REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
IMPACT MODELERS AND HEALTH ECONOMISTS

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1. **LIST OF ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Abbreviations and Acronyms</th>
<th>Definitions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDA</td>
<td>Confidential Disclosure Agreement</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIS</td>
<td>Health Information Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMIS</td>
<td>Health Management Information System</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIMS</td>
<td>Laboratory Information Management System</td>
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<td>LMICs</td>
<td>Low- and middle-income countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOHP</td>
<td>Ministry of Health and Population</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFP</td>
<td>Request for Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>TWG</td>
<td>Technical Working Group</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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2. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

FIND was established in 2003 as a global non-profit organization dedicated to accelerating the development, evaluation, and delivery of high-quality, affordable diagnostic tests for poverty-related diseases. It has set up several dedicated Health Programs including ones on tuberculosis, malaria and fevers, Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), hepatitis C, antimicrobial resistance and pandemic-prone diseases. FIND functions as a global health product development partnership, engaging in active collaboration with over 150 partners. FIND’s headquarters are in Geneva, Switzerland, with country offices in India, South Africa, Kenya, and Vietnam. More about FIND and our programmes can be found on [www.finddx.org](http://www.finddx.org).

3. **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**

One of the key challenges in developing and implementing diagnostic tests for Universal health coverage (UHC) and Global health security (GHS) is to demonstrate their potential health impact and cost-effectiveness, as well as to inform their optimal use in different settings and scenarios. Modelling can be a powerful tool to address these questions and support decision-making at various stages of the product life cycle, from target product profile (TPP) development to policy recommendation, scale-up, and evaluation. **Therefore, FIND is looking for an organization/individual that can provide high-quality modelling and health economics support to its Health Programs, covering a range of diseases and products.** The main objectives of this service are to:

- Help FIND disease programs to assess the impact of diagnostics during pre-development, development and post-market phases, using existing or new models as needed.
- Develop models to support TPP development, by identifying the key characteristics and performance requirements of new diagnostic tests that would have the most impact and value for money.
- Use modelling to inform national and global policy, by providing evidence on the health and economic benefits of introducing or scaling up diagnostic tests, as well as on the potential trade-offs and risks associated with different diagnostic technologies and/or strategies.
- Assist in modelling to develop investment cases by simulating the operational and programmatic aspects of diagnostic tests, such as test uptake, linkage to care, quality assurance, and surveillance.
The service provider will work closely with FIND’s Health Programs and other relevant stakeholders, such as manufacturers, donors, regulators, and policy-makers, to ensure that the modelling outputs are aligned with the needs and priorities of the end-users. The service provider will also adhere to the highest standards of scientific rigor, transparency, and ethics in conducting and reporting the modelling studies.

4. **Scope of Work and Deliverables:**

4.1. Support to individual Health Programs

The service provider (organization or applicant) will support FIND’s Health Programs by providing consultancy services on specific projects and products, as identified by the Health Program leads. Table 1 describes the core services to be provided.

Table 1: Definition of Core Services*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modelling performance targets for products under development</td>
<td>Assist FIND teams to define achievable and practical performance objectives of products in development by FIND or its partners. It applies a method based on data to determine the development goals for the products and to guide WHO TPP performance goals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modelling the Impact of Diagnostic Tests</td>
<td>Help the FIND team to evaluate the potential or realized impact of different diagnostic tests with mathematical models, including patient pathway (cohort) models and/or transmission models, as appropriate. Evaluate the health outcomes, costs, and resource use of different diagnostic tests and strategies. These outcomes may include determining the disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) averted, the economic value of societal gain, and the impact of supporting elimination activities. For prospective evaluations, create various scenarios of diagnostic use cases and evaluate outcomes in terms of cases detected, treatment initiated, transmission dynamics, DALYs averted, QALYs gained, mortality, and cost-effectiveness to quantify potential impact of new technologies or implementation strategies. Identify potential competing factors and facilitators of impact. For retrospective evaluations, identify and/or build appropriate models to estimate realized impact of FIND-supported technologies and implementation. Assist FIND in liaising with partners to identify appropriate data sources for modeling. Perform appropriate sensitivity analyses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service Provider Support for Modelling and Cost-effectiveness Studies</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Support Economic Evaluation for Studies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist the FIND team to collect cost data, conduct data analysis, and modeling for economic evaluation of studies related to diagnostic tests. This activity involves developing and applying mathematical models, cost-effectiveness tools, and data visualization techniques to support decision making and policy recommendations.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Support Study Design and Implementation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist the FIND Health Programs in the design and implementation of evaluation studies, pilot/feasibility studies, and implementation/M&amp;E activities to ensure appropriate data are collected to evaluate the impact of diagnostic investments. Serve as a thought partner for FIND teams on development of appropriate data collection methodologies and tools.</td>
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* This list is indicative and other needs and priorities may arise during the course of the contract and will be discussed directly between FIND and the awarded service provider.

