

# Request for Proposals for senior technical support to the Health Economics Unit at the Africa CDC

## Background

The International Decision Support Initiative (iDSI), a global network of health economics experts, is a reservoir of health, policy and economics expertise. It aims to support countries to make better decisions about how much public money to spend on health care and how to get the most from every dollar they spend. The Center for Global Development in Europe (CGDE) is a core partner in this initiative and functions as the secretariat of the network.

The Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) established January 2017, is Africa's first continent-wide public health agency and envisions a safer, healthier, integrated, and stronger Africa. It is an organisation of the African Union (AU) and serves the 55 AU member states. The agency's mission is to strengthen Africa's public health institutions' capabilities to detect and respond quickly and effectively to disease outbreaks and other health burdens through an integrated network of continent-wide preparedness and response, surveillance, laboratory, and research programs.

Africa CDC and IDSI (through CGDE) have partnered to establish a **Health Economics Unit (HEU)** within Africa CDC Headquarters. The HEU will initially focus on economic evaluation and **health technology assessment (HTA)**, providing support to evidence-informed health priority setting both within Africa CDC and to member states. A draft five-year HEU strategic roadmap has been developed, an advisory board has been established, and work has commenced on priority projects including COVID-19 vaccine HTA in three member countries and an analysis of laboratory investment in Africa.

## Summary of consultancy work

The iDSI network, through CGDE, seeks a consultant with experience in health economics in Africa to deliver on the following:

**Refine the five-year HEU strategic plan.** A strategic roadmap for the HEU has been developed in consultation with Africa CDC division heads and the HEU advisory group. The roadmap outlines three strategic pillars i) Establish the Health Economics capacity to inform decision-making within Africa CDC ii) Strengthen evidence generation capacity within Africa CDC and advocate for health economics with member states iii) Generate valuable evidence and ensure economic evidence-use to inform policy, program, and operations. The consultant would work with Africa CDC stakeholders to review the strategy and make any necessary revisions.

**Support delivery of COVID-19 vaccine HTAs and liaise with the Technical Working Group (TWG).** The HEU is planning to work with delivery partners to support HTAs in selected African countries and provide guidance on conducting COVID-19 vaccine HTAs to member states. The consultant would provide support to this process by championing HTA-informed decision-making within Africa CDC, engaging one-to-one with members of the TWG, ensuring analysis sufficiently addresses policy needs and leading the dissemination of findings.

**Oversee the delivery of other applied analyses in line with the 2021 implementation plan.** In addition to COVID-19 related work, several other priorities for evidence generation have been identified by the HEU. For example, the HEU is exploring a collaboration with partners in Zambia on assessing the value for money of

laboratory investments. The consultant will steer the portfolio of planned analyses, provide technical support to junior analysts and engage with relevant stakeholders to ensure policy relevance.

**Work with Africa CDC to map potential partners and develop concept notes for two new partnerships or collaborations to deliver on the HEU strategic vision.**

The HEU is a nascent and expanding unit. The consultant will undertake a stakeholder mapping exercise and options analysis for the HEU and develop concept notes for strategic partnerships with at least two potential partners.

<b>Milestone description</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>
Refine HEU strategic plan	<b>D1:</b> A revised HEU strategic plan
Support delivery of COVID-19 vaccine HTAs and liaise with the Technical Working Group	<b>D2:</b> Two COVID-19 vaccine HTAs successfully delivered and disseminated with partners. <b>D3:</b> Present on C19 vaccine HTA work to the Technical Working Group
Oversee the delivery of other applied analyses in line with the 2021 implementation plan.	<b>D4:</b> Two or more written analyses delivered. <b>D5:</b> Delivery of at least one blog on a topic to be determined with CGDE and Africa CDC <b>D6:</b> Delivery of one webinar on a topic to be determined with CGDE and Africa CDC
Work with Africa CDC to develop concept notes for two new partnerships or collaborations to deliver on the HEU strategic vision.	<b>D7:</b> Report on stakeholder mapping. <b>D8:</b> Concept notes with two new potential partners
Ongoing activities	<b>D9:</b> Monthly activity reports detailing progress against the above milestones.

In addition to the above deliverable, the consultant will be required to contribute to and provide status updates during weekly project meetings.

**Timeframe**

The consultancy is for a period of 6 months (max 132 working days) with an anticipated start date in June 2021. There may be scope for extension.

**Location**

Submissions will be considered from all who apply regardless of home location.

**Fees**

CGDE invites consultants to propose their fees in their expression of interest. Fees should be all inclusive.

**Insurance**

The consultant shall take out and maintain at all times during the term of the Contract and at their own cost appropriate insurance coverage, which coverage shall include such insurances as may be required by the law of the country of incorporation of the Contractor and/or the laws of the country in which the Services are to be performed.

**The required qualifications for the bidders:**

- A PhD in health economics or health systems, health system financing, or other related technical disciplines.
- Significant experience in health economics research and policy, with experience gained in one or more African countries. Bidders that are African Nationals are strongly encouraged.
- Relevant experience supplying and/or using health economics research (or similar) in support of decision making by relevant agencies/reimbursement bodies is desirable.
- Proven ability to advance research projects independently while being accountable for the accuracy of outputs.
- Ability to translate highly technical information into presentations, policy briefings, reports and funding proposals for a range of audiences.

**Submission of proposal**

Please submit your proposal including your curriculum vitae, an example of health economic analysis or research authored by you, and proposed consultancy fees at <https://forms.gle/jWTHT1qiiZWmW2p3A> by 11.59pm GMT on 25 May 2021. Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

For any questions about this request for proposal please email [sgulliver@cgdev.org](mailto:sgulliver@cgdev.org). Please note submissions will **not** be accepted at this email address.