, PMTCT, HIV testing Testing the effectiveness of high impact HIV prevention interventions <sup>30</sup> |
|---|---|---|
| Geography                               | All active Global Fund grants for a portfolio-wide desk review of sections of Funding Request (FR) forms, detailed budgets and Performance Frameworks (PFs) <sup>31</sup> Around 17 GC7 and GC6 HIV grants for 12 selected countries for in-depth analysis and comparison   | In-depth analysis of all HIV grants   |
| Key and vulnerable populations          | Key populations in all epidemic settings, and adolescent girls and young women and their male partners in sub-Saharan Africa <sup>32</sup>  | All other populations   |

29. Organized by evaluation objectives (see paragraph 21), Table 2 on the following page lists the Key Evaluation Questions that will guide this evaluation. The questions are informed by consultations with Global Fund Secretariat and Strategy Committee members, as well as external stakeholders (WHO, UNAIDS, PEPFAR). Consultation will continue through the GF disease-focused expert platforms (e.g HIV Situation Room) and other fora. At the inception phase, there is an opportunity to refine the questions based on desk review and further consultation with ELO and key stakeholders, potentially including representatives of in-country implementing organizations, within available resources. The main OECD/DAC evaluation criteria are referenced in brackets under each evaluation objective for orientation.

Table 2: Key Evaluation Questions.

| Evaluation<br>Objectives           | Key Evaluation Questions (KEQ)  |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Grant configuration for optimal | 1. To what extent are Global Fund investments targeting locations where most new infections are occurring / locations with highest HIV incidence rates? |
| allocation of resources            | 2. To what extent are the Global Fund investments being programmed towards UNAIDS/ WHO recommended  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Condoms and lubricants, PEP and PrEP, sexually transmitted infections (STI) interventions, opioid substitution treatment (OST), needle exchange, voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> This work will heavily draw on Global Fund analysis of budgets and PFs done up to date; nevertheless, it is expected that additional analysis of these documents as well as of narrative sections of the FR form will be carried out across the portfolio, which would require implementation of advanced data science techniques.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> In line with the HIV Prevention 2025 Road Map available at: https://hivpreventioncoalition.unaids.org/sites/default/files/attachments/JC3053\_2022-HIV-Road-Map-Publication\_En\_v4.pdf

| (effectiveness, coherence)   | <ul> <li>HIV prevention interventions while considering the countries' context and epidemiological situation?</li> <li>3. To what extent and how are structural (human rights and social protection) and behavioral interventions integrated into biomedical HIV prevention programs in order to enhance the uptake of services?</li> <li>4. To what extent are the interventions targeted to populations most in need of HIV prevention services - at sufficient scale of coverage for impact and with sufficient differentiation by population group?</li> <li>5. To what extent and how has the grant configuration and</li> </ul> |
|--|---|
| 2. Initial progress, alignment, coherence (effectiveness, coherence, | prioritization improved between GC6 and GC7?  6. To what extent and how has HIV prevention implementation shifted in GC7 compared to GC6?  Areas to be considered are:  a. Are HIV prevention services targeted and accessible to those most in need of HIV   |
| sustainability)  | <ul> <li>b. Is there any indication of sufficient utilization of HIV prevention delivery platforms, including their expansion and integration with other services?</li> <li>c. Is there any indication of sub-national tailoring of HIV prevention interventions?</li> <li>d. To what extent are GF GC7 investments contributing to increased coverage of key and vulnerable populations with precision combination prevention interventions<sup>33</sup> (early results)?</li> </ul>   |
|  | 7. To what extent and how is the implementation of Global Fund supported GC7 HIV prevention interventions consistent with respective GC7 grant agreements (e.g. Performance Frameworks, budgets and narratives)?  |
|  | <ul> <li>8. To what extent and how and are Global Fund supported GC7 HIV prevention interventions coherent (including complementarity, harmonization and co-ordination) with other actors' interventions, and are adding value while avoiding duplication of effort?</li> <li>9. How are considerations of the sustainability of prevention interventions (e.g. national funding commitments, integrated service delivery options) build into the design and implementation of grants?</li> </ul>   |
| 3. Outcome monitoring systems (effectiveness)                        | 10. To what extent are countries effectively measuring HIV prevention outcomes (beyond input and output monitoring)? <sup>34</sup> Areas to be considered are measurement approaches, scale and reach,  |

 $<sup>^{33}</sup>$  This will be based on early indications from approximately one year of implementation of GC7 grants

<sup>34</sup> Please refer to Measurement Guidance for Global Fund Supported HIV Prevention Programmes (https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me\_measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs\_guidance\_en.pdf)

coherence/integration and capabilities, and subsequent use of information. <sup>35</sup>

30. It is important to note that during the same period, the Global Fund will be commissioning an independent evaluation of the Global Fund Efforts to Maximize Gender Equality in HIV, TB and Malaria Programs. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess to what extent and how gender equality approaches have been integrated into HTM programs supported by Global Fund investments. When gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches are integrated into HIV disease programs, it is often within the area of HIV prevention, therefore it will be important to ensure appropriate coordination between these evaluations during the inception phase and at other distinct points in the evaluation process.

### Methodological Considerations

- 31. The detailed evaluation design and methodology will be developed by the supplier and proposed as part of the response to the Request for Proposal (RfP).
- 32. The evaluation methodology and approach should adhere to the principles set out in the Global Fund Evaluation and Learning Principles<sup>36</sup> with particular focus on the principle of ethical practice and conforming to the 'do no harm' principle, which requires evaluators and all others involved in the evaluation process to strive to minimize harm that may be caused inadvertently due to their activities. Evaluators will also be bound by the code of conduct for suppliers as described in the RFP document.
- 33. The proposed evaluation design is expected to include utilization-focused, summative and formative aspects, and consider the following:
  - a) The interdependencies of biomedical, behavioral and structural HIV prevention interventions and their potential effectiveness in achieving prevention outcomes.
  - b) In order to assess the optimal configuration of grants, define evidence-based criteria, standards and definitions for an "optimal" grant in line with the HIV Prevention Roadmap 2025<sup>37</sup> and the ToC (Annex 1).
  - c) The consideration of the causal pathways depicted in the Global Fund HIV prevention ToC (Annex 1). However, the evaluation is not expected to test the ToC, i.e. it is not expected that HIV prevention outcomes and impact will be assessed.
  - d) Development and application of rubrics based on b) to assess sampled GC7 grants (zero-draft example is provided in Annex 2).
  - e) The significant heterogeneity and diversity among countries, grants, and population groups.
  - f) The gender and human rights dimension in the selection of methods and tools, data collection and analysis.
  - g) Propose and apply data analysis approaches and applications such as Machine Learning / Natural Language Processing - to implement portfolio-wide analysis of grant documentation, including

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Please note that assessing countries practices in coverage monitoring and impact evaluation are out of scope of this evaluation.

<sup>36</sup> https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/iel/evaluation-and-learning-principles/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> HIV Prevention 2025 Road Map available at: <a href="https://hivpreventioncoalition.unaids.org/sites/default/files/attachments/JC3053">https://hivpreventioncoalition.unaids.org/sites/default/files/attachments/JC3053</a> 2022-HIV-Road-Map-Publication En v4.pdf

Funding Request narrative sections, detailed budgets, Performance Frameworks, etc.

