



A review of existing measurement tools on HIV-related stigma and discrimination

Request for proposals

Closing date and time: 23 November 2023, 23:00 CET

1. About the IAS

IAS – the International AIDS Society – convenes, educates and advocates for a world in which HIV no longer presents a threat to public health and individual well-being. After the emergence of HIV and AIDS, concerned scientists created the IAS to bring together experts from across the world and disciplines to promote a concerted HIV response. Today, the IAS and its members unite scientists, policy makers and activists to galvanize the scientific response, build global solidarity and enhance human dignity for all those living with and affected by HIV. The IAS also hosts the world's most prestigious HIV conferences: the International AIDS Conference, the IAS Conference on HIV Science and the HIV Research for Prevention Conference.

Find more information about the IAS at www.iasociety.org.

2. About the Heart of Stigma programme

HIV-related stigma and discrimination continue to be major barriers to ending AIDS as a public health threat. In 2020, the IAS launched the Heart of Stigma programme to bring attention to HIV-related stigma and the effectiveness of stigma-mitigation efforts. The Heart of Stigma programme actively supports stakeholders in the HIV response to scale up efforts to eliminate HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

Find more information about this initiative at <https://www.iasociety.org/ias-programme/heart-stigma>.

3. Purpose



The IAS is soliciting proposals for a consultancy to conduct a comprehensive review of existing tools and methodologies used for the measurement of HIV-related stigma and discrimination. The IAS recognizes the pressing need for reliable, culturally sensitive and methodologically robust instruments to assess HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

This review will encompass a wide range of existing tools and measurement indexes sourced from funders, normative agencies and programme implementers. Examples include the Global Fund's annual assessments, the People Living with HIV Stigma Index 2.0, "Guidance by the Global Partnership for Action to Eliminate all Forms of HIV-related Stigma and Discrimination" and the metrics employed in the Global AIDS Monitoring Tool (GAM). We will also explore innovative country-specific initiatives, such as Jamaica's scorecard.

The insights and findings from this review will play a pivotal role in the development of a country-led self-assessment tool tailored to address HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

4. Objectives and estimated effort

Objective 1: Review and stakeholder consultation (estimated time: 10-12 days)

- Survey existing literature and current tools that measure HIV-related stigma and discrimination, specifically tools from funders, normative agencies and implementers.
- Engage with key stakeholders for their input on the existing tools, ideally through interviews or focus groups.

Objective 2: Comparative analysis (estimated time: 6-8 days)

- Compare the methodologies, focus areas and applicability of the existing tools.

Objective 3: Develop a report (estimated time: 7-10 days)

- Collate the findings and assessments into a comprehensive report that includes actionable recommendations. This report will serve to guide future work and tool development aimed at combating HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

5. Deliverables

Deliverable 1: Preliminary literature and tools survey: A summary document identifying the existing literature and tools that will be reviewed in depth, along with a brief explanation of their relevance to the project's objectives

Deliverable 2: Stakeholder identification report: A list of key stakeholders to engage, along with their relevance to the review and a plan for how and when to engage them

Deliverable 3: Interim assessment report: A mid-project update summarizing the preliminary findings and any challenges encountered during the review process



Deliverable 4: Comprehensive final report: A detailed report presenting the findings, evaluations and recommendations from the review

This report should include:

- Methodology used for the review
- Comprehensive analysis of each tool assessed
- Recommendations for future tool development and strategies
- Appendices with any supplementary material, such as interview summaries, data tables or cited literature

Deliverable 5: Presentation of findings: A PowerPoint presentation summarizing the key findings

6. Proposal requirements

- A two-page overview of the methodology that is proposed for the review
- CV and summary of relevant experience
- Two to three references from previous clients
- A daily rate
- For individual consultants: Recent evidence of freelance registration in your country of residence

7. Qualifications for consultants

- Hold an advanced degree and a minimum of five to seven years of relevant experience in the fields of public health, social sciences or related disciplines. Experience in global health and/or HIV is highly desired.
- Demonstrated expertise in the evaluation of tools, frameworks or programmes, as well as conducting stakeholder interviews for data collection and analysis.
- Submission of two or three recent writing samples, preferably related to public health initiatives, tool evaluations or stakeholder analyses. Please provide these in a digital format with your application.

8. Timeline

The consultancy is expected to take 25-30 working days within three months of the contract start date.

- A specific work plan will be agreed upon selection of the candidate.

9. Submissions details

Please send proposals to nostigma@iasociety.org with the subject, "RfP - review of measurement tools", by 23 November 2023, 23:00 CET. For more information, please email nostigma@iasociety.org.



This request for proposals (RfP) aligns with our broader efforts to comprehensively understand and address HIV-related issues and will complement two other concurrent RfPs. One of these seeks to review and evaluate country-led self-assessment tools for HIV. The other seeks to map relevant partners in selected countries working on elimination of HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

These three complementary RfPs aim to strengthen our collective response to HIV, enhancing prevention and response strategies by addressing both the measurement of stigma and discrimination and the development of effective self-assessment tools for positive change. Interested and qualified parties are welcome to submit proposals for one or more of the RfPs.