

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

### **Technical Assistance for the Development of the Philippine Strategic Plan to Address Overweight and Obesity 2023-2028**



**World Health  
Organization**

**Philippines**

#### **1. Purpose of the APW**

The World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines is searching for an institutional partner to provide technical assistance for the development of the Philippine strategic plan to address overweight and obesity (2023-2028), under an Agreement for Performance of Work (APW) contract. The selected contractual partner will work in close coordination with the National Nutrition Council (NNC), concerned bureaus in the Department of Health (DoH), and WHO Philippines.

The proposals are due by 26 May 2023.

#### **2. Background**

Halting the rise in obesity is essential to combat the growing burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCD) and to improve health and well-being for all. Stopping the growing obesity epidemic is one of the 2025 Global Nutrition Targets (for children under 5) and one of the global targets for NCD reduction (for adolescents and adults). Without addressing obesity, it will not be possible to achieve the 30% reduction of premature mortality from NCDs by 2030, one of the key targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. As a global response, WHO launched in the 75<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly in 2022, the WHO Acceleration Plan to Stop Obesity to accelerate country-level action against obesity. The Philippines was identified as one of the frontrunner countries in line with this initiative.

In the Philippines, 40% of adults are either overweight or obese as per the 2021 Expanded National Nutrition Survey (DOST-FNRI, 2022). Prevalence of overweight and obesity is rapidly rising across all age groups especially among Filipino school-age children and adolescents. In addressing this burgeoning public health issue, a clear strategic plan is needed to consolidate actions to enable health-supportive environments that can help in preventing obesity, fiscal and regulatory measures to make healthy foods more accessible and affordable, clinical tools to ensure quality health services for people with obesity, among many other evidence-based and high-impact interventions in the field of food systems, health, nutrition, and other sectors.

WHO Philippines is working with the National Nutrition Council (NNC), together with the Ad Hoc Group on Obesity on various initiatives including the development of a national strategic plan in addressing overweight and obesity to operationalize the forthcoming National Policy on Addressing Overweight and Obesity and the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2023-2028. This strategic plan shall also serve as the roadmap for the Philippines as a frontrunner country in the WHO Acceleration Plan. Furthermore, this strategic plan aims to provide specific directions, guidance, and milestones to stakeholders involved in preventing and managing overweight and obesity in the country, ensuring a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach in addressing the issue of overnutrition.

Related to the foregoing context, WHO is supporting the NNC to develop and finalize the Philippine Strategic Plan to Address Overweight and Obesity for 2023 – 2028 and ensure its full alignment with the PPAN 2023-2028 and the principles of the WHO Acceleration Plan to Stop Obesity.

#### **3. Timeline**

Start date: 01 Jun 2023

End date: 31 Aug 2023

#### **4. Place of Assignment**

Manila, Philippines

#### **5. Scope of Work**

Under the supervision and strategic guidance of the Health Systems Team Coordinator of WHO Philippines and direct supervision of the Technical Officer on NCD Prevention and Health Promotion, and in close coordination with the National Nutrition Council and concerned bureaus in the Department of Health, the APW partner shall be responsible in delivering the following:

##### **Output 1: Approved inception report with detailed work plan**

Deliverable 1.1: Inception report with attached work plan, and Gantt chart of activities agreed with WHO

##### **Output 2: Finalized Philippine Strategic Plan to Address Overweight and Obesity 2023-2028**

Deliverable 2.1: Situational analysis report on the overweight and obesity situation in the Philippines to factor in review (including desk review, virtual / in-person consultations) of previous analyses done such as the *DOH-NNC-UNICEF Landscape Analysis on the Prevention of Overweight and Obesity in Children*, key research (e.g., *DOST-FNRI 2021 Expanded National Nutrition Survey*), policies, strategic frameworks, and other relevant documents

Deliverable 2.2: Results framework drafted to define key outcomes, outputs, targets, timeline, and cost requirements for integration into the PPAN 2023-2028, factoring the outputs of previous planning workshops and fora on the subject

Deliverable 2.3: Institutional arrangements proposed for the coordination of activities on overweight and obesity prevention and management

Deliverable 2.4: Monitoring and evaluation mechanism defined to track progress in achieving identified strategic goals

Deliverable 2.5: Presentation and consultation of the draft of the Philippine Strategic Plan to Address Overweight and Obesity 2023-2028 to the members of the Ad Hoc Group on Obesity to include the NNC, DOH, and other relevant partners and stakeholders

Deliverable 2.6: Final internal review and revision of the strategic plan completed following feedback received from the presentation and consultations

Deliverable 2.7: Final print-ready Philippine Strategic Plan to Address Overweight and Obesity 2023-2028 draft document

##### **Output 3: Technical and financial report**

Deliverable 3.1: Project materials, to include raw data, recordings, minutes of meetings, photos, references, and other relevant materials, stored in a cloud folder and submitted to WHO Philippines, DOH, and the NNC

Deliverable 3.2: Final technical report

Deliverable 3.3: Final financial report

#### **6. Qualifications**

The contractual partner or institution's members must fulfill the following qualifications:

##### **Education:**

- Team lead must be a public health professional with postgraduate or doctoral-level qualifications in nutrition / public health / food systems for health, and other related area (s)