- 34. A mixture of qualitative and quantitative methods is expected to be applied during this evaluation; the choice of methods must be described and explained in the technical proposal.
- 35. It is expected that a total of approximately 17 grants for GC6 and corresponding grants for GC7 of the 12 proposed countries (see paragraph 26) will be analyzed in detail, which would include document review, as well as conducting key informant interviews (KIIs) and focus group discussions (FGD). Country insights will be used to provide illustrative examples of how HIV prevention is designed and implemented in countries. It is not foreseen that individual case studies will be developed. Visits are expected to a maximum of four of the selected countries. The purpose of the visits will be to conduct KIIs and FGDs, collect background information and observe early progress in implementation of the HIV Prevention components of GC7 grants. A strong rationale for in-country versus remote data collection options is essential.
- 36. The technical proposal must also describe the analysis approach and how information and data coming from different methods will be triangulated and will complement each other to ensure robust and rigorous findings and conclusions. The proposal should describe how the strength and robustness of evidence will be assessed and rated.
- 37. Whilst the methods, data collection tools and analysis approach will be finalized during the inception phase, the technical proposal is expected to provide sufficient detail on how the evaluation intends to answer the KEQ in order to conclude on the objectives of the evaluation, expected limitations and risks that need to be addressed or mitigated, and the quality control mechanisms that will be applied at different stages of the evaluation process.

## Evaluation Process

- 38. Once the evaluation team is on board, the evaluation will be structured in three main phases defined by accompanying activities as described below:
- 39. **Inception Phase** (approx. four weeks)
- Onboarding: This will most likely occur in the week following signature
  of the contract and will be conducted virtually. Shortly after onboarding,
  a workplan will be submitted.
- Following the signature of Non-Disclosure Agreements with all evaluation team members, a series of onboarding sessions will be organized by ELO with the evaluation team. The sessions will cover but are not limited to consultations on a) the evaluation process, with its key milestones and deliverables; b) roles and responsibilities of major stakeholders in the evaluation management and oversight; c) guidance and templates for the evaluation deliverables; d) overview of the available data and documents for desk review; e) clarity on technical issues related to the subject matter and Global Fund modus of operation; f) country, grant and stakeholder mapping for data collection.
- ELO will establish a TEAMS Space and will give access to the evaluation team members. This space will be used throughout the

evaluation to share a) all guidance materials, templates and documents referred to in the onboarding; b) Global Fund data and documents identified in the inception phases; c) progress updates and deliverables submitted by the evaluation team.

 Inception Report: At the end of the Inception Phase the Inception Report will be submitted for review adhering to ELO guidance on structure of report. The report will contain a detailed/refined evaluation matrix linking evaluation criterion with specific questions/areas of inquiry and analytical frameworks/rubrics, and corresponding data sources and collection/analysis methods. Once approved by ELO the evaluation tam can move to data collection.

#### 40. Data Collection and Analysis Phase (approx. 12 weeks)

- The evaluation team proceed with the independent collection and analysis of data and information as described in the approved Inception Report. The Evaluation Team Lead and ELO will hold weekly meetings to review progress of the evaluation and identify any areas where ELO can facilitate progress if required.
- Towards the end of this phase, there will be a virtual meeting between
  the evaluation team and key stakeholders in which the evaluation team
  will present and discuss preliminary findings. The evaluation team will
  be requested to submit a slide deck presentation in advance of the
  meeting.

#### 41. Reporting Phase (approx. eight weeks)

- Adhering to ELO guidance on report structure and length, a draft Final Evaluation Report will be submitted at the start of this phase.
- Based on the draft report, a workshop will be held with the evaluation team and key stakeholders (co-chaired by ELO and IEP) to discuss the recommendations in the draft report. A presentation summarizing the key analysis and recommendations will be submitted beforehand. It is expected that at least the Evaluation Team Lead and a few team members will come in-person for this event to be held in the Global Fund Secretariat in Geneva.
- Written feedback on the draft report and recommendations will be received.
- A Final Evaluation Report is submitted that addresses the feedback received on the draft report and is reflective of the discussions in the aforementioned meeting/workshop.
- Once the final report has been approved by ELO, an Evaluation Brief and a Summative Slide Deck are submitted as the final deliverables.
- The Global Fund Evaluation Function has developed a Quality Assurance Framework<sup>38</sup> to guide the process of review of the final report. Potential bidders may find reviewing this document helpful in considering proposal submissions. The QAF is of particular importance at the report-writing stage of the evaluation process but given the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Global Fund Evaluation Function Quality Assurance Framework (<a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/13794/iep\_quality-assessment\_framework\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/13794/iep\_quality-assessment\_framework\_en.pdf</a>)

- centrality and importance of the final report all evaluation activities should be framed and informed by the logic and content of the QAF.
- Upon ELO approval of the evaluation report, the report assessed by the IEP using the QAF and the IEP will prepare a Commentary on the evaluation. The Global Fund Secretariat will prepare its management response. The intention is to publish the Final Evaluation Report alongside the IEP Commentary and Secretariat Management Response on the Global Fund website.

## Deliverables and expected timeline

- 42. A tentative time frame for the evaluation is provided below. The evaluation is expected to be completed within 6-7 months of signing the contract (target commencement and end date is January 2025 June/July 2025)
- 43. The evaluation main deliverables and approximate expected time of submission to ELO are outlined below. Exact dates will be confirmed during the inception. Payment will be made against deliverables once approved by ELO.

Table 3: Evaluation Deliverables and Due Dates

| Deliverable   | Submission Date |
|---|-----------------|
| Evaluation workplan   | 10.01.2025      |
| Inception Report  | 05.02.2025      |
| Preliminary Findings Presentation   | 28.04.2025      |
| Draft Final Evaluation Report   | 02.06.2025      |
| Summary Presentation of analysis and recommendations to be used in the Recommendations Workshop | 20.06.2025      |
| Final Evaluation Report   | 30.06.2025      |
| Evaluation Brief and Summary Slide Deck   | 08.07.2025      |

#### Skills and Experience Required from Evaluation Team

44. The evaluation team is expected to include different experts with a balance of relevant expertise and knowledge in the areas listed below.

#### 45. **Essential**:

- Extensive experience with appropriate evaluation design and methods, both quantitative and qualitative and including relevant research and analytical skills, handling large data sets, triangulating, assessing the strength of evidence and synthesizing diverse information.
- Advanced knowledge of and experience with complex public health organizations and programs.
- Advanced knowledge, understanding of and experience in HIV prevention among key populations globally, and in sub-Saharan Africa

   among AGYW and their male partners.

- Good understanding and experience working with HIV prevention monitoring approaches<sup>39</sup> and indicators<sup>40</sup>.
- In-country experience of public health programs (design, implementation and /or evaluation) and multi-stakeholder country processes.
- Full language proficiency in English and French.

