



Terms of Reference for Access to HIV and TB cash paying Patients' data

Request for a quotation

1. INTRODUCTION

The South African National Strategic Plan (NSP) for HIV, STIs and TB (2017- 2022) is the country's fourth comprehensive strategic plan that outlined the implementation of the country's multi sectoral response on the prevention and management of HIV, STIs and TB over a period of five years which ended on 31 March 2022. Findings of the NSP End-Term Review (ETR) confirmed that targets for several NSP indicators were not met, including the target for the second 90-90-90 HIV Cascade targets, now elevated to 95-95-95 targets. The 90-90-90 HIV cascade targets stipulate that:

- By 2020, 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status.
- By 2020, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy.
- By 2020, 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.

Based on the unmet targets, the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC) Programme Review Committee heeded the Civil Society's recommendation to extend the NSP implementation period by one year from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 to ensure a focused implementation approach as guided by the HIV, TB & STIs National catch-up plan, including the corresponding nine Provincial catch-up plans. One of SANAC's mandates is to monitor the progress of the implementation of HIV, TB and STIs interventions against set targets. Public sector and Private Sector (74 Registered Medical Aid Schemes) HIV data indicated that by end of November 2022, South Africa was at 94-76-92 in the context of the 90-90-90 targets. This implies that the country was behind on the 2nd 90 (90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy). Similarly, a TB treatment outcomes and Predictors in Africa study, published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (October 2021) confirms that TB treatment success rate was at 75,52% for HIV positive patients and 84,70% for HIV negative patients.

Throughout the implementation of the NSP to this end, the country has not been able to achieve the 2nd 90 for both HIV and TB. There is need for an aggressive and focused approach to ensure the achievement of the 2nd 90 for both HIV and TB, in the shortest possible time then move towards the 95-95-95 targets by 2025.

2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

It is against this background that SANAC is seeking the services of an experienced service provider to develop an agile online platform depicting HIV and TB cash paying patients data disaggregated



according to provinces, districts, gender, five-year age groups, specific time periods (months, quarters, and calendar years). The objectives of the project are as follows:

- To close the HIV and TB treatment gap through having access to HIV and TB cash paying patients treatment data.
- To develop an online analytics platform providing disaggregated data as follows:
 - The number of people living with HIV (PLHIV) on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) paying cash over specific time periods.
 - The number of TB patients paying cash for their treatment medication over specific time periods.
 - The number of PLHIV on ART who have missed a scheduled appointment by more than 90 days (Lost to Follow Up-LTF).
 - The number of TB patients who have missed their scheduled treatment for two consecutive months or more (Lost to Follow Up-LTF).
 - Possible multi-month purchasing of HIV and TB treatment medication and the specific time periods.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

SANAC seeks to engage a Service Provider to work closely with the SANAC Strategic Information Unit to:

- Be responsible for defining the user and system requirements for the desired platform in consultation with all identified stakeholders.
- Develop and ensure optimal functioning of the platform to consistently depict required HIV and TB cash paying patients data, monthly, quarterly, and annually, from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.
- Develop a standard operating procedure document (maximum 2 pages) on how to navigate the online platform.
- Ensure sharing platform credentials with SANAC for consistent access to HIV and TB cash paying patients' data.
- Ensure automation of the HIV and TB cash paying patients' data into the SANAC Situation Room, which is an interactive software platform that will enable SANAC, government departments and other authorities, including programme implementers to effectively use data sets in real-time for decision-making.
- Conduct specific training for SANAC Strategic Information staff and selected stakeholders on how to navigate the online platform.

4. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

The Service Provider to develop an agile online platform to ensure access to HIV and TB cash paying patients' data disaggregated according to provinces, districts, five-year age groups, gender, and specific time periods (monthly, quarterly, and annually), including ensuring access to such data from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

5. SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE



- A minimum of 5 years of proven experience in consolidating HIV and TB cash paying patients data from clearly streamlined data sources.
- Additional experience in the use of unique patient identification to avoid under counting and over counting of the number of HIV and TB cash paying patients.
- Substantive knowledge of the NSP HIV and TB treatment indicator definitions and data disaggregation, as per the National Indicator Data Sets (NIDS).
- Substantive knowledge in human data science with practical evidence in providing data analytics and expertise to look across different brands, therapeutic areas, and healthcare systems.
- Practical experience to run data analysis within the healthcare industry by identifying unique HIV and TB cash paying patients and following them over time to report on specific patterns regarding therapeutic areas.
- Development of online platforms with capabilities to provide additional analysis beyond product-level information, as follows: therapeutic areas, manufacturers, active ingredients, brands and generics, medical schemes claims (for triangulation with data from the registered medical schemes) and cash transactions.

6. ASSIGNMENT MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- The service provider will work under the overall guidance of the SANAC Strategic Information (SI) Unit, with technical and coordination led by the SI Unit Manager.

7. LEVEL OF EFFORT

- The project is expected to provide HIV and TB cash paying patients data from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The proposal should include a streamlined quarterly and annual budget for the duration (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024) of the project.

8. QUALIFICATIONS

- The service provider should have personnel with at least a bachelor's degree, but a master's is preferred in the following fields: Pharmacy, Public Health, Medicine, Nursing, or other related areas.
- At least 5 years of relevant work experience in human data science.
- Desirable: Understanding/experience in Strategic Information, Monitoring and Evaluation, data management and processing related treatment data for both HIV & TB.

9. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Functional evaluation criteria – Written proposal

*The following Functionality Criteria will apply to this bid:
Only those bidders who score a minimum score of 80% in respect of the following functionality criteria will be recommended for short listing. 100 points are allocated for functionality.*



Weight	Evaluation Criteria	Points Allocation	Page Ref. Numbers
50 Points	<p>Technical proposal demonstrating a clear process and methodology for developing an agile optimally functional platform depicting HIV and TB cash paying patients' treatment data with required disaggregation, as per the Terms of reference.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstration of a clear process (Demonstration of treatment changes over time; capability of capturing historical data to date; capability of illustrating lost-to follow up patients as per the South African treatment guidelines; capability of illustrating some level of patient treatment adherence; clear method of data analysis for unique patient counts. (3 points each). ○ Illustration of a clear methodology for developing an agile optimal functioning platform: evidence of a reliable software; capabilities of the platform to extract, load and transfer (ETL) data; illustration of the platform's capabilities to use any business intelligence tools such as excel; capabilities of the platform to illustrate dashboards by filtering data as per the user's requirements; capabilities of distinguishing between new versus existing patients for specific time periods. (3 points each). ○ Depiction of HIV & TB cash paying patients data: illustration of uptake of active ingredients such as dolutegravir, lamivudine & tenofovir disoproxil; capabilities of illustrating patients' switches from one active ingredient to another; illustration of source of active ingredient, e.g. medical practitioner, provincial hospital, etc; disaggregation of uptake of active ingredients according to new, existing and lost to follow up patients, in terms of counts-absolute numbers and proportions; Illustration of uptake of active ingredients within a specific period. (2 points each) ○ Depiction of HIV patients on medical insurance for triangulation purposes. (Unique patient counts, gender, geographical disaggregation, five-year age bands, specific time periods)-1 point each. ○ Evidence of data disaggregation for HIV & TB cash paying patients as required-gender, geographical demarcations, 5-year age bands, specific periods, unique patient counts. 	<p>15 Points</p> <p>15 Points</p> <p>10 Points</p> <p>05 Points</p> <p>05 Points</p>	2



Weight	Evaluation Criteria	Points Allocation	Page Ref. Numbers
30 Points	<p>Demonstrated track record/knowledge of reputable and reliable data sources for HIV and TB cash paying patients' data with evidence of access to such data. Inclusion of at least three contactable references</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstration of a track record/knowledge of reputable and reliable of at least 5 data sources: (3 Points each) ○ Demonstration of access to such type of data-data sharing agreements or similar tangible evidence for access to the 5 data sources: (2 Points each) ○ At least five contactable references of reputable and reliable data sources: (1 point each) 	<p>15 Points 10 Points 5 Points.</p>	2
10 Points	<p>Demonstrated experience of ensuring consistent data access to SANAC, as per SANAC's requirements, including ensuring data security and integrity and consistent data access from reliable data sources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clear indication of how SANAC will have consistent access to the HIV & TB cash paying patients data, including the frequency of updating the data on the platform. ○ Evidence of data security, guarding against unauthorized access, corruption, or theft throughout its lifecycle, e.g., data encryption, backup to the cloud, password protection, identity and access management, intrusion detection and prevention software. ○ Evidence of data integrity: accuracy, consistency, completeness, trustworthiness, quality of data over time and across formats. ○ Evidence of consistent data access from reliable data sources. ○ Capabilities of presenting the data to different SANAC Stakeholders, as and when required. 	<p>2 Points 2 Points 2 Points 2 Points</p>	2



Weight	Evaluation Criteria	Points Allocation	Page Ref. Numbers
5 Points	Experience and qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bachelor's degree of masters in relevant fields as per TOR ○ 0-2 years' experience in human data science ○ Plus 2 years to 5 years' experience in human data science ○ Plus 5 years' experience in human data science ○ Capability to train SANAC Strategic Information Unit in navigating the platform 	1 Points 0,5 Points 1 Point 1,5 Points 1 Point	2
5 Points	Financial Proposal for both HIV & TB Cash Paying Patients' data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Streamlined budget of annual data, with quarterly disaggregation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 February 2022 to 31 March 2023 budget 	2 Points 3 Points	3

10. PROPOSAL FORMAT

Detailed proposals containing all information in response to these terms of reference are due on **28 February 2023 by 17:00**. Please send your proposals to Beullah@sanac.org.za with the following annexures attached:

- i. **Annexure A:** Technical Proposal demonstrating ability to execute the required assignment and ensure consistent access to the required data over the expected period, as per the terms of reference.
- ii. **Annexure B:** Summary of experience, please attach Curriculum Vitae (CVs) of proposed members, where applicable. CVs should reflect similar assignments undertaken, including the magnitude of the assignments and at least three reference letters or other means of verification.
- iii. **Annexure C:** Pricing information. Price proposals should include Value Added Tax (VAT) and should be fully inclusive of ALL costs to deliver the outputs indicated in the terms of reference. Budgets notes should be included to justify cost items.
- iv. **Annexure D:** Central Supplier Database (CSD) summary report with a complaint status.