

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Project Title: Organization of Training of Trainers (TOT) and roll-out of training for health care providers on men engagement in prenatal care and childbirth in Shirak, Tavush and Lori marzes of Armenia**

**Duty Station:** Yerevan, Shirak, Tavush and Lori marzes

**Start Date:** 27 August 2021

**Duration:** 01 December 2021

**Funding Source**: ARM04MEN

1. **Background**

The health sector is an important entry point to promote the early involvement of fathers in caregiving. However, maternal and child health providers often primarily communicate with mothers and children, and do not often engage men as supportive partners to women or as caregivers themselves. However, research[[1]](#footnote-1) shows that the relationship between fathers and the health sector is evolving, with increasing recognition of men as significant sources of emotional support and care, and recognition of the importance of early bonding between fathers and their babies, even before birth. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends the involvement of men during pregnancy and childbirth to support women’s self-care, improve home care practices for women, improve the use of skilled care during pregnancy and childbirth, and increase the timely use of facility care for obstetric and newborn complications[[2]](#footnote-2).

The health sector can play a key role in the accelerated expansion of father engagement in caregiving and shared responsibility with their partner. Broadly, this requires the following:

Clearer guidelines and protocols on how to work with fathers and male caregivers.

More educational campaigns and materials in the waiting room that encourage men’s participation in fatherhood and sexual and the couple’s reproductive health.

When men are in the consultation room, encouragement to continue their involvement. If they are not present, encouraging mothers to bring the father, provided the mothers feel safe, agree to it, and the relationship is non-violent, and as long as it is possible for the father to be involved.

The provision of context-specific support and guidance: when the mother is single and does not communicate with the father; when the parents are separated; when one or both parents live with disabilities; and in cases of couple conflict, violence against women, substance abuse, or mental health issues.

Starting from March 2020, UN Women and UNFPA are jointly implementing a three –year programme named “EU4GE: Together against gender stereotypes and gender-based violence “, funded by the European Union and aimed at strengthening of equal rights and opportunities for women and men through shifting social perceptions, gender stereotypes, and men’s participation in caretaking.

The Programme is being implemented in 6 countries, such as Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus. In Armenia the Programme will be operational in three EU target regions, such as Shirak, Tavush and Lori.

In the frame of the EU4GE programme a Regional Resource and Training package was developed, that was further on adapted to the national context and translated into Armenian. The Resource and Training package is intended to help healthcare provider better engage men during pregnancy and childbirth to improve the health and well-being of their partners and children, as well as for their own health, wellbeing, ability to bond, and feelings of connectedness.

Hereby, the UNFPA Armenia Country Office is seeking to contract an organization for conducting a two-and-half day TOT based on the adapted and translated Resource and Training package for health care providers, as well as rolling -out training for regional health care providers in the three EU target regions (Shirak, Lori and Tavush) of Armenia.

1. **Purpose**

The purpose of the assignment is to organize a Training of Trainers (TOT), as well as to roll-out of training for regional healthcare providers in the three EU target regions of Armenia.

1. **Scope of Work**

The Service Provider under the overall guidance of the UNFPA Gender Program Analyst and the direct supervision of the UNFPA EU4GE Programme Coordinator and in close collaboration with UNFPA consultant will be responsible for ensuring timely and proper implementation of the following activities:

* In close collaboration with UNFPA EU4GE Programme Coordinator and the Ministry of Health, identify 6 key trainers (obstetricians -gynaecologists) from the three regions (Tavush, Shirak and Lori) to be involved in TOT, and to be responsible for facilitating further training for regional healthcare providers (obstetricians-gynaecologists and midwives), as well as for facilitating at least one Papa school session at the premises of their respective health facilities.
* Organize a two-and –a-half-day training (TOT) for the identified six trainers; to be responsible for training logistics, such as renting of training venue, coffee-breaks, lunches, hotel accommodation, transportation if needed, etc. TOT facilitator will be provided by the UNFPA Armenia CO.
* Organize at least two Papa School sessions that will be facilitated by the trained obstetrician –gynaecologists (identified and trained six trainers) at their respective health facilities (for example, at the premises of the Schools of Motherhood).
* Mobilize regional health care providers (obstetrician-gynaecologists and midwives from Tavush, Shirak and Lori regions) to participate at the trainings to be facilitated by trainers –participants of TOT (at least 18 health care providers for each training).
* Organize a six two-day trainings for regional healthcare providers (obstetrician-gynaecologists and midwives from Tavush, Shirak and Lori regions) in the respective regions; be responsible for training logistics, including for renting training venue, organization of coffee-breaks, lunches, hotel accommodation, transportation, if needed, printing of handouts, etc.
* Conduct pre-and post-tests to evaluate the knowledge increase as a result of training, and to prepare summary report on it.
* Due to possible COVID- limitations envisage the possibility of conducting training online.
* Prepare report on activities implemented in the frame of the assignment.

1. **Expected Deliverables and Timing**

* Identification of six trainers and organization of TOT- by September 20, 2021
* Organization of a six two-days training for regional health care providers in regions- from October 1, 2021- November 25, 2021. Summary report on training with pre- and post-tests evaluation.
* Organization of Papa School sessions from October 1, 2021- November 25, 2021.
* Report on completing of the assignment – by December 1, 2021.

(In case of any technical obstacles, a non-cost extension of the Contract is possible for 10 working days).

1. **Payment**

The payment will be made in AMD upon timely submission and approval of the final report.

UNFPA’s policy is to pay for the performance of contractual services rendered or to effect payment upon the achievement of specific milestones described in the contract. UNFPA’s policy is not to grant advance payments except in unusual situations where the potential contractor specifies in the financial proposal that there are special circumstances warranting an advance payment. UNFPA will normally require a bank guarantee or other suitable security arrangement.

Any request for an advance payment is to be justified and documented, and must be submitted with the financial proposal. The justification shall explain the need for the advance payment, itemize the amount requested and provide a time schedule for utilization of said amount Further information may be requested by UNFPA at the time of finalizing contract negotiations with the awarded organization.

1. **Qualifications and Experience Requirements**

* Organization registered and operating in the Republic of Armenia with mission and goals relevant to the project;
* At least 5 years’ experience in organizing training in health sector;
* Proven experience of working in area reproductive and maternal health is an asset;
* Work experience with international organizations and UNFPA or other UN Agencies is an asset.

This procurement case is announced in the framework of the “EU 4 Gender Equality: Together against gender stereotypes and gender-based violence" programme, funded by the European Union, implemented jointly by UN Women and UNFPA.

1. Tokhi M, Comrie-Thomson L, Davis J, Portela A, Chersich M, Luchters S (2018) Involving men to improve maternal and newborn health: A systematic review of the effectiveness of interventions. PLoS ONE 13(1): e0191620. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. WHO (2015) Recommendations on health promotion interventions for maternal and newborn health. Available at: https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/172427/9789241508742\_report\_eng.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)