

TERMS OF REFERENCE
National Consultant to Review 3rd National Reproductive Health Strategy

| TERMS OF REFERENCE | |
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| Hiring Office: | UNFPA |
| Purpose of consultancy: | <p>Maldives is an upper middle income country with its population dispersed in 187 islands. In 2014, the Census counted 402,071 people of which 63,637 are foreigners and 58 percent of the women are in their reproductive age (15 to 49). It is also the time where 67 percent of the people are in the working age group (15-64) – meaning the country is going through the demographic dividend period. In fifty years’ time the population is expected to reach just under a million with almost half of the population being foreigners (Population Projections, NBS, 2018).</p> <p>Maldives has successfully achieved 5 out of the 8 MDGs with a stunning plunge in maternal mortality rates and high coverage of institutional deliveries. The Maldivian people continue to enjoy improved life expectancies and the adolescent pregnancy rate has been reduced with the age at first marriage and first pregnancy standing at early 20s.</p> <p>While the country has committed to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs), its ambitious results target not only improvements on national averages, but also the need of reaching the most vulnerable first. Recently, with the ratification of the Gender Equality Act (2016), the provision of adolescent health information and services was clearly identified as one of the important issues for gender equality and national development. Nevertheless, actions and strategies to provide the information and services for young people remain piecemeal and challenging.</p> <p>With the changing democratic systems, the health system has also changed. Currently, the public tertiary hospital in Male’ caters to almost a third of the population. The universal health insurance scheme covers the cost of health expenditure through Asandha. Expansion of private clinical health is shifting towards separating the public health functions from the hospital settings. Reproductive health is a critical area for sustainable development and highlighted in the SDGs and earlier in MDGs. The Health Master Plan (2016 to 2025) aligned with the SDG goals recognizes the importance given on maternal health, adolescent health and family planning. It also notes the slow progress achieved on reproductive health practices and identified the need for focused attention. It is</p> |

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| | <p>therefore an opportune time to evaluate and revise the Maldives National Reproductive Health Strategy (2014 to 2018) with a renewed focus on meeting the needs and demands of the changing environment and Population base, particularly quality sexual and reproductive health services for young people.</p> <p>The purpose of this assignment is to support the Ministry of Health to review the implementation of the third National Reproductive Health Strategy and based on the lessons learnt and taking into consideration the rights and needs of the population resident in Maldives.</p> |
| <p>Scope of work:</p> <p><i>(Description of services, activities, or outputs)</i></p> | <p>Scope and diversity of assignment: In consultation with the National Reproductive, Maternal, New-born Care and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) Committee, the consultant will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support to review the 3rd NRHS with recommendations for the 4th cycle <p>Output:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review report of the implementation of the National Reproductive Health Strategy, 2014 to 2018, in view of the legal and policy environment, identifying lessons learned and opportunities in the changing health system |
| Duration and working schedule: | 15 workings days over 3 months |
| Place where services are to be delivered: | Ministry of Health/Health Protection Agency and UNFPA |
| Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy etc.): | Consultant is expected to work in a two-member team and in close collaboration with the National RMNCAH Coordination Committee from June to August 2018 |
| Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline: | The Consultant will be briefed and debriefed by Health Protection Agency and UNFPA |
| Supervisory arrangements: | The consultancy will be managed by UNFPA. |
| Expected travel: | One mission envisaged including a field visit to the islands. |
| Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, | <p>Primary expertise required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's Degree in Social Policy, Public Health, social science, or related fields. • At least 5 years' experience in development planning, social policy analysis, monitoring, research and |

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| <p>including language requirements:</p> | <p>evaluation, monitoring and evaluation theory, methodology, technology and tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic understanding on human rights principles • Excellent communication and analytical skills in English Language and demonstrated ability to transfer and impart knowledge. <p>Functional Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good analytical, writing, and presentation skills. Fluency in reading, writing, and speaking both English and Dhivehi. • Computer skills, Excel and various office applications. Demonstrated experience in knowledge and information management. <p>Behavioural Competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated ability to work in a multicultural environment and establish harmonious and effective working relationships, both within and outside the organization. • Proven leadership, teamwork, and interpersonal skills. Ability to work under limited timing would be an asset. |
| <p>Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner (e.g support services, office space, equipment), if applicable:</p> | <p>Review Team The review team consists of two members. International Consultant (Team Leader) and a National Consultant with following specific responsibilities.</p> <p>National Consultant: Main responsibility of the National Consultant is to collate the relevant literature, provide the local insights of the socio-economical and health system to the team leader.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on consultations compile synopsis of access to reproductive health and rights, social situation and policy environment • Facilitate collection of administrative data and relevant literature • Coordinate with the team leader for data collection • Support the Team Leader at the validation meeting as well as during field mission. • Maintain close contact by email with the International Consultant and UNFPA • Communicate any complications regarding the assignment as soon as possible <p>International Consultant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team leader responsible to compile and finalize the NRHS review report with substantive recommendations |

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| | <p>for the subsequent RH Strategy which encompasses results and targets to reach the young people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare a workplan and assign roles between the two consultants ● Coordinate with the national consultant for data collection <p>Ministry of Health/HPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Convene the National Reproductive Health Steering Committee ● Provide the relevant documents as required ● Provide logistic support including organizing meetings ● Monitor and facilitate the progress of the assignment ● Facilitate necessary contacts ● Organize the consultative meeting ● Approve final deliverables <p>UNFPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide contacts and any available resources ● Guide the Consultant on issues important to UNFPA’s mandate ● Make payment |
| <p>Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:</p> | <p>The other conditions that may apply in the undertaking of the assignment include:</p> <p>Basis of payment: Payments will be made in two installments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 40% Upon completion of the draft 3rd NRHS review report 2. 60% Upon completion of validation meeting <p>Format of outputs: Editable electronic form i.e. MS Office Word format.</p> <p>Language of reports/publications and other documentation and working language in country of assignment: English</p> <p>Ownership of output: MOH/UNFPA</p> |
| <p>Signature of Requesting Officer in Hiring Office: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> | |