#### 46. Highly desirable:

- Familiarity with the Global Fund and with Global Fund grant design and program implementation at country level.
- Experience implementing Machine Learning techniques on global health documents (named entity recognition, span categorization, PHI (Protected Health Information) detection, text extraction).
- Other official UN language proficiency in the team (e.g. Russian or Spanish).
- 47. The technical proposal should describe the team structure and indicate the role and responsibilities of different members including level of effort allocated to each team member.
- 48. The technical proposal should indicate how diversity has been considered in the team composition particular in respect to gender and geography but also other aspects as relevant to the evaluation topic.
- 49. It should be noted that the evaluation team is expected to organize all activities in the data collection phases (Interviews etc.) therefore the evaluation team should have management and timely administrative support to the evaluation process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> As referenced in the WHO CONSOLIDATED GUIDELINES ON PERSON-CENTRED HIV STRATEGIC INFORMATION available at: <a href="https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240055315">https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240055315</a> and Measurement Guidance for Global Fund Supported HIV Prevention Programmes (<a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me\_measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs\_guidance\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me\_measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs\_guidance\_en.pdf</a>)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Global AIDS Monitoring Guidance, UNAIDS, 2024 available at: <a href="https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2024/global-aids-monitoring-guidelines">https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2024/global-aids-monitoring-guidelines</a>

| List | of      |     |
|------|---------|-----|
| Acro | nyms    | and |
| Abb  | reviati | ons |

| AGYW     | Adolescent Girls and Young Women  |
|----------|---|
| ARV      | Antiretrovirals   |
| ELO      | Evaluation and Learning Office  |
| FGD      | Focus group discussion  |
| FR       | Funding Request   |
| GC       | Grant Cycle   |
| HTM      | HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria   |
| IEP      | Independent Evaluation Panel  |
| KEQ      | Key Evaluation Question   |
| KII      | Key informant interview   |
| KP       | Key population  |
| M&E      | Monitoring and Evaluation   |
| NLP      | Natural Language Processing   |
| OECD/DAC | Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development / Development Assistance Committee |
| OST      | Opioid substitution treatment   |
| PEP      | Post-exposure prophylaxis   |
| PHI      | Protected Health Information  |
| POMT     | HIV Prevention Outcome Monitoring Toolkit   |
| PMTCT    | Prevention of mother-to-child transmission  |
| PF       | Performance Framework   |
| PR       | Principal Recipient   |
| PrEP     | Pre-exposure prophylaxis  |
| QAF      | Global Fund evaluation function's Quality Assurance Framework                             |
| RfP      | Request for proposals   |
| SSA      | Sub-Saharan Africa  |
| STI      | Sexually transmitted infections   |
| SR       | Sub-Recipient   |
| TA       | Technical Assistance  |
| TERG     | Technical Evaluation Reference Group  |
| ToC      | Theory of Change  |
| TOR      | Terms of Reference  |
| UNAIDS   | United Nations Agency on AIDS   |
| VMMC     | Voluntary medical male circumcision   |
| WHO      | World Health Organization   |
|          |   |



Annex 1. Theory of Change, Results Framework and M&E Framework for the Global Fund

## Theory of Change - Underlying GF investment in HIV primary

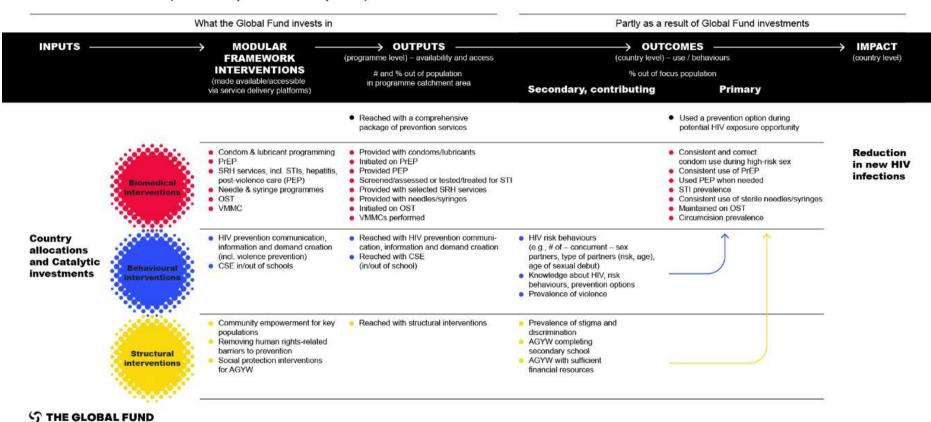
prevention - pathways of change / how the programme works (e.g. community-based and -led services, health facilities, SRH services, schools, virtual) **New HIV** infections Known status Unknown status Consistent reduced risk behaviour Structural Increased interventions interventions access Consistent, HIV prevention and use Community empowerment: Reduced reduced Exposure social protection interventions risk of HIV and demand creation structural HIV reducing human rights barriers to HIV virus\* risk factors acquisition treatment ToC (7 key program areas e.g., e.g. due to unsafe stigma and discrimination. 95% of PLHIV know injection practices decriminalization). or unprotected sex their HIV status; 95% of PLHIV that know with a person living their HIV status are on with HIV ART: 95% of PLHIV on (with unsuppressed ART have suppressed e.g.: Poverty; Low viral load) interventions viral loads. education; Social and gender norms: Stigma and discrimination: Increased Criminalization; access, consistent Violence and correct use Combination prevention HIV (comprehensive package of services) negative people testing \*Sexual behaviours associated with an increased risk of exposure. Known status CSE: comprehensive sexuality education; OST: opioid substitution therapy; PrEP: pre-exposure prophylaxis; if unprotected, e.g.: Multiple (concurrent) partners; Partner status Unknown status STI: sexually transmitted infection, SRH: sexual and reproductive health; VMMC: voluntary medical male unknown; Partner with high-risk behaviour; Anal sex; Commercial / transactional sex; Early sexual debut; Age discordant relationships;

Sex under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs

THE GLOBAL FUND

### **Global Fund HIV primary prevention Results Framework**

- results chain (from inputs to impact)



Version: For IEP 06\_SEPT\_2024

Annex 2. Zero-draft example of an "optimal" configuration of the HIV Prevention component of a grant rubric. The rubric will be further expanded and developed during the Inception phase.

| Criteria     | Expectations – the "optimal" grant   | Assumption   |
|--------------|--|--|
| Location     | Global Fund investments focus primarily on countries and/or sub-national locations that have a high actual number of new infections and/or whose incidence rate is trending upwards.         | HIV incidence estimates are available and reliable   |
| Intervention | Comprehensive package of proven prevention services combining new and existing prevention options are offered, tailored to the epidemiological situation.                                    | <ul> <li>Applied biomedical interventions are effective.</li> <li>Biomedical interventions "have a direct pathway to HIV prevention and are prioritized" (Global Fund HIV Information Note, 05 Dec 2022)</li> <li>"Additional interventions to address the social and behavioral factors that increase risk and vulnerability" (GF HIV Information Note, 05 Dec 2022)</li> </ul> |
| Population   | Key and vulnerable populations are identified, targeted programming included, and access/use barriers addressed.   | Estimates of size of key and<br>vulnerable population groups are<br>available.   |
| Coverage     | Increased coverage of interventions to address prevention gaps and accelerate access, including the expansion of service delivery platforms. Targets in line with the UNAIDS global targets. | <ul> <li>Increased allocation and or rebalancing investments allow to increase coverage</li> <li>Possible supply chain disruptions are mitigated</li> </ul>  |

