

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mission No. 19SANIN837

I. General information

Title of the expertise mission	Support to the RAI Regional Steering Committee and the five Country Coordinating Mechanisms to develop the next regional malaria funding proposal (Concept Note) to the Global Fund for the period 2021-2023.			
Component	Malaria			
Issue(s)	Access to funding			
Beneficiaries	Regional support covering Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam (5 CCM and RSC)			
Countries	Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam			
Related Global Fund Grant	Total Signed Amount	Implementation Period	Grant Rating	Period of latest rating
	USD 245 million	2018-2020		
Total number of working days	150 working days			
Contact at Expertise France	Focal Point		Contact Details	
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II. Background of the expertise mission

In 2013, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria allocated USD\$100 million to tackle artemisinin resistance in the Greater Mekong Sub region (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) through the Regional Artemisinin-resistance Initiative (RAI). In 2017, the Global Fund awarded a follow-on regional investment of USD\$243 million for the period 2018-2020, the RAI2-Elimination (RAI2E) program. An additional earmarked funding of USD\$ 2 million from the private sector was approved during the implementation period.

The grant agreement runs from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020 (3 years). The Principal Recipient for the grant is UNOPS Myanmar at regional level; at country level the main sub-recipients and co-Principal Recipients of the grant are the UNOPS country offices (in Cambodia and Myanmar) and the respective Ministries of Health (in Thailand, Lao PDR and Viet Nam).

The overall strategic oversight of the grant is provided by the RAI Regional Steering Committee (RSC), a regional-level governance body which includes multiple regional and national stakeholders (governments of the GMS, multilateral/bilateral stakeholders, civil society, private sector and

academia). The RSC follows the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) model of the Global Fund¹ and makes decisions on the allocation and use of RAI2E funds.

The grant is currently in its second year of implementation. At the last RSC meeting in March 2019, the Global Fund Secretariat confirmed that the RSC would have the possibility to apply for a new funding cycle for the 2021-2023 period, though the specific allocation amount(s) available would not be known until after the GF replenishment process is completed (in late 2019). The RSC has begun planning tentatively for a Funding Request development process to be conducted between October 2019 and March 2020.

Initial discussions on key strategic priorities for the next regional Funding Request will begin in July 2019 (3rd RSC Executive Committee Meeting, Bangkok) and will be followed by a coordinated series of consultations at country level (in each of the RAI countries) as well as regional level from October 2019 onwards, with the aim of having a final Funding Request ready for submission by end of March 2020 (first tentative Global Fund submission window).

Under the overall leadership of the RAI Regional Steering Committee, the Funding Request development process will be overseen by the RSC Funding Request writing committee. The same process will also follow all applicable Global Fund policies on Funding Request development, including relevant eligibility requirements.

III. Objective and expected results

1) General objective of the expertise mission

The overall objective of the mission is to assist the RAI Regional Steering Committee and the five Country Coordinating Mechanisms to develop the next regional malaria funding proposal (Concept Note) to the Global Fund for the period 2021-2023.

2) Expected results

The experts will put together a high quality coherent Funding Request following the Global Fund guidance.

IV. Description of the expertise mission

1) Description of tasks

Based on this framework document, the lead expert will propose in close collaboration with the RSC a detailed methodology and timetable for the team of experts.

As an initial step to the Funding Request development process, the RAI Regional Steering Committee is planning to have discussions at the time of the next RSC meeting (31st October – 1st November 2019, Myanmar) around the key strategic elements of the next regional Global Fund Funding Request. In addition to its usual bi-annual meeting, the RSC will hold a closed retreat of its members, with a view to formulating an ambitious “common vision” for the next funding cycle, by identifying

¹ See Global Fund website (CCMs) and RSC TORs.

high level strategic priorities and defining key guiding principles in preparation for the Funding Request writing stage. It is proposed to have this specific RSC retreat facilitated by the expert who will lead the Funding Request development process.

Based on this initial framework document, a series of country-level and regional-level consultations will be organized under the leadership of the RSC and in close collaboration with the national CCMs (5 GMS countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam). The RSC will require support to guide the consultation process (“country/regional dialogue”), to ensure inclusiveness of partners and stakeholders (including civil society partners) into the discussions, and to translate dialogue outcomes into a draft Funding Request document (narrative), to be endorsed by the RSC prior to submission to the Global Fund. In parallel, detailed annexes and supporting documents will need to be developed in the formats required by the Global Fund (e.g. summary budgets, modular templates, financial gap analysis...), both for country components and regional components. Further guidance on the specific requirements from the Global Fund will be made available in due course.

