



United Nations Population Fund
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**Q&A in response to
REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ) N° UNFPA/BKK/RFQ/23/005
Research on Structural Barriers to Accessing Response Services for GBV Survivors**

Q1: Have specific locations or countries been chosen for the focus of this work?

A1: Countries have not yet been chosen but will include locations in South Asia and Southeast Asia.

Q2: Is there an anticipated number of countries of focus?

A2: In Asia, UNFPA works in 24 countries and the Pacific sub-region. Of these, 4 to 5 countries will be selected for the focus.

Q3: Is it anticipated that there would need to be in-country fieldwork for primary data collection?

A3: No in-country fieldwork is anticipated. It is anticipated that work will be done remotely, through virtual KIIs and consultations as well as desk review.

Q4: Could you inform us of the number of countries in which data collection should take place? And could you confirm which countries (if already decided)?

A4: Countries have not yet been chosen but will include 4 to 5 locations in South Asia and Southeast Asia.

Q5: Do you expect international team members to travel to the countries or should the work be done remotely (with local experts undertaking fieldwork)?

A5: No international travel is expected. It is anticipated that work will be done remotely, through virtual KIIs and consultations as well as desk review.

Q6: Do you expect the research to look both at humanitarian as well as development contexts?

A6: The research will focus on development and nexus contexts.

Q7: Should it also look at peace building - the nexus (as referred to in the last sentence of para 1 in the ToR)? Any focus on Women, Peace and Security and the related UN Security Council Resolutions as from 1325 in 2000?

A7: Depending on the countries selected, all relevant contexts will be considered. However, the research will not necessarily focus on peace-building as a key area of inquiry.

Q8: Does UNFPA expect social norms aspects of structural barriers to be part of the research?

A8: Social norms research is not expected as part of this contract. However, in the process of documenting and discussing laws, policies, and structural barriers, any specific gender/social norms basis for them that is identified by informants should be documented.

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Q9: The ToR refer on p. 14 to marginalised populations. How would UNFPA define marginalized populations? Would these include IDPs and refugees, LGBTQIA+, Trafficked sex workers, children, ...?

A9: The populations will be identified within each country's context, but are expected to include any groups that are marginalized by ethnicity, race, religion, or diverse SOGIESC. Humanitarian settings will not be part of the research so IDPs and refugees are not included. Barriers for child survivors are not included in the scope of the research.

Q10: Does UNFPA also expect the research to look into customary systems in terms of structural barriers, next to the 'modern' legal systems and structures?

A10: Only insofar as the country's legal system abdicates authority to customary systems for resolution of incidents of violence against women (whether familial or not)

Q11: Should the research cover employment/occupational laws and the structural barriers that exist in terms of their implementation?

A11: No, barriers to gender equitable access to employment is not part of the expected research. The research will focus on more immediately impactful financial barriers for GBV survivors in terms of accessing services (e.g. fees, travel, etc) along with information on whether social protection programmes exist (and are accessible to survivors) that would contribute to economic stabilization.

Q12: Is the research to address the internal barriers to effective implementation of structures supporting GBV survivors - and the relative efficacy of accountability mechanisms? E.g. potentially entrenched, gender-blind training and service provision by the police, judiciary, health sectors that can actively support and perpetuate structural barriers to redress for GBV survivors?

A12: The phrase "internal barriers" may cover a wide range of factors, but where a lack of adequate/appropriate training to provide gender-responsive services or the lack of accountability mechanisms are determined to be factors in a structural barrier to access, then they would be included in the scope.

Q13: Should the research also look at global/international structural barriers?

A13: No, global/international structural barriers are not part of the research.

Q14: Should CEDAW - the 'positive obligations' for states parties, be part of the research?

A14: No, reviewing services against CEDAW or other international treaties/agreements specifying positive obligations is not part of the research.

Q15: Should structural barriers that inhibit discussion of and action on GBV, be part of the research? E.g. barriers to women's political participation (formal and informal)

A15: Structural barriers that inhibit action to address GBV could certainly be part of the research. As this is a very wide category, it needs discussion in more specific terms. Regarding the example given of women's lack of political participation, the lack of right to formal participation could be factored into analysis of why structural

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barriers have not been recognized/addressed, but would not require deeper research. Examination of informal barriers related to social norms would not be expected as part of the research.

Q16: Should the research look at the funding specific to GBV prevention, mitigation, response actions in the Pacific?

A16: No, the Pacific sub-region will not be included in the scope of this round of research. There may be future iteration of research with specific focus on Pacific.

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