

## **INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

### **PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT THE STUDY ON THE DRIVERS OF HARMFUL SOCIAL NORMS ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)**

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is initiating the process of selecting partners to delve into the study of the drivers behind harmful social norms. Aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their ambitious timeline, there's a critical urgency to understand the societal dynamics influencing harmful behaviors. This study aims to contextualize this imperative within the Philippines by thoroughly investigating the underlying causes of harmful social norms. By analyzing factors such as cultural beliefs, institutional frameworks, and socio-economic conditions, this initiative seeks to provide insights that can guide interventions aimed at challenging and transforming these norms. Through this comprehensive examination, the goal is to inform strategies that promote more inclusive and equitable societies, ultimately contributing to the prevention and reduction of harmful social norms across the nation.

The study will be carried out this year (2024) which involves the following phases:

#### Phase 1. Preparation and Inception Report:

- Preparation of an inception report outlining the proposed study design and detailed research methodology including the selection of sample population and identification of sample size, work plan and projected timelines of activities, targeting of specific areas and selection of respondents, data collection tools such as survey forms/ questionnaire and interview/ consultation guide questions designed to capture the data needed and frequency of reports.

#### Phase 2: Contextual Understanding

- Review of relevant national and local literature, policies, and guidelines to inform the study.

#### Phase 3: Research Design and Planning

- Refinement of the research design based on a thorough contextual understanding.
- Employment of a mixed-method approach to comprehensively collect data, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews to capture nuanced insights.
- Development an ethically sound and culturally sensitive data collection plan to uphold the integrity of the study and respect the diverse backgrounds of participants.

#### Phase 4: Stakeholder Engagement and Consultations

- Coordination among relevant national and local stakeholders and facilitation of national and regional consultations to gather insights and foster collaboration.

#### Phase 5: Data Collection

- Quantitative and qualitative data collection to understand social norms and its impact on GBV.
- Identification and understanding of the following key elements through data collection:
  - a. Drivers of harmful social norms related to GBV.
  - b. Key influencers of harmful social norms.
  - c. Champions advocating for GBV prevention especially within study's focus regions.
  - d. Areas where harmful social norms manifest.

#### Phase 6: Analysis of Data Collected

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- Analyzation of data collected, using both quantitative and qualitative methods to extract meaningful insights. Identification of patterns, trends, and correlations to deepen understanding of the underlying factors driving GBV and inform evidence-based interventions.

Phase 7: Reporting and Documentation

- Development of a comprehensive study report documenting findings, recommendations, and insights from the assessment.
- Development of a streamlined and user-friendly version of the study for use as informational and communicative resource materials.

Phase 8: Implementation Support and Workshop Facilitation

- Provision of technical support and guidance to UNFPA and its partners in implementing recommendations from the study.
- Facilitation of a national-level workshop for UNFPA and key stakeholders to discuss assessment findings and recommend strategies for addressing identified gaps and challenges in the GBV Service Delivery Network.

Through mapping the current landscape of social norms on GBV, evaluating their prevalence and impact, identifying the drivers, and analyzing existing interventions, the aim of the study is to generate actionable insights for stakeholders. This includes recommendations for policy reforms, community-based initiatives, and educational campaigns aimed at challenging and transforming harmful social norms.

**The selected implementing partner will support the comprehensive study of the underlying factors driving harmful social norms in the Philippines.** The IP's involvement will be pivotal in ensuring the study's success through providing various essential capacities necessary for effective execution and the attainment of high-quality results. The IP has to ensure that the study is conducted in an ethical and culturally sensitive manner, respecting the rights and dignity of all participants involved in the study process.

Those interested in participating in the planned selection process should forward their expression of interest along with the detailed project proposal to **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), 15th Floor, North Tower Rockwell Business Center Sheridan Sheridan Street, corner United St, Mandaluyong, 1550, Philippines** or thru email to [gbv.norms@unfpa.org](mailto:gbv.norms@unfpa.org). The format for the project proposal is provided in the attached Annex (*Annex A – Project Proposal Format*), and should include the following:

- Agency/Organizational Profile; and
- Preliminary Technical/ Research Proposal

The deadline of submission is on **14 June 2024, 5:00 p.m.** Upon receipt of the required documents from prospective implementing partners, UNFPA will evaluate and assess applicants. Incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

A more detailed description of the scope of work is provided in the Terms of Reference (see *Annex B – Terms of Reference*).

