



Amplifying Community Voices for Prevention
Strategic Community HIV Prevention Empowerment

Terms of Reference

SCOPE Peer Research Consultant: Community Perspectives on HIV Combination Prevention Tools

Overview

The health and well-being of millions of people in Europe and Central Asia continues to be impacted by HIV/AIDS, yet specific population groups are disproportionately affected due to socio-economic factors and inequities in access to combination prevention.

In response, EATG has launched a two-year project (2022-23) entitled [SCOPE- Strategic Community HIV Prevention Empowerment](#)¹.

For this project, EATG is partnering with Coalition PLUS to lead a community-research team regarding key community interest/preferences, acceptability, usability and accessibility of selected combination prevention tools and approaches.

EATG is assembling a **team of three community representatives** that will address the existing research gap for underserved key populations: sex workers (all genders) and trans and gender diverse (TGD) communities. The selected community representatives will gain and/or strengthen their skills for the planning and implementation of peer-led research and generate needed data for local community advocacy.

About the SCOPE peer-research on HIV combination prevention tools

With guidance from an Expert Community Member Group, EATG's SCOPE project aims to strengthen the skills and knowledge of community health workers, advocates and researchers in the field of HIV combination prevention. It focuses on communities that are inadequately served by policies and programmes.

Two underserved populations that have been identified as priorities for this research activity are sex worker and trans and gender diverse (TGD) communities. Such focus is reinforced by recent disproportionate estimates of global HIV prevalence among trans feminine and masculine individuals²; and the ongoing structural barriers preventing the active participation of sex workers in HIV research³.

During the SCOPE project's [e-meeting](#) on the biomedical prevention pipeline and [in-person workshop](#) on inclusive community practices, input provided by sex worker and TGD participants echoed previous recommendations found in the No Data No More Manifesto⁴ and *Sex Work and HIV in Europe advocacy toolkit*⁵. The clear demand from both populations being the need for inclusion and compensation of peers in all stages of the research process (protocol to

¹ SCOPE has been developed by the EATG and was made possible through a grant from ViiV Healthcare Europe Ltd.

² <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0260063>

³ https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-64171-9_2

⁴ <https://www.avac.org/no-data-no-more>

⁵ <https://www.eswalliance.org/sex-work-and-hiv-in-europe-advocacy-tool-kit>

dissemination) in order to generate meaningful data for prevention advocacy and implementation.

Given the diverse and intersectional profiles of sex workers (of all genders) and TGD individuals across Europe and Central Asia, this SCOPE research activity provides an opportunity to gain insights to inform the effective implementation and uptake of current and future HIV prevention tools.

Objectives

- Support the capacity building and professional development of individuals who are transgender **and/or** sex workers.
- Provide an opportunity for peers to apply their expertise and lead a community-based research project to increase future employment/research opportunities.

Expected outcomes

- Community data is generated to inform policy and programme development and implementation.
- Visibility of community research via publication.
- Peer research and recommendations.

Job description (tasks and deliverable timeline)

The work will take place between December 2022 and November 2023.

A. Indicative list of tasks	B. Timeline	C. Payment
1. Online training with Coalition PLUS	December 2022	50 EUR per hour (up to 800 EUR, VAT included)
2. Regular online check-in meetings with Coalition PLUS lead researcher	December 2022-April 2023	50 EUR per hour (up to 400 EUR, VAT included)
3. Data collection and analysis	December 2022-February 2023	50 EUR per hour (up to 1600 EUR, VAT included)
4. Contribute to publication drafting and dissemination (e.g. input in article, abstract, poster, local publication and participate in presentations)	March-September 2023	50 EUR per hour (up to 800 EUR, VAT included)

A. Indicative list of deliverables	B. Timeline	C. Payment

1. Structured research report on key findings	April 2023	1600 EUR (VAT included)
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Payment

The overall amount available is **5.200 EUR (VAT included) per peer research consultant**, equivalent to thirteen days of work. The appointed peer research consultants will be compensated upon completion and delivery of the deliverables as described above. The compensation of deliverables will be proceeded after a quality assessment and the approval of the EATG Executive Director in consultation with the Combination Prevention Programme Manager and Project Officer. Tasks that are not delivered or have not reached the expected outcomes will not be compensated.

Collaboration with Coalition PLUS, EATG and SCOPE community expert group

For the duration of the activity, the Peer Research Consultants will mainly communicate with the Coalition PLUS Lead Researcher, the EATG Combination Prevention Project Officer, and when relevant the Policy and Programme Manager and Chair and Community Expert Group. Communication will take place primarily over email, however online meetings can be arranged on an ad hoc basis.

Selection criteria

- Currently working or volunteering at a community-based organisation/NGO in the sector of frontline HIV prevention service delivery to sex worker, trans and/or gender diverse communities.
- Located in a country within Central, Southern, or South-eastern Europe.
- Previous experience with community-based research (e.g. involvement in research planning and implementation).
- Fluent in either English, French or Spanish (oral and writing).
- Capacity to collect and organise information quickly and efficiently.
- Structured writing skills.
- Good computer skills (Word, Excel, Internet).
- Capacity to work autonomously and collaboratively with the project team.

In addition to the selection criteria above, we encourage applications from transgender and gender-diverse people and sex workers who: may belong to both communities prioritised in this call; are racialised; have a migration background; and are living with HIV. Any personal information you provide in your application will be handled with great confidence.

Selection process

The selection will be made by the EATG Executive Director, in collaboration with Coalition PLUS, the EATG Combination Prevention Programme Manager and the Project Officer, based on the submitted applications and the degree to which they fulfil eligibility criteria.

Application

If you are interested, please send an application to sarah.north@eatg.org by **6 December 2022 (23:59 CET)**.

Your application can be submitted in either English, French, or Spanish and must include:

- ✓ Your CV
- ✓ 2 relevant samples of your own writing in either English, French, or Spanish (e.g. research abstract, report, executive summary, etc.)
- ✓ A brief description (250 words max.) of your experience with HIV combination prevention related work and your **motivation** to carry out community-based research
- ✓ A brief research outline (500 words max.) that addresses the following:
 - description of the research question(s) you would want to address, including rationale;
 - the proposed methods;
 - what is needed for the successful implementation of the research (e.g. any methodological or ethical considerations?);
 - why this study might be impactful and how its findings could be used locally to improve access to Combination Prevention.