

## Name of the project: Saksham Pramaan – Targeted Interventions (TI) and Link Workers Schemes (LWS) Evaluation for National AIDS Control Programme (NACP)

### Project details:

India is committed to 'ending the AIDS' epidemic as a public health threat by 2030 in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). National Strategic Plan (NSP) has a vision to realize the 'Three Zeros' - zero new infections, zero AIDS-related deaths and zero discrimination.

First Priority of the NSP 2017-24 is to accelerate HIV prevention in 'at risk' population including 'key population'. There is a need to evaluate the targeted interventions keeping in mind the priorities and strategies of National Strategic Plan (NSP). This calls for capacity building of the evaluators in recently revised formats for TI and LWS evaluation.

Five Regional Institutes for Capacity building and Evaluation (RICE) are assigned to conduct TI and LWS in their respective zones. The details of RICE given below:

RICE	Zone	States
Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai	West	Mumbai, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka (4)
Aditi Mahavidyalaya, Delhi	North	Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, J & K, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana (8)
XIM University, Bhubaneshwar	East	West Bengal, Odisha, Sikkim and North East (11)
RCUES, Osmania University, Hyderabad	South	Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana (5)
MSU, Baroda	Central	Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand (7)

RICE in coordination with TISS under NACP will undertake annual evaluation of Targeted Interventions and Link Workers Schemes. The TIs reach out to the key High-Risk groups (HRGs) such as Female Sex Workers (FSW), Male having Sex with Male (MSM), Transgender/Hijra (TG), Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) and Bridge Populations such as Migrants and Long-Distance Truckers. Link Worker Scheme (LWS) reach out to HRGs, Bridge Population, Vulnerable Population residing in the rural areas. Together, there are about 1600 TI and LWS 30 catering to more than one million core group and about six million among bridge populations.

The end term evaluation carried out by the State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) and National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) aims to assess the quality and performance of TI projects implemented by NGOs/CBOs. This process, based on various parameters, will determine the continuation or discontinuation of individual TIs in the state. Usually, TIs have been evaluated once in two years, i.e. during 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> month. For the newly recruited TIs (base year 2019-2020), the first evaluation will be conducted during 32<sup>nd</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> month of the project period.

This year at National level, TISS will lead the evaluations with partner institutes at state level in coordination with SACS and NACO TI division.

### Objectives of the evaluation:

1. To assess the performance of TIs in terms of gaps between planned targets and actual achievements.
2. To assess component-specific quality of TI.
3. To assess knowledge level, condom use, health seeking behaviours.
4. To assess the component wise expenditure of and look for variance.

5. To assess the quality and performance of project staff and peer educators during the review period.
6. To assess various systems (accounts/ finance/ human resource/program management) in place at TI NGO/CBO and their effectiveness in the implementation of TIs.
7. To assess the organization capacity.
8. To assess community engagements.
9. To assess the innovations if any.

**Desired qualification and experience of the evaluators:**

1. Minimum 5 years experience in developmental sector and preferably at least 1 year in HIV/AIDS prevention programme.
2. Post graduate in any Social Work, Public Health, and other allied Social Sciences.
3. Community members with minimum qualification of graduation in Social Sciences and at least 2 years of experience in HIV/AIDS prevention programme are also eligible to apply.
4. For Finance evaluators the minimum qualification is a post graduate degree in Commerce or an experience in auditing with a CA firm. SACS internal auditors should not be engaged in TI evaluation due to possible conflict of interest.
5. Preference shall be given to candidates, who have prior experience evaluating development programmes.
6. Sensitive towards issues relating to HRG communities and PLHIVs.
7. Willing to undertake extensive field visits to intervention sites.
8. Well versed in reporting and documentation.
9. Conversant in local language in addition to English.
10. She/he shall have experience in conducting FGDs/IDIs with HRGs and Bridge population.
11. Evaluators should not be currently associated with any TI projects/development partners who are supporting NACP both at National and State level.

**Evaluators required to:**

- a. Evaluators should spend three full days in each TIs/LWS.
- b. It is recommended that the evaluators should visit the community at appropriate hours for informal interaction as per the convenience of the community.
- c. At least 10% of the HRG randomly selected and are to be contacted by the evaluation team through one to one contact or small group discussions in 10% of the hotspots randomly selected by the evaluator.
- d. The evaluation report including soft copy of the evaluation tool, and detailed report shall be submitted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of completion of the evaluation at any TI to SACS.
- e. The overall report should be shared within 7 days after completing the evaluation of any TI to SSR/TISS.
- f. The final signed evaluation report should be submitted by emails to SACS.

**Team for Evaluation:**

The 3-member evaluator's team consists of:

- 2 External evaluators, one of them would be the lead evaluators and another one would be the co-evaluator.
- 1 Accounts/ finance person.

One evaluator/team of evaluators can conduct maximum 5 TI evaluations in one state.

**Honorarium and Reimbursement to Evaluators:**

- Honorarium will be paid to evaluators directly by SACS.
- SACS will reimburse the travel and stay for the period of evaluation as per the NACO norms.

**Application Link - <https://forms.gle/nqPJKwh6z5wVYsAz8>**

**Note:**

RICE will be sole responsible for empanelment of evaluators. Applications through TISS website will be directed to the respective institutes. Empanelment of evaluators does not ensure deployment in any regional institutes. It also does not guarantee to deploy all empaneled candidates from panel.

**The last date of application is 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021.**

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