



Saksham, Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Inviting Implementation Partners for undertaking Evaluations of Targeted Interventions for the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP)

Invitation date: 3rd July 2024

Deadline for applications: 22nd July 2024

Link to apply: <https://forms.gle/Yik4sWLnPr78cBTGA>

Project Duration: Till March 31, 2027

I Background

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) was established in 1936 as the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work. In 1944, it was renamed as the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. The year 1964 was an important landmark in the history of the Institute, when it was declared Deemed to be a University under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act (UGC), 1956.

Since its inception, the Vision of the TISS has been to be an institution of excellence in higher education that continually responds to changing social realities through the development and application of knowledge, towards creating a people-centred, ecologically sustainable and just society that promotes and protects dignity, equality, social justice and human rights for all.

Saksham (which means “making capable”) is a project of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences funded by the Global Fund since 2008 to support the Ministry of Health and

Family Welfare in its fight against HIV and TB. Saksham has shaped the Psychosocial support program for HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) in the country.

Currently Saksham has three major grants in the area of HIV & TB Counselling, Capacity Building, Evaluations and Community Engagement.

II Project Details

Saksham in co-ordination with NACP will undertake annual evaluation of Targeted Interventions (TI) and Link Worker Schemes (LWS). 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.

For sustainability and institutional capacity building, Saksham will involve Universities/Organisations/Agencies as **Implementation Partners** for undertaking Targeted Intervention and Link Worker Scheme evaluations in order to assess the reach of the TI and LWS.

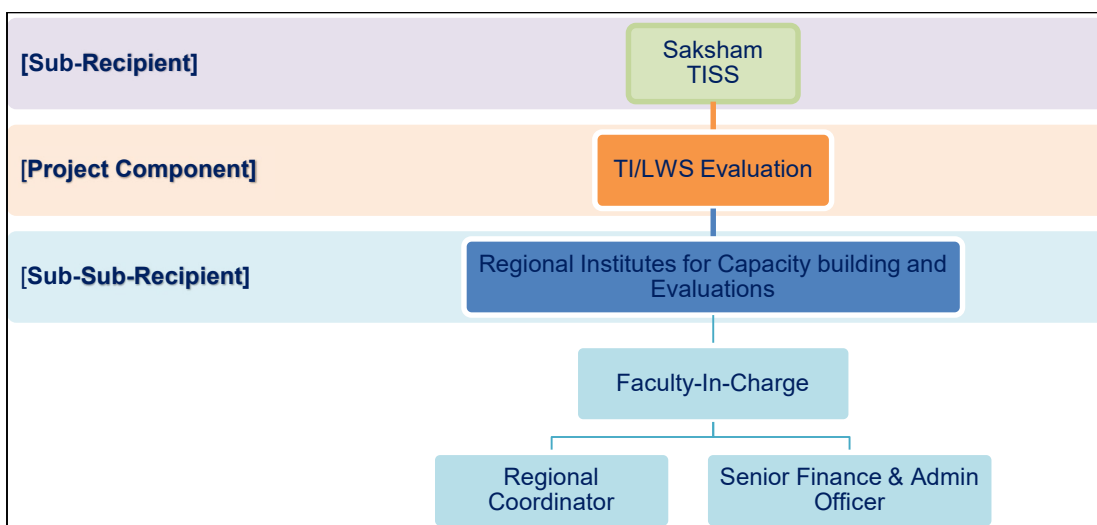
III Scope & Coverage of Work of the Implementation Partners

Saksham will appoint six regional zone-based Implementation Partners for undertaking the evaluations. The broad framework for Evaluations, Terms of Reference of the evaluators and the evaluation tools and reporting are available with Saksham. Saksham will undertake Capacity Building on the framework, tools and reporting formats.

A The Implementation Partners will be expected to undertake the following:

Appointment of Project Staff
Identification and empaneling of Evaluators on the basis of the ToR from a pool of faculty from Schools of Social Work, Psychology, SIHFW, SHSRC, Representatives from PLHIV and community networks.
Capacity Building of the Evaluators.
Developing a calendar of Evaluations (once in two years)
Undertaking Evaluations based on the calendar
Submitting Evaluation Reports to SACS and TISS
Submitting evaluation data in prescribed format to TISS
Submitting Quarterly Progress Reports in prescribed format to TISS
Submitting Quarterly Programme and Finance Reports to Saksham
Keeping records and reimbursing evaluators payment as per norms decided

B Organizational Structure of Implementation Partner



**As and when required, will be appointed as per the need of the project*

Each implementation partner will be responsible for a defined number of states and union territories. Faculty in-charge / Principal Investigators are expected to provide leadership and oversee the function of the team and shall submit quarterly reports to TISS.

Faculty/ Principal Investigator is expected to be a permanent employee of the institute whereas the rest of the staff shall be hired on contractual basis by the implementing partner.

The Regional Coordinators will plan, co-ordinate implement the evaluations, finalize and submit all reports.

Finance and Admin officer shall be responsible for all finance and administration work and will also be assisting in capacity building programmes.

The evaluators will not be hired by the project but will be empaneled for the evaluation cycles to conduct evaluations of the TIs as per schedule prepared in consultation with SACS. The evaluators shall be paid honorarium and shall be reimbursed expenses incurred by the respective implementation partner institutes as per the given norms.

C. Geographical Coverage

The TI evaluation will be conducted across the six zones as mentioned below:

Sr. No.	Geographic Zones	States
1	North zone	Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh
2	Northeast zone	Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura
3	East zone	Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha
4	South zone	Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana
5	West zone	Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka
6	Central zone	Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh

**The states in a particular zone may change, NACO will decide zone and states*

The zone applying for will have to be specified in the application form.

D Budgetary Ceiling

The budget ceiling for each institution for completing the TI evaluation will be discussed during the meeting with selected agencies/ Institutions/ Universities/ Organization.

IV Eligibility to Apply

To be eligible for selection, all applicants need to meet the minimum requirements outlined below:

- Only **legally** registered organizations and/or consortia of registered organizations, **not individuals**, may apply.
- The organization shall be at least 10 years old as on the date of making EOI.

- For-profit organizations are eligible to apply, but there would be **no** indirect cost recovery.
- Organizations with past experience in undertaking similar projects and or established working relationships with the SACS will be given preference.
- Organisations with office in the zone applied for will be preferred.

V Selection Process

- TISS Saksham will invite the short listed applicants for a meeting to present/defend their application and suitability for this project.
- The selected candidates will be informed and MoU formalized accordingly.

VI Submission Instructions

- Please submit the form using the link: <https://forms.gle/Yik4sWLnPr78cBTGA>
- Do not send the physical/hard copy of EOI to the office address

Prof. Shankar Das
Project Director
Saksham