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**ANNEX A**

**PROJECT PROPOSAL FORMAT**

**PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT THE STUDY ON DRIVERS OF HARMFUL  
SOCIAL NORMS ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

**SECTION A – AGENCY / ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE**

- A1. Organizational Background
- A2. Human Resource Capacity
- A3. Monitoring and Reporting System
- A4. Network and Affiliations
- A5. Attachments:
  - Copy of valid legal registration in the country
  - Documented fulfillment of tax obligations and tax registration number
  - Copy of audited financial statements for the past three years
  - At least three certificates of satisfactory work completed from previous projects

**SECTION B – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL**

- B1. Study Design and Methodology of the scope of work assigned to the IP
- B2. Work Plan
- B3. Team Leader Profile
  - Attachments:*
    - Personal CV or P11 of the Team Leader
    - At least three (3) professional references

**A. AGENCY/ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE**

<b>Name of Agency/Organization:</b> _____
<b>Address:</b> _____
<b>Contact Details:</b> _____
<b>A1. Organizational Background:</b>  <i>[Describe the background of the organization including existing operations in the subject matter area and how long the operations have been carried out.]</i>
<b>A2. Human Resource Capacity:</b>  <i>[Describe the number of staff and profile of key staff with educational background, documented years of experience in subject matter area and number of years they have worked for the particular entity.]</i>
<b>A3. Monitoring and Reporting System:</b>  <i>[Briefly describe the systems used by the entity for tracking and reporting on its work]</i>
<b>A4. Network and Affiliations:</b>  <i>[Describe the agency/organization's geographical availability /distribution/ network/ affiliations within the priority areas of the study]</i>
<b>A5. Attach a copy of the following to the application:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Copy of valid legal registration in the country</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Documented fulfillment of tax obligations and tax registration number</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Copy of audited financial statements for the past three years</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> At least three certificates of satisfactory work completed from previous projects</li></ul>

## **B. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL**

### **B1. Project Design and Methodology:**

*[Kindly outline the proposed strategy for executing the research activities expected from IPs and achieving the anticipated outcomes within the allocated 90 working days spanning over a 6-month timeline. Emphasize the organizational structure and management protocols to be implemented throughout the research endeavor. Furthermore, elaborate on the mechanisms to ensure the continuity of operations during the partnership period. Define and expound upon the research goals aimed at understanding the drivers of harmful social norms in the context of gender dynamics. Provide a detailed overview of the proposed research methodology, encompassing the planned sampling approach at the local level, strategies for data collection, consolidation, and insights.]*

### **B2. Work Plan:**

*[Identify the proposed main activities to be conducted during initial months and the timeframe for each activity. Provide a list of reports and outputs to be delivered, their contents, as well as the proposed dates of submission.]*

### **B3. Team Leader Profile:**

- Attach the Personal CV or P11 of the Team Leader, indicating all relevant work experience and technical expertise and at least three (3) professional references*

**ANNEX B:**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN IMPLEMENTING PARTNER**  
to provide support for the study on the Drivers of Social Norms  
on Gender-Based Violence