#### **List of References**

- 1. Global AIDS Monitoring Guidance, UNAIDS, 2024 available at: https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2024/global-aids-monitoring-guidelines
- 2. Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026 End Inequalities. End AIDS. UNAIDS, 2021 available at: https://www.unaids.org/en/Global-AIDS-Strategy-2021-2026
- 3. Global Fund Evaluation Function Quality Assurance Framework available at: https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/13794/iep\_quality-assessment\_framework\_en.pdf
- 4. Fighting Pandemics and Building a Healthier and More Equitable World Global Fund Strategy (2023-2028) available at: https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11612/strategy\_globalfund2023-2028\_narrative\_en.pdf
- 5. HIV Information Note, Allocation Period 2023 2025 available at: https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4765/core\_hiv\_infonote\_en.pdf
- HIV Prevention 2025 Road Map available at: https://hivpreventioncoalition.unaids.org/sites/default/files/attachments/JC3053\_2022-HIV-Road-Map-Publication En v4.pdf
- 7. Measurement Guidance for Global Fund Supported HIV Prevention Programmes available at https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me\_measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs\_guidance\_en.pdf
- OECD-DAC criteria. Available at https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/543e84ed-en/1/3/4/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/543e84ed-en&\_csp\_=535d2f2a848b7727d35502d7f36e4885&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book#sec tion-d1e2935
- Technical Evaluation Reference Group: Thematic Review on HIV Primary prevention, available at: https://archive.theglobalfund.org/media/11152/archive\_terg-hiv-primary-thematicreview report en.pdf
- 10. The Path that Ends AIDS. 2023 UNAIDS Global AIDS Update available at: https://thepath.unaids.org/wp-content/themes/unaids2023/assets/files/2023 report.pdf
- 11. WHO CONSOLIDATED GUIDELINES ON PERSON-CENTRED HIV STRATEGIC INFORMATION available at: https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240055315 and Measurement Guidance for Global Fund Supported HIV Prevention Programmes available at: https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me\_measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs\_guidance\_en.pdf



#### B. CONTRACT CONDITIONS

#### 1. Contract Duration

The Global Fund expects the work (the Inception phase) to begin following the signing of the contract. The duration of the contract will be nine months from the date of signature. The contract may be renewed, subject to the internal rules and regulations of the Global Fund and the availability of resources, and upon agreement of the parties, up to a maximum duration of three months.

#### 2. Contract Type

The contract that is to be awarded as an outcome to this RFP is a one-off Purchase Order (PO).

#### 3. Other Conditions

#### i. Technical Direction

The selected Supplier will work under the overall guidance of the Global Fund Evaluation and Learning Office (ELO) with oversight from the Independent Evaluation Panel (IEP).

#### ii. Logistics

The selected Supplier will be expected to work remotely with potential travel to Geneva at the start of the contract for Onboarding and to facilitate the Preliminary Findings meeting, which is an important moment in the trajectory of the evaluation when the Supplier, Evaluation Function and Global Fund User Group can discuss the emerging findings from the evaluation. Additionally, the team of evaluators will be expected to travel to a maximum of four of the selected countries (see paragraph #35 in the ToR). In case if the Supplier proposes consultants who are based in the selected countries this might substitute travel to these countries. The selected Supplier will be responsible for its own logistical support and arrangements under this contract.

#### iii. Relationship and Responsibilities

- The Global Fund and the selected Supplier will each designate one person ("Contact Individual") who will be responsible for all liaisons between the Global Fund and the selected Supplier. It is understood that neither Contact Individual shall have the authority to amend the future Purchase Order. The Global Fund Contact Individual will be the Evaluation Manager, as described below.
- The Evaluation Manager will be named in the Purchase Order.
- The Evaluation Manager will be responsible for monitoring the Supplier's performance progress and may notify the Supplier in writing of deficiencies observed during performance of the contract, and direct appropriate action to effect correction. The Evaluation Manager may also record and report to the Global Fund Supply Operations Department any incidents of faulty or non-conforming work, delays and problems.

- However, the Evaluation Manager will not be empowered to award, agree to, or sign any contract (including Purchase Orders) or amendments thereto, or in any way to bind the Global Fund.
- The selected Supplier may be informed of measures to safeguard independence and address any related concerns. Such measures and associated processes do not supersede the terms of this engagement, notably with respect to Settlement of Disputes and the terms of Code of Conduct for Suppliers.
- Should confidential or highly confidential information, as defined by the Global Fund at its
  discretion, be sought by the selected Supplier during the performance of the Services, the
  Supplier and/or its employees or agents accessing this information may be asked to agree
  to specific confidentiality undertakings with respect to this information, including the
  execution of a Non-Disclosure Agreement.

#### iv. Payment Conditions

Unless access to the selected Supplier or E-invoicing Portals has been granted, all invoices should be sent electronically as attachments to <a href="mailto:TGFBilling@theglobalfund.org">TGFBilling@theglobalfund.org</a>.

The attachments should be sent preferably in Portable Document Format (PDF) and should contain only one invoice (with supporting documents if needed) per attachment.

All invoices must cite the Purchase Order Number. Such invoices shall detail services provided as well as daily rates and unit prices. Payment will be made to the selected Supplier by reimbursement upon submission of the invoices and acceptance by the Head of Department or her/his designee.

The final invoice will be paid upon satisfactory completion of the work, submission of all deliverables and acceptance by the Head of Department or her/his designee.

The selected Supplier shall not invoice the Global Fund, and the Global Fund shall not be held liable to pay the selected Supplier for work not performed, for work not satisfactorily performed, or for work not performed within the performance period of the contract. Any fees and/or expenses related to work performed before or after the performance period of the related contract shall be borne by the selected Supplier.

#### Table 1. Deliverables, delivery dates and payment schedule

Payment will be made to the selected Supplier upon the submission and acceptance of the agreed deliverables, following the payment schedule outlined below:

| Deliverables                     | Expected Delivery Dates | Maximum Percentage Budget (including estimated expenses) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Evaluation workplan and timeline | 10.01.2025              | 15% of total approved budget                             |

| 2. | Inception Report   | 05.02.2025 | 25% of total approved budget |
|----|--|------------|------------------------------|
| 3. | Preliminary Findings (Slide deck for meeting, data files, agenda, meeting notes) | 28.04.2025 | 30% of total approved budget |
| 4. | Draft Report   | 02.06.2025 |                              |
| 5. | Recommendations<br>Workshop (Slide deck)   | 20.06.2025 | 000/ 11 1                    |
| 6. | Final Report   | 30.06.2025 | 30% of total approved budget |
| 7. | Evaluation Brief and summative slide deck  | 08.07.2025 |                              |
| То | tal  |            | 100% of the approved budget  |

For other direct costs (ODC), the selected Supplier will be reimbursed on actual expense basis in accordance with the Travel Guidelines for Contractors (available on the Global Fund website and as amended from time to time) and upon submission of an expenditure listing and receipts for all claimed ODC which are not covered through the per diem allocation.

#### v. Reports and Deliverables

All reports shall be submitted in English, in electronic form where feasible, and in hardcopy as necessary and/or required. To the extent the Global Fund requires draft/inception reports, the Supplier will submit them to the Global Fund Contact Individual, as defined in (iii) above, for review within the requested timeframe. The Supplier will submit all reports within the timeframe agreed between the Supplier and the Global Fund Contact in advance and in writing, upon receiving feedback or comments from the Global Fund.

