



Terms of Reference

Guidelines: Ethical Funding for Research on VAW and VAC Consultancy

Background

The [Sexual Violence Research Initiative \(SVRI\)](#) is the world's **largest network on research on violence against women (VAW) and violence against children (VAC)**, providing a space where global role players in the field connect with one another, share and promote their research, work to influence policies and improve the lives of those who have experienced violence driven by gender inequality. We do this through [funding research](#), [strengthening research capacity](#), promoting partnerships and influencing change. The SVRI became an independent organisation in 2019. It is incorporated as a non-profit organisation under South African law (SVRI NPC 2019/197466/08). The new [Strategic Plan](#) for the period 2020 – 2024 was launched in October 2019.

The SVRI is seeking the services of a qualified consultant to support a consultative process and develop guidance on ethical funding for research on violence against women and violence against children in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Guidance will also include a roadmap for funders to work together to support different critical stages for interventions research, from formative process to scale up and replication. In consultation with SVRI Executive Director and partners, the process includes creating an advisory group, hosting a series of webinars, gathering case studies, developing guidelines in partnership with stakeholders on ethical and coordinated funding for research on VAW and VAC in LMICs and communication materials for dissemination via SVRI platforms. The consultant will work with the SVRI Executive Director on this project.

Why is this project important?

The SVRI, in partnership with the Equality Institute and Wellspring Philanthropic Fund is in the process of developing a [Global Shared Research Agenda](#) on violence against women. To accompany the process, we are also working with a skilled team to map and understand the current streams and gaps in funding, in order to develop and promote an effective strategy that will ultimately provide ethical, coordinated, sufficient and sustainable funding for the new research agenda. To support the effective use of these important products we have identified the need to develop guidance for funders on funding for research on VAW and VAC in LMICs.

Through this work we hope to advocate for funding processes that recognize power imbalances between funders and their recipients, the importance of research priorities being set through a collaborative process, the need to build on existing evidence and generate new evidence and learning to guide programmes that would effectively address VAW and VAC in LMICs, cognizance of the costs of collaboration and how this needs to be factored in to proposals and budgets – just to name a few.

Objective

The objective of the consultancy is to develop guidance on ethical and coordinated funding for research on violence against women and violence against children in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) for the field.

Possible tasks

- Develop a clear method for the process which may include:
 - Establishment of an advisory / peer review structure, including Diana J. Arango (World Bank), Emma Fulu (EQI) and other partners identified in partnership with the SVRI.
 - A scoping review on currently available related guides and evidence.
 - Key informant interviews with a diverse range of stakeholders and gather a series of case studies.
 - A webinar series.

Along with the following outputs:

- Draft guidance document through a consultative process.
- A social media campaign and communication strategy.

Requirements

- Master's degree + in Social Sciences, Development, Public Health, or a related field.
- At least 10-15 years' experience in research on violence against women and violence against children / ethics.
- Experience of working in multicultural contexts.
- Strong analytical, strategic thinking and planning skills.
- Self-motivated and able to work independently and remotely under tight deadlines.
- Proficiency in English.
- Working knowledge of Spanish, French, or another language would be an advantage.
- Strong writing skills.
- Preference will be given to consultants from LMICs.

Application Process

Interested consultants/consultancy companies must submit:

- A technical proposal not exceeding three pages detailing:
 - Understanding of the ToR
 - How your experience is relevant to the post – provide concrete examples
 - An outline of the methodological approach for the assignment
- A budget specifying the daily rate of the consultant (s) and the total number of days proposed for the consultancy. Unless the consultant/s are based in South Africa, the budget should be provided in USD.
- A Curriculum Vitae showing experience relevant to the consultancy.
- 3 References and/or Reference Letters.

The proposal and supporting documents must be submitted in English.

Candidates will be invited to a video conference interview at the end of the evaluation process to assess the consultant's understanding of the ToR. The time frame for the deliverables will be discussed and agreed with the selected consultant after the review of the proposed methodology.

The proposal and required documents must be sent by email to elizabeth@svri.org no later than **18 January 2021 (midnight South African time)**.