



United Nations Children's Fund
UNICEF- Ethiopia
P.O. Box 1169
Africa Hall
ADDIS ABABA
Ethiopia

Telephone
Facsimile
Email

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES

LRPS-2020-9164037

15 December 2020

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

Wishes to invite you to submit a proposal for

Qualitative Process Evaluation of Gender-sensitive Features of Productive Safety Programme in Ethiopia

Due Date:30 December 2020 at 2:00 PM Local time

Open for LOCAL Vendors only

XXXXXXXX FAX/LETTER NOT SPECIFIED IN 'PREPARE ITB (ZMRQ)' XXXXXXXX

THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES HAS BEEN:

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES FORM

This FORM must be completed, signed and returned to UNICEF.
Proposal must be made in accordance with the instructions contained in this Request for Proposal for Services (RFPS).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

Any Contract resulting from this RFPS shall contain UNICEF General Terms and Conditions for Institutional and Corporate Contracts and any other Specific Terms and Conditions detailed in this RFPS.

INFORMATION

Any request for information regarding this RFPS must be forwarded by email to the person who prepared this document, with specific reference to the RFPS number.

The Undersigned, having read the Terms and Conditions of RFPS No. **LRPS-2020-9164037** set out in the attached document, hereby offers to execute the services specified in this document.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name & Title: _____

Company: _____

Postal Address: _____

Tel No: _____

Fax No: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Currency of Proposal: _____

Validity of Proposal: _____

Please indicate which of the following Payment Terms are offered by you:

10 Days 3.0% _____ 15 Days 2.5% _____ 20 Days 2.0% _____ 30 Days Net _____ Other _____

Item	Service Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Price
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10 Process evaluation of gender-sensitive f

Terms of Reference

Qualitative Process Evaluation of Gender-sensitive Features of Productive Safety Programme in Ethiopia
Summary

To conduct a process evaluation that will assess if and how gender provisions in the PSNP, and in particular design innovations in the 5th phase of PSNP While the study will focus on the PSNP broadly, our sampling may include the UNICEF-supported pilots, such as the Integrated Safety Net Programme in Amhara to allow us to explore specific design and programmatic modalities. , are being implemented in practice as intended, and if they are resulting in the expected outputs and outcomes

Location : Four woredas in two regions, tentative Amhara and Addis Ababa (final selection of regions will be confirmed at the end of the inception phase)

Duration: 18 months

Reporting to : Social Policy Specialist

1 Background

Over the past decade there has been a growing recognition that social protection (SP) can play an important role in advancing gender equality in low- and middle- income countries (LMICs) (Holmes et al., 2019; FAO, 2018a). Commitment to incorporate gender equality objectives in national social protection policies and programming is emerging in some countries including Ethiopia. Efforts are also underway to learn about which design and implementation features can adequately address the multidimensional poverty and vulnerability that women and girls experience, and promote transformative changes in gender norms, roles and relations (Molyneux and Thomson, 2012; Newton, 2016). Nevertheless, gender design provisions incorporated in social protection policies and programmes are rarely implemented fully in practice, owing to a limited political will, weak implementation capacities as well as broader organizational culture resistant to gender transformative change. Gaps in programme delivery, not only hamper the achievements of positive gender outcomes but may also reinforce and deepen gender inequalities (Cookson, 2018; Holmes et al., 2019).

To date, research related to gender and social protection programming have focused largely on assessing the associations between variations in design features and gender outcomes (see for example a review by Peterman et al, 2019). Limited attention was paid to how the nature and quality of implementation of gender provisions affects gender outcomes. In particular, there is a lack of empirical evidence on how different implementation arrangements influence the realization of gender equality outcomes; what institutional and operational factors enable (or hinder) fidelity of implementation to programme design; and how contextual factors, such as the role of politics and social and gender norms held by programme implementers and communities, inform implementation choices and affect gender outcomes (Jones and Holmes, 2010; Holmes et al., 2019; FAO, 2018).

As the demand for gender-responsive social protection programming grows, there is a need for building a rigorous evidence base about the linkages between design and implementation processes, and their role in driving gender equality outcomes in specific countries. As part of the Gender-Responsive and Age-Sensitive Social Protection (GRASSP) programme GRASSP is a four-year research programme, funded by Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and other partners examining the role of gender-responsive and age-sensitive social protection systems in contributing to gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment. For further details: <https://www.unicef-irc.org/research/gender-responsive-and-age-sensitive-social-protection/> , cross-country case studies will be conducted to gain a deeper understanding of how programme implementation impedes or supports the delivery of gender design commitments and the achievement of gender equality objectives across the life cycle. To contribute to fill this knowledge gap, we propose to undertake a qualitative process evaluation of the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), in Ethiopia.