The Global Fund will only pay the Supplier for deliverables which have fulfilled the acceptance criteria defined during the Inception Phase by the Global Fund, following consultation with Supplier. Acceptance criteria will define quality standards and requirements regarding both substance and form for the Deliverables.

For the first deliverable which is the Inception Report, the acceptance criteria are as follows. The Inception Report shall follow the following structure: (o) Executive Summary, (1) Introduction, (2) Background & Context, (3) Evaluation Approach, (4) Evaluation Framework, (5) Evaluation Workplan, (6) Annexes to the Report. The Inception Report should address all the requirements and scope as explained in the sections on evaluation purpose, objectives, scope and key evaluation questions (paragraphs 19 - 29) and methodological considerations (paragraphs 31 -

37) of the ToR. The detailed requirements for each of the sections of the Inception Report will be provided to the Supplier during Inception phase.

The selected Supplier will deliver to the ELO learning and communication tools at different intervals of the evaluation. The selected Supplier will endeavor to provide preliminary insights as available during the conduct of the evaluation.

As a minimal requirement, the selected Supplier shall also lead and produce the following learning products for the evaluation:

- Summative slide deck on final findings: A slide deck on the final findings, conclusions and recommendations will be submitted to the ELO to be presented to the IEP and Secretariat.
- An evaluation brief, following ELO's standard template, to summarize the evaluation's findings, recommendations, management response and key points from the IEP commentary.

The Global Fund may agree to the principle of a publication by the Supplier including information developed or acquired by the Supplier in the course of performing work under this Contract, for research, educational or other non-commercial purposes, after receiving a notice of intent to publish from the Supplier detailing the topic, authorship, type and scope of information intended for publication. Before using for publication any such information the Supplier shall obtain the Global Fund's prior written approval, by submitting to the Global Fund a draft of the publication together with any other information that may be required by the Global Fund. The Supplier shall, at the request of the Global Fund, remove any information that may, in the sole opinion of the Global Fund, constitute or contain Global Fund Confidential Information or in any way damage the reputation of the Global Fund.

In addition to the acceptance criteria referenced above, all Deliverables are subject to review by the Global Fund – to consider that Deliverables may be published or otherwise distributed or licensed by the Global Fund - for:

- legal and operational risks, conformance with information classification and confidentiality requirements, data protection issues, and other Contract terms; and
- consistency with the Global Fund Style Guide, definitions and concepts defined in governance documents, as well guidelines provided on Key Terms and Spelling, Abbreviations and Acronyms and geographic names and regions.

For the avoidance of the doubt, if the Supplier includes in any Deliverables its own trademarks, or that of its subcontractors, Article 10.3 of the Terms and Conditions for the Purchase of Goods and Services the Global Fund shall govern, although the Global Fund is under no obligation to make use of such trademarks in connection with any Deliverables.

For the avoidance of the doubt, if the Supplier includes in any Deliverable any Personal Data, Article 10.4 of the terms and Conditions for the Purchase of Goods and Services the Global Fund shall govern and the Supplier shall provide to the Global Fund appropriate documentation showing Data Subjects have consented to the use of their names in connection with such Deliverables and explicitly authorizing the Global Fund to publish, or otherwise distribute, or create derivative work

from the Deliverables containing such Personal Data, although the Global Fund is under no obligation to make use of such Personal Data in connection with any Deliverables. The Final Report may only contain Personal Data of the Suppliers' employees or those of its subcontractors' and may not contain Personal Data about any other Data Subject.

The Global Fund may at its exclusive discretion publish or distribute information and opinions, in particular commentary and responses, with respect to the Deliverables and the performance of the Contract. Such information or opinions shall not give rise to any rights or claims by the Supplier or its subcontractors.

#### vi. Personal Data Processing

#### Subject matter and duration of the Processing

Personal Data may be Processed in order to allow the Supplier to provide the Services. The Processing shall take place for the duration of the contract or the relevant Purchase Order, as applicable, unless otherwise directed by the Global Fund. Such processing shall comply with the Personal Data Processing provisions of the Terms and Conditions (Annex 2).

#### Nature and purpose of the Processing

Data may be collected from human subjects using qualitative and quantitative data collection methods.

Personal data (name, title/ role, organization, implementer type and location of residence) may be collected to allow generate insights on country stakeholder strata as part of the study protocol. This data shall be pseudo-anonymized as part of the Supplier's processing of this data. Individuals will be assigned a unique ID number to enable pseudo-anonymization when analyzing and transferring data between the Supplier and The Global Fund.

Data will be analyzed as per related Inception Report detailed plan. Pseudo-anonymized data will be disseminated through project reports, publication, evaluation and learning products, regional learning fora, as well as presentations at forums and workshops.

#### **Categories of Data Subjects**

The Personal Data Processed relates to the following categories of Data Subjects: representatives of civil society organizations and networks, key employees of Principal Recipients and Sub-Recipients, other key informants (country-level).

#### **Types of Personal Data**

The Personal Data Processed will be consistent with the Services. If Sensitive Personal Data needs to be Processed additional agreements will be entered into between the Global Fund and the Supplier.

Examples of types of personal data to be collected under the contract shall include:

- A. Names
- B. Respondent unique identifier
- C. Gender
- D. Country and city of residence
- E. Position Title
- F. Organization

- G. Implementer type
- H. Employer
- I. Opinions and perspectives articulated in the form of survey results, interviews, and other verbal, written and/or audiovisual formats collected during interviews, focus group discussions and regional learning fora discussions.

#### **SECTION 2**

#### PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

#### A. Proposal Requirements

 The proposal submitted by the Bidder should be in English, should be concisely presented and structured, and should explain in detail the Bidder's availability, ability, capacity and resources to provide the requested services. Proposals that are incomplete or not responsive to these criteria may not be considered in the review process.

Cost proposal and technical proposal must be submitted separately, as two separate documents:

#### a. Technical Proposal

The Bidder is required to submit a proposal not exceeding 13 pages excluding annexes describing:

- a) Understanding of the requirements of the evaluation (2 pages maximum)
- b) Evaluation approach and methods (5 pages maximum)
- c) Quality assurance plan (1 page maximum)
- d) A summary of past experience and capabilities and expertise of the team relevant for this evaluation (2 pages maximum)
- e) Description of team members, their respective roles in the evaluation, and level of effort (in days) allocated to each one of them and include how aspects of diversity have been considered in their selection. For transparency purposes please indicate any type of previous experience and engagement in relation to the Global Fund (2 pages maximum).
- f) References for similar contracts: contact details of minimum 3 former clients/referees (1 page maximum).
- g) An annex with CV of key personnel and other relevant information (10 pages maximum).

The Global Fund reserves the right to directly contact any institutions or persons listed in your historical performance document in order to gain a better understanding of the supplier's past track record in delivering similar services to former clients and validate the experience and credential claims by key personnel. By responding to the RFP, the Bidder grants, and warrants it is authorized to grant such rights by key personnel, the Global Fund the right to seek confirmation of this information directly from the respective individuals and academic institutions.

The Global Fund considers the composition of the team, and the respective levels of efforts for each member to be included in a contract with a successful bidder to be a material element of such contract. The contract will stipulate that, should the successful bidder request to change, remove, replace, or modify the level of effort of a team member, the

Global Fund shall have the right at its discretion to reduce the corresponding daily rates or to terminate the contract without any indemnity or compensation due to the successful bidder.