Hiring Office:	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Philippines
Background and Rationale:	<p>The UNFPA 9th Country Programme for the Philippines is committed to empowering women and girls, particularly those marginalized and left behind, along with decision-makers in selected provinces. The goal is to enhance their agency and capacity to address discriminatory gender and social norms. This includes promoting gender equality, enhancing women's decision-making abilities, and ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.</p> <p>As the leading advocate and coordinator for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), UNFPA Philippines has spearheaded numerous consultations. These dialogues involved a wide range of stakeholders, such as government bodies, non-governmental organizations, civil society groups, international development partners, and other United Nations (UN) agencies. The primary objective of these consultations was to facilitate the development of a comprehensive National Strategy for Gender-Based Violence (GBV).</p> <p>The consultations sought to identify the challenges, gaps, priorities, and opportunities in addressing GBV. They aimed to foster a holistic approach, ensuring the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in championing efforts against Violence Against Women (VAW) in the Philippines. Through these collaborative efforts, UNFPA is working towards a more inclusive and effective strategy to combat GBV and promote gender equality in the country.</p> <p>During consultations with the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), the serving Secretariat for the Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and their Children (IACVAWC), it was highlighted that the Council, chaired by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and co-chaired by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), is in the early stages of developing a National Action Plan on Ending Violence Against Women (NAPEVAW). Recognizing the importance of this initiative, UNFPA has decided to align its efforts with NAPEVAW, demonstrating full support for the government's efforts to address gender-based violence (GBV) in the country.</p> <p>The previous National Strategic Plan on VAWC 2017-2022 outlined three key pillars: Primary Prevention, Response System, and Cross-Cutting Actions and Structures. Through consultations, it was revealed that Prevention has been the weakest pillar across all sectors. In response, UNFPA Philippines, in line with its 9th Country Programme, has taken proactive steps to address this gap. It has initiated a series of studies on GBV prevention to generate evidence that can inform NAPEVAW and enhance knowledge. These studies aim not only to inform NAP EAW but also to enhance knowledge and provide a comprehensive baseline dataset for UNFPA CO Philippines. One of these studies focuses on the Drivers of Harmful Social Norms, seeking to identify key factors that sustain harmful gender and social norms. The insights from this study will be crucial in designing and implementing targeted prevention interventions that address the root causes of GBV in the Philippines with evidence-based strategies</p>
Purpose:	<p>The specific objectives of the study are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify key drivers influencing harmful social norms related to GBV in the Philippines.</li> <li>2. By identifying key actors and champions of GBV prevention, the study aims to unify actions, strengthen advocacies, and influence mobilization of support for GBV prevention efforts.</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Understand and identify areas where harmful social norms manifest within the Philippine context, allowing interventions to be tailored accordingly.</li> <li>4. Provide reliable insights and updated data to support advocacy efforts and drive action, boosting promotion and increasing awareness.</li> <li>5. Generate evidence to inform policy and strategy development for addressing GBV in the Philippines.</li> <li>6. Provide technical assistance and disseminate findings to stakeholders involved in GBV prevention and response efforts, empowering them with the knowledge to effectively address GBV.</li> </ol>
<p>Study process and Scope of Work:</p>	<p><b>The IP will collaborate closely with the UNFPA International Consultant (IC), who will spearhead the study.</b> The IP's role will be to assist the IC throughout the various phases of the study, which are scheduled to be conducted within this year and will start promptly upon agreement approval.</p> <p><b>The IP's specific scope of work includes, but is not limited to the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support the mapping out of national, especially local policies, guidelines, regulations, research studies, journals, modules and other relevant literature sources to inform the desk review for the study.</li> <li>2. Offer insights into the Philippines' context, existing protocols, and relevant procedures to assist in tailoring and developing an inception report and comprehensive research methodology.</li> <li>3. Assist in identifying key national and local stakeholders relevant to advocating and implementing initiatives for GBV prevention and response, and support in facilitation and documentation of national and regional consultations/focus group discussions (FGDs) to gather insights and perspectives from these stakeholders, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing among key actors.</li> <li>4. Undertake quantitative and qualitative data collection within UNFPA priority areas by conducting surveys, in-depth interviews (IDIs), and FGDs.</li> <li>5. Provide translation services for customizing data collection tools, conducting surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions. Translate collected data from local languages to English, ensuring accurate representation in both quantitative and qualitative methodologies.</li> <li>6. Provide support in producing a streamlined and user-friendly version of the study for use as informational and communicative resource materials.</li> <li>7. Manage logistical requirements including travel expenses of the participants for the national and regional consultations, and a national-level workshop, dedicated to disseminating the results of the study.</li> <li>8. Ensure that research, particularly data collection, is conducted ethically and with cultural sensitivity, respecting the rights and dignity of all participants involved in the study, particularly men and boys sharing sensitive information related to their experiences with GBV and gender norms.</li> </ol>
<p>Expected Outputs</p>	<p><b>The IP is expected to deliver the following main outputs for the study:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Translated Data Collection Tools and Data Gathering (if needed):       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Translation of data collection instruments such as surveys, interview questionnaires, and focus group discussion guides into local languages, as required.</li> <li>- Accurate translation of data collected in native languages to English, ensuring inclusivity across both quantitative and qualitative methodologies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Quantitative and Qualitative Collection and Insights Report       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consolidate both quantitative and qualitative data into a report. Organize and summarize the gathered information, providing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>brief insights into the conduct of the study, and noting any additional observations made during data collection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Management and Reporting of National and Regional Stakeholder Consultations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management of all logistics required for the conduct of national and regional stakeholder consultations, which includes travel costs, venue, meals, accommodation, and other expenses, like supplies and materials, incidental allowance, miscellaneous, etc.</li> <li>- Support in facilitation of the consultations and document the proceedings during consultations, capturing key discussions and outcomes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Workshop Management and Reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management of all logistics required for the conduct of a national-level workshop, which includes travel costs, venue, meals, accommodation, and other expenses, like supplies and materials, incidental allowance, miscellaneous, etc.</li> <li>- Support in facilitation of the consultations and document the workshop activities, key discussions, and outcomes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>The IP will also be expected to support the IC on the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inception Report: Support the IC by providing insights regarding the Philippines' context, existing protocols, and relevant procedures especially in the local level, aiding in the development of a tailored and comprehensive inception report</li> <li>● Desk review: Assist the IC in identifying relevant national and local policies, guidelines, regulations, research studies, journals, modules, and other literature sources for the study's desk review.</li> <li>● Streamlined Study Version: To support the development of a streamlined and user-friendly version of the study produced for use as informational and communicative resource materials, ensuring key messages are presented in an easily understandable manner.</li> </ul>
Place where services are to be delivered:	<p>The scope of the study will focus on the eight provinces identified as target areas by UNFPA CO Philippines. The IP will be visiting these provinces to conduct qualitative and quantitative data collection.</p> <p>UNFPA Priority Areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BARMM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maguindanao Del Sur</li> <li>- Maguindanao Del Norte</li> <li>- Lanao Del Sur</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Region 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Samar</li> <li>- Eastern Samar</li> <li>- Southern Leyte</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Region 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cebu</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Region 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Catanduanes</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>The IP will primarily operate remotely, delivering outputs to UNFPA Philippines online and meeting in person <b>at least</b> once per quarter for the Collegial Review and as needed. However, travel will be necessary for essential tasks such as data collection, consultations, fieldwork, workshops and reporting to the UNFPA office upon special request.</p> <p>It's essential to identify and account for all the work and resources needed to achieve the expected outputs, including the management of all logistical needs associated with reporting, fieldwork, and data collection, which also involve the</p>

