Statement of Work

Introduction/Background:

The rising number of unplanned teenage pregnancies in the country has prompted government to declare this issue as a national priority via Executive Order no. 141 issued by President Rodrigo R. Duterte on June 25, 2021.

The order seeks to implement measures for addressing the root causes of teenage pregnancy, as guided by the Department of Health's (DOH) National Health Policy and Strategic Framework on Adolescent Health and Development (AHDP). This framework contains three core strategies: (1) health education and health promotion; (2) life skills building; and (3) provision of prevention and case management medical services. Implementing these core strategies require a strong health system and capacities for addressing other social determinants of adolescent health such as education, livelihood, and active participation in community activities.

Despite government efforts in implementing these strategies, progress in making ARH services more accessible through the Adolescent-Friendly Health Facility (AFHF) concept as well as improvements in ARH service utilization has been slow. This can be observed in areas such as Iloilo, where the low participation rate among youth in AHD classes conducted by POPCOM6 has been identified.

While the AHDP framework suggests active participation of the youth in community programs and activities as means to achieving program goals, there appears to be a low level of youth engagement and participation in local AHDP implementation, thereby affecting program potency and performance. In a recent RPRH meeting in the province of Iloilo, the lack of youth participation in the planning, budgeting, and execution of adolescent health activities was noted.

Consultations/dialogues on the matter of AFHF certification, CSE-ARH convergence, and various other components of the AHDP have been held on several occasions with CHD, LGUs, National Youth Council, youth-focused NGOs/CSOs such as the FPPO, Pilipinas Shell Foundation, and Team Dugong Bughaw. These dialogues have resulted to the development of mechanisms for coordinated action among stakeholders such as on youth facilitation skills/leadership training, peer education, ARH, HIV and AIDS, AFHF certification, and the ongoing master listing of youth-focused organizations in the region.

To address this situation, the USAID ReachHealth Project will engage a Civil Society Organization (CSO) to work with the DOH and LGUs in engaging and mobilizing youth organizations and providing them opportunities for greater participation in the management of local AHDPs. Increased youth participation in the AHDP is expected to improve program performance.

1. Objectives:

The sub-grant generally aims to improve the utilization of ARH services through stronger LGU-CSO/youth organization partnerships. More specifically, the sub-grant is expected to:

1) Increase the utilization of ARH services in the province and HUCs of Iloilo and Negros Occidental through the ff:
a. Mobilize and capacitate community-based youth organizations for AHDP implementation and AFHF management
b. Support policy development to improve adolescent/youth organizations participation in the AHDP to improve program performance.
c. Development of plans to operationalize LGU-youth group partnership
d. Conduct of ARH demand-generation and service delivery activities;

2) Measure the contribution of youth participation in program outputs through a developed tool; and
3) Document lessons learned and present recommendations from the engagements

2. **Scope of Work:**

USAID’s ReachHealth Project shall engage the services of a Visayas-based Civil Society Organization (CSO) to perform the following tasks under a sub-grant agreement:

- Assist the CHD in developing a strategy for increasing youth participation in the AHDP;
- Identify and mobilize community-based youth organizations with the potential of partnering with LGUs along AHDP implementation
- Secure LGU/local policy support to improve adolescent/youth organizations participation in the AHDP to improve program performance;
- Develop a plan for operationalizing LGU-youth partnership strengthening and improving ARH service utilization in selected areas in the provinces and HUCs of Iloilo and Negros Occidental;
- Capacitate youth organizations in AHDP program management including the planning, establishment, and management of AFHFs and AHDP in general
- Work with targeted LGUs (Iloilo City and 2 LGUs in Iloilo province, Bacolod City and 2 LGUs in Negros Occidental) and their respective youth organization partners in implementing ARH demand-generation activities using project-developed SBC materials and service delivery activities;
- Organize a pool of peer navigators in schools and in communities capacitated:
  - to support succeeding batches of peer navigators
  - to enhance the agency of the youth in participating in ARH programs
- Develop tools for measuring the contribution of youth participation in program outputs; and
- Document lessons learned from grant implementation and provide recommendations for improving, scaling-up, and sustaining LGU-youth partnership initiatives to the DOH, LGUs, and USAID

3. **Period of Performance:**

The period of grant is approximately 10 months from September 2022 to July 2023. All work must be scheduled to be completed within this timeframe. Any modifications or extensions shall be requested through RTI for review and discussion.

