I. Opportunity Information

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Project</strong></th>
<th>Philippines Primary Eye Care (PEC) Feasibility Assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>The nature of the work requires the consultant/organisation to be based in the Philippines. Some internal travel is likely.</td>
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<td><strong>Reports To</strong></td>
<td>Head of Programmes (UK)</td>
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<td><strong>Deliverable</strong></td>
<td>Feasibility Assessment Report – expected 30-40 pages approximately</td>
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<td><strong>Expected duration</strong></td>
<td>We expect 30 work days will be needed to complete the feasibility assessment and we require the final report to be submitted within 3 months of the agreed start date</td>
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<td><strong>Start date</strong></td>
<td>Flexible. We hope to commence the work by 01 April 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fee</strong></td>
<td>To be agreed. As an NGO we expect to contract within usual NGO consultancy rates. Please include your estimate for the work in the proposal.</td>
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II. VFAN Context

Vision for a Nation (VFAN) is a multi award-winning UK charity. We are helping people to fully contribute socially and economically to their communities by ensuring they have access to basic eye care services within the framework of their own national health systems. Over the last 8 years with the support of our founder, philanthropist James Chen, together with funding from a range of major donors we have transformed basic eye care services in Rwanda and in 2018 we launched a programme in Ghana. We intend to set up operations in further countries during 2020 and 2021. We have completed initial desk based quantitative and qualitative research to create a shortlist of countries in which we are interested, focusing in South and South East Asia. We have chosen the Philippines for the first detailed feasibility assessment.

We now seek proposals from organisations/NGOs/researchers to complete a feasibility study to assess the opportunity for VFAN to help strengthen PEC within the Philippines health system. This study will be the critical input into our own internal decision making of (a) whether to begin operations in the Philippines and (b) our potential entry points and activity areas.

We are looking to move quickly with the feasibility assessment and ideally have it completed by end June 2020. While some of the research will be desk based (review of policy and strategy papers, skype interviews etc) the overall nature of the work means that the successful candidate/organisation will need to be based in the Philippines.

The consultant will need to demonstrate a good working knowledge of the health system in the Philippines, most likely obtained through working in/alongside the health service. This experience can be gained in any capacity e.g. health service employee, consultant working on projects with the health service/development agencies, NGO working on health projects etc. Ideally, the consultant will have experience working with the eye health sector but this is not essential.

The ToR are intended as a guide to shape individual proposals. We prefer concise proposals and ask candidates to keep these to a maximum of 4 sides of A4.
II. Purpose and Objectives

**Purpose** - The purpose of the assessment is to:

1) **Assess the overall need and potential for a programme to support and strengthen PEC services within the Philippines health system.**

2) **Summarise the primary health care system**: policy; strategy; structure; costs; insurance schemes; facilities and overall strengths/weaknesses;

3) **Summarise the existing PEC service provision (across both private and public sectors).** This should include a summary analysis of:
   a) the availability, accessibility, impact and strengths/weaknesses of the existing PEC services;
   b) the availability of eye medicines and spectacles;
   c) the costs to beneficiaries who wish to access services or need spectacles;
   d) the extent to which PEC is integrated within the broader health system and operates in synergy with the secondary eye care system;
   e) the key agencies involved in PEC (public, private and NGOs) and how they coordinate together;
   f) the overall geographical distribution of services and a headline summary of any gaps in service provision in for example more rural or marginalised regions.

4) **Identify the key potential opportunities for VFAN to support the Ministry of Health (MoH) to strengthen PEC services.** These should be aimed at strengthening the health system and should utilise and develop – rather than duplicate – the already available human resources, materials and delivery systems. Based on our experience in other countries, we envisage that interventions could include some of the following:
   a) support MoH to develop a national plan for PEC;
   b) develop eye health training materials for primary health workers;
   c) support the training of primary health workers in PEC;
   d) raise public awareness of eye health issues;
   e) strengthen and integrate the referral pathways across primary, secondary and tertiary levels of the eye health system and
   f) monitor and evaluate the impact of PEC. In the Philippines.

**Objectives**
While VFAN does not have a fixed specification for the exact content of the research, the report must include a clear summary of the following:

1. **How primary health care is structured and provided across the Philippines including:**
   - Existing PEC policy and strategy framework and the extent to which these are utilised/implemented on a national basis
   - The balance between centralised control vs devolved authority to regions/districts

2. **The need for PEC services in the Philippines.**
   - What is the prevalence of visual impairment in the Philippines and across regions/districts in the Philippines?
   - What eye health issues and problems are significant in the country?

