

BRIDGING THE GAPS

Health and rights for key populations

Aidsfonds is seeking a
Report writing and editing consultant

In support of the 'Young, Wild...and Free?'- project: prevention, treatment, care and support services for young key populations'
[May 2021 - July 2021]

About 'Young, Wild... and Free?'

'Young, Wild... and Free?' is a 2- year project, commenced in 2019, finding her roots in Bridging the Gaps (2011-2020) – a partnership focusing on a world where sex workers, people who use drugs and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people can enjoy their human rights and access quality HIV prevention, treatment and care. Bridging the Gaps, very successful in addressing taboo topics, in fighting stigma and discrimination and in establishing and increasing access to services where key populations feel safe and respected, has confronted us with topics that remain sensitive, and need urgent and careful address. Meaningful involvement of, and appropriate services for young and adolescent key populations is such a topic.

'Young, Wild... and Free?' investigates the constraints young key population members encounter: What is there to learn from the young people that we currently reach with services, and how can we use these learnings to upscale the demand for services and service uptake? What can we learn from some of the best practices in reaching youth? How can we disseminate these practices further and increase the quality of services for young key populations?

By understanding young people's service needs better, and by directly piloting best practices, 'Young, Wild... and Free?' aims to increase the demand for services among young key population members, as well as a greater service uptake and more optimal HIV and SRHR health outcomes.

Data around young people

Data around young key populations is limited as this target group is often underrepresented in bio-behaviour studies. Epidemiological studies reveal that young people who use drugs, sell sex or who identify as LGBT shoulder a relatively disproportionate burden of new HIV infections when such data is reliably collected. Young people are also, even within key population approaches, harder to reach. They have different needs and require an appropriate set of, and approach in, services. In addition to the regressive laws that criminalize and undermine key populations of all age groups, there are laws, regulations and social norms unique to young key populations that keep them from accessing services.

About the Assignment

To understand the current context and to optimize access to services for young people, 2 separate research trajectories have been executed in the first phase of 'Young, Wild... and Free?':

1. A systematic desk-research into
 - the existing normative guidance and its application in national level guidelines on providing SRHR/HIV health care for young key populations;
 - the academic evidence base for successful SRHR/HIV programming for young key populations;
 - documented good and promising practices in increasing service uptake and quality of services for young key populations youth programming, the development and scale up of youth-specific approaches; and
2. 4 youth-led participatory researches in focus countries Kenya, South Africa, Vietnam and Russia, to better understand the needs and risk behaviours among local young key population members and the barriers and opportunities in scaling youth-focused interventions.

Both research trajectories have resulted in raw and extensive research reports, which now have to be summarized into documents which can be used as a basis for learning and scale-up for all relevant partners: e.g. young key populations, community (based or led) organisations, regional and international NGO's. Therefore we are currently seeking for a **report writing and editing consultant**.

Deliverables and timeline

Desk-research - summary

- A summary of the systematic desk research report (*currently 49 pages excluding annexes*)
 - To inform good practice in reaching and engaging young key populations, the summary should at least include a presentation of the findings and recommendations based on the findings.
 - The summary should be suitable to read and understand for all of the above mentioned relevant partners (readability score: basic - average).
 - Maximum pages 15 (excluding cover page, table of content, list of abbreviations and annexes)

Timeline

This part of the assignment will start around 5th of May 2021 and must be completed no later than 5th of June 2021.

Youth-led participatory researches - summary

- An executive summary for each of the 4 researches individually (4 in total) (*currently ranging from 18 – 70 pages excluding annexes*)
 - Maximum pages 3-4
- A report/ paper in which all data of the YLPR is combined
 - The report/ paper should the most important findings, lessons learned and recommendations for scale up of best practices in the 4 respective countries.
 - Maximum of 10-15 pages (excluding cover page, table of content, list of abbreviation and appendices)
 - Both summaries should be suitable to read and understand for all above mentioned relevant partners (readability score: basic/ average).

Timeline

This part of the assignment will start around 15th of May 2021 and must be completed no later than 30th of July 2021.

Profile

We are looking for a consultant who:

- Has an advanced university degree in Communications, Journalism, Social Sciences or related field; or similar experiences
- Is fluent in English and has proven native-level writing skills;
- Has at least five years of experience in report writing or related professional experience
- Has an understanding of the HIV/SRHR and (young) key populations' context across different countries;
- Is available to execute all of the above deliverables

How to apply

Send your CV demonstrating relevant expertise and experience and a proposal (max. 2 pages) with an estimation of costs and timeline to Aidsfonds by the **30th of April 2021.**

CV and proposals can be sent to Silvia Jongeling (sjongeling@aidsfonds.nl) and Anke Groot (agroot@aidsfonds.nl).