1. BACKGROUND OF THE ASSIGNMENT:

People who inject drugs are at increased risk for several harmful health outcomes related to risky drug use, related practices, and contextual risk factors. The National Drug Master Plan 2020-2025 includes reducing drug-related harms as an essential approach to addressing the use of drugs in South Africa. One of the monitoring and evaluation framework indicators is the percentage of people who use drugs who have access to the comprehensive package of harm reduction services, including needle and syringe services.

Needle and syringe programmes (NSP) ensure that people who inject drugs (PWID) can access sufficient sterile injecting equipment to prevent sharing and reusing of needles. Despite robust evidence that the supply of sterile injecting equipment reduces infection rates for HIV and HCV among people who use drugs (PWUD), the coverage of NSP in South Africa is still very low, and there is significant community opposition to services. South Africa is far from reaching the WHO/UNAIDS/UNODC recommendation of 200-needles per person who injects drugs per year.

There have been several attempts to stop NSPs in South Africa services, and in some cases, services have been disrupted. Service disruptions compromise communities' health and well-being and discourage people who use drugs from engaging with essential health and other services. Ultimately, when services are disrupted, the entire community is at risk.

The purpose of the assignment is to disrupt the myths and fallacies that can dominate NSP discourse and provide factual information and actual examples of the benefits of NSP in the local context. The produced advocacy materials will be used for general and targeted advocacy efforts and community education.

The assignment is conducted within the framework of UBRAF 2021 Country Envelope for UNODC Activity “Support capacity building of networks of people who use drugs to equip them to conduct outreach services and linkages to care”.
2. **OBJECTIVES:**

The overall objective of the assignment is to produce and disseminate advocacy materials about the benefits of needle and syringe programmes for people who inject drugs.

3. **SCOPE OF WORK:**

The assignment will be conducted by the Organization under the supervision of the UNODC Regional Office for Southern Africa. The Organization will undertake the following activities:

1. Develop a 7-10 minutes public service video on the benefits of NSP;
2. Develop brief 30-60 seconds video snips;
3. Produce a comprehensive media package;
4. Develop and print educational materials for communities of people who inject drugs;
5. Conduct dissemination of the advocacy materials for the general public, decision makers and NSP service providers.

Advocacy materials should be developed in close consultation with people who inject drugs and other stakeholders.

4. **DELIVERABLES AND RELATED PAYMENTS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Related payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. A detailed work plan with timelines</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Public service video</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Brief video snips</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Media package</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Educational materials for people who use drugs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Dissemination of advocacy materials</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Final report</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The payment fee will be paid as per the common UN rules and procedures and in two instalments:

- The first instalment amounting 30% of the total cost of the contract will be paid after delivery of the deliverable number one (1).
- The second instalment amounting 50% of the total cost of the contract will be paid after delivery of the deliverable number two (2), three (3), four (4) and five (5).
- The third and final instalment amounting 20% of the total cost of the contract will be paid after delivery of the deliverable six (6) and after final report has been submitted, assessed and approved by UNODC ROSAF, Deliverable seven (7)

5. **INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING:**

- Timely submission of the work plan and other deliverables;
- Feedback from people who use drugs and other stakeholders about the materials developed;
- Cooperative working relationship with UNODC – maintaining regular communication and receiving feedback;
- Editing as required for the final report.

EVALUATION CRITERIA/EXPERTISE SOUGHT (REQUIRED EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, YEARS OF RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE, OTHER SPECIAL SKILLS OR KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED):

- At least 7 years of working experience in South Africa with PWID communities and stakeholders;
- At least 3 years experience with advocacy for the access to harm reduction services and rights of PWUD;
- Demonstrated knowledge on the national and international policy related to harm reduction and research on needle and syringe programmes;
- Strong accountability and stakeholder management skills;
- At least 3 years demonstrated experience in working with political and community leaders in South Africa
- Strong communication skills
- Existing partnerships with media is an added advantage
- Demonstrated strong English report writing skills

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:

Organizations with a relevant experience should submit the following documents to UNODC-ROSAR Procurement at unodc-rosar.procurement@un.org with the subject line “NSP advocacy” by 10 October 2021:

1) Description of the implementation of assignment
2) Description of Organization’s experience and CVs of the experts involved
3) Budget and the total cost in ZAR.

These TOR’s will also be available on UNODC website: https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/consultancies-and-opportunities.html

UNODC/UNDP is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous group and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

UNODC/UNDP does not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse, any kind of harassment, including sexual harassment, and discrimination. All selected candidates will, therefore, undergo rigorous reference and background checks.

Note: Failure to submit supporting documents as specified in the advertisement will result in an incomplete application. Applicants who submit incomplete applications will NOT be considered. Due to the high volume of applications, correspondence will be limited to shortlisted candidates only. UNODC reserves the right not to make an appointment.

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