**Call for Consultancy: Policy Brief on Family Planning Financing in Zimbabwe**

1. **Background**

Family planning is a crucial aspect of public health that directly affects maternal and child health outcomes in Zimbabwe. However, the country is grappling with significant challenges in its health financing landscape, which adversely impacts the delivery and quality of family planning services. Economic instability over the past two decades has severely strained Zimbabwe's public health system, resulting in inadequate funding for essential health services, including family planning, exacerbating existing inequities and limiting access to comprehensive reproductive health services.

*Current Health Financing Landscape*

Zimbabwe's health financing primarily depends on public funding, supplemented by private sector contributions and out-of-pocket payments. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), government health expenditures have consistently fallen below the recommended threshold of 15% of total government expenditures. This shortfall impacts critical areas such as family planning, maternal and child health, and reproductive health services, leading to unmet needs for contraception and family planning education.

*Importance of Domestic Financing*

The reliance on external aid for health financing has proven problematic, especially as global funding sources become increasingly unpredictable. Domestic financing is essential for creating a resilient health system that effectively addresses local needs, particularly in family planning. By increasing domestic funding through taxation, health insurance schemes, and public-private partnerships, Zimbabwe can work towards sustainable financing for family planning services.

1. **Objectives of the Consultancy**

1. To Examine Existing Health Financing Mechanisms, public, private, and out-of-pocket expenditures related to family planning.

2. Explore how domestic financing can achieve sustainable health outcomes and reduce reliance on external funding.

3. Provide Evidence-Based Recommendations for national to local governments to enhance domestic financing for health.

4. Identify Key Stakeholders who can influence health financing policies and practices.

1. **Rationale for the Policy Brief**

1. With a growing population and complex healthcare demands, investment in health systems through domestic sources is vital.

2. Emphasizing domestic financing aligns with current global health initiatives, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all.

3. Strengthening domestic financing mechanisms fosters resilience in health systems, ensuring funding availability even amidst fluctuations in external resources.

1. **Proposed Structure of the Policy Brief**

1. Introduction (Brief overview of health financing and its significance)

2. Current State of Health Financing (Analysis of existing funding sources, including domestic and international contributions)

3. Importance of Domestic Financing (Exploration of domestic financing mechanisms such as taxation, health insurance, and innovative funding solutions)

4. Challenges and Opportunities (Identification of barriers to effective domestic financing and potential strategies to overcome them)

5. Recommendations (Evidence-based recommendations for policymakers to enhance domestic health financing)

6. Conclusion (Summary of key points and a call to action for stakeholders)

1. **Application Process**

Interested consultants or consultancy firms are invited to submit their proposals, including a brief outline of their approach, relevant experience, and a budget estimate. Proposals should be submitted by **the 10th of December** **2024** ,**to recruitment@myagezimbabwe.org**

This consultancy represents a significant opportunity to influence family planning financing in Zimbabwe, ultimately improving health outcomes and achieving universal access to reproductive health services. We look forward to your insightful proposals.