



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANCY TO UNDERTAKE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) ASSESSMENT AMONG YOUNG REFUGEES IN NORTHERN UGANDA

General Information:

Duration:	4 months (May – August 2018)
Duty Station:	Uganda
Contract type:	Consultancy

Background:

While Uganda has hosted refugees continuously since 1945, the last five years have seen unprecedented increases in the caseload, particularly regarding refugees coming from South Sudan. As of January 2018, the country is host to 1.4million refugees across 28 different settlements in north-western, mid-northern, mid-western and south-western Uganda. Refugees represent between 6% and 59% of the population in hosting districts.¹

Despite Uganda’s progressive refugee policy and the contribution of refugees to local economy, refugee-impacted areas remain vulnerable. The high rate of poverty among refugees and limited economic opportunities contribute to higher poverty levels in refugee-hosting areas, which are often remote and less developed.²³

Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) issues and gender issues, particularly sexual violence and other forms of Gender Based Violence (GBV), are often more acute in humanitarian, poor and vulnerable settings. It is young people in particular who find themselves most affected. When young people are economically vulnerable, they are more likely to engage in high-risk behaviours in efforts to survive or as an alternative coping mechanism. For example, they may enter into inter-generational relationships, early marriage or sex work to support themselves, which puts them at risk of teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, and dropping out of school. In the medium and long term, it also reduces their labour productivity and ability to come out of poverty and help their communities to develop.

¹GOU and UNHCR. Uganda Refugee Response Portal.<https://ugandarefugees.org/analysis/settlements/>

² Walton, R. (2012). “Helpdesk Research Report: Preventing conflict between refugees and host communities.” Governance and Social Development Resource Center.

³ UNCT and World Bank. (2016). *Refugee and Host Community Empowerment (ReHoPE) Strategic Framework*. Uganda. Kampala.

UNFPA works closely with the Ugandan Government, UN agencies and other partners to ensure that young people's SRH and gender issues are integrated into the refugee response. Timely and accurate information on population dynamics is an integral part of refugee response, as this enables improved protection of vulnerable groups and provision of long-term social service delivery. However, there are significant gaps in availability and accessibility of quality information about gender and SRHR knowledge, attitudes and practices among young refugees in Uganda. Inadequate data limits targeting of vulnerable young people with quality and effective SRHR/gender programming.

There is therefore need for a comprehensive evidence generation exercise to fill identified evidence gaps to inform policy implementation and effective programming.

General Objective:

The main objective of this consultancy is to assess the level of SRHR and GBV knowledge, attitudes and practices among young refugees (aged 10-24 years) in eight districts in West Nile and Acholi sub regions and map out specific vulnerabilities in order to generate information that will be utilized for improving advocacy and programming for young refugees.

Specific Objectives:

The specific study objectives are as follows:

1. Establish the SRHR/GBV knowledge, beliefs, risk perceptions, practices and experiences among refugee young people (aged 10-24 years) in Uganda.
2. Map out vulnerable sub-groups in terms of socio-demographic characteristics and predisposing factors.

Scope of work:

The consultancy team will be required to carry out the following activities:

- Conduct a narrative literature review that comprehensively critiques and summarizes the available body of literature and draws conclusions pertinent to the subject area
- Prepare and present a research protocol / inception report aligned to latest research standards.
- Develop, pre-test and adjust data collection tools
- Prepare submission to IRB, UNCST and other relevant institutions pertinent to the study area and secure ethical, clearance of the research.

- Organize and manage the primary data collection, including through training of field workers, and quality assurance of the data collection process.
- Undertake data entry and data analysis to answer to the objectives of the research.
- Draft final report answering all of three objectives of the research; including through use of data visualization approaches to optimize presentation of findings.
- Draft, in collaboration with UNFPA, an academic manuscript on the findings for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

Throughout all the above-mentioned work, the consultancy team will coordinate, consult and seek approval from the technical team at UNFPA.

