

TAHub06: Call for Experts to Lead Research on SRHR (Qualitative and/or quantitative) to inform SRHR programme design

TERMS OF REFERENCE	
Hiring Office:	2gether 4 SRHR
Background of consultancy	<p>The 2gether 4 SRHR is a joint United Nations Regional Programme that brings together the combined efforts of UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, and WHO to improve the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of all people in Eastern and Southern Africa. The programme is dedicated to advancing universal access to comprehensive SRHR. This encompasses nine recommended bundles of SRHR services, delivered through people-centered, gender-transformative, and life-course-based approaches that ensure no one is left behind in both development and humanitarian settings.</p> <p>One of the objectives of the programme is to provide timely and quality-assured technical assistance (TA) to continental and regional economic communities, parliamentary fora, participating United Nations agencies, and countries.</p> <p>To achieve this, the Programme developed a regional SRHR Technical Assistance Hub, which is a roster of pre-determined quality-assured technical experts, professional organizations, institutions, and partners working on SRHR in the region.</p> <p>This call is for technical experts to apply for consideration to be added to the Technical Assistance Hub to support work in the specified thematic area. Applicants will be assessed based on relevant qualifications, previous experience and examples of previous work. Once included in the roster you will have preferential access to consulting opportunities to improve the sexual and reproductive health and rights of all people in East and Southern Africa.</p> <p>Selected candidates will be contracted by one of the participating UN agencies of the 2gether 4 SRHR programme or other partners using their internal policies and procedures.</p> <p>Inclusion in the TA Hub does not constitute a contractual obligation by any participating party.</p> <p>Applications are to be submitted through the online TA Hub platform: Please share your application through the 2gether 4 SRHR Technical Assistance Hub via the on-line registration link: https://tahub.2gether4srhr.org/ Upon registering you will be asked to input the title of the Call you are applying for: TAHub06 Comprehensive Integrated SRHR_Thematic Area/ Expertise applied for.</p>
Purpose of consultancy:	This call seeks to identify technical experts who can be deployed to provide quality assured technical support to countries, regional organizations and institutions, to

	<p>support work in the thematic area specified below.</p> <p>Key Areas of Expertise:</p> <p>I. Qualitative and/or quantitative research on SRHR, to inform the design of SRHR programmes.</p>
<p>Scope of work:</p> <p><i>(Description of services, activities, or outputs)</i></p>	<p>Technical experts are invited to submit applications for consideration to be included in the 2gether 4 SRHR TA Hub to provide technical assistance to countries, regional institutions and partners in the following thematic area:</p> <p>Qualitative and Quantitative Researchers to inform the strategic design of evidence based integrated SRHR policies and programmes.</p> <p>Technical experts in qualitative and quantitative Research Methodologies are invited to apply to be included onto the TA Hub. They will support Member States and regional bodies to generate high-quality evidence to inform policy, service integration, accountability, and rights-based programming in comprehensive, integrated SRHR. The role is central to positioning SRHR within Primary Health Care (PHC)/ Universal Health Care (UHC) systems and ensuring sustainability through robust, context-sensitive evidence.</p> <p>Research Experts may be engaged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Design and implement qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods research studies on comprehensive SRHR. ● Conduct baseline and strategic assessments, implementation research, and programme evaluations. ● Undertake political economy analyses, policy analysis, and drivers-of-change assessments related to SRHR. ● Conduct service delivery and integration assessments within PHC platforms, including strategic assessments using the WHO Strategic Approach framework. ● Conduct community-based participatory research with young people, PLHIV, and other marginalized populations. ● Develop policy briefs, and donor-ready analytical reports. ● Strengthen national research capacity and support institutionalisation of evidence within Ministries of Health. ● Contribute to Delivering as One multi-agency evidence initiatives. <p>Demonstrated technical competencies in one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrated experience in undertaking qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research on comprehensive integrated SRHR and how the different domains intersect. ● Quantitative Research Expertise: Advanced knowledge of epidemiology and biostatistics, designing cross-sectional, cohort, quasi-experimental, or impact evaluation studies. Proficiency in statistical analysis software (e.g., STATA, R, SPSS, SAS). Experience analysing large datasets (e.g., DHS, MICS, HMIS/DHIS2).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative Research Expertise: Qualitative study design, conducting key informant interviews, focus group discussions and use of participatory methods. Skills in thematic and content analysis. Proficiency in qualitative data analysis software (e.g., NVivo, Atlas.ti, Dedoose). Experience conducting research in politically sensitive or restrictive contexts. • Mixed-Methods and Implementation Research: Experience in implementation science, service delivery research, quality improvement and health systems research approaches. • Strategic Assessments on unintended pregnancies, contraception and unsafe abortion, assessing the integration of SRHR services within PHC/UHC platforms. • Health Systems and Policy Analysis including conducting political economy and policy analysis related to SRHR. Ability to analyse legislative and regulatory frameworks affecting SRHR. Familiarity with regional mechanisms (e.g., SADC, EAC, AU) is desirable. • Ethics, rights and community engagement: Strong understanding of ethical considerations and approval processes for research to be undertaken, and ensuring the confidentiality of in particular of key populations.
Duration and working schedule:	Assignments will be determined based on specific technical assignments identified by the participating UN agencies, countries and other regional partners. Those specific assignments will include information on duration and working schedule.
Place where services are to be delivered:	Details will be determined based on the specific technical assignments identified by the participating UN agencies, countries and other regional partners.
Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy etc.):	Details will be determined based on the specific technical assignments identified by the participating UN agencies, countries and other regional partners.
Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline:	Regular check-in meetings
Supervisory arrangements:	Technical experts will be contracted by the relevant UN agency and/or partner using their identified procurement processes.
Expected travel:	Travel will be based on the nature of the assignment the technical expert may be contracted for.
Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:	<p>Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced university degree (Master's minimum, PhD strongly preferred) in epidemiology, biostatistics, public health, social sciences, health economics, or a related research-focused field.