4. **Place of Performance:**

The sub-grant will be implemented in the provinces and Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs) of Iloilo and Negros Occidental.
## Proposed Schedule/ Milestones/ Deliverables

Table 1. Sub-grant milestones, deliverables, and submission schedules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Description of Milestone</th>
<th>Required Deliverable</th>
<th>Submission Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Submission of a sub-grant inception plan</td>
<td>Inception plan</td>
<td>Month 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Regional strategy for increasing youth participation in the AHDP is in place</td>
<td>Copy of WVCHD-approved regional strategy for increasing youth participation in local AHDP planning and management and issuance of regional memo/advisory to LGUs; Monthly Activity Report (MAR)</td>
<td>Month 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Directory/profiles of youth organizations with potential for partnerships with targeted LGUs in Iloilo and Negros Occidental including expressions of interest for LGU partnerships</td>
<td>Copy of directory of youth organization and signed expressions of interest in LGU partnerships for AHDP; Monthly Activity Report (MAR)</td>
<td>Month 2</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Consultative/policy advocacy meetings between youth organizations and concerned LGU bodies towards passage of local policies</td>
<td>Documentation of meetings highlighting agreements and next steps; policy advocacy materials including policy recommendations/draft policy</td>
<td>Month 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Passage of six (6) local policies (3 for Iloilo, 3 for Neg. Occ.) supporting AHDP improvements through youth engagements in targeted Local Government Units (LGUs);</td>
<td>Copies of policies passed/issued by six (6) targeted provincial and component LGU/HUCs supporting increased youth participation in AHDP/ARH programs at the provincial and component LGU levels; Monthly Activity Reports (MAR); Quarterly Report</td>
<td>Month 3</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Joint LGU-local youth organization plan for improving AHDP implementation and ARH service utilization by the youth</td>
<td>Copy of joint plan; Monthly Activity Report (MAR); Quarterly Report; Midterm Implementation review</td>
<td>Month 7</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Partner youth organizations capacitated in AHDP program co-management especially in the areas of planning, establishment, and</td>
<td>Copies of training modules and proceedings of training activities; attendance sheets; certificates of training; re-entry plans; post-training monitoring reports; Stories/s social media posts with high resolution pictures</td>
<td>Month 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milestone</td>
<td>Description of Milestone</td>
<td>Required Deliverable</td>
<td>Submission Date</td>
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| 8         | Partner youth organizations linked with health facilities/AFHFs to strengthen ARH service provision and improve ARH service utilization | • Facility-based memo identifying the role of the youth participants’ presence during a regular specified schedule  
• Commitment letter from the youth group on their expected roles and availability on their scheduled presence in activities in and outside of the facilities  
• Attendance sheets on activities to capacitate peer navigators | Months 9-10 |
| 9         | Conduct of 12 joint demand-generation and service delivery activities by LGU/health facility and youth organizations in different settings (schools, community, facility) | • Attendance sheets  
• Activity reports  
• Accomplished peer navigation tools among peer navigators  
• Stories/ social media posts with high resolution pictures  
• Monthly Activity Report  
• Quarterly Report  
• Midterm Implementation review | Month 9 |
| 10        | Development of tools for monitoring and measuring the contribution of youth participation in program outputs including quarterly monitoring | • Monitoring and measurement tools; results of monitoring and measurements; related MOVs  
• Monthly Activity Report (MAR) | Month 9 |
| 11        | Joint LGU-youth organization sustainability planning at the provincial, components LGU, and HUC levels | • Joint LGU-youth organization sustainability plans at the provincial, component LGU, HUC levels  
• Monthly Activity Report (MAR) | Month 10 |
| 12        | Process documentation on the youth mobilization and partnership development process at the targeted LGUs leading towards improved ARH service utilization | • Process documentation report. | Month 10 |
| 13        | Preparation of final report and presentation to USAID ReachHealth and other stakeholders | • Copy of final report; presentation materials; proceedings of presentation activity  
• Final Implementation Review | Month 10 |