

## TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE – Senior Health Expert</b>	
Hiring Office:	UNFPA
Purpose of consultancy:	<p>The Constitution of Nepal 2015 protects the sexual and reproductive health rights and choices of women and girls. Nepal has made tremendous progress in improving its health indicators and was able to achieve most of the MDGs. Affirmative government policies and programs have contributed to bringing about positive maternal health outcomes, including a reduction in maternal mortality. The recently endorsed Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Act will be a cornerstone in ensuring rights enshrined in the constitution. Despite these successes, Nepal has one of the highest maternal deaths in the region and is stagnant for a decade – inequalities exist and disparities are widening which indicates the country’s weak health system. The COVID-19 pandemic has further strained the health system by diverting health resources and capacities from SRH services to address the pandemic.</p> <p>The health sector in Nepal has had a Sector Wide Approach since 2004 and is currently implementing the third phase of the national health sector strategy together with external developmental partners. While SRHR is a priority program under the essential health care services, concerted actions are required to address the SRHR among women and adolescents. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) is in the process of developing its fourth health sector strategy which provides a huge opportunity to strengthen the overall SRHR programming in the country including accelerating the implementation of ICPD PoA and achieving the UNFPA three transformative results.</p> <p>UNFPA works to ensure SRHR remains at the very centre of development. UNFPA has been providing technical support to MoHP and contributed to establishing progressive policies and legislative environment for SRH, technical support to put in place SRH protocols and guidelines, and has invested in developing health systems including human resources and supply chain management for SRH and provision of SRH commodities to the Government of Nepal.</p> <p>In this context, UNFPA requires a Senior Health Expert who will support the country office in its policy advocacy and programme interventions related to accelerating the achievement of UNFPA's transformative results. The consultant will provide technical assistance to UNFPA programming including technical support for the development of the next Health Sector Strategy and development of SRH program concept notes and proposals for resource mobilization. The consultant will work in close coordination with the UNFPA Reproductive Health (RH) team, Humanitarian team and MoHP, under the direct supervision of the Deputy Representative, UNFPA.</p>
Scope of work:  <i>(Description of services, activities, or outputs)</i>	<p>The consultant will perform following activities as a part of this consultancy work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide strategic direction and technical support to UNFPA SRH programming including on health financing.</li> <li>• Provide technical support to MoHP, Family Welfare Division and MoSD at provincial level to support the development of strategies, policies, guidelines, and protocols related to SRH including the development of the next health sector strategy.</li> <li>• Identify policy and programmatic gaps in the fulfillment of reproductive rights and make policy recommendations, with a focus on sustainability, addressing inequity, and integrating gender and social inclusion lens in all aspects of work. Prepare policy briefs and</li> </ul>

	<p>programmatic recommendations based on the gaps identified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore innovative approaches and good practices, including the adaptation of the approaches in the context of Nepal as required for the SRH services, particularly for marginalized groups.</li> <li>• Provide technical support in analyzing SRH programme data to make evidence-informed SRH programme adjustment and planning.</li> <li>• Liaise with UNFPA team members and key partners to create linkages and networks/coalition for sharing of information, collaboration, and monitoring of SRHR program implementation.</li> <li>• Contribute to the process of SRHR Evaluation and design of the new Country Programme Document through soliciting information and analysis of the political, social, and economic environment relevant to SRHR with a particular focus on family planning and maternal health care.</li> <li>• Undertake analysis of national and subnational trends, gaps, challenges in addressing major SRH issues to identify strategic entry points for new initiatives, and strengthening existing partnerships to advance the three transformative goals of UNFPA.</li> <li>• Provide timely technical guidance and advice in the humanitarian preparedness and response initiatives for SRHR including health response to gender-based violence in the event of an emergency including for COVID-19.</li> <li>• Develop thematic and UN joint project proposals/concept notes to improve partnership and for resource mobilization that are innovative and demonstrates the potential for high impact on SRHR gaps.</li> <li>• Support the documentation of best practices, lessons learned related to UNFPA's work on SRH.</li> <li>• Any other relevant work assigned by the supervisor.</li> </ul>																
Duration and working schedule:	The consultant will be hired for a period of 11 months starting from September 2021 to July 2022, with a part-time working modality based on the timesheet certified by the supervisor.																