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**4.2. Service Provider Support for Modelling and Cost-effectiveness Studies**

The service provider will assist the FIND impact team in performing its main activities, such as setting performance goals for products in development, estimating the impact of diagnostic tests, conducting economic analysis for studies, and offering technical support to countries and partners. The service provider should have skills in at least one FIND priority disease area and be able to work flexibly and cooperatively with the FIND impact team and other stakeholders on innovative projects that use modelling and costing studies to show the impact of diagnostics. We require a service provider who can offer both modelling and economic analysis support to health programs for possible projects that are not yet specified, as well as for specific ongoing or upcoming projects in different disease areas as outlined below.

- **Work Package 1: HAT Elimination**

  The objective of this work package is to use transmission modelling to estimate the impact of different levels of investment in diagnostics access (active and passive screening) on the likelihood of eliminating human African trypanosomiasis (HAT) by 2030. The service provider should also estimate the relevant health and cost outcomes to support cost-effectiveness analyses of HAT elimination strategies. The duration of this work package is one year.

- **Work Package 2: NG/CT Point-of-care Tests**

  The objective of this work package is to demonstrate the health and economic outcomes associated with the scale-up of point-of-care tests for Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG) or NG/Chlamydia trachomatis (CT)
infections. The service provider should use modelling and costing analyses to generate guidance for investment and deployment of NG/CT POCT in different settings and populations. The duration of this work package is one year.

- **Work Package 3: Malaria**

The objective of this work package is to use modelling and costing analyses to quantify the potential impacts and cost-effectiveness of novel malaria testing and screening strategies, including the use of new technologies such as non-invasive near-infrared spectroscopy. The service provider should compare the performance and feasibility of different testing and screening methods in various malaria endemic regions and scenarios. The duration of this work package is one year.

- **Work Package 4: TB CAD**

The objective of this work package is to determine the optimal screening algorithms for tuberculosis (TB) using computer-aided detection (CAD) in Kenya and South Africa. The service provider should use modelling and costing analyses to assess the potential impact of different use cases for CAD in both facility-based and community-based screening. The service provider should also evaluate the potential trade-offs and incorporation of high throughput centralized screening using swabs on open PCR and CAD in South Africa. The duration of this work package is one year.

- **Work Package 5: TB tNGS**

The objective of this work package is to support the development of an investment case for targeted next-generation sequencing (tNGS) for identifying TB drug resistance in South Africa. The service provider should use modelling and costing analyses to estimate the number of TB drug resistance cases that could be identified using tNGS as the standard of care in South Africa. The service provider should also assess the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of implementing tNGS in different settings and populations. The duration of this work package is one year.

Finally, as a core service provider for the Impact Department, the provider is also expected to support the Senior Director of Impact and Director of Strategic Information unit in the development and implementation of processes and tools to streamline collaboration with other FIND teams. This entails reviewing draft processes, tools and templates and attending department meetings.
5. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

FIND expects the applicant to demonstrate the following:

- Demonstrated experience with statistical and mathematical modeling, particularly for relevant infectious disease included in the work package
- Ability to clearly communicate modeling results to non-quantitative partners,
- Strong data- and code-management skills, including experience with version control (git/Github)

6. APPLICATION GUIDELINES:

Applicants who wish to apply should prepare and send a proposal in English and formatted in Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, or PDF that follows this structure:

