Queries submitted by prospective bidders on RFP No.: UNFPA/NPL/RFP/20/001 Provision of services to Study on Gender Based Violence in the COVID-19 Context in Nepal

Question: The RFP calls for a review of administrative data from "health, police, justice, social service sectors recorded in the last six months and the same period last year for comparative analysis." With this in mind:

- How consistently is data on SGBV collected by these bodies, and how accessible is this data to non-government counterparts? Is there likely to be a lengthy permissions process in order to access this data?
- Does UNFPA anticipate that the contracted organisation will be able to obtain anonymised data in raw form?

Answer: UNFPA and UN Women will introduce the selected agency with the GBV Sub-Cluster under the Protection Cluster to facilitate access to anonymized data and request for support. Separate letters can be prepared.

Question: The RFP states that "the assessment will be carried out using appropriate virtual and online data collection tools including phone-based surveys". However, if the COVID situation in Nepal improves, and lockdown is lifted, would UNFPA / UN Women consider permitting some in person interviews (observing social distancing) to enable the inclusion of harder to access and more vulnerable groups of women? (This may be particularly helpful for collecting qualitative data and case studies on the experiences of survivors of SGBV).

Answer: This is subject to the evolving condition regarding the COVID-19 situation and guidance from the Government and UN Country Team. Please refer to the RFP.

Question: Clarification on if VAT registration is required to apply for the bid as we as an educational institute are not liable to VAT and also if VAT is required can we go for Joint Venture?

Answer: VAT registration should be in compliance with the regulations of the country. Joint Venture is also possible.

Question: We are considering submitting a bid, but we are slightly concerned about our capacity to deliver the work in the tight time frame. Do you expect the time frame to shift at all?

Answer: The assessment is time-sensitive. We would like to complete the study within the given timeframe.