



**Term of References for International Individual Consultancy Services to analyse and report on data from a survey on Menstrual Hygiene Management among Adolescent Girls living in urban slums in Bangladesh**

<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE (to be completed by Hiring Office)</b>	
Hiring Office:	UNFPA Bangladesh, Country Office
Purpose of consultancy:	This consultant will give technical assistance in optimizing the design and methodology of a situation analysis of menstrual hygiene management among adolescent girls living in Dhaka's urban slums, as well as analyse and report on data from a survey of adolescent girls and their communities. The consultant will have access to both quantitative and qualitative data sets, as well as emerging topics and qualitative study scripts that may be incorporated into the final report.
Scope of work: (Description of services, activities, or outputs)	<p>The United Nations Population Fund, is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health and rights agency with a mission to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.</p> <p>Millions of girls and women of reproductive age face obstacles when it comes to getting menstrual health information, treatment for problems associated with their menstruation, let alone basic menstrual hygiene products. Menstruation can be a source of abuse, stigma, and loss of dignity for women and girls; it may raise their risk of sexual abuse and harmful behaviours such as child marriage, lack of bodily autonomy, or confinement.</p> <p>But women and girls around the world have created their own particular ways of dealing with menstruation. These coping strategies are dependent on the country, available resources, economic status, social norms, cultural beliefs, and knowledge or education available to girls. Because these factors are frequently based on gender inequality and discriminatory practices, menstruation is often experienced negatively and managed in ways that are difficult or unsanitary, especially in poorer environments. As a result of these restrictions, many adolescent girls face barriers to appropriate menstrual hygiene management (MHM).</p> <p>Girls of a lower socio-economic status often cannot afford disposable menstrual supplies, such as sanitary pads or tampons which are frequently changed throughout the day during menstruation. Instead, according to a report by WaterAid Bangladesh, the majority of girls residing in the slums or rural areas of Bangladesh wear rags as a form of reusable sanitary absorbents. Study about the relationship between menstrual hygiene practices and academic performance amongst Bangladeshi adolescent girls, showed that inadequate education and knowledge on menstruation, led to poor attendance to school due to the stigma and fear of staining their clothing. As well as the fact that the event of menstruation can signal a girl's readiness for marriage, once again leading to an increased school dropout rate.</p> <p>A few studies on menstruation management practices have been carried out in Bangladesh, however, none of the research have looked at the broader socioeconomic factors that influence the obstacles, especially in the urban slum settings. Identifying and tackling significant socioeconomic issues connected to menstrual management is critical to achieving several of the sustainable development goals, according to the study conducted by Tal Ha et al. (2020).</p>

There has also been a gap in research to identify approaches to encourage adolescent girls towards using disposable sanitary pads, even if it were available. Despite there being extensive research on the general knowledge and perceptions on MHM, there is a scarcity of research on the effectiveness and quality of solutions to address the problem especially in urban slum settings. Against this background and as advocate of sexual and reproductive rights, UNFPA seeks to conduct a cross sectional survey in urban slums that would provide evidence for innovative ways in improving menstrual hygiene management, to decrease the various obstacles that impact adolescent girls in these communities.

UNFPA intends to use the results of the survey to not only inform the delivery of menstrual hygiene management (MHM) supplies in urban settings as well as to inform its humanitarian programme that supports adolescent girls across the country. The objectives of this study are to:

- 1) Describe menstrual hygiene practices and access to menstrual products among adolescents living in urban slums in Dhaka,
- 2) Explore the knowledge, attitude, practice and experiences of menstrual hygiene and management as well as identify issues and challenges faced by adolescent girls
- 3) Identify significant socioeconomic issues connected to menstrual management and
- 4) Propose solutions to address the problem especially in urban slum settings

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#### **Description of Activities**

- a) Participate in a virtual kick-off meeting with UNFPA staff to agree on the detailed parameters of the consultancy, sequence, and timelines for submission of key deliverables.
- b) In close collaboration with UNFPA and national partner organization, assess the study's design and methodology, provide technical support for performing quantitative and qualitative data collection, along with a timeline, data collection tools, and a detailed outline for the final report.
- c) Conduct a desk evaluation of relevant research papers, studies, literature, and articles from Bangladesh and throughout the world that contain or focus on menstrual hygiene management among adolescent girls in Dhaka's urban slums.
- d) Develop tabulation/analysis plan in consultation with UNFPA
- e) Complete approved tabulation/analysis plan for the report
- f) Conduct data analysis using SPSS/Stata based on completed/approved tabulation plan
- g) Clean electronic data files in SPSS/Stata with complete dataset
- h) Draft report including full set of tables discussing the quality of services
- i) Draft report.
- j) Distribute the report to UNFPA and key stakeholders for feedback and input.
- k) Prepare a final comprehensive report draft, considering all relevant feedback from stakeholders.