1. Executive summary
2. Organizational or applicant profile: A brief overview of the legal status and background of the applicant, as well as a recent organigram/organizational chart, showing the title, names and CV of key employees. Documents that prove the legal entity of the applicant, such as incorporation, tax registration, trading licence or others, should be attached to the proposal as appendices.
3. A statement of capabilities of the service provider experience related to one or more FIND disease programs: Tuberculosis, Anti-microbial resistance, Non-communicable Diseases (NCD), Cervical cancer, Malaria, Neglected Tropical disease, and Pandemic threat.
4. A description of service provider experience related to the scope of planned or ongoing work highlighted in the RFP
5. A Project Proposal for work package in the RFP
   a. A workplan with a detailed outline of proposed activities and the staff needed for completion of work
   b. A gantt chart showing development timelines
   c. A detailed budget
      i. Explanation of the cost for executing the assignment, including a breakdown of all the financial elements per service. Applicants should provide as much information as possible to justify the proposed budget/fees.
6. A financial statement, and cost of different resources within the organization (e.g. monthly cost-to-company of different key members of staff; overhead rate; etc)

7. AWARD CONDITIONS (EXCLUSION CRITERIA):

Applicants/Bidders that are selected for final awards are required to:

- Be legally permitted to perform work in the country where the contract will be performed.
- Commit to and follow FIND Global Access Policy and FIND Code of Conduct and Ethics.
- Be able to meet all conditions described in Appendix 1 to this RFP
8. **How to Apply**

Complete proposals should be submitted by email to impact-rfp@finddx.org by 12:00 CET (Central European Time) on **June 28th, 2024**. Selection of the applications will be based upon separate assessments of the offers. FIND reserves the right to request further information throughout the RFP process.

9. **Evaluation and Award Process:**

Applications will be assessed, and a service provider selected through a systematic process involving both technical and financial evaluations. A first pass evaluation of all proposals will be performed for an assessment of proposal completeness and clarification of essential technical and provider-specific details, and only complete proposals that contain all the required details will be selected for a technical and financial evaluation. Proposals selected for technical and financial evaluation will be evaluated to determine the applicant's capacity to execute the project as per the following evaluation criteria.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Experience of the applicant relevant to the assignment and demonstration of successful execution of projects of similar nature</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Adequacy, quality and feasibility of the proposed work plan to deliver the scope of work and deliverables</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Key experts’ qualifications and competence for the assignment</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The financial statement including the transparency and breakdown of all financial elements. This is not based on the figures but whether the statement covers all elements requested.</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</table>

FIND will invite the applicant receiving the highest score based on the above criteria to negotiate the technical and financial components if necessary. If the negotiations fail to result in an acceptable contract within a reasonable time, the FIND reserves the right to terminate the negotiations, at its sole discretion, and to invite, at its sole discretion, the applicant receiving the next highest score to negotiate both its technical and financial proposals.

10. **Contractual Terms and Conditions:**

FIND uses commercial level contractual mechanisms where the standard Terms and Conditions address the requirements of supplying a product for public health particularly in LMICs.

11. **Term of Contract:**

The contract will start earliest on July 8th, 2024 for a period of 1 year with possibility of renewal to support any additional projects.

12. **Confidentiality:**

FIND considers any proposal received under the RFP as confidential. If required, FIND can sign a Confidentiality Disclosure Agreement (CDA) with interested Applicants/Bidders prior to proposal submission. FIND will not disclose the proposal to third parties without the prior written agreement of the proposal submitter. Review of proposals will be carried out by an internal FIND team as well as a team of external experts (which may or may not include members of FIND’s independent Scientific Advisory Committee), all of whom are under confidentiality and are recused if found to have a potential conflict of
interest (which they are obliged to disclose). Any specific questions concerning confidentiality should be addressed to the FIND team.

13. **TIMELINES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Expected date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Publication of RFP</td>
<td>18 June 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Closing for submission of written queries</td>
<td>24 June 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Closing of proposal submissions</td>
<td>28 June 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Evaluation of proposals</td>
<td>28 June – 2 July 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Award</td>
<td>5 July 2024</td>
</tr>
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14. **QUESTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL:**
Please email any questions in English by e-mail to Impact-rfp@finddx.org. Questions will be accepted and responded to expediently until 24th June 2024.

15. **APPENDIX/ICES: NONE**