**Work Experience:**

- Minimum of five years of relevant work experience in nutrition and/or public health.
- Minimum of five years of experience in research and program and policy development in nutrition and/or public health.
- Minimum of five years of experience on collaborating with relevant government agencies at the national and/or sub-national level, academic and civil society organizations, and development partners working on nutrition.
- Relevant experience in supporting the development of tools, standards, guidelines, and strategic and implementation plans related to nutrition
- Relevant experience in supporting, coordinating, and facilitating consultations with stakeholders and/or experts working on nutrition
- Previous experience working with DOH, NNC, WHO, and other UN agencies / international NGOs an advantage
- Former research, planning, and/or program experience in the field of overweight and obesity management and prevention in the Philippines is highly desirable

**Technical Knowledge and Skills**

- Demonstrates very good understanding of the nutrition landscape in the Philippines, particularly in the field of overweight and obesity prevention and management
- Possess excellent skills in technical writing and facilitation along with an understanding of policies and procedures, planning and strategy development
- Exhibits a collaborative and positive attitude in work and external engagements amidst pressure and tight deadlines

**Language Requirement:**

- With excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Filipino

**7. Other Requirements**

The contractual partner must not have a direct or indirect interest in the tobacco, alcohol, or breastmilk substitute industries, or human trafficking. The contractor and personnel involved in this work shall have no conflicts of interest in relation to the work being undertaken.

The contractual partner must also be able to adapt to relevant and reasonable project demands and submit deliverables within agreed timelines.

**8. Contract Time**

The work to be done under this contract shall be Development of the Philippine Strategic Plan to Address Overweight and Obesity 2023-2028 as set out in the Terms of Reference. The contract will be completed in not more than 3 months from the commencement of the Work, or otherwise as agreed in writing among the Owner and the Contractor. The work shall be done in strict compliance with the Contract, Specifications, Schedules, and all other Contract documents and all Instructions. Failure to do so shall be at the Contractor's risk and account. Submission of Bid by the Contractor shall constitute acknowledgement by the Contractor that it is aware of and concurs with all the requirements or conditions incorporated in the Call for Proposal and the other documents.

As time is an essential element of this Contract, for failure to complete all work within the stipulated as set out in the Terms of Reference, the Owner shall charge the Contractor liquidated damages. This shall be in the amount the sum of 0.5% of the total contract amount per day (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays are included) but not to exceed on total 10% (ten percent) of the contract amount. These liquidated damages shall be for the added cost incurred by the Owner for such delay and also for the inconvenience caused

to the users of the Work. It is understood that this is not a penalty but a fixed sum representing the liquidated damages for each calendar day of the delay. Delay shall be counted from the agreed completion date, considering further time extensions approved by the Owner, to the date of completion of work.

## **9. Management of Conflict of Interest**

Any interest by an entity (organization/company), expert, or member of the project team that may affect or reasonably be perceived to (1) affect the expert's objectivity and independence in providing advice to WHO related to the conduct of a project, and/or (2) create an unfair competitive advantage for the expert or persons or institutions with whom the expert has financial or interests (such as adult children or siblings, close professional colleagues, administrative unit or department).

WHO's Conflict of Interest Rules are designed to identify and avoid potentially compromising situations from arising thereby protecting the credibility of the Organization and its normative work. If not identified and appropriately managed such situations could undermine or discount the value of the expert's contribution, and as a consequence, the work in which the expert is involved. Robust management of conflicts of interest not only protects the integrity of WHO and its technical/normative standard-setting processes but also protects the concerned expert and the public interest in general.

## **10. Ethical and Professional Standards**

WHO prides itself on a workforce that adheres to the highest ethical and professional standards and that is committed to put the WHO Values Charter into practice.

WHO has zero-tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment and other types of abusive conduct (i.e., discrimination, abuse of authority and harassment). All members of the WHO workforce have a role to play in promoting a safe and respectful workplace and should report to WHO any actual or suspected cases of SEA, sexual harassment, and other types of abusive conduct. To ensure that individuals with a substantiated history of SEA, sexual harassment or other types of abusive conducts are not hired by the Organization, WHO will conduct a background verification of final candidates.

## **11. Confidentiality Statement**

All input from participants and all related documents about the project are confidential and must **NOT** be handed over to third parties. The contractual partner should advise the participants on how to opt-out or withdraw their statement(s) if needed. The DOH and WHO have exclusive ownership of all documents, and only DOH and WHO has the right to disseminate any information outside the agreed project's scope.

## **Submission Requirements**

Interested institutions and/or individuals should submit electronic copies of the following:

- Cover letter.
- Proposal with financial details (itemized) and proposed timeline; and
- Company profile and qualifications of team members

Address all cover letters and proposals to:

**Dr Rui Paulo De Jesus**

WHO Representative to the Philippines  
Ground Floor, Building 3, Department of Health  
San Lazaro Compound  
Rizal Avenue, Sta Cruz, Manila

Please submit the electronic copy of the proposals with the title **Technical Assistance for the Development of the Philippine Strategic Plan to Address Overweight and Obesity (2023-2028)** to Mrs Ying Chen ([cheny@who.int](mailto:cheny@who.int)) and to [wpphlwr@who.int](mailto:wpphlwr@who.int) . Proposals submitted to the designated email addresses will be considered for shortlisting and will be contacted by the WHO Philippines.

The deadline for submission of proposals is on **26 May 2023**.