	<p>1) Prepare a power point presentation based on the final report of the study on the different factors that influence menstrual hygiene management among adolescent girls in Dhaka urban slums.</p> <p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <p>A) The final survey report study on the different factors that influence menstrual hygiene management among adolescent girls in Dhaka urban slums.</p> <p>B) A power point presentation on the findings of the final report of the study on the different factors that influence menstrual hygiene management among adolescent girls in Dhaka urban slums.</p>
Duration and working schedule:	The institutional consultancy will be for 45 days and will commence in the last week of November 2021 and continue to the end of February 2022.
Place where services are to be delivered:	The final outputs in English are to be delivered to UNFPA Country Office in Bangladesh. The quality of the deliverables will be evaluated by the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialist and the Programme Specialist, Adolescents and Youth (A&Y). After the joint evaluation, the deliverables will be approved to complete the assignment.
Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy etc.):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft report to be delivered in electronic format <b>no later than 31 January 2022</b>.</li> <li>• The final report and power point presentation to be delivered in electronic format <b>no later than 28 February 2022</b>.</li> </ul>
Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements:	<p>The consultant will work closely with the Programme Analysts (A&amp;Y and Humanitarian) in carrying out the responsibilities of the ToR, under the overall guidance from A&amp;Y unit chief.</p> <p>The deadlines for each of the deliverables are mentioned above and the consultant should adhere to these deadlines, without exception. The consultant should inform UNFPA of any anticipated delays, well in advance of the deadlines.</p> <p>The consultant will provide written updates to the Programme Analysts (A&amp;Y and Humanitarian) via e-mail, on the progress made and any bottlenecks/challenges</p> <p>The final deadline for the consultancy is 28 February 2022 by then the consultant should complete all activities detailed in the ToR.</p>
Supervisory arrangements:	The consultant will work directly with the Programme Analysts (A&Y and Humanitarian), under overall guidance from A&Y unit chief, to carry out the activities mentioned above.
Expected travel:	Not expected. It is remote consultancy services.
Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced university degree in Social Sciences, Demography, Statistics, Epidemiology or any other related technical field is required</li> <li>• At least 10 years' experience in the coordination and/or management of quantitative surveys</li> <li>• Strong computer skills and strong expertise in statistical analyses (familiarity with data processing and data analysis software, particularly SPSS).</li> <li>• National or international level experience in data analysis and survey report writing;</li> <li>• Excellent oral and written communications in English required;</li> <li>• Previous experience working in the region, on the above issues, and with UNFPA will be an asset.</li> </ul>

Inputs/services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner:	The consultant will be responsible for arranging his/her own computer with required statistical software and other working aid equipment. S/he is expected to work remotely and have full access to internet connectivity.
Payment Instruction:	As per UNFPA policy and procedures, and as per a contract based on the payment by deliverables, the payments for this consultancy will be made as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40% upon delivery of the draft report</li> <li>• 60% upon the delivery of the final report and power point presentation.</li> </ul>
Level of the Consultant:	Equivalent at P4
Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:	
COA	BGD09LSE-PROCU21YFPA-FPA90-60500-PU0074 <u>COA Details:</u> Project ID: BGD09LSE, Activity ID: PROCU21YFPA, Fund ID: FPA90, Location: 60500, Implementation Agency: PU0074
<p>Application instruction:</p> <p>Applicants with the required qualifications and experience stated above (required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements) should submit a copy of curriculum vitae (CV) with a cover letter.</p> <p>Please send your application electronically to dedicated email addresses of: <b><u>msfarid@unfpa.org</u></b></p> <p>Note: Only those candidates who meet all qualifications and experience will be contacted for further consideration.</p> <p>The application deadline is <b>12 November 2021</b>.</p>	
<p>Name and Signature of Requesting Officer in Hiring Office:</p> <p></p> <p>Dr. ILIZA AZYEI (ILIZA) Unit Chief, Adolescent and Youth Date: 04/11/2021</p>	
<p>Signature of Clearing Manager in Hiring Office:</p> <p>DocuSigned by:  DCAFD86AC090490... Peter Matinga Nkhoma International Operations Manage Date: 04-NOV-2021</p>	
<p>Signature of Approving Manager in Hiring Office:</p> <p>DocuSigned by:  7CF20A51DED2411... Eiko Narita (PhD) Representative a.i. Date: 04-NOV-2021</p>	