The independent experts will be requested to:

- 1) Facilitate and document discussions with malaria stakeholders and partners across 5 GMS countries (national programs, CCMs, international/local NGOs, WHO...) to identify priority interventions to be included in the Funding Request. This includes supporting the organization, facilitation and documentation of consultative meetings and events in support of the Funding Request development, including thematic and stakeholder-specific (e.g. CSO) consultations;
- 2) Provide technical leadership and strategic guidance to the consultation process on behalf of the RSC and its technical partners, and consolidate feedback/inputs from country-level stakeholders as needed;
- 3) Based on consultations & interviews with key partners, as well as background analysis and data, conduct a comprehensive mapping of activities currently funded (by GF and other sources) under the scope of the regional component, and identify opportunities for scale-up, expansion or funding of new program implementers/activities/geographical areas;
- 4) Support the RSC and national-level partners to translate consultation outcomes and available data/analysis into a detailed and comprehensive narrative Funding Request, including key activities to be funded in the next cycle and the main implementation arrangements (all components), as well as other sections of the Concept Note;
- 5) Coordinate the development of detailed annexes & supporting documents (both technical and non-technical) as required for the Funding Request submission, in collaboration with RSC CN writing committee, national CCMs, technical partners and country-level writing teams, where applicable and appropriate.

The experts will work to ensure an overall cohesiveness and complementarity of interventions selected for inclusion into the different Funding Request components. Overall alignment of activities with applicable national elimination strategies (NSPs) and the regional elimination strategy for the Greater Mekong Subregion (2015-2030, WHO) should also be ensured. In accordance with Global Fund eligibility requirements, the experts will work to ensure that the Funding Request development process includes a broad range of malaria stakeholders across different sectors, with special attention to private sector, civil society, key at-risk groups and affected communities.

The mission will entail a combination of desk reviews of key documents (national strategies, stakeholder reports, external/program reviews, GF guidelines, etc.), individual interviews and consultation meetings in the region with a broad range of stakeholders.

2) Expected deliverables

All required completed sections of the funding request and its annexes as per Global Fund guidance.

3) Coordination

The experts will work under the general guidance of the RSC Secretariat, RSC Chair and the RSC Funding Request Writing Committee. Close consultation of national malaria programs/MOH, and other country-level partners will also be required.

The experts will provide regular feedback/communication to the RSC Secretariat and Chair on a regular basis throughout the assignment. Close collaboration with and guidance from the FR writing committee and other technical partners will also be needed.

The expert should meet representatives of the French Embassy at the Department of Cooperation and Cultural Action (SCAC) in Bangkok, Phnom Penh, Hanoi, Yangon and Vientiane at the beginning and at the end of the mission to present the objectives of the mission and debrief on the conclusions and recommendations.

V. Place, duration and implementation details

1) Provisional Start date:

The next RAI RSC retreat and meeting will take place on 31st October and 1st November 2019. Considering the preparatory work required, it is preferred that the experts starts by 1st October 2019 at the latest.

2) Provisional End date: May-June 2020

3) Effective duration: 150 working days

- Expert 1 (team leader): 35 working days;
- Expert 2 (regional component): 15 working days;
- 5 experts for the national components: an estimated maximum of 20 working days per expert/per country.

4) Timeline

It is expected that the FR writing process will be completed by March 2020 (exact date to be determined). Based on this, the tentative timeframe of activities is as follows:

Desk review / briefings & initial regional consultation: early October 2019
Organization and moderation of RSC retreat on 31st October 2019
Country consultations & interviews: November 2019 to end of January 2020
First draft set of documents: by end of January 2020
Finalization of draft/annexes and endorsement by RSC: February-March 2020
After the Funding Request submission, some additional Level of Effort may be required to address TRP clarifications & feedback (until April-June 2020).

VI. Expertise and profile(s)

1) Number of experts : 7

We seek 7 experts: 2 experts to coordinate the overall funding request and regional component and 5 experts for the national components.

Expertise France will be sensitive to a gender balance in the constitution of the team of experts and encourages women to apply.

2) Expert Profile:

Position: Public health experts with malaria control and elimination knowledge and experience, with a combination of the following skills and experience:

Qualifications and skills:

- Advanced university degree in public health, medicine/epidemiology, international development, or a related field;
- An excellent understanding of malaria control and elimination programs;
- Familiarity with program planning, M&E and budgeting concepts (as necessary to develop detailed Funding Request documentation, including financial and programmatic analysis);
- Proven conceptual, analytical and evaluative skills and an ability to write in a clear and concise manner;
- Excellent interpersonal/diplomatic skills and ability to establish and maintain effective working relations with people in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity, and with high level stakeholders;
- Appropriate knowledge and skills on gender issues.

Professional Experience:

- A minimum of 10 years' professional experience in health-related development programs;
- Experience working with countries and/or partners from the Greater Mekong Subregion, as well as specific knowledge of the Global Fund RAI, would be a significant advantage;
- Experience with Global Fund-financed programs, in particular in the context of proposal development (e.g. Concept Note writing, familiarity with annexes/templates, new funding model requirements, etc.) would be an advantage;
- Experience in facilitating or chairing meetings/workshops or discussion panels of a technical nature (desirable);
- Experience in community mobilization;
- Experience in integrating gender issues in the project development.

VII. Mission Report

In addition to the deliverables mentioned above, a short report is due by each expert at the end of each field mission within 30 days of the return from the mission.

Language of the report: English

Report terms: report will be sent by email to Expertise France.

VIII. Practical Information

Arrangements for Funding Requests consultation meetings (booking of venue, invitations, etc.) will be made by the RSC Secretariat and the national CCMs, in collaboration with other partners as needed.