

# **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

## **Technical Assistance for Conducting an Impact Assessment of the Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Program in Level 2 and 3 Hospitals in the Philippines**



**World Health  
Organization**

Representative Office  
for the Philippines

### **1. Summary**

The World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines is looking for an individual or institution contractual partner for an Agreement for Performance of Work (APW) to conduct an impact assessment of the Department of Health (DOH) antimicrobial stewardship program for hospitals. The study aims to:

- a. Evaluate the extent of implementation of the core components of the AMS program in Level 2 and 3 hospitals using WHO AMS monitoring and evaluation tool;
- b. Describe the behavioural impact of AMS on prescribing, dispensing and use of antimicrobials in the hospitals;
- c. Determine the use of Access, Watch and Reserve (AWaRe) antibiotics of AMS-trained hospitals;
- d. Correlate the AWaRe antimicrobial use data with the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) surveillance data of AMS-trained hospitals with accredited laboratories; and
- e. Identify the successes and barriers of implementing the AMS program in trained hospitals.

The proposals are due by **10 February 2020**.

### **2. Background**

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a global health and development threat that continues to escalate globally. Currently, it is estimated that more than 50% of antibiotics in many countries are used inappropriately such as for treatment of viruses when they only treat bacterial infections or use of the wrong (broader spectrum) antibiotic, thus contributing to the spread of antimicrobial resistance. When antibiotics stop working effectively, more expensive treatments and hospital admissions are needed, taking a heavy toll on already stretched health budgets.

At the same time, many low- and middle-income countries experience vast gaps in access to effective and appropriate antibiotics. Childhood deaths due to pneumonia because of lack of access to antibiotics remain frequent in many parts of the world. And although over 100 countries have put in place national plans to tackle antimicrobial resistance, only about one fifth of those plans are funded and implemented.

The Philippine Department of Health (DOH) launched its National Action Plan on AMR in 2015 with antimicrobial stewardship as one of the key interventions to optimize the use of antimicrobials. A Manual of Procedures for AMS Program in Hospitals was developed in 2016 and a series of trainings have been conducted nationwide. As of 2018, 424 public and private hospitals have completed the AMS training, 113 and 313 of which are level 3 and 2 health facilities, respectively.

### **3. Timeline**

The implementation timeline for the project is three (3) months from 17 February 2020 to 11 May 2020.

#### **4. Place of Assignment**

Manila, Philippines

#### **5. Scope of Work**

In coordination with the WHO Philippines and the Department of Health, the selected contractual partner shall perform the following activities:

##### **Method(s) to carry out the activity**

- Form a team of qualified and competent individuals with defined roles and tasks aligned with the objectives;
- Develop a full research protocol to achieve the objectives;
- Conduct a mixed methods research using survey, key informant interviews, focused group discussions and other appropriate strategies;
- Conduct alignment meetings with WHO and DOH for progress monitoring;
- Present the final output to WHO Philippines and the DOH; and
- Submit a complete narrative report with presentation slides in electronic and triplicate hard copies

##### **Output/s**

###### **Output 1: Inception Report with Gantt chart of activities**

**Deliverable 1.1:** Develop work plan with Gantt chart of activities. The work plan will be part of the inception report that will be submitted to WHO Philippines at the beginning of the engagement. The inception report will demonstrate the consultant's conceptual and implementation approach and methodology, scope of work, resources required, and the timeline of activities to guide the assignment and to meet the agreed upon deliverables.

**Deliverable 1.2:** Discuss the inception report and work plan with WHO Philippines and DOH.

###### **Output 2: Research Protocol**

**Deliverable 2.1:** Submit a complete research protocol to include background, objectives, methodology, sampling design, and data analytic tools.

###### **Output 3: Completed Research with Abstract**

**Deliverable 2.1:** Submit a complete written research output with abstract (objectives, methodology, discussion of results, conclusion, recommendations) in Microsoft Word and PowerPoint or their equivalent in electronic and triplicate printed copies.

**Deliverable 2.2.:** Present the study results to WHO Philippines and DOH.

###### **Output 4: Final Report**

**Deliverable 4.1:** Submit accomplishment and financial reports.

#### **NOTE: Every report should have the following disclaimer:**

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## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

The results, products and reports of the consultancy are to be treated as confidential and must not be handed over to third parties. The DOH and WHO have the exclusive ownership of the reports and reserve the right to further disseminate relevant information.

## **6. Qualifications**

The contractual partner must fulfill the following qualifications:

### Education and Certifications

- Essential: At least a post-graduate degree in pharmacy, medicine, epidemiology or a related course; and
- Desired: Established and reputable work on public health research; certification for antimicrobial stewardship

### Work Experience

- Essential: Experience related to infectious disease management, antimicrobial therapy, and antimicrobial stewardship
- Essential: At least 3 years of working on projects with various stakeholders including the private sector, civic societies, government and international development organizations

### Skills and Knowledge

- Solid background on antimicrobial resistance surveillance and antimicrobial stewardship;
- Conducting impact assessments and implementation research;
- Developing professional research designs and adept at statistical data analyses; and
- Creativity in problem-solving and capacity to meet tight deadlines;
- Organizational, communication, interpersonal and analytical skills

### Language Fluency:

- Expert fluency in written and spoken English (essential) and Filipino (desired)

In addition, the contractual partner must have no direct or indirect interest in the tobacco industry, alcohol industry, arms dealing or human trafficking.

## **7. Other Requirements**

May require traveling within the Philippines for data collection.

## **8. Submission Requirements**

Interested institutions and/or individuals should submit electronic copies of the following:

- Signed letter of intent
- Proposal with methodology, financial details and timeline
- Company profile and qualifications of team members (if institution) or curriculum vitae (if individual)

Address all proposals to:

**Dr Rabindra Abeyasinghe**

Acting WHO Representative in the Philippines

Ground Floor, Building 3, Department of Health San Lazaro Compound

Rizal Avenue, Sta Cruz, Manila

Please submit the electronic copy of the proposals with the title: **Technical Assistance for Conducting an Impact Assessment of the Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Program in Level 2 and 3 Hospitals in the Philippines** to Mrs. Ying Chen [cheny@who.int](mailto:cheny@who.int) and [wpphlwr@who.int](mailto:wpphlwr@who.int). Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted by WHO Philippines.

Deadline of submission of proposals is on **10 February 2020**.