SOP Template 1: Conducting a situational analysis for self-testing for HIV, viral hepatitis and syphilis

**A needs assessment will help determine where the gaps are between testing services provided and what the community needs.**

**Key Considerations when introducing ST**

* Can you demonstrate the value of ST from the situational analysis of existing testing services?
* Can resources be mobilized to support ST implementation and scale-up?
* Are there laws/policies regulating the marketing, distribution, use of ST kits?
* Have communities been consulted and engaged, do they understand ST?
* Are HIV testing services accessible for further testing to confirm any reactive (positive) self-test results? (facility and community-based services)
* Are treatment services accessible for those diagnosed with the disease?
* Is relevant prevention information available and accessible for those with a negative self-test result?
* Is the country able to procure quality-assured ST products (WHO prequalified)?
* Are quality assurance systems in place or does it have plans to adapt or develop such systems?
* Is there post-market surveillance system to monitor social harm, adverse events or complaints or does the country have plans to develop one?

**Key steps in situational analysis**

* This process should be rapid and led by the Ministry of Health (working with key stakeholders).
* Identify key documents to be reviewed (policies, strategies, reports, surveys, studies etc) and key programmatic data sources (DHIS etc) for HIV/Hep/Syphilis.
* The analysis should examine progress and gaps across national and subnational HIV epidemiology and programmatic data, including HIV testing coverage, testing frequency/retesting, knowledge of status among people with HIV, positivity rate, linkage to prevention and treatment, and HIV testing costs.
* Identify populations missed by current testing programs or those at high risk of HIV/HCV/STI who require more frequent testing.
* Determine how existing services would be adapted when introducing ST
* Establish if there are ST-kits that are already available (informally, unregulated, unregistered).
* Do a stakeholder mapping of partners who will support implementation. Also include advocacy for other potential stakeholders.
* Ensure the process is consultative and addresses concerns, share information, and learn how NOT to implement ST.
* Determine the extent of sustainable funding sources for ST which should inform implementation decisions.
* Define gaps and challenges and establish populations targeted.
* Integrate ST into existing working groups and add a ST-focused subgroup to guide the development of ST policies, guidelines, M&E tools, SOPs, research.