#### b. Cost Proposal:

The Microsoft Excel file entitled "Cost Proposal" provided separately should be fully completed as part of your Cost proposal.

Cost proposals must be submitted in [USD currency]. **The budget envelope for this evaluation is USD 300,000.** Cost proposals must include administration costs (if any) and estimated travel and accommodation costs (if any)<sup>41</sup>; the total should reflect the total cost of delivery of the Project.

#### B. Evaluation Criteria

- 1. The evaluation will be divided into technical (80%) and cost (20%) factors. These factors will be evaluated relative to each other as described herein.
- 2. An evaluation panel, the Tender Evaluation Committee (TEC), will assess the extent to which proposals submitted in response to this RFP meet the technical criteria below.
- 3. Technical Evaluation criteria with its relative weightage to each other is as follows:

| Category  | Weighting<br>= 80 |
|---|-------------------|
| a. Technical Approach   |                   |
| <ul> <li>Understanding of the objectives and scope of work: The extent to which the proposal demonstrates responsiveness to the nature and scope of the work being undertaken and the environment in which the work must be performed. Robust, clear, appropriate, and coherent evaluation framework.</li> <li>Approach and tools: The appropriateness and relevance of the proposed evaluation approach, data collection and analytical methods and approaches. In addition, description of the complementarity of methods and tools suggested, triangulation approach and how the strengths of the evidence will be assessed and reported.</li> <li>Innovative suggestions: The extent to which the applicant proposes innovative methodologies or any other elements of the work.</li> <li>Learning and influence: the approach will clearly communicate how evaluation products and processes will engage key target audiences and</li> </ul> | 40                |

Global Fund RFP Invitation Notice (TGF-24-72)

how the process of learning, utilization and influencing key stakeholders will operate.

• Feasible (detailed) workplan with timeline.

#### b. Past Experience and capabilities

#### Team Le<u>ader</u>:

- Over 15 years of demonstrated experience in implementing and evaluating public health strategies, programs and interventions. Has a sound knowledge and understanding of HIV prevention approaches and interventions in a broad range of epidemic settings.
- Expertise in conducting complex, mixed-methods evaluations.
- Advanced university degree or comparable training in epidemiology, research methods, public health, health policy and management or a related area.
- Professional proficiency in English. Professional proficiency in French is an added advantage.
- Project management expertise to efficiently manage the evaluation including scope, budget, timely deliverables, and quality assurance.

#### Evaluators (cumulatively):

- At least 15 years' cumulative experience working on HIV prevention related approaches and programs at the country and regional/global level.
- Extensive experience with appropriate evaluation design and methods, both quantitative and qualitative and including relevant research and analytical skills, handling large data sets, triangulating, assessing the strength of evidence and synthesizing diverse information.
- Advanced knowledge of and experience with complex public health organizations and programs.
- Advanced knowledge, understanding of and experience in HIV prevention among key populations globally, and in sub-Saharan Africa

   among AGYW and their male partners.
- Good understanding and experience working with HIV prevention monitoring approaches<sup>42</sup> and indicators<sup>43</sup>.
- Demonstrable experience of undertaking evaluations that incorporate a gender-lens and consideration in the design and approach.
- Advanced university degree or comparable training in epidemiology, research methods, public health, health policy and management or a related area.
- Cumulative professional proficiency in English and French.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> As referenced in the WHO CONSOLIDATED GUIDELINES ON PERSON-CENTRED HIV STRATEGIC INFORMATION available at: <a href="https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240055315">https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240055315</a> and Measurement Guidance for Global Fund Supported HIV Prevention Programmes (<a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/12214/me</a> measurement-guidance-hiv-prevention-programs guidance en.pdf)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Global AIDS Monitoring Guidance, UNAIDS, 2024 available at: <a href="https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2024/global-aids-monitoring-guidelines">https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2024/global-aids-monitoring-guidelines</a>

#### c. Proposed Team Structure

- Appropriate allocation of roles and time commitment across the team.
- Diversity in the team and country representation, considering factors such as gender, cultural background, language and multidisciplinary expertise.
- The team has adequate administrative support to the evaluation to ensure that the evaluation operates smoothly and efficiently.
- Global Fund is encouraging proposals from or that are co-led by service providers based in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).

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The score assigned to each proposal will be of guidance in determining which proposal would provide the greatest value to the Global Fund. However, the Global Fund reserves the right not to employ raw scores in determining best value where it considers, in its sole discretion, that this would not be appropriate.

- 4. A two-stage procedure will be utilized in evaluating the proposals, with evaluation of the technical submission being completed prior to any cost proposal being considered; and cost evaluation will only be undertaken for technical submissions that obtain a minimum of 56 points out of 80. A submission which fails to achieve the minimum technical threshold may not be considered further. Cost proposals will be evaluated in terms of best value to the Global Fund. For technically acceptable proposals, the assessment of best value for money will consider two components: the lowest average daily rate (total professional fee budget divided by Level of Effort in days) and the lowest cost proposal.
- 5. To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of proposals, the evaluation panel may, at its discretion, ask Bidders for a clarification of their proposals, or organize interviews, further discussions or presentations.
- 6. The Global Fund conducts integrity due diligence on its suppliers as a matter of course, including screening against international watchlists and adverse media databases. By responding to this RFP, the Bidder acknowledges that risk-based due diligence measures, including personal data processing, where relevant, form a part of the Global Fund supplier selection and management. Integrity issues identified through due diligence may be raised during selection or subsequently and will normally be managed by requesting departments with support of Ethics Office, e.g. through mitigation measures. Global Fund may not retain suppliers that have been sanctioned by the UN, international financial institutions and major donors. A Bidder's integrity profile (beyond sanctions) may additionally be included as an explicit evaluation criterion, in which case it is specified above.
- 7. The Global Fund may allow for observers to the proposal's evaluations process by the TEC, notably to enable the oversight role of the Independent Evaluation Panel.

## SECTION 3 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

- The Global Fund may award one or more contracts on the basis of the submitted proposals, generally without further submissions, clarifications, discussions or negotiations. Therefore, each proposal submitted by the Bidder within the RFP Closing Date and Time should already contain the Bidder's best technical and commercial terms.
- 2. Unless otherwise indicated, all proposals must be denominated in US Dollars and submitted in English, in their original version in PDF. In addition to the original version of the technical and costs proposals, the Global Fund may request Bidders to submit a duplicate copy in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Power Point, or Microsoft Excel, as the case may be. In case of a conflict between the original version and the duplicate copy, the original version shall govern.
- 3. The Certificate of Conformance (Annex 1) must be signed by an authorized representative of the Bidder and returned in a PDF format/enclosed to the Proposal.
- 4. Proposal submissions and all communication should be sent through the TGF Sourcing Application.
  - a) Bidders are required to submit their proposals in the following URL for Sourcing Application: https://access.theglobalfund.org/.
  - b) Please use the Guidance Notes "Responding to an RFP/RFQ/RFI in the TGF Sourcing Application, SUPPLIER INSTRUCTIONS" available at https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/business-opportunities.
  - c) Bidders should have a Supplier ID in TGF Sourcing Application to be able to participate in the RFP.
  - d) In case a Bidder does not have a Supplier ID in TGF Sourcing Application, it should send an email at least 48 hours before the RFP Closing Time to **manon.vanrijswijk@theglobalfund.org** with the following title in the subject:

"TGF-24-72 - Request for login user ID creation in TGF Sourcing / iSupplier portal – "Bidder's organization name" and the following details:

Bidder full name: < organization name>

Contact person name: <Last Name, First Name>

Title: <Mr./ Mrs./ Ms./ Dr.>

Email: <email id> Phone: <phone>

Address: <Address line 1; Address line 2; Address line 3; City; Postal code; Country>

e) Bidders shall submit their proposals in two separate folders, one containing the cost proposal and one containing the technical proposal.