	<p>national and regional stakeholder consultations. Regional consultations will be conducted in each target region as well as at the national level. Participants will vary based on the identified key stakeholders in each of these areas. Therefore, it is crucial to clearly outline all anticipated tasks that will require the IP's capabilities, network, human resources, travel arrangements, fieldwork, administrative functions, and other necessary elements.</p> <p>Similarly, when planning for the one-day national-level workshop, it is important to identify and consider all efforts and assets needed. Anticipating an attendance of 40-50 participants, including those travelling from the eight priority provinces and others based in Metro Manila, it's crucial to reflect all management and facilitation aspects needed for this activity in the Technical Proposal.</p> <p>Any additional staffing needs essential for the IP to meet the expected outputs, such as translation/interpretation support or additional research assistance, must be detailed in the technical proposal.</p> <p><b>Please note that as for the financial equivalents, UNFPA will engage with detailed discussion of the work plan and the financial requirements with the selected IP upon onboarding.</b></p>
Monitoring, Coordination and quality check arrangements:	<p>The UNFPA Programme and Operations team will work hand in hand to monitor progress of all deliverables and the entire partnership.</p> <p>The IC will additionally oversee the work of the IP in accordance with the anticipated study deliverables.</p>
Expected travel:	<p>The assignment will commence with virtual sessions aimed at finalizing the IP agreement, work plans, inception report, and literature review. Subsequently, fieldwork for data collection will promptly begin. The scheduling of these missions will be contingent upon the availability of both parties, primarily aligning with the study phases outlined in the inception report, which will be developed by the IC with support from the IP.</p> <p>The duration of the field data collection will be determined by both the IC and the IP, provided it falls within the first 4 months of the study timeframe. This allocation allows ample time for subsequent steps, including consultations, comprehensive data analysis, revisions, study finalization, workshop conduct, and material development.</p>
Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:	<p>Potential implementing partners may be a research/academic institution, non-government organization, research and consulting firms, or a single proprietorship. The implementing partner is expected to put together a research team under its supervision and whose Team Leader must meet the following qualifications.</p> <p><b>Education:</b> Advanced degree or equivalent in Gender Studies, Development Studies, Social Sciences or any other relevant field of study</p> <p><b>Knowledge and Experience:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>At least ten years</b> of experience in working with gender/ gender-based violence programme development;</li> <li>● Experience in qualitative and quantitative research – relevant experience in conducting research and / or producing situation analyses, in the areas</li> <li>● of gender, and gender-based violence, and / or sexual and reproductive health;</li> <li>● Demonstrated understanding of primary prevention of GBV including global and regional evidence and what effective strategies and interventions for GBV prevention focusing on behavioural change and drivers of harmful social norms;</li> <li>● Prior global and regional experience in development of gender-based</li> </ul>

