

**CORE VALUES: INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM, RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY
INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS ANNOUNCEMENT****TERMS OF REFERENCE**

POSITION TITLE	: Improving access to integrated HIV and SRH services for women who use drugs in the rural areas of Western Cape
ORGANIZATION	: United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime
TYPE OF CONTRACT	: Institutional Contract
REGIONAL OFFICE	: Pretoria, South Africa
DUTY STATION	: Cape Town, South Africa
PROPOSE PERIOD	: 1 July – 30 November 2021

1. BACKGROUND OF THE ASSIGNMENT:

People who use drugs (PWUD) are often facing stigmatization, vulnerability, marginalization and high risk for HIV. The situation is even worse for women who use drugs (WWUD), who are often ignored and invisible within the larger drug-using population. The health and human rights impact of such invisibility can be very harmful. WWUD face a range of gender-specific barriers to accessing health, social and legal services.

WWUD are subjected to far greater stigma than their male peers. This impacts their willingness and ability to access harm reduction and other health care services. The stigma and discrimination that they experience, which is often heightened by gender-based violence and abuse, increases their risk for contracting HIV and other blood-borne viruses. Failure to adequately respond to the needs of this invisible and highly vulnerable population has harmful consequences for the health of the individuals themselves as well as for public health overall.

In 2018/2019, UNODC and South African Network of People Who Use Drugs - SANPUD conducted a qualitative study on the needs assessment of women who use drugs (WWUD) in four cities of South Africa. The findings revealed insufficient access to the health and social services and numerous violations of human rights. There are reports about additional challenges faced by WWUD after introduction of the COVID-19 lockdown. In 2020, STAND in cooperation with SANPUD embarked on the implementation of a rapid assessment project with WWUD and survivors of GBV in the rural areas of the Western Cape (i.e. the Langeberg region consisting of five rural towns and the Stellenbosch area). This project sought to identify gaps in service delivery for women residing in rural communities – a sector of society that is frequently overlooked and under resourced. Assessment identified a wide spectrum of unmet service needs, gaps in service delivery, a pressing request to establish GBV, Family Preservation and Substance Use Forum structures, as well Sensitization Training that needs to take place in these impoverished communities. The residents and communities of the Rural areas in the Western Cape are often the *forgotten people, residing* beyond the boundaries of the City of Cape Town's Metropolitan District. Among other things, the project recommended sensitization of relevant role-players and service providers in relation to more sensitive and gender appropriate services for survivors of GBV and WWUD.

The purpose of the assignment is to increase awareness of community-based organizations on harm reduction and to improve capacity for delivery of gender-responsive services for women who use drugs (WWUD) in rural areas.

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:

This overall objective of the assignment is to increase awareness of community-based organizations on harm reduction and to improve capacity for delivery of gender-responsive services for women who use drugs (WWUD) and PWUD in rural areas.

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) Perform situational assessment to identify an area in the Langeberg Region where Women who use Drugs (WWUD) are seldom presenting for HIV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services.
- (2) Establish a Community Advisory Group (CAG) to discuss obstacles for accessing the testing and treatment of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI) and to develop recommendations for improving linkages to care. CAG should also include women who smoke or inject drugs as well as stimulant users.
- (3) In collaboration with the Department of Health clinic pilot the demonstration project for non-discriminatory and non-stigmatizing HIV and STI screening / testing /linking to treatment of WWUD.
- (4) Engage the families / significant others of WWUD in discussions around substance use disorders, harm reduction, HIV and SRH and refer them to screening/testing.
- (5) Establish regular family support meetings with CAG leaders to highlight concerns of WWUD, including issues around children of WWUD, pregnant mothers who use drugs as well as addressing the risks / myths of substance use and HIV treatment.
- (6) Document the lessons learned from the demonstration project on WWUD engagement in testing and treatment for dissemination in other rural areas.

4. DELIVERABLES AND RELATED PAYMENTS:

Deliverables	Related payment
1. A detailed work plan with timelines	30%
2. Report on establishment of CAG	50%
3. At least 30 WWUD and their family members linked to HIV/STI testing and treatment	
4. Description of demonstration project on linkage of WWUD to health services	
5. Final report.	20%

5. DURATION:

1 July – 30 November 2021

6. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING:

- Timely submission of the work plan and reports;
- Number of WWUD accessing quality health care services;
- Cooperative working relationship with UNODC – maintaining regular communication and receiving feedback;
- Editing as required for the final report.

7. QUALIFICATIONS AND PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:

- At least 7 years of working and operational experience in South Africa with PWUD communities and stakeholders
- At least 3 years of experience in community mobilisation especially with WWUD
- At least 3 years experience with implementation of capacity building programmes for PWUD communities and service providers
- Demonstrated evidence of management capacity and availability of skills and resources to undertake the assignment
- 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 Department of Social Development and Department of Health is an added advantage
- Demonstrated strong English report writing skills

6. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:

Organizations with a relevant experience should submit the following documents to unodc-rosaf.procurement@un.org with the subject line “WWUD Consultancy” by 21 June 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.

For technical queries, please contact Procurement Unite at unodc-rosaf.procurement@un.org

These TOR’s will also be available on UNODC website:

<https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/consultancies-and-opportunities.html>

Correspondence will be limited to shortlisted candidates only.

UNODC reserves the right not to make an appointment.

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 rigours reference and background checks.