In- Country Laboratory Training Program

Introduction

Quality control regulation is a vital facet in intensifying demand, access and utilisation of reproductive health (RH) products. In 2010, UNFPA, in partnership with WHO and FHI360 began conducting regional workshops on standards and laboratory quality control for RH products that sought to review and discuss best practices in laboratory management, which includes accreditation, sampling, testing protocols and procedures to ensure the quality of RH commodities. As a continuation of these workshops, the opportunity for on-site training for laboratories within countries has been established to build upon concepts addressed during the initial workshops

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Objectives:

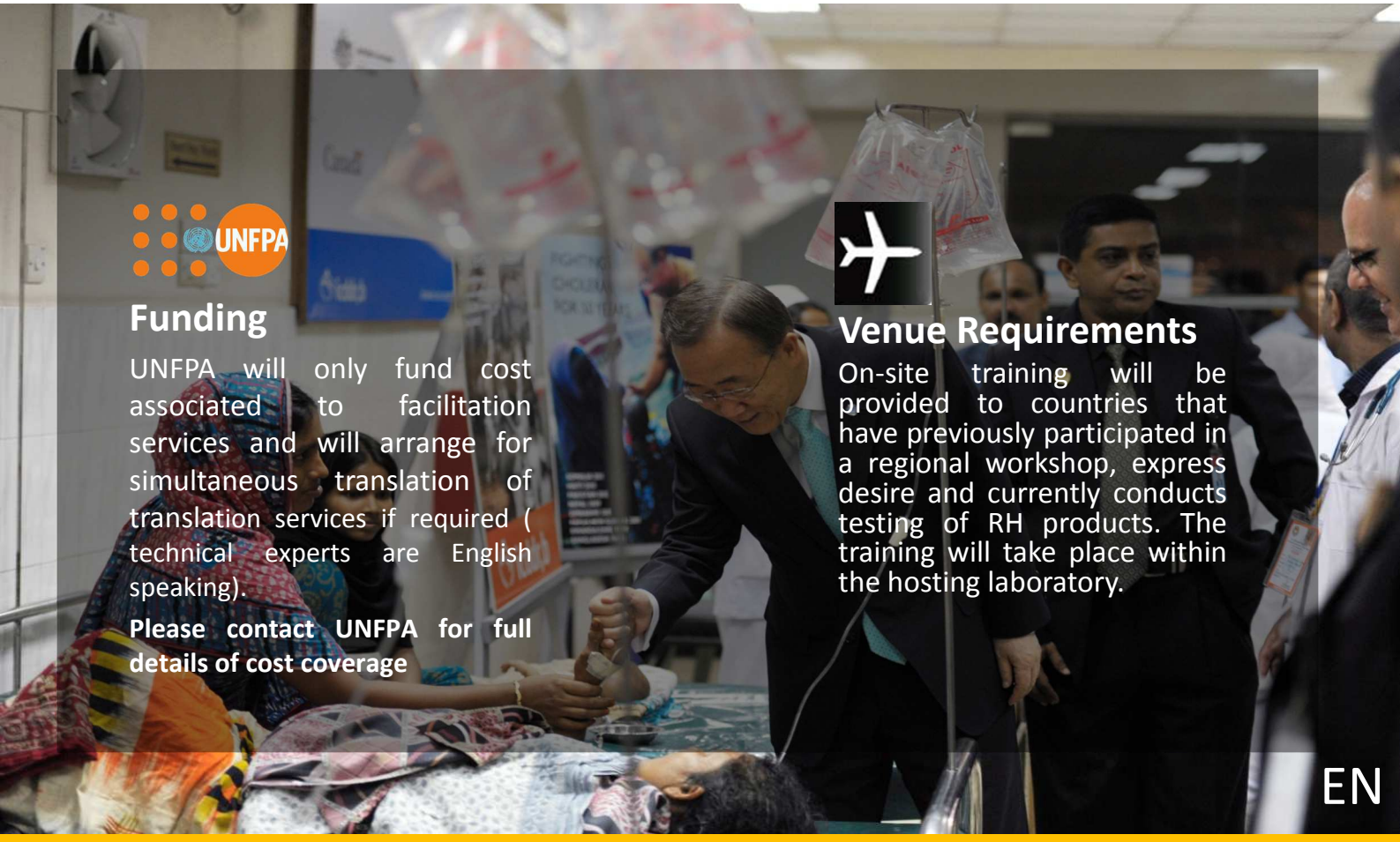
1. To provide hands on training in relation to laboratory equipment, sampling and testing methods and procedures, interpretation and reporting of results, documentation and observation of current practice
2. To provide a summary of gaps and outline of training programme
3. To provide recommendations for solutions to current challenges in RH commodity testing
4. To demonstrate testing and sampling requirements of relevant ISO and internationally recognized standards
5. To provide detailed explanation of WHO/UNFPA quality assurance practices
6. To make available continued off-site consultations and support where needed

Target audience

The training is targeted to laboratory managers and technicians that conduct RH product testing.

Dates:

The training will be **5 days** in duration. Laboratories should identify 3-5 periods that would be agreeable for the training. UNFPA will work to confirm one of the suggested periods dependent upon facilitator availability.



Funding

UNFPA will only fund cost associated to facilitation services and will arrange for simultaneous translation of translation services if required (technical experts are English speaking).

Please contact UNFPA for full details of cost coverage

Venue Requirements

On-site training will be provided to countries that have previously participated in a regional workshop, express desire and currently conducts testing of RH products. The training will take place within the hosting laboratory.

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Facilitation Team

The team will comprise technical expert(s) with the following expertise:

1. Detailed experience in ISO 17025 accreditation covering the scope of testing male and female condoms and copper IUDs.
2. Experience with testing methods and procedures for male and females condoms and IUDs, including management of laboratory equipment used for these products.

Program Development

1. Country will indicate expression of interest hosting training in their laboratory.
2. Host laboratory will provide profile information on testing practices, accreditation, equipment, staff, and testing standards.
3. Host laboratory will identify challenge areas in condom testing that it would like technical specialists to focus on during training.
4. UNFPA will propose program for a five-day training for host laboratory's comments .

For more information please contact:

- Quality Assurance department. UNFPA - Procurement Service Branch to the following email: QA@unfpa.dk