



Terms of Reference for the mapping of research programmes and relevant research cooperation activities in the newest EU Member States

Background

The European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) aims to accelerate the development of new or improved drugs, vaccines, microbicides and diagnostics against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, with a focus on phase II and III clinical trials in sub-Saharan Africa. Preparations are currently underway for the successor of the EDCTP Programme (EDCTP2), which is expected to start in January 2014. It is proposed that this should include extension to involve all clinical trial phases I-IV including health services optimisation research and a wider scope that will include other neglected infectious diseases. To support these preparations, EDCTP wishes to perform a comprehensive mapping analysis of European and African national research programmes, partnerships, activities and capacities in the field of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected infectious diseases (NIDs).

Purpose of the assignment

To capture up to date information on national research programmes, partnerships, activities and capacities in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected infectious diseases (NIDs) in the newest EU Member States¹ (i.e. the 12 countries that acceded to the EU in 2004 and 2007, subsequent to the establishment of EDCTP in 2003) to facilitate increased collaboration and integration of all 27 EU Member States' national research programmes under EDCTP2.

Scope of activities

The firm would be required to provide the following services:

- A comprehensive overview of existing sources of information: what data are currently available, quality assessment of the data in terms of how relevant and up to date, key gaps and recommendations on how to address the gaps;
- Augment these existing sources of data through the collection of data on current research activities per country that are directly or indirectly related to product development for HIV, TB, malaria and NIDs -e.g. basic research, clinical studies (phase I-IV), post-registration (marketing) studies, trial site capacity building including:
 - Major collaborations (partnerships) in sub-Saharan Africa
 - Major collaborations (partnerships) between existing EDCTP-EEIG Member states² and prospective EDCTP Member states from the newest EU Member States
 - Major funding programmes
 - Identification of prominent research institutions and researchers active in research on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria or NIDs, and identification of their main funding sources (this will be supported by the findings of a separate bibliometrics study that is currently underway)
- Identification and description of training programmes relevant to the scope of EDCTP2
- Identification and description of public health programmes in the areas of HIV, TB, malaria and NIDs, where relevant
- Identification and description of civil society programmes in the areas of HIV, TB, malaria and NIDs

¹ EDCTP was established in 2003. For the purposes of this assignment newest EU Member States comprise countries that joined the European Union with the 2004 and 2007 enlargements: Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Romania. Croatia is also expected to join the European Union on 1 July 2013.

² EDCTP-EEIG Member States are: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom



- A list of SMEs and pharmaceutical companies based in this region and a summary of the research they are undertaking that may be relevant for the fields of HIV, TB, malaria and NIDs

Procedures and deadline for submission of proposals

The proposal must include at least a technical section and a detailed financial section (costed in euros) and should be up to 30 pages long, including annexes. In the technical section the firm must demonstrate that they have the appropriate experience and specific expertise to conduct this assignment by including the following:

- Proposed methodology and approach
- Summary of previous experience including reference to any similar projects previously carried out
- Technical expertise/specialist skills in this field
- Project management skills: ability to complete the task according to time, budget and scope, and management of relationships with relevant information providers (ability to access existing information and to obtain quality data from key individuals or institutions)
- Proposed staffing to the project
- Detailed planning including timeline and milestones

The proposal should be submitted by email to mathewson@edctp.org with "Mapping of newest EU Member States" in the subject field, no later than **1 March 2013**. Further information may be obtained from Sophie Mathewson, EDCTP Networking Officer at the above email address.

EDCTP welcomes submissions from firms based in the newest EU Member States.

Basis of proposal evaluation

The criteria and weightings that will be used during the selection process are listed below:

- Proposed method, methodology and scope of proposal (35%)
- Overall capabilities of the firm and team proposed for the assignment, including subject expertise, regional knowledge, and experience in carrying out similar assignments (35%)
- Price (30%)

Output

The expected outputs are:

1. A comprehensive report of national programmes and activities in newest EU Member States relevant to clinical research in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and NIDs. Information on the role of agencies such as WHO Europe as well as funders such as UNITAID and the Global Fund in strengthening health systems and supporting national disease control programmes should also be included. This report should include an index, executive summary and full technical report, including recommendations that identify thematic areas or topics for the EDCTP2 programme. Information about collaboration between different countries and stakeholders should also be included.
2. Annexes to the report: a list of research activities; training programmes; public health and civil society programmes; SMEs and pharmaceutical companies working on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and NIDs.



Timeframe

Activity	Timeline
Advertisement inviting proposals from eligible firms/consultants	4 February 2013
Receipt of proposals from eligible firms/consultants	1 March 2013
Evaluation and selection of firm/consultant	11 March 2013
Contract signature	30 March 2013

The assignment should be completed within a maximum of 5 months after signature of the contract between EDCTP and selected firm.