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CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: FURTHER DEVELOP CARPHA KNOWLEDGE SHARING PORTAL FOR ZIKA AND OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

CONSULTANCY

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), with funding from the European-Union (EU)-funded Programme of Support for Health Systems Strengthening for Prevention and Response to Outbreaks of Zika and other Mosquito-borne Diseases in the Caribbean, is seeking to engage a consultant to increase the availability of research and grey literature on Zika and other arboviruses from five (5) CARPHA Member States.

BACKGROUND

The Caribbean region is a hot spot for the emergence and persistence of VBDs in the American continent with the *Aedes aegypti* being a competent vector for several diseases including Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika. As such it is important that policymakers in the Caribbean have access to evidence based Caribbean research and grey literature related to Zika and other arboviruses to make informed decisions.

In 2014, CARPHA, through the support of PAHO/WHO, developed and launched the Evidence Informed Decision-Making Network of the Caribbean (EVIDeNCe) – a knowledge translation facility that aims to improve health systems and health services in the Caribbean through decision-making that is informed by the best available scientific knowledge. The EVIDeNCe portal is at the core of CARPHA's strategy for providing access to a locally applicable base of knowledge to support Caribbean decision-making. This portal makes published research and grey literature related to the Caribbean region, searchable and easily retrievable. The portal is designed primarily to meet the needs of policymakers in Ministries of Health, but is also a useful resource for CARPHA staff, the academic community and other health system stakeholders, such as members of professional associations and civil society. Given the threat posed by the Zika virus to the Caribbean and the widespread concern over microcephaly and other neurological disorders associated with its transmission, the portal could make existing Caribbean research and grey literature related to Zika and other arboviruses accessible to policymakers in the Caribbean region.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this project is to contribute to the improvement of the public health of the Caribbean population and the sustainable development of the Region by increasing availability of research and grey literature on Zika and other arboviruses, for five (5) CARPHA Member States, through CARPHA's EviDeNCe Portal.

SCOPE OF WORK

The consultant will be expected to:

- Travel to Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, and Suriname, and liaise with Zika/mosquito control stakeholders, to identify documents that meet the document selection criteria provided by CARPHA.
- Develop a strategy for approaching and acquiring documentation from these stakeholders, in accordance with the selection criteria.
- Digitize documents approved by the CARPHA and generate metadata and abstracts for each record.
- Enter electronic versions of acquired documents on the EviDeNCe portal using the LILDBI software interface and the MedCarib cataloguing and indexing procedures. The consultant will receive training in the use of the software and procedures. Training will take place in Trinidad and Tobago.

INVITATION

CARPHA invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, business profile, etc.). Suitably qualified consultants will be short-listed and invited to tender for the Project through a competitive procedure.

COSTING AND IMPLEMENTATION

The value of the consultancy is Euros 48,688 (inclusive of incidental expenditure) and is to be implemented from April/May 2018 to September 2018.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Expressions of interest must be delivered in English by email to the address below by Wednesday 28th February 2018 at 4:30pm Atlantic Standard Time (AST) to:

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