

SCHEDULE A

REF: HR5100-2407

TERMS OF REFERENCE Consultancy: Technical Writer

Human resources for sexual and reproductive health and sexual and gender-based violence in South Sudan

Technical Activity: The Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) is seeking to recruit **one (1) Technical Writer (the “Consultant”)** to support the development of **two (2) articles / op-ed pieces** for dissemination across various media networks in Canada. This work aims to support the argument for the necessity of continued, sustainable funding for international development in the Global South, particularly in South Sudan.

The Consultant will highlight the challenges facing South Sudan, especially those impacting vulnerable communities such as women, girls, and the differently abled, while emphasizing the key messages, public engagement activities, and actions developed and implemented to address these challenges. The Consultant’s work will draw from insights gathered from resources like the *Investment Cases Towards Ending Unmet Need for Family Planning, Preventable Maternal Deaths, and Gender-based Violence* (or “Costed Investment Plan”), interviews with key stakeholders, and research of the Canadian media landscape. This Consultancy is part of the “Human Resources for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in South Sudan” (HR4SRH&SGBV) project.

Remuneration will be contingent on an agreed upon work plan, up to a maximum of CAD \$4000.00.

Timeframe: August – October 2024

Location: Remote (Canada)

Remuneration: CAD \$4000

A. Introduction: Project Summary

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) South Sudan Country Office is collaborating with the Ministry of Health and other partners to implement the “Human Resources for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in South Sudan” (HR4SRH&SGBV) project with funding from Global Affairs Canada (GAC). The Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) is an Implementing Partner in this project. HR4SRH&SGBV aims to increase the realization of the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls in South Sudan through various innovative approaches, including digital and virtual platforms for essential health providers on SRH, family planning, and gender-based violence; the training of health providers on rights-based family planning using job aids and gender-sensitive training materials; and networking, advocacy and capacity-building exchanges with the South Sudan Nurses and Midwives Association (SSNAMA).

B. Background and Rationale for Assignment

South Sudan gained its independence from Sudan in July 2011, following a 2005 peace agreement that ended one of Africa’s longest-running civil wars. The country is made up of

10 states and over 60 different major ethnic groups, making it one of the most diverse countries on the continent. While it was hoped that independence would usher in a new period of peace to the region and to the world's newest country, escalating internal tensions led to the 2013 and 2016 crises and contributed to the displacement of 2.2 million people.

Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, and Newborn Health Context

South Sudan is one of the most fragile and underdeveloped countries in the world, with extremely high rates of maternal and neonatal mortality. Inadequate skilled attendance at birth and suboptimal quality of care create unsafe birthing conditions and restrict women's capacity to assert their rights in pregnancy. In conflict-afflicted regions throughout the country, limited health system capacity and numerous barriers to access have exacerbated poor sexual and reproductive health outcomes for women and girls, including unmet need for family planning, child marriage, and gender-based violence.

Midwives, nurses and community health workers play a pivotal role in South Sudan, providing a myriad of sexual and reproductive services including but not limited to prenatal, childbirth, and postnatal care. The promotion of rights-based, context-adapted services by a well-trained and supported health workforce enhances the SRHR enabling environment and contributes to enhanced reproductive, maternal and neonatal outcomes in South Sudan.

Advocacy and the Costed South Sudan Investment Cases

The reference document entitled "*South Sudan Investment Cases Towards Ending Unmet Need for Family Planning, Preventable Maternal Deaths, and Gender-Based Violence*" (i.e. "South Sudan Investment Cases") was completed in 2021 by international consultants with support from a National Reference Group (NRG) comprised of representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFP), Ministry of Health (MoH), National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), other ministries and government institutions involved in scaling up sexual reproductive health and rights; members of Parliament; and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), among other partners. It commits to the conduct of the four investment cases aimed at accelerating the achievement of three transformative results: (i) ending unmet need for family planning; (ii) ending preventable maternal deaths; and (iii) ending gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices (including female genital mutilation and child marriage).

The country-level investment cases provide a quantitative basis for the Government of South Sudan and partners to consider the scale and scope of investments needed to prioritize proven, high-impact and cost-effective interventions required to accelerate progress towards achievement of the transformative results. The investment cases are also expected to inform partnership efforts with UNFPA and other partners and the mobilization of additional domestic and external financing. In this regard, recognition of the continuously evolving sustainable financing landscape and situating country-level investments within the development, humanitarian and peace context is critical.