	<p>violence programmes, studies, and research, reports and strategies;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ability to develop strong partnership with the target population and other relevant partners and stakeholders in all levels;</li> <li>● Familiarity or knowledge on the Philippines' context and landscape on GBV is an asset.</li> </ul>
<p>Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner (e.g support services, office, equipment), if applicable:</p>	<p>UNFPA will contract an IC to lead the study, overseeing its execution and collaborating with the IP to deliver outputs for each phase of the study. The IP is expected to collaborate closely with the UNFPA IC throughout all stages of the study to ensure alignment and successful completion.</p> <p>The Programme Team, working alongside the IC, will engage with the IP regularly to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide a comprehensive briefing on the assignment, including clarification of processes and deliverables.</li> <li>● Supply essential documents pertinent to the deliverables.</li> <li>● Facilitate introductions and collaborations with key stakeholders and counterparts as necessary.</li> <li>● Offer feedback and reach consensus on the subsequent steps of the assignment.</li> </ul> <p>UNFPA CO Philippines will provide a desk and internet for the consultant during his/her mission in the Philippines.</p> <p>The UNFPA CO Philippines will provide key available reports, databases, research and other relevant documents that may aid the development of the study.</p>
<p>Proposal Format</p>	<p>Interested and qualified firms need to submit the following documents using the Proposal Format prescribed in Annex A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Agency/ Organizational Profile</li> <li>● A preliminary technical/research proposal</li> </ul>
<p>Selection Criteria: TECHNICAL EVALUATION</p>	<p>1) Assessment of the entity's capacity to deliver the outputs (Agency/Organizational Profile) -55%</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Organizational background and experience in the subject matter area</li> <li>b. Human resources who will be deployed for the consultancy, i.e. number of staff and profile of key staff with educational background, documented years of experience in qualitative and quantitative research and programme development especially social norms on GBV, and number of years they have worked for the particular entity</li> <li>c. Mechanisms and platforms used by the entity for tracking and reporting on its work</li> <li>d. Networks and affiliations in the subject matter area especially in the involved actors at the local level.</li> <li>e. Financial management (review of audited financial statements for the past three years of operation)</li> <li>f. Reference checks</li> </ol> <p>2) Assessment of the entity's proposed design and methodology for achieving the expected outputs (Technical Proposal)- 45%</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Relevance, applicability and suitability of proposed design and methodology</li> <li>b. Innovative and strategic approach and its expected effectiveness in delivering the outputs</li> <li>c. Realistic time-line that meets UNFPA's proposed timeframe and expected outputs of the study</li> <li>d. Efficiency of the proposed management arrangements for the conduct of the study</li> </ol>

e. Integration of survivor-centered, human-rights-based and gender-transformative programming approaches, taking into account the principle of Leaving No One Behind

Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:

Signature of Requesting Officer in Hiring Office:

Submitted by:

DocuSigned by:

Michelle Dominique Chua  
Gender/ GBV National Programme Officer

Date: 27-May-2024

Endorsed by:

DocuSigned by:

Jose Roi Ayona  
Assistant Country Representative

Date: 27-May-2024

Approved by:

DocuSigned by:

Dr. Leila Saïj Joudane  
Country Representative

Date: 27-May-2024