



Consultant Application –

Development of a policy brief on advancing Universal Health Coverage (UHC) with SRHR in intergovernmental platforms

Terms of Reference

Project: Global Policy Project

Applications must address all the requirements of the Terms of Reference and include all of the information/documents requested in Section 7.

1. Background	<p><u>Overview of IPPF</u></p> <p>The International Planned Parenthood Federation Africa Region (IPPFAR) is one of the leading providers of quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services in Africa, and a prominent sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) advocacy voice in the region. We remain committed to gender equality and to ensuring that women, girls, and young people realize their rights and have control over their own bodies, their lives, and their futures. Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, IPPFARO delivers its critical mission with the support and leadership of 33 Member Associations (MAs), 9 Collaborative Partners, youth advocates, staff, and a network of dedicated volunteers who provide high quality, youth focused and gender transformative services to those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. In 2020 alone, the MAs provided >10.5 million sexual and reproductive health and rights services. Further details can be found here: IPPFAR Factsheet 2021 English.pdf</p> <p><u>Overview of the engagement</u></p> <p>IPPF is committed to advocating for the SRHR of all. Yet a multitude of barriers still exist, resulting in shocking data on global health outcomes: 220 million women who want to avoid pregnancy do not have access to modern contraception; 25 million have an unsafe abortion every year; and one in three experience sexual violence at some point in their lives.</p> <p>Governments worldwide have signed numerous international and regional political commitments committing to universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. However, these promises have not yet been translated into urgent and costed actions.</p> <p>The recent COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this situation and brought to the fore the need to prioritize SRHR in health care systems to ensure equitable access to health care for all people to ensure more resilient communities¹. Moreover, there is increasing discourse and momentum on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) to ensure the right to health for all².</p>
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¹ Faysal El Kak (2020) The integration of sexual and reproductive health and rights into universal health coverage: a FIGO perspective, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters, 28:2, DOI: 10.1080/26410397.2020.1829796

² Samuels, F., and Daigle, M. (2021) 'Sexual and reproductive health and rights after Covid-19: a forward-looking agenda'. ODI Policy brief. London: ODI accessed [here](#)

	<p>Gaps though persist in the integration of comprehensive SRHR in UHC as only a few services are prioritized³ raising the need for strengthening advocacy efforts at national, sub-regional and regional level to champion SRHR for all.</p> <p>IPPFAR, in collaboration with the Guttmacher Institute, is implementing a Global Policy Project that aims to advance SRHR, particularly the popularisation and adoption of the recommendations of the Guttmacher-Lancet Commission (GLC) on SRHR in regional and national policy instruments and integration of these recommendations in UHC.</p>
<p>2. Purpose</p>	<p>To this effect, IPPFAR is looking to recruit a short-term consultant to develop a policy brief on advancing advocacy for access to comprehensive SRHR in UHC on the continent. Specifically, the assignment will entail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of the existing research and policy papers on SRHR and UHC to understand the trends, opportunities and challenges for advancing GLC recommendations in UHC across Africa. This builds up on the IPPF position paper on UHC and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights accessible here and IPPFAR's policy review on SRHR as an Essential Component to Achieve UHC in Africa here. • Assess the level of domestication and implementation of existing regional policy frameworks on UHC and SRHR and identify the relevant regional and sub-regional accountability mechanisms as entry points for advocacy on the same. • Develop a policy brief detailing priorities, key messages, and strategies to advancing GLC recommendations in UHC in intergovernmental platforms in Africa.
<p>3. Roles and responsibilities</p>	<p>This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting a quick desk review of key regional policy instruments, available documentation on countries' progress towards UHC with integration of SRHR and any other relevant written documents on UHC and SRHR, including the IPPF policy papers on the same. - Organizing meetings with key stakeholders from global, regional and national organizations and coalitions advocating for SRHR/UHC, including relevant UN Organizations (technical experts from the Ministries of Health, WHO/ PMCH secretariat), UNFPA, AFOG focal persons in identified countries, UHC 2030 coalition etc), to understand implementation of UHC in the focus countries, identify gaps, opportunities and priorities for CSO engagement to advance the GLC recommendations in UHC - Writing a policy brief using the above, outlining recommendations for advocacy to advance GLC recommendations in UHC at regional, sub-regional and national levels. The policy brief will include relevant country examples from at least one anglophone and one francophone country.
<p>4. Timeline</p>	<p>The assignment is expected to take a maximum of 8 working days from 1-30 June 2022.</p> <p>Deadline for applications is 25th May 2022.</p>

³ Arrow, 2019: Universal Health coverage and Integrating SRHR accessed [here](#)

5. Milestones and deliverables	The milestones and specific tasks will be discussed and agreed with the selected Consultant.
6. Contractor Requirements	<p>Proven Ability and Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential: Excellent research and analytical skills • Essential: Experience in advocacy for UHC and SRHR at global, regional and sub-regional intergovernmental platforms • Essential: Understanding of relevant policy and regulatory frameworks, including health financing in Anglophone and Francophone Africa • Essential: Excellent written communication skills, fluency in English and French or ability to partner with a co-researcher with these skills <p>Personal Competence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of and sensitivity to the multi-cultural and diverse environment in which IPPFAR operates. • Integrity and ability to maintain confidentiality at all times • Understanding of and a commitment to safeguarding including child protection, in a local and international context • Supportive of a woman's right to choose and to have access to safe abortion services <p>Location:</p> <p>The role is virtual, but someone based in East or South Africa who could conduct f2f meetings with partners is desirable. Telephone meetings can be held with partners in West Africa.</p>
7. Reporting	The consultant will report to the Lead Specialist: Grants Management, Partnerships and Resource Mobilization at IPPF's Africa Regional Office.