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**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Project Title:** Assessment of the status of integration of DV risk mitigation across the humanitarian programme cycle at all levels and identification of priority areas for action

**Duty Station:** Yerevan and all Marzes, Armenia

**Start Date:** 1 October, 2021

**Duration:** 5 months

**Funding Source:** ARM04WEP

1. **Background**

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a human rights violation, a universal issue, with great impact on survivors, their families, and communities. Almost 18 per cent of women and girls aged 15 to 49 years who have ever been in a relationship have experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner in the previous 12 months. The figure rises to 30 per cent when considering violence by a partner experienced during women’s lifetime. More than a third of murder cases of women are committed by a current or former intimate partner.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Available data show that less than 40 per cent of the women who experience violence seek help of any sort. Among those who do, most look to family and friends. Less than 10 per cent of those women seeking help seek help from the police.[[2]](#footnote-2) The existing crisis of VAWG is likely to worsen in the context of COVID-19.[[3]](#footnote-3) Emerging data shows that since the outbreak of COVID-19, reports of violence against women, and particularly domestic violence, have increased in several countries as security, health, and money worries create tensions and strains accentuated by the cramped and confined living conditions of lockdown.[[4]](#footnote-4)

The situation in Armenia also reflects global trends․ The Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women, makes alarming statements on the increase of domestic violence during the state of emergency by 30% in March and by 50% in April.[[5]](#footnote-5) NGOs warn that by staying home women appear in an even more vulnerable condition: many women are even deprived of a chance to call helplines for consultation related to violence or for social assistance. Child rights’ and disability rights’ organizations also indicate about the hidden but increasing violence cases against children and people with disabilities. This situation requires a complex and systemic response, a clearly designed action plan the implementation of which will ensure a timely and targeted assistance to persons subjected to domestic violence.

1. **Purpose**

The purpose of this assignment is to reveal the gaps in the laws, bylaws, procedures and practices of the police, emergency services, social services, etc. in preventing cases of DV (including for survivors with disabilities, people from other vulnerable groups and children), responding and providing support to the survivors during the emergency situations, draft amendments and/or new legislative acts to address the identified gaps, conduct capacity building for police, emergency and social services.

1. **Description of Assignment**

The Service Provider, under the overall guidance of the UNFPA Head of Office and the direct supervision of the Project Manager for EU funded project Future Today: Empowering Women, Youth and Children for Deepening Democracy in Armenia, will be responsible for ensuring timely and proper implementation of the following activities:

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| **Activity** | **End product/ Deliverables** | **Time frame** |
| 1. Conduct a gap analysis/desk review of policies and laws (including bylaws, internal procedures, action plans etc.) related to the prevention of GBV/DV, response and protection of survivors (including for survivors with disabilities, people from other vulnerable groups and children) during the emergencies in light of international standards and best practices (at least 3 countries, preferably former Soviet republics and Europe). Provide recommendations for policy makers on the key measures to be undertaken to address the DV during emergencies. | Report in Armenian and English | October - November, 2021 |
| 2. Conduct interviews with key informants (line ministries, regional administration, local self-governance key stakeholders (i.e. Child and family support departments) NGOs involved in the process, law-enforcement officials, existing state operated and other relevant hotlines, state authorized DV service providers, women survivors of DV (including for survivors with disabilities, people from other vulnerable groups and children), etc.) | Full report of the interviews in Armenian and English | November, 2021 |
| 3. Draft amendments to existing legislation, internal policies and procedures of targeted agencies and service providers, protocols and codes of conduct, etc. and/or develop new ones to address the issues identified during the desk review. | Draft documents in Armenian | November, 2021 |
| 4. Organise a validation workshop to present the initial findings. Based on comments/suggestions received during the validation workshop finalize and submit the report | Validation workshop with the representatives of state agencies, CSOs, etc.  Report in Armenian and English | February, 2022 |
| 5. Develop training module with materials, including the measurement tools and scales for monitoring and evaluation of learning progress and outcomes as part of the overall capacity building scheme to be rolled out for police, emergency services and social services, family and child support centres. | Adapted training manual with integrated measurement tools in Armenian  Capacity building guidebook and agreed scheme along with the detailed implementation, M&E plan for social services, police and emergency services. | March, 2022 |
| 6. Pilot the capacity building scheme for police, emergency services and social services, family and child support centres. | Piloting to be conducted in one marz | April, 2022 |

1. **Qualifications and Experience Requirements**

* Organization registered and operating in the Republic of Armenia
* Qualifications or specialized knowledge/experience required for the organization and experts in the team to implement projects aimed at promoting gender equality
* Work experience with UN is an asset.

1. **Payment**

The payment will be made in AMD in two installments (40% of the total amount in November, 2021 and 60% of the total amount in April, 2022) upon timely submission and approval of the respective deliverables stated above.

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. # <https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/issue-brief-covid-19-and-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5006>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. # <https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/issue-brief-covid-19-and-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5006>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. # <https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/issue-brief-covid-19-and-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5006>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. # <https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/issue-brief-covid-19-and-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5006>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. # <https://www.azatutyun.am/a/30563169.html>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-5)