3. **Existing capacity of PEC services and human resources.**
   - What eye care services are available? How are they distributed and are they available in all areas of the Philippines? Who provides them: public, private and/or NGOs? How do these groups interact, coordinate and work together? What budget amounts do these organisations spend on PEC?
4. **Gaps in PEC services and weaknesses/constraints in human resources**
   - What human resources are allocated to PEC? How are they trained and by who? How are these human resources distributed? What level of care are they trained & equipped to provide?
   - How are they trained and by who?

5. **Primary health care access and financing**
   - How do individuals access primary health care? What is the typical entry point? How are costs of consultation and treatment met? To what extent is there a national health insurance scheme that includes PEC and meets basic requirements?

6. **Data collection**
   - How is the data collection system structured and what eye health indicators are collected?

7. **Insights from key stakeholders in PEC**
   - What are the issues and challenges in PEC? How can PEC provision be strengthened?

8. **World Health Organisation (WHO)**
   - To what extent does WHO have an active role and engagement on PEC in the Western Pacific Region?

9. **Recommendations for potential interventions**
   - These should highlight the potential opportunities for VFAN to strengthen PEC within the health system of the Philippines. The objective is to recommend potential areas of engagement and to briefly summarise the opportunity and challenges for VFAN to engage in each potential area.

**Key Activities -** We envisage the consultant will need to undertake the following activities:

1. Desk review of existing MoH policies and strategies on the health system more broadly and on eye health and PEC more specifically.

2. Desk review of any existing analyses and reports on the eye health system in the Philippines and its strengths/weaknesses.

3. Initial consultative discussions with MoH officials working on eye health and PEC. The objective is to understand MoH’s own priorities and its assessment of existing strengths/weaknesses and opportunities for engagement with VFAN.

4. Consultative discussions with other eye health NGOs active in the Philippines. Again, the objective is to understand the priorities of these NGOs and their assessment of existing strengths/weaknesses and opportunities for engagement with VFAN.

5. Submit draft report for VFAN review and detailed feedback.

6. Complete and submit final report to VFAN.

**III. Key Dates and Deliverables**

- Response to proposals 21st Feb 2010
- Review of proposals and selection decision 06th March 2020
- Expected start date – flexible but ideally aiming for 01 April 2020
- Final report delivery deadline 03 July 2020 (Assuming 01 April start date)
- Draft report for review June 19th, 2020. VFAN will provide feedback in 5 working days
- Biweekly status review with VFAN’s Head of Programmes (based in UK)
IV. Budget
Please include an itemised budget in the proposal. As an NGO we are expecting to work within typical NGO consultancy rates. Reasonable expenses for economy domestic airfare, hotels etc will be provided in line with VFAN policy and to be approved in advance of travel.

V. Candidate Experience and Competencies

- Based in the Philippines
- Strong analytical skills and attention to detail including the ability to collate, analyse, and present complex data from multiple sources
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Confident communicator, comfortable presenting and communicating with different audiences, at different levels of seniority and using different methods
- Ability to manage own workload, to prioritise effectively, and deliver to deadlines
- Flexible and mature outlook with the ability to adapt to a rapidly changing context
- Strong sense of ownership for quality of work, deliverables and service
- Self-starter, comfortable working with a high level of autonomy and remotely
- Confident and proficient user of MS Office programmes - Word, Excel, PowerPoint

VI. Qualifications and experience

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<th>Education</th>
<th>Essential: University Bachelor’s degree (preferably in Public Health, International development or another relevant field)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Experience</td>
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<td>• Significant experience of working with, and knowledge of, Philippines government health services</td>
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<td>• Experience of working in or with the international development sector (at least 3 years)</td>
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<td>• Proven experience in conducting research</td>
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<td>• Proven ability to write and deliver high quality reports to time and budget, can demonstrate examples of previous work</td>
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<td>• Experience (gained in any sector) developing and managing good stakeholder relationships</td>
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<td>• Results oriented focus, proven experience of working with, and delivering to metrics and targets</td>
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<td>• Experience of living and working in the Philippines.</td>
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<td>Desirable:</td>
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<td>• Experience of working with eye health in development sector and with a good understanding of current priorities and challenges in eye health</td>
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<tr>
<th>Language Requirements</th>
<th>Fluency in spoken and written English</th>
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<td>How to apply</td>
<td>Short proposals (2-4 pages) to be submitted to <a href="mailto:louise.storey@vfaf.org">louise.storey@vfaf.org</a> by 11 March 2020. Please outline the proposed approach, list person/people involved and their relevant experience, provisional work plan and budget.</td>
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Date of Issue: 11 February 2020