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Passages

SCOPE OF WORK

Researcher Consultant for Adaptation of Parenting Program in West Bengal

This scope of work defines the key parameters, responsibilities and deliverables expected for this consultancy that will support formative research in West Bengal for the REAL Fathers initiative within the Passages project umbrella for Georgetown University's Institute for Reproductive Health. Please read the full scope of work before submitting your application.

Instructions and Important Information

- ☑ **By September 28th 2020 at 17:00 IST** please submit a CV, a brief cover letter highlighting relevant experience and qualifications, and daily rate in response to info@passagesproject.org. In the subject line of your email, please state "Researcher West Bengal."

Background and Project Objectives

Georgetown University's Institute for Reproductive Health (IRH) has received funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to adapt the parenting program Responsible Engaged and Loving (REAL) Fathers from its origins in Uganda to be integrated into programs in West Bengal. REAL Fathers is an effective, community-based mentoring project that works with young fathers (ages 18-29 years) to prevent violence against young children (ages 0-5 years) and intimate partners, and to increase intention to use voluntary modern family planning (FP). The project builds on opportunities when young men are in transition to becoming parents and partners, living as adults in their community, and experimenting with new attitudes, behaviors and roles. REAL Fathers' implementation research has yielded a strong evidence base for preventing fathers' use of violent discipline against young children and intimate partner violence. Additional evidence supports fathers spending more time with their children, using positive discipline and communicating better with their partner. REAL includes a component to increase information about modern family planning including increasing awareness and intention to use voluntary modern family planning among those interested in using it.

In order to develop an adapted REAL Fathers program for West Bengal, India, IRH is partnered with the Child in Need Institute (CINI). CINI is a regional child protection institute with 46 years of experience to improve child wellbeing. They have strong community ties, networks and a diverse portfolio of projects in West Bengal.

Purpose of Assignment

As part of the adaption process for REAL Fathers, IRH in consultation with CINI will conduct formative research in West Bengal. The objectives of this research are to:

Objective 1. To understand factors that uphold violent parenting and partnership practices, and opportunities to promote and build skills for positive parenting, improved communication and nonviolence

Objective 2. To describe community structures, social contexts and influential persons on young fathers and mothers' behaviors in their relationships as intimate partners and parents,

Objective 3. To understand factors that influence acceptability of modern voluntary family planning among parents living in rural and urban West Bengal.

Using in-depth interviews, focus groups, and ethnographic observation of interactions and relationship in the urban ward setting, the study will clarify community structure, social context and the identification of influential people that influence behaviors.

Role and Responsibility of the Consultant:

With support from IRH, the consultant will be the activity lead for this formative research, coordinating and supervising a team of four interviewers during data collection, taking field notes, supervising data management, and conducting the ethnographic observation portion of the study. After data collection is completed, the consultant will supervise transcription and translation, and coordinate with IRH on data analysis as needed.

Responsibilities & Terms of Reference

1. Establish strong working relationship with IRH, CINI, interviewers, and, where relevant, other on-the-ground partners.
2. Review relevant documents to achieve working knowledge of the REAL Fathers initiative.
3. Review draft research protocol and instruments providing revisions as needed.
4. With CINI, supervise translation of research instruments
5. With IRH, plan and facilitate a week-long training for interviewers, grounding them in concepts, best practices, and ethics of qualitative research.
6. With IRH, create research plan for data collection in November/December 2020
7. Manage research, coordinating, supervising, and ensuring data quality
8. Conduct ethnographic observations in two urban sites
9. Develop a transcription plan and review transcriptions
10. Manage data from the field, from collection through transcription, and coordinate data transfer to IRH
11. Participating as needed for data analysis and report writing

Expected Deliverables

- Revisions to research protocol and instruments
- Translated research protocol and instruments
- Research implementation plan (on-the-ground study plan)
- Translation plan
- Transfer translated data, field notes, and any other raw data materials to IRH
- Provide comments on data analysis plan and draft research report

Planning, Logistics & Support

IRH will provide the following support and information to the selected consultant:

- Internal background materials to facilitate the Scope of Work
- The drafted research protocol and instruments

- Meeting set up and logistics
- Supportive oversight to all activities
- Support to plan and facilitate the week-long training of interviewers in qualitative data collection and ethics
- Regular check-ins to answer questions and agree next steps to facilitate progress toward deliverables
- Review of deliverables

Period of Performance: October 1, 2020-April 30, 2021

Number of Days: 35

Task Description and Expected Timeline:

Study Activities	Days	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory meeting with CINI and IRH • Review and revise (as needed) study protocol and research tools • Develop a work plan • Organize recruitment of interviewers and supervisory plans 	1	
With IRH, plan and facilitate a week-long training for interviewers, in training with study team	10	November 2020
Coordinating and conducting data collection across four sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating daily schedules of research team of four interviewers • Providing oversight of research team during data collection, including supervision and data collection observation as needed • Updating IRH team regularly on data collection, including taking and sharing field notes as needed • Data management and quality assurance • Conducting ethnographic observations in two urban sites • Ensure adherence to research ethics 	20	November/December 2020
Supervising data transcription and transfer to IRH	2	December 2020-January 2021
Participating as needed in data analysis with IRH	2	February-March 2021
TOTAL DAYS :	35	

Selection Criteria:

- Advanced degree in sociology, anthropology, gender, public policy, or public health
- Demonstrated previous experience in leading, designing, managing, conducting and analyzing qualitative research studies (e.g., for/within health programs, child protection)

programs, gender-based violence programs, or of community-based norms-shifting programs, a plus)

- Demonstrated experience and familiarity with ethnographic research methods
- Prior experience working in India preferred
- Residence in West Bengal or another state in India strongly preferred, but not required
- Fluency in English required, fluency in Bengali strongly preferred
- Competitiveness of cost