



Call for Consultant

My Age Zimbabwe through support from Coalition to build Momentum, Power, Activism, Strategy and Solidarity Africa is seeking a consultant to carry out an assessment on the status of Disability Inclusion within PePFAR and Global Fund supported programs targeting adolescent girls and young women.

Location: Zimbabwe

Application Deadline: 11 February 2022

Background

My Age Zimbabwe Trust is a youth led and youth-serving organisation that champions youth leadership, participation, gender equality and the health and rights of adolescents and young people. My Age harnesses evidence and unite diverse voices to spark commitment from Duty Bearers on youth related issues. Anchored in meaningful youth engagement and Sexual Reproductive Health, HIV and AIDS we advocate for the rights of young people across every aspect of their lives.

The call for an expert to carry out this assessment is motivated by the fact that persons with disabilities are more often than not theoretically acknowledged as a priority when conceptualizing and planning health, COVID-19, SGBV, SRHR, HIV and AIDS interventions. The challenge is that such commitment on paper, does not in many cases translate to any meaningful action on the ground resulting in the disability constituency being generally left behind. When resources are scarce the constituency's priorities are more often the first to be compromised. According to a report compiled by the United Nations in 2017, people with disabilities have been excluded and neglected in all of the sectors responding to SRHR, HIV and AIDS. Comprehensive data on negative SRHR outcomes and HIV for people with disabilities is scarce. Data from sub-Saharan Africa suggest an increased risk of HIV infection of 1.48 times in men with disabilities and 2.21 times in women with disabilities compared with men without disabilities. In Zimbabwe, the lack of availability of data collected through formal structures that can indicate the level of HIV burden and negative SRHR outcomes for persons with disabilities is an indicator of the lack of prioritisation of this population group.

According to a research carried out in Zimbabwe by Banks et. al (2017), the lack of adequate resources was cited universally as a primary barrier to the provision of services. Recognizing the importance of mainstreaming disability into their programmes, the study finds that staff feared that they did not have the time and resources to make the necessary adaptations. For example, the lack of alternative forms of communication (e.g. Braille, sign language, pictorial forms) was listed as a major challenge to the delivery of important information and the participation of individuals with sensory or intellectual impairments. These barriers to accessing timely, quality HIV, Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and now COVID 19 prevention, treatment, care and support information and services may cause irregular access to COVID 19, SRHR, HIV and AIDS services or inadequate treatment for opportunistic infections in those living with HIV, all of which can lead to or exacerbate disability.

It is against this background why there is need to investigate whether adolescent girls and young women with disabilities are being prioritised by Government, PePFAR and Global Fund supported programs targeting adolescent girls and young women in the SRHR, HIV and AIDS response.

Overall Objective

To conduct an assessment on the status of Disability Inclusion within Government, PePFAR and Global Fund supported programs on COVID-19, SRHR, HIV and AIDS targeting adolescent girls and young women with disabilities prioritising the monitoring and evaluation system, resource allocation and utilisation and implementation of programs.

Specific Objectives:

- Develop 3 position papers on the status of disability inclusion within the COVID-19, SRHR, HIV and AIDS response for adolescent girls and young women with each focusing on Government, PePFAR and Global Fund.
- Develop 1 position paper on the status of disability inclusive budgeting and resource utilisation in the COVID-19, SRHR, HIV and AIDS response for adolescent girls and young women with disabilities in Government, Global Fund and PePFAR programs.
- Develop 3 position papers on the status of disability inclusion within the monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting system for Government, PePFAR and Global Fund programs targeting girls and young women.

Intended Use of the findings

The findings will be used by stakeholders including My Age Zimbabwe to inform priority advocacy areas to strengthen service delivery for Adolescent Girls and Young Women with Disability focusing on strengthening disability inclusive; budgeting, monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting framework and interventions at local level.

Consultant Profile

- A Master's degree in Public Health / Social Science or equivalent. PHD will be an added advantage.
- At least 5 years' experience working directly in Global Fund and PePFAR supported programs at a National level targeting adolescent girls and young women.
- At least 2 years' experience designing and implementing programs that directly reach young people with disability in the SRHR, HIV and AIDS response.
- Excellent communication, analysis, writing and presentation skills.
- Knowledge and awareness of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, HIV and AIDS and COVID-19,
- Has a progressive stance on access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights by adolescent girls and young women with disability.
- Is youth-friendly and has non-discriminatory attitudes towards working with young people

How to apply

Applicants should submit:

- Not more than 1 page long Expression of Interest (EOI)
- At most 3 page Concept note outlining the methodology to be used
- Curriculum Vitae to:

info@myage-zim.org CC: myagezimbabwe@gmail.com

Subject title: "MAZ DISABILITY INCLUSION ASSESSMENT CONSULTANT OPPORTUNITY."

Please note only shortlisted candidates will be contacted – Thank you for your interest.