



Independent observer  
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## Expressions of Interest to Be Solicited for GMS Capacity Building Initiative

Management Sciences for Health, Inc. (MSH) has announced that in October 2013 it will be soliciting expressions of interest from regional consulting organisations in support of a project to provide technical support to countries experiencing challenges implementing grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The project is managed by Grant Management Solutions (GMS), an initiative of MSH, which works with the (US) President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The GMS project provides high-quality technical support directly to country coordinating mechanisms and principal recipients under the Global Fund's new funding model and for existing grants. The project also builds the capacity of consultants and regional partner organisations to provide such support.

The expressions of interest that MSH will be soliciting have to do with the capacity building portion of the GMS project. As [reported](#) in GFO when a follow-on project to GMS was awarded by USAID in October 2012 (the initial project having completed its term), GMS was asked to take on the following new activities:

- strengthen 12 small regional consulting organisations to provide high quality technical assistance to PRs using the technical support funds in the grant budgets; and
- build the capacity of individual consultants through a formal consultant certification process combining training, team assignments, technical supervision and continuing education.

Six regional consulting organisations have already been recruited. The expressions of interest to be

launched in October will enable GMS to select the other six.

GMS will be looking for organisations with capabilities and experience in one or more of four technical areas: governance and oversight; programme and financial management; procurement and supply Management; and M&E. The regions of interest for this solicitation may include: Asia Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, East Africa, West and Central Africa, Southern Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Successful organisations will need to demonstrate their potential to implement, manage, and provide technical oversight of complex scopes of work at national or regional level, or both, including production of technical documents and delivery of effective capacity-strengthening interventions that meet stringent standards of quality.

GMS will support successful organisations to integrate into their strategic business plan technical support to Global Fund grantees in their respective regions, and to build capacity to target, evaluate and respond to a range of business opportunities in this field.

For more information on the required qualifications, see the [pre-solicitation announcement](#).

The full solicitation is expected to be released in early October. The solicitation documents will be in English. To be included in the e-mail list for receipt of the solicitation and any updates, interested applicants should submit the following contact information by e-mail to [solicitation@gmsproject.org](mailto:solicitation@gmsproject.org) on or before 30 September 2013: company name, location (country), main contact person and contact e-mail.

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