Knowledge and Experience:

- Minimum 7 years of progressively responsible professional experience designing and implementing qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods research studies on comprehensive SRHR.
- Demonstrated experience working in low- and middle-income countries, preferably in East and Southern Africa.
- Proven experience working with Ministries of Health, national technical working groups, or multilateral agencies.
- For Quantitative Experts: Advanced proficiency in statistical analysis software (e.g., STATA, R, SPSS, SAS) and experience analyzing large datasets (e.g., DHS, MICS, HMIS/DHIS2).
- For Qualitative Experts: Proficiency in qualitative data analysis software (e.g., NVivo, Atlas.ti, Dedoose) and extensive experience in participatory methods, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews.
- Demonstrated experience conducting baseline assessments, political economy analyses, implementation research, and community-based participatory research with marginalized populations.
- Proven ability to translate complex research into policy briefs and donor-ready analytical reports.
- Copies of previously published work, such as high-quality technical outputs (e.g., peer-reviewed research articles, baseline/strategic assessment reports, political economy/policy analyses, mixed-methods evaluation reports, or data-driven policy briefs).

Core Knowledge Requirements

- Comprehensive Integrated SRHR: Understanding of how these domains interact within integrated Primary Health Care (PHC) and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) systems.
- Health Systems and Integration: Understanding of PHC and UHC frameworks, service integration approaches, and national health workforce/task-shifting systems.
- Rights-Based and Gender-Responsive Approaches: Understanding of programming principles including gender equality, non-discrimination, stigma, and discrimination frameworks.
- Political Sensitivity: An ability to operate in politically sensitive environments.
- Cross-Cutting Technical Competencies: Strong analytical, communication, and stakeholder engagement skills.
- Ethical and Professional Standards: Sensitivity to culture, ensuring confidentiality, and impartiality.

Languages:

- Fluency in one or more of the following UN languages is required: English, French, and Portuguese.

<p>Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner (e.g support services, office space, equipment), if applicable:</p>	<p>Specific details will be determined based on the technical assignment for which the candidate is eligible.</p>
<p>Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:</p>	<p>Specific details will be determined based on the technical assignment for which the candidate is eligible.</p> <p>To be registered for future assignments please submit your CV and cover letter, and three relevant examples of your previously published work, such as high-quality technical outputs (e.g., peer-reviewed research articles, Background Papers, Strategic Assessment reports, political economy/policy analyses, mixed-methods evaluation reports, or data-driven policy briefs). Please note that not submitting relevant samples may lead to your application being disqualified.</p> <p>Please share your application through the 2gether 4 SRHR Technical Assistance Hub via the on-line registration link: https://tahub.2gether4srhr.org/ Upon registering you will be asked to input the title of the Call you are applying for: TAHub06 Comprehensive Integrated SRHR_Thematic Area/ Qualitative and/or Qualitative Research</p>