TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose of Assignment:

PMTCT Consultant to conduct an analysis of vertical transmission among pregnant and lactating adolescent girls and young women, 15-24 years.

**Section submitting:** Child Health & Nutrition (CHN)

**Purpose and Objectives**

HIV epidemic disproportionally impacts AGYW compared to adolescent boys and young men (ABYM). For example, HIV prevalence among AGYW is more than double that among ABYM: 10% vs 4% (2020, Spectrum estimates). Emerging data from programmes in sub-Saharan Africa highlight that HIV-infected pregnant adolescents have poorer prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) service outcomes, including lower PMTCT service uptake, compared to HIV-infected pregnant adults. In addition, the limited evidence available suggests that there may be higher rates of mother-to-child HIV transmission among infants of HIV-infected pregnant adolescents (Ramraj et al., 2018).

In 2018, 41,500 women seroconverted while pregnant or lactating of these, 19,300 (47%) were 15-24 years. The new child infections due to mother to child transmission were 16,180 and 40% were due to mother infected during pregnancy (1,890) or while lactating (4,530). Overall, 41% of all births occurred among 15-24-year olds (UNAIDS Estimates, 2019). HIV prevalence among adolescent girls and women (aged 15-24) in Mozambique is 7.2% (more than twice as high as their male counterparts, 3.6%), while the pregnancy rate in that age group is 48%; vertical transmission is 15% in all pregnant women living with HIV (UNAIDS Estimates 2019). However, the rate of vertical transmission among pregnant and lactating adolescent girls and young women is unknown.

**Methodology and Technical Approach:**

The consultant will collaborate with the HIV Program, Public Health Directorate at the Ministry of Health (MISAU) to conduct an analysis of routine PMTCT programmatic data in targeted provinces the vertical transmission rate among children born to mothers aged 15-24.

**Activities and Tasks and Timeline**

This activity therefore aims to address data gaps and inform effective geographic prioritization of programming toward Mozambique’s achievements of the Global Elimination Agenda and will guide the development of strategies to be included.

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|  |  | **Timeline**  |
|  | Desk review of PMTCT, AGYW pregnant and breastfeeding women, and vertical transmission in Mozambique | 30 November |
|  | Reveiw and adapt DQA SOPs for 18 month EID results, submit protocol amendment, if required  | 5 December |
|  | Design DQA implementation Plan, including sampling methodlogy  | 5 December |
|  | Implement the DQA using the protocols developed and engaging the National DQA team as co-assessors.  | 5 December |
|  | Conduct programmatic mapping of AGYW ASRH/PMTCT programmes  | 12 December |
|  | Develop draft report of results, methodology, recommendations, and lessons learned | 22 December |
|  | Stakeholder validation meeting  | 10 January |
|  | Final report | 30 January  |

**Deliverables and Payments:**

Payments will be processed upon acceptance of the corresponding deliverable and against an invoice that will make reference to the contract reference and deliverable number. Payments will be approved by the respective section chief.

*Deliverable 1:*

Delivery timeframe (specify weeks, months or working days): first week

Deliverable/product(s): Inception Report (including timeline, key stakeholders and documents for consultation)

Payment (indicate amount or %): 15%

*Deliverable 2:*

Delivery timeframe (specify weeks, months or working days): within 1 month

Deliverable/product(s): Draft Report. (including full draft, summary narrative and initial recommendations)

Payment (indicate amount or %): 50%

*Deliverable 3:*

Delivery timeframe (specify weeks, months or working days): within 2 weeks of feedback

Deliverable/product(s): Final report/recommendations and PPT (including inventory of documentation)

Payment (indicate amount or %): 35%

**Management and Supervision:**

The Consultant will be contracted through UNICEF Mozambique and will work under the guidance of the UNICEF health specialist and UNAIDS Strategic Information Advisor. She/he and will work closely with the HIV programme, the Ministry of Health, Health Facilities and Provincial Health Directorate of the selected provinces.

**Qualifications and Specialized Knowledge:**

1. An advanced university degree (Masters or bachelor’s with 8 years’ experience) in statistics, public health or related social science. (NOC/P3 level)
2. Proven experience of conducting Data Quality Assessment DQA of Health Sector data
3. Experience of PMTCT Data quality assessment or HIV/AIDS DQA
4. Excellent Communication Skills (verbal and written) and report writing skills in English and Portuguese
5. Medical, nursing, midwifery or public health background is an added advantage
6. Previous experience in assessments/surveys preferred

**Conditions of Work:**

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| **Items** | **Provided by UNICEF** | **Remarks** |
| **Yes** | **No** |
| Service incurred death, injury or illness | x |  | Per the provisions of CF/IC/2013-001 on insurance coverage “in cases of service-incurred injury, illness or death under a third-party provider”. |
| Health Insurance |  | x |  |
| Office Space |  | x |  |
| Computer in office premises |  | x |  |
| Access to printer in the office premises |  | x |  |
| Airtime |  | x |  |

**In country Travel:**

Approved travel within Mozambique will be covered/reimbursed by UNICEF as follows:

Option b. Travel organized by UNICEF through a Travel Authorisation per the applicable policy, with standard terminal expenses, and per diem at 75% of the applicable UN Mozambique DSA rate.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

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| **Item** | **Technical Criteria/Qualifications**  | **Max. Points** |
| **1** | **Education**  | **20** |
| **1.1** | Master’s degree or bachelor’s with minimum 8 years’ experience |  |
| **2** | **Work Experience**  | **30** |
| **2.4** | Experience of PMTCT Data quality assessment or HIV/AIDS DQA |  |
| **3** | **Technical Skills and Knowledge**  | **35** |
| **3.1** | Proven experience of conducting Data Quality Assessment DQA of Health Sector data |  |
| **3.3** | Language skills  | **15** |
|  | ecblank**Total Technical Score** | **100** |
|  | **Minimum Technical for pass to financial assessment** | **75** |