C. Goal and Objectives of the Assignment

Goal:

The goal of the consultancy is to create two (2) articles / op-ed pieces that support the argument for the importance of continued, sustainable funding for international development in the Global South, particularly in South Sudan. The Consultant will highlight the challenges facing South Sudan, especially those impacting vulnerable communities such as women, girls, and the

differently abled, while focusing on the positive impacts funding has had on these communities and the challenges they face, with attention paid to SRH/GBV/HIV outcomes.

Objectives:

Through the development of targeted op-ed pieces, the main objectives of the Consultancy are to:

- increase public awareness,
- enhance community engagement,
- strengthened partnerships, and
- create positive behavioral and social change.

This comprehensive approach aims to create a lasting impact on the health and well-being of women and girls in South Sudan.

D. Methodology / Approach to the Assignment

Methodology:

The Consultant will lead the creation of **two (2) op-ed pieces**: the first op-ed piece will be aimed at decision-makers, to be disseminated in political publications (for example, The Hill Times, New Humanitarian, and Medium), and NGO sites (UNFPA, CANWACH). Additionally, the Consultant will produce a second op-ed targeting the Canadian public for publication in various mainstream media networks and outlets (for example, Post Media).

The pieces should emphasize the challenges facing South Sudan, particularly those impacting vulnerable communities such as women, girls, and the differently abled. The main themes include addressing preventable maternal deaths, education and awareness, and the unmet need for family planning to address prevention of unwanted pregnancy and HIV infection. The op-ed pieces will support the argument for the importance of continued, sustainable funding for international development in the Global South, particularly in South Sudan. The argument will be made that the investment in prevention and mitigation will offset future costs in adaptation.

Key messages will be extracted from resources like the *Costed Investment Plan* and interviews with key stakeholders to create articles and op-ed pieces. Additionally, the Consultant will liaise with the Public Engagement Coordinator hired by CAM and working in South Sudan to engage with project partners/stakeholders to clarify the topics/themes most relevant to beneficiaries and stakeholders.

Work plan steps may include:

- Research desk review on the resources provided and any additional relevant resources
- Conduct one on one interviews with key informants (as needed).
- Liaising/communicating with the Public Engagement Coordinator.
- Participate in agreed-upon review sessions with other stakeholders.

Parties involved: During the assignment, work and collaboration will occur between the following actors:

- CAM Global Communications Lead
- Public Engagement Coordinator Consultant (South Sudan)
- CAM Global Operations Manager
- CAM MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning) Lead, Global Programs

The Consultant will engage actively with the abovementioned CAM Global staff throughout their mandate; deliverables will be subject to a review by CAM.

E. Proposed Timeline

The proposed activities will be conducted between August-October 2024, with the final iteration of the pieces delivered by **October 31, 2024**.

F. Remuneration and Deliverables Schedule

The Consultant will be remunerated for their services based on payable amounts for the activity according to the deliverables schedule. Payment is dependent on the satisfactory completion of deliverables as assessed by CAM. Per this contract, the Consultant will execute all activities within the contractual amount outlined below.

As full compensation for the services rendered according to this Agreement, CAM shall pay the Consultant a maximum amount of **CAD \$4000.00**. This amount should also include all relevant taxes and expenses incurred in the preparation of milestones and deliverables.

Deliverables Schedule

Month	Activities	Deliverables
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss and finalize activities with CAM staff - Contract signing - Desk review, background research - Liaising with KIs 	Final work plan/schedule
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and validation of draft op-eds 	Draft op-ed pieces
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrate feedback 	Final op-ed pieces delivered

All deliverables will be subject to review and validation by the CAM Global Communications Lead. The final deliverables should be submitted by October 31 2024.

G. Qualifications

The candidate must demonstrate in their application the following educational and professional experience:

- Background in research, technical assistance, communications, advocacy, training and/or content development in the domain of SRHR
- Demonstrated proficiency in technical writing targeting government and/or the general public
- High level of familiarity with the South Sudan health care system and context surrounding the provision of SRHR services
- Ability to speak and interact with stakeholders and beneficiaries in English
- Demonstrated experience in coordinating focus groups and one-on-one interview
- Self-directed and good sense of initiative
- Strong understanding of SRHR and advocacy.

The following educational and professional experience will be considered an asset:

- Previous experience working with the UN or other INGOs;
- Demonstrable knowledge or experience in the domain of gender equality and gender-responsive interventions

H. Application Instructions

Follow these instructions:

- Submit your application with the elements listed below in one file, ensuring that your name and the title “HR5100_Technical Writer” are included in the file name:
 - CV
 - Cover letter
- Send your PDF by email with the subject “HR4SRH&SGBV Technical Writer to admin@canadianmidwives.org.
- Deadline for applications is August 5, 2024