Place where services are to be delivered:	Services will be delivered at UNFPA Country Office in Kathmandu.																
Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy etc.):	The consultant will be placed at UNFPA, with a flexible working modality to work from home (remotely) if required. The consultant will be on a retainer contract and the payment will be made as per actual engagement upon submission of the timesheet certified by the supervisor. The key deliverables are listed below but not the exhaustive list, deliverables are to be provided in electronic and hard copy as applicable.																
Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline:	<p>The consultant will work in close coordination and collaboration with MoHP and UNFPA relevant SRH team members.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="440 1608 1350 2116"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="440 1608 1059 1641">Task</th> <th data-bbox="1059 1608 1350 1641">Time-line</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="440 1641 1059 1711">A weekly update of priorities and a brief report on the tasks undertaken</td> <td data-bbox="1059 1641 1350 1711">Weekly</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="440 1711 1059 1780">Prepare advocacy policy briefs on SRHR thematic areas</td> <td data-bbox="1059 1711 1350 1780">October 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="440 1780 1059 1883">Participate in meetings, the thematic writing group related to Health Sector Strategy Development</td> <td data-bbox="1059 1780 1350 1883">As applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="440 1883 1059 1953">Participate in consultative meetings at the federal, provincial, and local level</td> <td data-bbox="1059 1883 1350 1953">As applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="440 1953 1059 2022">Provide inputs and prepare the draft of relevant sections of the health sector strategy</td> <td data-bbox="1059 1953 1350 2022">As applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="440 2022 1059 2092">Provide technical inputs to the SRH evaluation and the 9th Country Program Document</td> <td data-bbox="1059 2022 1350 2092">As applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="440 2092 1059 2116">Prepare SRHR related partnership</td> <td data-bbox="1059 2092 1350 2116">As applicable</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Task	Time-line	A weekly update of priorities and a brief report on the tasks undertaken	Weekly	Prepare advocacy policy briefs on SRHR thematic areas	October 2021	Participate in meetings, the thematic writing group related to Health Sector Strategy Development	As applicable	Participate in consultative meetings at the federal, provincial, and local level	As applicable	Provide inputs and prepare the draft of relevant sections of the health sector strategy	As applicable	Provide technical inputs to the SRH evaluation and the 9th Country Program Document	As applicable	Prepare SRHR related partnership	As applicable
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	documents/project proposals/concept notes	
	Other relevant tasks detailed in the SoW	As agreed with UNFPA
	Knowledge Transfer Note	At the end of the contract
Supervisory arrangements:	Throughout the contractual period, supervisory and oversight will be provided by Deputy Representative, UNFPA Nepal. The consultant will be responsible to undertake the tasks mentioned above and any other tasks as assigned by the supervisor.	
Expected travel:	Travel might be required for the consultative process at the provincial and local levels.	
Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An advanced university degree in medicine/nursing with an advanced degree in public health or any relevant discipline.</li> <li>• At least seven years relevant professional experience in leading /managing SRH or health programmes</li> <li>• Experience in policy advocacy, documentation/report writing, coordination, development of project proposal, concept note, strategy, and policy documents.</li> <li>• Good understanding of the Nepal Government's Health and Population related policies, strategies, guidelines, and laws.</li> <li>• Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the relevant Government partners and other stakeholders.</li> <li>• Familiarity with ICPD, SDGs and UNFPA mandates preferred;</li> <li>• Excellent proficiency in written and spoken English language</li> <li>• Excellent facilitation, presentation and analytical skills.</li> </ul>	
Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA (e.g. support services, office space, equipment), if applicable:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not applicable</li> </ul>	
Signature of Requesting Officer in Hiring Office:  Date: September 8, 2021		
Signature of Representative in Hiring Office:  Date: 8 September 2021		