



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

**Title: Support to strengthen the delivery of Family Planning services in Zimbabwe**

### **I. Overview**

USAID Zimbabwe would like to invite expressions of interest from local organizations regarding the technical, managerial and other aspects of the program described below. USAID is currently evaluating the possibility of engaging implementing partners who have the management and technical capacity to provide high quality service delivery with regards to this program. USAID has not yet decided whether to limit competition to local, regional or international groups; all options, including doing an unrestricted competition, are still possible.

**The technical requirements, level of funding and other requirements may change significantly before the actual RFA is released.**

**Please note: This is NOT a request for applications. Only simple expressions of interest should be submitted at this stage. USAID will release a full Request for Applications at a later date, through the U.S. Government portal at Grants.gov.**

### **II. Purpose**

USAID/ Zimbabwe is planning to release a request for applications for a follow on program that is designed to increase awareness of voluntary family planning (FP) methods, particularly long-acting and permanent methods (LAPM) methods, and to provide comprehensive, voluntary and free FP services to women and men from poor and underserved communities. The overarching goal of the follow on activity is to build upon the gains achieved by the current FP implementing partner.

### **III. Duration and anticipated funding level**

The follow on program duration will be from October 2017 to September 2022 (5 years) and the total expected funding level throughout the life of implementation is expected to be approximately \$9 million.

### **IV. Technical Overview**

Zimbabwe has a relatively high prevalence rate for family planning of 67% (DHS 2015/2016) compared to many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, however the unmet need for family planning is at 10% which is high. The family planning method mix remains dominated by the pill at 41%. The majority of rural women use short term methods of Family Planning in part due to lack of awareness and availability of other methods and long-acting and permanent methods (LAPM) of contraception. This assistance activity will therefore strengthen the delivery of Family Planning services in Zimbabwe by ensuring a wider choice of FP methods including LAPM in urban, peri-urban and rural communities. This assistance activity will contribute to the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity through increased access to comprehensive, voluntary family planning services to poor and underserved populations in Zimbabwe.

The specific activity objectives are:

1. To increase awareness of comprehensive, voluntary FP methods particularly LAPM methods among underserved women and men aged between 15 -49 years by 2022.
2. To provide comprehensive voluntary and free FP services to women and men from poor and underserved communities through mobile clinical outreach nationwide and the private sector by 2022.

The **key activities** to be implemented will include:

- Extension of geographic coverage of FP through mobile outreach teams to bring free services to the remotest areas of Zimbabwe.
- Expand the current FP method mix offered to clients nationwide, with particular focus on improving access to LAPM.
- Improve the quality and range of FP services offered in the private sector through social franchising.
- Improve the quality of service and client provider interactions to reduce discontinuation rates and improve client satisfaction.
- Dispel myths and misconceptions around FP through behavior change communication (BCC) activities such as community sensitization, group education and mass media through radio messaging.

## **V. Special eligibility requirements**

Organizations that wish to express their interest should **satisfy** the following requirements:

1. **Be a local Organization**, defined as follows as an organization that:
  - A. is organized under the laws of Zimbabwe;
  - B. has its principal place of business in Zimbabwe;
  - C. is not less than 51 percent legally and beneficially owned by one or more resident citizens of Zimbabwe or be managed by a governing body, the majority of whom are citizens or lawful permanent residents of Zimbabwe; and
  - D. is not controlled by a foreign entity or by one or more individuals who are not resident citizens of Zimbabwe.

In addition, if there is not sufficient capacity in Zimbabwe for this program, the use of regional organizations may be considered. Organizations that meet the following regional definition of “local”, may express interest in this solicitations as well.

- A. be organized under the laws of a country in the SADC region,
- B. have its principal place of business in the SADC region,
- C. be majority owned by individuals who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of the SADC region or be managed by a governing body, the majority of whom are citizens or lawful permanent residents of the SADC region,
- D. not be controlled by a foreign entity or by an individual or individuals who are not citizens or permanent residents of the SADC region.

Organizations expressing interest should specify whether they qualify under the Zimbabwe definition or the regional definition.

2. **Type of organization:** Non-governmental, Public Voluntary, Civil society, local trusts, faith based, university etc
3. **Have technical expertise and experience** in the design, implementation and management of community-based OVC care and support activities. Organizations that currently have ongoing OVC activities should state their geographic location, and the nature of the activities being implemented.
4. **Demonstrate knowledge** of the Zimbabwe health system.
5. **Demonstrate sound financial management** including evidence of the ability to manage complex grants or contracts over \$1 million

## **VI. Contact Information**

Please submit all the expressions of interest no later than 5 July, 2016

Email to: **harareprocure@usaid.gov**

Post to: Attention: Harare Procurement  
USAID/Zimbabwe  
1 Pascoe Avenue  
Belgravia, Harare

Expression of interest should include:

1. Name and Physical address of Organization;
2. Type of organization (Zimbabwean, South African, US etc.);
3. Name, email and phone number of Contact person; and
4. Website of the organization (if any).
5. Information regarding eligibility requirements (technical expertise, sound financial management) listed above.

**Expressions of interest should be no more than 2 pages in length.**