

# Breakthrough ACTION SCOPE OF WORK TO ASSIST DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY FOR HORMONAL CONTRACEPTION AND HIV IN TANZANIA

## **Background**

Breakthrough ACTION, USAID's flagship global health communication project, is a five-year cooperative agreement (2017-2022) whose mission is to forge, test and scale up new, hybrid models that will accelerate individuals, families and communities to adopt healthy norms and behaviors.

In March 2017, WHO issued revised guidance on the use of progestogen-only injectables (norethisterone enanthate [NET-EN] and depot medroxyprogesterone acetate [DMPA], in both intramuscular [IM] and subcutaneous [SC] forms) by women at high risk of HIV acquisition. While previously Category 1, the revised guidance now classifies progestogen-only injectables as Category 2 for women at high risk of HIV acquisition. While overall this means that the advantages of using these methods generally outweigh the possible, but unproven, increased risk of HIV acquisition, women at high risk of acquiring HIV, who are considering starting progestogen-only injectables, or are continuing the use of them should be advised about: 1) concerns that these methods may increase risk of HIV acquisition; (2) the uncertainty over whether there is a causal relationship; and (3) how to minimize their risk of acquiring HIV.

Under the HC3 project, which ended in September 2017, a Strategic Communication Framework for Hormonal Contraceptive Methods and Potential HIV-Related Risks was developed for countries to take and adapt into National Communication Strategies on the topic. Tanzania has expressed interest in adapting this Framework for their country in order to ensure the information is reaching the women and other priority populations appropriately as well as developing materials and training messages from the strategy.

## **Objectives and Process:**

Breakthrough ACTION is seeking a consultant to lead work on the ground in Tanzania for the adaptation of a Strategic Communication Strategy for Hormonal Contraception and HIV in Tanzania and development of materials to be used. In close collaboration with Breakthrough ACTION, USAID, the Ministry of Health and other implementing partners, the following tasks are expected:

- Assist with coordination of logistics for Strategy Design workshop
- Present the draft Communication Strategy to the appropriate TWGs in order to gain MOH approval of the document
- Development/adaptation of materials based on messaging from the HC-HIV communication strategy (development includes hiring designer and artist as needed for producing professional materials)
  - o Materials to be developed will depend on outcome of Strategy design workshop
- Translation of all materials (including hiring professional translator as needed)
  - Should be back translated to English as well
- Pre-testing of materials with appropriate audiences and revision of materials based on feedback



- Finalization of materials after pre-test
- Work with the Ministry of Health to develop a roll out plan for piloting the materials in select sites
- Oversee printing of materials
- Oversee distribution of materials to the appropriate places

## **Relations and reporting:**

The consultant will report directly to Beth Mallalieu, who is based in the US.

### **Deliverables:**

The following deliverables will be expected of the consultant:

- Draft materials
- Translated and back-translated materials
- Pre-test report
- Final approved materials
- Materials distribution plan

## Requirements and expected timeline:

- Must be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Should have experience with and strong understanding of SBCC material development
- Should have good working relationship with the Tanzania Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children and key connections with officials in the areas of family planning, HIV, and health promotion
- Have a good understanding of the family planning and HIV environment in Tanzania
- This consultancy is estimated to last for 6 months from January 2018 through June 2018 at around 50% LOE

### **Interested Applicants:**

Please submit your CV and 1420, or recent rate history to Beth Mallalieu (<a href="mailto:beth.mallalieu@jhu.edu">beth.mallalieu@jhu.edu</a>) by January 12, 2018.