The study will assess if and how gender provisions in the PSNP, and design innovations in the 5th phase of PSNP While the study will focus on the PSNP broadly, our sampling may include the UNICEF-supported pilots, such as the Integrated Safety Net Programme in Amhara to allow us to explore specific design and programmatic modalities. , are being implemented in practice as intended, and if they are resulting in the expected outputs and

Item	Service Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Price
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outcomes.

The process evaluation study in Ethiopia is implemented as part of Research Stream 2 of the GRASSP research programme. UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti is currently developing the approach paper for the gendered review of the social protection system in Ethiopia as part of the Research Stream 3 of the GRASSP research programme. We will coordinate data collection between these two pieces of research as much as possible to ensure synergy and coherence between research outcomes. Results will inform future programme design and advocacy work related to gender- and age-sensitive social protection in Ethiopia.

2 Rationale for the Research Activity/Justification

The Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) is the largest social protection intervention in Ethiopia, reaching an estimated 8 million beneficiaries. Since 2005, the PSNP has been implementing cash and food-for-work activities and direct support. Direct support includes regular cash transfers to very vulnerable households with heavy labour constraints who are unable to participate in the public works but require social assistance. Direct support is targeted at female-headed households with many children, elderly and/or chronically ill people. In response to chronic food insecurity and environmental shocks and stresses. Public works (PW) programmes are a popular means for offering temporary employment and income to large groups of vulnerable women who typically face systematic disadvantages in labour markets (Tanzarn and Gutierrez, 2015). The PSNP strategy explicitly acknowledges that women face practical barriers to participating in public work activities including labour constraints and excessive time poverty as a result of their competing responsibilities in economic and care domains (Jones et al, 2010). The programme also acknowledges various gender constraints that restrict women's productive capabilities and social inclusion, including limited access to, and control over resources, gaps in health and education, weak decision-making power and restricted participation in community-based institutions. These constraints contribute to women's chronic poverty and food insecurity (Ibid).

The PSNP has adopted an evolving set of gender-sensitive provisions. These provisions include gender and social development measures as defined in the programme implementation manual (PIM). These are mostly characterised as gender-sensitive with an aim to target and benefit women in so far as needed to reach program objectives and addressing women's practical needs, however, some features, such as those encouraging women's participation in household and PSNP decision-making processes, may also be characterised as having a gender transformative remit. To respond to these constraints and address the specific needs of women and men to ensure their equal participation in the programme and uptake of benefits. Gender-sensitive provisions are mainstreamed in the PSNP programme implementation manual (PIM). These include measures to: (i) encourage women's participation in public works (e.g. female-headed households are a targeting priority in PSNP), (ii) flexible work conditions and gender-sensitive community assets to reduce women's work burdens and strengthen their livelihoods, and (iii) promote women's participation in the PSNP governance and community decision-making structures. Recently, the 4th phase of the PSNP has increased its focus on improving women's capacities and outcomes in health and nutrition (through transitioning pregnant and lactating mothers into temporary direct support and a soft-conditionality in maternal health), and addressing discriminatory gender norms and practices related to child marriage directly through behaviour change and communication (BCC).

Over the years, several assessments. See in particular: Holmes and Jones, 2010; Sabates-Wheeler et al., (2013); GSD Impact Assessment Report; Yohannes and Gissila 2017 explored the impacts of these provisions on women's lives. Evidence suggests that the PSNP has made important contributions in increasing women's food security and income and contributing to the creation of community assets such as water points which help reduce women's time poverty (Jones et al, 2010; Yohannes and Gissila, 2017). Across these assessments. See in particular: GSD Impact Assessment Report; Kassahun and Villa 2014; Yohannes and Gissila 2017, the implementation capacity was identified as a significant weak link that undermined the achievements of gender equality outcomes. Implementation bottlenecks included the inadequate staff capacity and funding, a lack of implementation guidelines and protocols for implementers, gaps in institutional mechanisms to support and enforce gender provisions including limited gender-sensitive data collection and monitoring. Another major constraining factor is related to the staff and communities' socio-cultural resistance, often linked to powerful clan systems and religious beliefs to embrace and promote gender equality through the PSNP (Jones et al, 2010; Sabates-Wheeler et al., 2013).

Building on critical lessons from previous phases, the current discussions regarding the next phase of the programme, PSNP 5, focus on gender design innovations that can more effectively tackle women's practical needs while also promoting their strategic interests, socio-economic empowerment and gender equality more broadly. The