Deliverables/Outputs:

The consultancy team is expected to deliver the following outputs to UNFPA in line with the above listed objectives:

- Final literature review report.
- Final research protocol/inception report.
- Final data collection tools.
- Complete research package for submission to IRB and UNCST.
- Certificate of approval/registration from IRB and UNCST.
- Authorization letters from other relevant institutions.
- Final clean datasets.
- Final technical report answering to all objectives of the research.
- Draft academic manuscript ready for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

Scope of research and methodological approach:

The research will be conducted in 5 refugee-hosting districts in West Nile and Acholi sub-regions. These include Adjumani, Arua, Lamwo, Moyo and Yumbe, focusing specifically on refugee settlements. The target population will be refugee young people aged 10-24 years, both in and out of school.

UNFPA anticipates that a cross sectional survey which employ both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection will be undertaken. Quantitative methods will focus on partly answering objective one and qualitative methods will focus on answering objective 1 and 2.

Quantitative data analysis is expected to make use of both descriptive statistics as well as regression analysis, and to rely on available specialised software, both for the quantitative and qualitative components.

Time Scope:

The study shall be conducted between May and August 2018 (16 weeks) in accordance to the following schedule:

Review Stages	Deliverables	Timeline
Preparatory stage		
TOR review and agreement	Final proposal agreed upon by UNFPA and the consultancy team	1 day
Inception stage		
Conduct narrative literature review Develop research tools Pre-test research tools Develop inception report Finalize literature review, tools and inception report	Final narrative literature review Tested research tools Research protocol/Inception report	3 weeks
Ethical approval stage		
Prepare IRB submission Obtain IRB approval Prepare UNSCT submission Obtain UNCST approval	IRB and UNCST research approval certificates	4 weeks
Field work stage		
Training of field teams	1 day training workshop	2 days
Data collection (field)	Raw data	2 weeks
Data management stage		
Data entry and cleaning	Data entry screen and clean dataset	9 days
Data analysis	Statistical analysis and visualizations	9 days
Reporting stage		
Technical report writing	Draft end-line report	2 weeks
Finalization of technical report	Final technical report	1 week
Co-draft research manuscript	Draft manuscript completed	1 week

Ethical and Research Standards:

The consultancy team is expected to adhere by recognized principles of research ethics and procedures, including research in humanitarian settings and with vulnerable populations, and to obtain ethical approval for the research ahead of initiation of work. In addition, the consultancy team must also secure approval from the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology before initiation of research.

Management of the study:

The consultancy team will be contracted and managed by UNFPA. The consultants will work under direct supervision of AYSRH Program Analyst and general supervision of the M&E Specialist and Program Analyst- P&D..

The consultants will present all key deliverables to the Knowledge Management Committee (KMC) at UNFPA, which will guide technically and vet the consultant's work. KMC approval of all consultancy deliverables is a pre-condition to consider the assignment has been finalized and met the expected quality standards.

Study team and composition:

The consultancy team or firm selected to undertake this assignment will have the following mix of skills:

Team leader with over 8 years of experience in managing research projects that involve both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection including population-based surveys. S/he should have a PhD in public health, population studies, social sciences or other related fields, and have substantive knowledge of gender and/or sexual and reproductive health and rights issues for young people. S/he will have a record of accomplishment of publications in peer-reviewed journals. S/he will be responsible for providing overall managerial and technical leadership of the study.

Statistician/Demographer with experience in quantitative data collection, management, analysis and reporting. S/he should have, to a minimum, a Masters' degree in biostatistics. A candidate with a PhD will be preferred. S/he will be responsible for providing leadership for the quantitative component of the study.

Social Scientist with extensive experience in managing qualitative research projects and a proven record of accomplishment of qualitative research publications. S/he should have a Masters' degree – preferably a PhD – in humanities or anthropological studies. S/he will be responsible for providing leadership for the qualitative component of the study.

Information on applications:

All interested parties should submit a concept paper of 5-10 pages detailing their understanding of the assignment, methodology proposed, time frame, budget, qualifications of all team members, and list of similar assignments conducted. This should be delivered in closed hard copy to UNFPA Reception not later than **30th April 2018**.