The attachments must be labelled as follows:

- TGF-24-72 –Organization name technical proposal
- TGF-24-72 –Organization name cost proposal
- f) All communications with regard to this RFP, including clarification questions, shall be in writing and sent through the TGF Sourcing Application using the online discussion. Should the Global Fund deem it necessary to revise the RFP as a result of a clarification, it shall do so as an amendment to the RFP available on the Global Fund's website.
- g) Any communication between a Bidder and the Global Fund regarding this RFP, which is not through the designated channel (<a href="https://access.theglobalfund.org/">https://access.theglobalfund.org/</a>), may invalidate such Bidder's proposal to this RFP.
- 5. The Sourcing application will automatically close this RFP at the exact Closing Time stated above, and past this time the uploading of documents (even partially uploaded) will no longer be possible. It is therefore strongly advised that the uploading of submissions be fully finalized at least 30 minutes before the RFP's Closing Time as there are always risks of having network, internet or uploading issues. For the avoidance of doubt, the Closing Time stated in the RFP will always be Geneva, Switzerland, time. This may be CET or CEST, depending on the time of year. For clarification on the time in different time zones please check on www.timeanddate.com.
- 6. After the RFP Closing Time, no further additions to, or modifications on submitted proposals shall be allowed unless it is proven to be a *bona fide* typographical error or omission. Such additions or modifications may only be effected with prior written approval from the Global Fund.
- 7. All Bidders must complete, sign and return the Certificate of Conformance (Annex 1) to confirm their compliance with the requirements of the RFP, as well as their acceptance of the Global Fund's Terms and Conditions of Purchase of Services (see link provided in Section 5). Reservations or requests for amendments to the Global Fund's Terms and Conditions of Purchase of Services must be submitted by Bidders as part of their proposal and may be considered by the Global Fund. These reservations or requests for amendment will be taken into account in the overall evaluation. The Global Fund has no obligation to agree to these reservations or requests for amendment.
- 8. At a Bidder's request, the Global Fund and the Bidder will sign a Confidentiality Agreement. In such case, the Bidder acknowledges and agrees that such Confidentiality Agreement will be based on the Global Fund Confidentiality Agreement template.

| 9.  | Full proposals or partial proposals received after the RFP Closing Date and Time indicated on the TGF Sourcing Application shall be declared late and may be rejected. |
|-----|--|
| 10. | Proposals should be valid for a period of 90 calendar days from the RFP Closing Date.  |

#### SECTION 4 LEGAL MATTERS

1. This RFP is in line with and subject to the following documents:

| a. The Global Fund's Pr | ocurement Policy (2008, as amended fro                                      | m time to time) and |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| the Procurement Re      | the Procurement Regulations (2020, as amended from time to time), which may |                     |  |  |  |  |
| be                      | found   | at                  |  |  |  |  |
| https://www.thegloba    | lfund.org/en/business-opportunities/.                                       |                     |  |  |  |  |

- b. The Code of Conduct for Suppliers (2021, as amended from time to time), which may be found at: <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3275/corporate\_codeofconductforsuppliers">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3275/corporate\_codeofconductforsuppliers</a> policy en.pdf
- c. The Sanctions Panel Procedures Relating to the Code of Conduct for Suppliers (2020, as amended from time to time), which may be found at <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/6015/corporate\_sanctionsprocedures\_policy\_e">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/6015/corporate\_sanctionsprocedures\_policy\_e</a> n.pdf http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/documents/governance/;
- d. The Global Policy on Conflict of Interest (2020, as amended from time to time), which may be found at <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/6016/core">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/6016/core</a> ethicsandconflictofinterest policy e <a href="n.pdf">n.pdf</a>; and
- e. The Global Fund Terms and Conditions for the Purchase of Goods and Services (May 01, 2023, as amended from time to time), which will also be an integral part of any contract resulting from this solicitation, and which may be found at <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3269/corporate\_globalfundservices\_termsconditions\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3269/corporate\_globalfundservices\_termsconditions\_en.pdf</a> (also attached to the TGF Sourcing Platform).
- 2. Personal data (i.e. any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person) will be treated in compliance with Global Fund's policies, the Terms and Conditions of Purchase of Goods and Services and the Privacy Statement for the Global Fund Procurement Process (as amended from time to time) <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3271/corporate\_procurement\_privacy\_en.pdf">https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3271/corporate\_procurement\_privacy\_en.pdf</a>.
- 3. By submitting a proposal for this RFP, including the Certificate of Conformance contained in Annex 1, the Bidder warrants that it has all the necessary power and legal capacity to submit

a proposal and eventually enter into a Contract. The Bidder also agrees to the terms and conditions of all documents referred to herein and to the following terms:

- a. The Global Fund makes no offer of a contract by posting this RFP or evaluating any proposals submitted in response to it, and there is no legal agreement or relationship, whether in contract (express, implied or collateral) or tort, created by this RFP process between the Global Fund and any bidder, with the sole exception of the provisions of this Section 5. This RFP in no way obligates the Global Fund to award a contract.
- b. The Global Fund may, at its discretion, withdraw or cancel this RFP process and/or its sourcing strategy, amend this RFP and any of its attachments (including the Statement of Work or Terms of Reference), or change the RFP Closing Date and RFP Closing Time, at any time and for any reason, without liability or penalty to any party, by issuing an amendment to this RFP. All Amendments to this RFP will be posted on the Global Fund website at <a href="https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/business-opportunities">https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/business-opportunities</a>. It is the Bidder's responsibility to consult the Global Fund's website to ensure that it is aware of amendments to, and additional information for, this RFP.
- c. If Bidders submit several or amended proposals, the latest proposal received before the RFP Closing Time will be considered for the evaluation. Bidders will have to inform the Global Fund of their intention to withdraw from the process before the RFP Closing Time.
- d. The Global Fund may invite Bidders to make oral presentations in English or to participate in a pre-proposal conference. The date, time and place of such presentation or pre-proposal conference will be formally communicated by the Global Fund to all Bidders or pre-qualified Bidders, as relevant. Any statement made during these meetings shall not in any way amend or modify the RFP, unless it is issued as an amendment to the RFP.
- e. The Bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its proposal, and the Global Fund shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, whether direct or indirect, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the RFP, nor if the RFP is cancelled, altered or postponed for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to, any and all costs incurred for the pre-proposal conferences, clarifications, oral presentations, site visits, visits to the Global Fund, functional demonstrations, and subsequent meetings and negotiations.
- f. The Global Fund will not reveal or discuss with any Bidder how a proposal was assessed or provide any other information relative to the selection process.
- g. Bidders whose proposals are not selected will be notified in writing of this fact and shall have no claim whatsoever against the Global Fund for any kind of compensation.
- h. Any attempt by a Bidder to influence the Global Fund in the examination, evaluation and comparison of proposals, or the recommendation of contract award, or to obtain information thereof through unofficial means, may result in the rejection of its proposal, without prejudice to other rights available to the Global Fund.

