

TERMS OF REFERENCE
International Consultant to undertake qualitative assessment

TERMS OF REFERENCE	
Hiring Office:	UNFPA Maldives
Purpose of consultancy:	<p>Maldives is an archipelago with 1,190 islands, 188 inhabited islands and 400 operate tourist resorts and other industrial work exclusively. While life expectancy at birth continues to favour women, the Maternal Mortality Rate remains unstable and the Contraceptive Prevalence Rate has declined considerably over the past years. Prevalence of child marriage and adolescent birth rates are low, yet, young people continue to be dropped out from school due to unplanned pregnancy. Comprehensive Sexuality Education remains a taboo and reproductive health information and services becomes available only after marriage.</p> <p>The Sustainable Development Goals especially on SDG5 – 5.6.2 aims to ensure laws and regulations are in place that guarantees full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education target looks unattainable if the current trend continues.</p> <p>Despite having legal equality and progressive legislation, the level of women’s enjoyment of certain rights such as participation in formal employment and decision making are significantly low, and women are still disadvantaged in property rights, family responsibilities, divorce and custody matters. While participation and equality are curtailed, to varying degrees in various spheres, they are often said to be due to socio-cultural or ideological factors. There is a need to further investigate and unpack these factors, which are seemingly making women to claim their own agency.</p> <p>To better understand the situation including root causes of gender inequality and influencers of Maldivian women and girls - particularly from rural areas of the Maldives - who are often disadvantaged on universal access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights to facilitate demand by the rights holders. The proposed research will examine the structural gender-based discriminations at a deeper level of society through a qualitative and anthropological approach.</p>
Scope of work: <i>(Description of services, activities, or outputs)</i>	<p>Scope and diversity of assignment:</p> <p>To collect qualitative information through peoples lived realities to better understand the challenges women face in accessing sexual reproductive health information and services and seeking help when experiencing gender-based violence (GBV). The qualitative information should include perceptions of what has changed, for better or worse.</p> <p>By visiting the islands of different levels of urban vs rural, undertake an in-depth qualitative research on issues impacting reproductive health and GBV situation of women to substantiate the statistical information collected through quantitative surveys.</p> <p>The International Consultant is expected to collaborate with the</p>

	<p>national Consultant to develop a robust methodology and undertake the analysis. Field work will be done by the National Consultant.</p> <p>Output:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inception report including: a desk review of available literature and a proposed methodology, covering: detailed research questions in relation to SRHR, GBV and harmful practices; and work plan to undertake the research assignment including proposed islands to visit. • A research paper outlining the root causes and lived realities of women in the Maldives in accessing sexual and reproductive health and GBV information and services • Minimum 3 case stories covering access to adolescent reproductive health information and services and gender based violence presented to advocate for a policy audience. 												
<p>Duration and working schedule:</p>	<p>10 working days during the period October to December 2019</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Tasks</th> <th>Time frame</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Submission of Inception report</td> <td>5 days</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UNFPA review and clearance</td> <td>5 days</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research and submission of 1st draft</td> <td>20 days</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UNFPA review and clearance</td> <td>5 days</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Submission of final report</td> <td>5 days</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Tasks	Time frame	Submission of Inception report	5 days	UNFPA review and clearance	5 days	Research and submission of 1 st draft	20 days	UNFPA review and clearance	5 days	Submission of final report	5 days
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<p>Place where services are to be delivered:</p>	<p>UNFPA Maldives Country Office, Male', Maldives</p>												
<p>Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy etc.):</p>	<p>International Consultant is expected to collaborate with the National Consultant and work as a team. In electronic format based on inception report's agreed working schedule</p>												
<p>Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline:</p>	<p>The International Consultant will be briefed and debriefed by UNFPA</p>												
<p>Supervisory arrangements:</p>	<p>The consultancy will be managed by UNFPA.</p>												
<p>Expected travel:</p>	<p>None, home based</p>												
<p>Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:</p>	<p>Primary expertise required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's degree in gender studies, social science, social research, or related fields; • At least 10 years' experience leading social policy analysis, monitoring, research and evaluation, monitoring and evaluation theory, methodology, technology and tools • Basic understanding of human rights principles; <p>Functional Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good analytical, writing, and presentation skills. Fluency in reading, writing, and speaking English. • Computer skills, Excel and various office applications. 												

	<p>Demonstrated experience in knowledge and information management.</p> <p>Behavioural Competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrated ability to work in a multicultural environment and to establish harmonious and effective working relationships, both within and outside the organization; ● Proven leadership, teamwork, and interpersonal skills. Ability to work and deliver under a limited period of time 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>International Consultant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fulfil the stipulated in the contract and the ToR through review of documents, email communications, and meetings; ● Coordinate with the National Consultant to develop the inception report with methodology and analysis ● Maintain close and regular contact by email; ● Communicate any complications regarding the assignment as soon as possible. <p>UNFPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide any available resources ● Guide the Consultant on issues important to UNFPA 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 upon completion of the assignment</p> <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: UNFPA</p>
<p>Signature of Requesting Officer in Hiring Office: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>	