



Children's AIDS Fund Uganda
Plot 36,
Ntinda II Road,
Kampala, Uganda.

Kampala, Uganda
Tel: +256-414-235666
Fax: +256-414-235684
info@cafu.ug

www.cafu.ug

Call for Expression of Interest

Ref: Implementation Research Study/001/2024

Terms of Reference

Request for expression of interest to carry out a research study on the functionality and effectiveness of Facility Community Collaboration Teams (FCCT) under an HIV/AIDS Prevention and treatment grant in Buvuma District.

1.0. Background

Children's AIDS Fund Uganda (CAFU) is a national NGO established in 2005 with the aim of implementing evidence-based, quality-assured, holistic HIV services. Aligned with national and international frameworks like NDP III, PEPFAR SP/COP, SDGs, Uganda HIV Treatment guidelines and CAFU Strategic Plan. CAFU envisions a healthy, HIV-free population through creating an enabling environment for families to access comprehensive integrated HIV and priority health services in Uganda and beyond.

Operating in underserved areas of Uganda including districts along Lake Victoria and Kyoga, CAFU targets vulnerable communities with high HIV burdens, orphaned and vulnerable children, adolescent girls, pregnant women, and key populations. CAFU accelerates HIV epidemic control through initiatives like the Kampala HIV Project (KHP), USAID/UPMB/LSDA project and ViiV Health Care Positive Action for Children.

Currently, CAFU is implementing a project titled "**Scaling-up HIV Diagnosis and Linkages to Care and Treatment for Children and Adolescents Living with HIV (SUFA SABA-Plus) Project in Buvuma district**" code named SUFA SABA Plus Project.

The project focuses on identifying children 0-14 years living with HIV (new and lost to follow up), linking them to treatment and ensuring adherence to ART.

The project works with and through the Facility-Community Collaboration Teams (FCCTs) that fosters collaboration between healthcare facilities and local communities and ensures seamless service delivery, increased community engagement and reduces barriers to healthcare access to enhance effectiveness and sustainability of health care.

Working with and led by the facility HCW in charges, the teams identify HIV positive children and adolescents; facilitate access to services; and support CALHIV to adhere to ART. Other activities include, organizing community outreaches for information dissemination and community HTS, health school visits, referrals of pregnant mothers to facilities for ANC and deliveries, youth engagements through community visits by young mentors to mobilize adolescents to access facility services, engagement of the youths at youth friendly corners at the facilities, follow up of the adolescents on treatment, male involvement through male champions dialogues and supporting GBV victims for appropriate redress.

Traditionally, CAFU implementation has followed its well-established family centered model where family members are involved in the care of the index client and CAFU provides Holistic care to the index client through and to the whole family.

Given the project goal, CAFU has applied the FCCT approach based on its family centered model. CAFU would therefore like to learn how the FCCT mirrors its family centered model, to what extent does FCCT meet its intended objectives and how if at all, is FCCT replicable.

2.0. Scope of the assignment

The scope of the assignment is to carry out a study on the functionality and effectiveness of the facility community collaboration teams in the HIV response in the SUFA SABA Plus project implementation. This study will involve understanding CAFU operations as regards the project, district community and other stakeholders' involvement and the beneficiaries. The study will cover all the project sites in Buvuma District.

3.0. Purpose of the assignment: Determining the functionality and effectiveness of Facility Community Collaboration Teams under an HIV/AIDS Prevention and treatment Grant in Buvuma District

Specific objectives:

1. Describe the FCCT implementation approach/model
2. Determine the functionality of the model towards intended purpose
3. Determine the effectiveness of the Model.
4. Make recommendations for its utility/improvement

4.0. Specific tasks

1. Develop a technical proposal including Activity schedule and budget.
2. The successful candidate will develop and present the research protocol to CAFU for approval'
3. Conduct the study

5.0. Deliverables

1. Draft report
2. Final report

6.0. Required Competency

- At least degree in public health, epidemiology, behaviour health sciences, and or health systems
- Proven experience in research design, implementation science, qualitative and quantitative research methods, and biostatistics is crucial for developing a robust research protocol.
- Expertise in community engagement, participatory research approaches, and stakeholder collaboration is essential.

7.0. Interested candidates must submit:

- An expression of interest
- A Curriculum Vitae showing experience relevant to the study
- Contactable references

The proposal and supporting documents must be submitted in English.

Applicants who have not been contacted within 5 business days of the closing date must consider their applications as unsuccessful.

Please submit your applications by email to info@cafu.ug and copy to jbitarabeho.caf@gmail.com with the subject line Implementation Research Protocol.