



UNIVERSITY RESEARCH Co., LLC
CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES



Request for Applications
CONTRACT NUMBER 72061718C0001

Request for applications to conduct a Baseline Survey for the USAID Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services in the Acholi Region of Northern Uganda (USAID RHITES-N Acholi)

Date of Issue: 1st July 2018

Closing Time and Date for Applications' Submission:

5:00pm (Ugandan Time), 13th July, 2018

Applications must be submitted to USAID's Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services in Northern Uganda, Acholi (USAID RHITES-N, Acholi)

Plot 84 Eden Road, Gulu, Uganda

P.O. BOX 28745 Uganda

OR to RhitesAcholiProcurement@URC-CHS.com

University Research Co., LLC (URC)

URC is a global company dedicated to improving the quality of health care, social services, and health education worldwide. With a non-profit affiliate, the Center for Human Services (CHS), URC manages projects in over 45 countries, including the United States.

Established in 1965, URC offers a range of technical assistance to strengthen health and social systems and service quality by empowering communities and health workers to identify and scale up locally appropriate solutions to critical problems. Internationally, we expand access to and improve the quality of services addressing maternal, newborn, and child health; infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria; reproductive health and family planning; food and nutrition; and vulnerable children and families. In the US, we focus on improving communication related to issues like substance abuse, with a particular focus on reaching underserved populations.

URC's mission is to provide innovative, evidence-based solutions to health and social challenges worldwide. Please join us in carrying out our mission (<http://www.unc-chs.com/>).

Background:

The Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services - North, Acholi (RHITES-N, Acholi) is a five-year USAID funded Activity implemented by University Research Company LLC in eight districts of Acholi sub region i.e. Gulu, Omoro, Nwoya, Amuru, Lamwo, Kitgum, Agago and Pader.



The overall goal of this Activity is to increase the effective use of integrated health services that contribute to measurable and lasting improvements in the Acholi sub-region of Northern Uganda and develop health systems to sustain these gains. The project will focus on three result areas

- Increased Availability and Accessibility of Health Services.
- Improved Health Systems for Quality Services.
- Increased Adoption of Healthy Behaviors.

USAID RHITES-N Acholi would like to conduct a baseline assessment in the eight supported districts focusing on HIV/TB and family health indicators including malaria, Maternal Neonatal and Child Health (MNCH,) family planning, nutrition, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) with special emphasis on vulnerable groups i.e. pregnant women, children under five, adolescent girls and young women as well as key populations and priority populations in the region. The assessment will also include mapping of the special groups of people identifying the underserved.

Purpose of the baseline assessment:

To effectively measure RHITES N Acholi's impact and success, strong and evidence-based baselines are required. This assessment will constitute the basis to measure the project performance over time for key process indicators

- Collect and analyze baseline data for key service delivery (HIV, TB, malaria, MNCH, family planning, nutrition, and WASH services) and Health Systems Strengthening(HSS) indicators that are not available through the routine HMIS, LQAS and DHS reports. This data will focus on the district, sub county, facility and community levels.
 - Service delivery – referral and networks, utilization of community structures, service quality gaps, service delivery gaps.
 - HSS – Infrastructure, leadership, laboratory management, waste management, data utilization levels, equipment, staffing and coordination.
- Identify key barriers hindering successful service delivery in Acholi sub region as well suggestions from stakeholders on how to address them.
- Mapping existing key and priority populations as well as partners in the region including NGOs, CBOs, USAID Projects, UN projects, DFID projects etc and also highlight areas of collaboration

Deliverables:

The consultancy firm will be expected to provide the following:

- Inception Report which responds to the scope of work with a methodology, survey tools, detailed work plan, a process of data collection and analysis as well as draft set of data-collection tools.
- A comprehensive draft baseline report including a clear set of actionable recommendations.
- Presentation on the main findings of the draft evaluation report for final consensus
- A final baseline report (hard copy and a soft copy) incorporating feedback from USAID RHITES-N Acholi and key stakeholders. The report should include
 - Executive Summary
 - Introduction
 - Methodology
 - Findings of the baseline study.



- Conclusions and recommendations
- Soft copies of the data

Time Frame:

The consultancy firm will be required to undertake the exercise within a period of 30 working days after signing of the agreement. The timetable is as follows:

Task	Number of working days needed	Start date	End date
Develop inception report including work plan, methodology, draft tools	3	13th July	15 th July
Pretesting and Finalizing assessment tools	4	17 st July	20 th July
Conduct primary data collection	10	23 rd July	2 nd August
Data analysis/ Draft baseline report and submit for comments	10	3 rd August	12 th August
Incorporate comments and submit final draft	3	18 th August	20 th August

Management and Supervision:

USAID RHITES-N, Acholi will oversee the process and be responsible for accountability and guidance throughout all phases of execution, and approval of all deliverables. The consultant will receive direct guidance from Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Director. All deliverables will be approved by the Chief of Party.

Firm and team requirements:

The consultancy firm should have experience in research, baseline assessment, Monitoring & Evaluation methodologies. In addition, the firm should have solid work experience with USAID health projects, experience in gathering and systematizing large amounts of data; and a valid license.

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