



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

TO CONDUCT A RETROSPECTIVE RESEARCH ON TEENAGE PREGNANCIES AND ABORTION IN THREE DISTRICTS (KAMULI, MAYUGE AND WAKISO)

1. INTRODUCTION

Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD) is a non-profit, research and advocacy organisation established 13 years ago to pioneer the justiciability of the right to health. We advance social justice in health and human rights in health systems in Uganda, East African Region, pan-African and Globally. We dream of a society in which social justice and human rights are realised in health

2. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD) with support and collaboration with Planned Parenthood Global is implementing a project which seeks to respond to the worsening problem of teenage pregnancies in the country, using a multi-sectoral approach. This work builds onto the foundation interventions implemented through the Voices for Health project which ended in March 2022 and focused on addressing the health needs of adolescents and young people through policy formulation. Steps have been made in advancing a progressive national school health policy that

includes Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH). While we continue waiting for the policy to be approved, there is need to pay attention towards the implementation of other supportive policy frameworks and to hold the duty bearers accountable for these frameworks amidst the fast-changing operational environment.

A study by UNFPA (2021) found that a total of 354,736 teenage pregnancies were registered in 2020 and a total of 290,219 registered between January and September, 2021 implying an average of over 32,000 cases reported per month. Teenage pregnancy is responsible for nearly one fifth (18%) of annual births in Uganda. Almost half (46%) of births by teenagers are unwanted pregnancies (UNFPA-UNICEF 2019). Further, teenage pregnancies contribute to 20% of infant deaths and 28% of maternal death.

3. AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The purpose of the assignment is to undertake retrospective research on the situation of teenage pregnancy and unsafe abortion among young people in three districts to inform advocacy,

policy considerations, service provision and community actions to change the situation. This is within the context of the newly emerging issues that include the spike of teenage pregnancies and unsafe abortions linked to the Covid-19 times. The research will target hospital and health facility records as well as SRHR service providers as respondents. It will also consider school management committees, senior women and men as key informants. The study is expected to generate new local evidence on the situation of teenage pregnancies and unsafe abortion among young people.

Specific objectives are;

The retrospective study will target both the cases of teenage pregnancies and unsafe abortions in the three districts in order to:

- Establish whether and how the prevalence of teenage pregnancies in the three districts was impacted by Covid-19 pandemic and its response.
- Generate and compile data on abortions in the districts and how these are managed.
- Establish whether there are

interventions focusing on re-entry of teenage mothers into schools.

- d. Make recommendations for improving service provision, policy implementation, advocacy and community action to address problems of teenage pregnancy and unsafe abortion.

NOTE: It will be important to identify any factors that affect the equitable provision of services and information to the young people affected by teenage pregnancies and unsafe abortions as part of this study and providing any useful insights.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

The assignment will be carried out in the districts of Kamuli, Mayuge and Wakiso and will involve:

- i. Developing a full research proposal, including the definition of the research methodology, literature review and ethical considerations.
- ii. Developing and pre-testing the data collection tools.
- iii. Data collection from health facilities/service providers. This information collected will be correlated using expert interviews with key stakeholders in the districts.
- iv. Data analysis and reporting.
- v. Validation of findings.

5. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

In line with this assignment, the consultant is expected to deliver the following deliverables;

- i). An inception report with clear timelines for completion of specific tasks for the assignment. This report will demonstrate an understanding of the assignment; the research proposal and a work plan for the assignment.
- ii). A draft study report that is aligned with the aim and objectives of the assignment for CEHURD to review and provide feedback.
- iii). A final research report with CEHURD's feedback incorporated.
- iv). A draft publishable article aligned with the research report. A summary reflection report on how the assignment was managed – what was done well, the challenges and what could be improved in future assignments of CEHURD.

6. TIMEFRAME

It is expected that the assignment will last for 35 Calendar days upon award of contract

7. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

Interested consultants must submit the following information no later than 9th May 2023

- a. Expression of interest letter explaining why you are the most suitable person/team for the task and outlining past experience in similar assignments. You can include links to some of the research work you have undertaken previously.
- b. A research proposal which includes some degree of literature review on the issues of focus for the assignment, the research methodology and how you plan to manage the ethical considerations.
- c. A financial Proposal with a clear breakdown down of costs. Curriculum vitae of the lead consultant and CVs of others if you will undertake the assignment as a team.
- d. At least 2 references from organisations /institutions for which you have previously undertaken similar or related work.

Interested parties should send their application documents to info@cehurd.org and copy atwiine@cehurd.org by **Tuesday 9th May 2023**