- i. At any time prior to contracting, the Global Fund reserves the right to: (a) award a contract to the Bidder whose proposal has been determined to be the best evaluated proposal that represents value for money to the Global Fund; (b) reject any or all proposals or price submissions; (c) accept for award a proposal or price submission other than the lowest cost proposal or price submission; (d) accept more than one proposal or price submission; (e) accept alternate proposals or price submissions; (f) accept part of a proposal or price submission; (g) waive informalities and minor irregularities in proposals or price submissions received; or (h) withdraw an award in case of changed circumstances.
- j. There are no other arrangements or understandings between any Bidder and the Global Fund with respect to this RFP other than the text contained herein.
- k. Through its participation to the RFP process, the Bidder acknowledges and warrants that it complies with internationally recognized standards for human rights, labor, the environment, anti-money laundering and anti-corruption. The Bidder also acknowledges and warrants that they will neither use or engage in, nor allow their employees or other persons engaged by them to use or engage in sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.
- I. The investigative, decision-making, and sanctions policies and processes of the Global Fund, including the activities of its Inspector General, the Global Fund's Code of Conduct for Suppliers, and consideration of any findings of fraud or abuse by the Global Fund Sanctions Panel, should the Global Fund in its sole discretion choose to refer the matter to the Sanctions Panel, shall apply to this RFP and any resulting contract, and these processes may include, without limitation, public disclosure at the Global Fund's full discretion of any findings and/or decisions.
- m. The Bidder acknowledges that the Global Fund has full discretion to investigate any potential conflict of interest, fraud or abuse, whether occurring in the past, present or future, associated with the RFP or any resulting contract, and the Global Fund at its full discretion may publish the findings of such investigations; through participation in this RFP process, the Bidder acknowledges these processes and shall not challenge in any setting the investigation by the Global Fund of potential fraud or abuse associated with this RFP or any resulting contract, the dissemination of investigation findings and the responses undertaken by the Global Fund to findings of fraud or abuse, in all cases whether occurring in the past, present or future.
- n. Through its participation in the RFP process, the Bidder acknowledges and confirms that the Global Fund has the right to require that a provision be included in its contracts, requiring suppliers, Suppliers, contractors and/or consultants to permit the Global Fund or its representative to inspect their accounts, records and other documents relating to the proposal submission and the contract, and to audit them or have them audited by auditors appointed by the Global Fund.
- The Bidder acknowledges and agrees that pursuant to the Global Fund policies and procurement procedures, the Global Fund may publish certain information consistent with its public status and commitment to transparency. As such, should the Bidder be

awarded a contract, the Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the Global Fund may notably publish, or distribute or license:

- i. certain information relating to procurement contract awards, including without limitation the Bidder's name, as disclosed on its website;
- ii. deliverables, adaptations and derivative work thereof on its website, in whole or in part, as well as commentaries, and responses to, the services by the Global Fund. For the avoidance of the doubt, such publication, distribution or license may be through the Global Fund website or through other means, and subject to the applicable terms and conditions at the discretion of the Global Fund;
- iii. any trademarks included at the discretion of the Bidder in the final report, subject to the terms of section 14.3 of the Terms and Conditions (Annex 2); and
- iv. any personal information of the Bidder's employees or agents included at the discretion of the Bidder in the final report. The final report may not contain personal information about any other individual(s).
- p. Any dispute, controversy, claim, or issue arising out of this RFP or surrounding this process, shall be finally settled by arbitration conducted in accordance with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Arbitration Rules in force at the time of the commencement of the arbitration. The appointing authority shall be the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration. The case shall be administered by the International Bureau of the Permanent Court of Arbitration. There shall be one arbitrator. The place of arbitration shall be Geneva, Switzerland. The language to be used in the arbitral proceedings shall be English. All awards of the arbitral tribunal shall be final and binding upon the Parties.
- q. Nothing contained in this RFP may be construed as a waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities accorded to the Global Fund, whether as of the date of this RFP or thereafter.

## TGF-24-72 ANNEX 1 CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMANCE

Bidders are required to return, as part of their proposal, a version of this Certificate in PDF format **completed** and **signed** by an Officer of their organization with the authority to undertake contractual obligations on behalf of the organization.

As a duly authorized Officer of the organization listed below (the "Organization"), I confirm, acknowledge, and agree, on behalf of the Organization, that:

- 1. To my knowledge, there are no actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, and no ethical, contractual or legal issues preventing the Organization from submitting the Organization's proposal to RFP TGF-24-72, and, if awarded a contract, providing the services per the terms submitted in the proposal at a future date.
- The Organization has obtained the consent of all experts mentioned in the proposal to be included in the proposal and there are no actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest, or other reservations or limitations, with respect to the provision of the services by these experts.
- The Organization will comply with: (i) the Global Fund's <u>Code of Conduct for Suppliers (as amended from time to time)</u>, and (ii) all the terms contained or referred to in the RFP, including Section 5: Legal Matters.
- 4. The Organization complies with internationally recognized standards for human rights, labor, the environment, anti-money laundering and anti-corruption.
- 5. The Organization has read the Privacy Statement for the Global Fund Procurement Process
  - (https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3271/corporate\_procurement\_privacy\_en.pdf) and certify to have the right to provide personal data to the Global Fund.
- The Organization is financially sound and is not subject to any activity, either initiated by itself or by any other organization (including, but not limited to, a change of ownership), that may materially affect its ability to provide accurate information about the services included in its RFP submission.
- 7. The services proposed in the proposal have been priced according to the technical specifications as defined in the RFP.
- 8. Unless otherwise specified, the prices quoted shall remain fixed for the entire duration of the awarded contract.

- 9. By submitting its proposal, the Organization unconditionally accepts the Global Fund's Terms and Conditions for the Purchase of Goods and Services (the "Terms and Conditions"), attached as Annex 2 to the present RFP, unless otherwise provided herein.
- 10. The Organization's proposal remains valid for 90 calendar days from the RFP Closing Date.

If your Organization has any reservations, clarifications or other descriptive information in connection with this Certificate, including with any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest; or reservations, clarifications or amendment requests with regard to the Terms and Conditions (Annex 2), you may provide that information in the box below, or, as necessary, on additional pages, and submit that supplemental information as part of the signed version of this Certificate. Only amendments to the Terms and Conditions submitted as part of the Organization's proposal may be considered by the Global Fund. The reservations or amendment requests may be taken into account in the overall evaluation of the Organization's proposal. The Global Fund has no obligation to agree to these reservations or amendment requests. You should note that the following provisions of the Terms and Conditions reflect the status of the Global Fund as an international organization and Global Fund's suppliers are expected to agree to these provisions: Status, Privileges and Immunities of the Global Fund; Records and Audit; Settlement of Disputes; and compliance with the Global Fund's Code of Conduct for Suppliers.

|       | ame of the Organization |       |  |
|-------|-------------------------|-------|--|
| Name  |                         | -     |  |
| Title |                         | <br>- |  |
| Date  |                         |       |  |

| Comments (if any) |
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# ANNEX 2 THE GLOBAL FUND TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE OF SERVICES 01 MAY 2023

[Attached separately]