



Request for Quote (RFQ) -

**Contract Research Organization or individual to support
a field evaluation study on diagnostics in the Philippines**

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1. ABOUT FIND

FIND is a global non-profit organization that drives innovation in the development and delivery of diagnostics to combat major diseases affecting the world's poorest populations. Our work bridges R&D to access, overcoming scientific barriers to technology development; generating evidence for regulators and policymakers; addressing market failures; and enabling accelerated uptake and access to diagnostics in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Since 2003, we have been instrumental in the development of 24 new diagnostic tools. Over 50 million FIND-supported products have been provided to 150 LMICs since the start of 2015. A WHO Collaborating Centre, we work with more than 200 academic, industry, governmental, and civil society partners worldwide, on over 70 active projects that cross six priority disease areas. FIND is committed to a future in which diagnostics underpin treatment decisions and provide the foundation for disease surveillance, control, and prevention.

2. BACKGROUND

FIND is an international non-profit organization dedicated to transforming diagnostics and testing to solve some of the world's most challenging health issues, notably for schistosomiasis.

Schistosomiasis (SCH) or bilharzia is a disease caused by parasitic worms, whose intermediate hosts are freshwater snails, and affects over 250 million people worldwide. It is one of the infections in a group of the diseases referred to as neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). The current WHO guidelines for the diagnosis of SCH recommend examination by microscopy of stool and/or urine samples for the detection of eggs. To support national SCH programmes to reach elimination target as defined by WHO, new and better diagnostic tests need to be developed. To address this gap, FIND and its Partners are developing a new point-of-care rapid diagnostic test. Now, and through a collaboration with a Research Institution in the Philippines, the performance of the said prototype is being evaluated in two sites in the Province of North Leyte.

3. OBJECTIVE

FIND is evaluating a prototype point-of-care rapid diagnostic test for schistosomiasis in the Philippines to inform its optimization.

For this project, we are looking for a Contract Research Organization (CRO) or individual for a duration of 4 weeks with the possibility to extend. The consultant should be able to work in the Philippines and travel to North Leyte.

4. ACTIVITIES

The CRO will provide on the ground support and overall monitoring and supervision of the field study and will report to FIND Schistosomiasis Senior Scientific Officer.

FIND staff will conduct the training via zoom to the field study team and train the CRO at the same time – we anticipate this to take 4 days (1 day classroom-based training and 3 days of practical training). Thereafter, we would like that the person stays for 2 to 3 weeks, to supervise the field study and the recruitment of study participants. The main tasks would be to:

- Ensure that the study team adheres to the study protocol
- Verify that all the materials and supplies required for the study are available and in sufficient quantities
- Study participants are being enrolled following GCP guidelines
- That the RDT testing is carried out according to the training and instructions for use
- Sample containers, RDTs, slides, forms, and sample aliquots are labelled correctly using the FIND labels, stored and maintained according to the study protocol
- All study related forms are filled out accurately
- Samples are being aliquoted correctly and stored at the right temperature
- Provide daily reports on their observations and report on changes that were implemented (in case of issues). The daily reports should include photos and/or videos.

For all the above, the person should be able to course correct if things are not done accurately.

5. PROFILE & QUALIFICATIONS

We are looking for a highly motivated CRO/individual with exceptional attention to detail, who can collaborate with cross-functional teams and meet tight deadlines. Prior experience in diagnostics would be an asset.

Your experience and qualifications should include:

- MSc or higher degree in a related field.
- 5 to 10 years' work experience, in clinical research, public health.
- Knowledge of NTDs strongly preferred.
- Good understanding of South east Asia context.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively collaborate with many individuals and teams.
- Extremely detail oriented and organized, with ability to manage multiple tasks at a time while sustaining quality of work and timely delivery.
- Proactive and adept problem solver; ability to come up with inventive solutions.
- Strong communication skills.

6. TIMELINE

This is a 4-week consultancy, from 24 May–23 June 2021.

7. QUOTE GUIDELINES

If you are interested, please send your quote and application (CV and cover letter explaining how your skills would support our needs in English and formatted in Microsoft Word or PDF) to Sarah.Nogaro@finddx.org by **5pm CET on April 27, 2021**. For more information on the content of the application, see **8. Evaluation Criteria**.

Selection of the applications will be based upon separate assessments of the offers. FIND reserves the right to request further information throughout the Request for Quote (RFQ) process.

Any questions or clarifications regarding this RFQ should be submitted in writing via e-mail to Sarah.Nogaro@finddx.org prior to the closing date.

8. EVALUATION CRITERIA

To ensure consideration for this RFQ, your offer should be complete and include all of the following criteria:

For individual consultants:

- **Resume and cover letter:** Bidders will be evaluated on their qualifications, capability and capacity, including history of their work pertaining to the curation and management of content through an e-commerce platform.
- **Financial proposal:** Bidders will be evaluated on the quality of the financial proposal for this RFQ as well as the transparency and breakdown of all financial elements comprising the final bid. Bidders should provide as much information as possible to explain the proposed budget.

For consultancy agencies:

- **Experience, capability & capacity:** Bidders will be evaluated on their qualifications, capability and capacity, including history of their work pertaining to the curation and management of content through an e-commerce platform.
- **Financial proposal:** Bidders will be evaluated on the quality of the financial proposal for this RFQ as well as the transparency and breakdown of all financial elements comprising the final bid. Bidders should provide as much information as possible to explain the proposed budget.
- **Proposed team member:** Bidders will be evaluated on the quality of the team member that will work on the RFQ. Bidders are asked to submit complete CVs of the proposed team member, detailing how their background and experience will be of benefit for this work.