

Terms of Reference for consultancy:

Effective approaches working with authorities to prevent Gender-Based Violence

Background

Gender-based violence is one of the most systematically practiced and widespread human rights violation in the world. It includes sexual crimes such as rape and sexual assault, but also forced marriage, harassment and intimidation, reproductive coercion, threats and physical violence.

Of course, such violence can constitute a form of torture when perpetrated by a governmental official. Likewise, gender-based violence by private actors can constitute torture or ill-treatment where State authorities have reasonable grounds to believe that such acts are being committed by private actors and fail to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish the violence.

However, the anti-torture framework has generally overlooked gender-based violence as a form of torture or ill-treatment, creating an inexcusable gap in the protection and support of survivors. In seeking to fill this gap, DIGNITY is undertaking to include gender-based violence prevention in its international programs. DIGNITY's aim is to invoke States' obligations to prevent torture to eradicate gender-based violence and ensure survivors receive the rehabilitation and services to which they are entitled. More specifically, it is DIGNITY's ambition to strengthen our work around GBV in the Sub-Saharan region focusing in particular on DIGNITY's first objective for our international work which is "Strengthening state authorities (prisons, police, and criminal justice system) and civil society actors to prevent torture and CIDTP". By analysing effective methods for preventing GBV that fall under this objective, this consultancy is expected to support DIGNITY in building effective GBV prevention programmes with a particular focus on West Africa.

Purpose of the consultancy

DIGNITY seeks a consultant to undertake a desk-review and author a report describing the efficacy of different GBV-prevention interventions in West Africa. The final report will serve as an internal reference document guiding DIGNITY's programming and efforts to combat gender-based violence in Liberia.

The final report will:

- Identify effective approaches to combatting gender-based violence, in West African contexts, including criminalization and investigation of GBV, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of GBV, and prevention of GBV, e.g. protection programmes.

- Highlight documented successful approaches and best practices relevant for the Liberian context, with a special attention to initiatives following judicial, law enforcement/investigatory, legislative, and/or administrative tracks.
- Explore how West African states adapt and deploy their GBV-prevention initiatives with a focus on the national legal framework.
- Identify potential risks in pursuing specific prevention approaches.
- Provide evidence-based recommendations towards implementing promising prevention practices, filling identified gaps and meeting needs, including in terms of capacity and tools development, specific to the Liberian context.

Outputs

The assignment has the following outputs:

- A Report of max. 20 pages summarizing and analysing findings. The report must entail:
 - An introduction
 - Key findings and observations (successful approaches, good practices, lessons learned, etc.) regarding preventing GBV in West Africa
 - And recommendations towards implementing promising practices, filling identified gaps and meeting needs, including in terms of capacity and tools development, specific to the Liberian context.
- A one-pager leaflet summarizing the main findings and recommendations.
- An electronical folder containing all materials/tools collected.

Timeline

The assignment is estimated to be 40 working days.

Activity	Date	Responsibility
Submit first draft	Dec 19 th	Consultant
Provide feedback	Dec 21 st	DIGNITY
Submit final draft	Dec 30 th	Consultant

The contact person at DIGNITY responsible for this assignment is Legal Advisor Grant Shubin.

Geographical Scope

The research of the report must draw on case studies from:

Priority 1: West Africa, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

Priority 2: Other Sub-Saharan African countries

Methodology

The successful applicant will conduct comprehensive literature review in order to collect, compile, and analyse relevant studies, findings, pilot projects, interventions, etc.

Relevant literature for this assignment includes but is not limited to: data-based reports from organizations working on GBV, evaluations of programmes on GBV, academic articles analysing GBV prevention interventions.

Qualifications

The consultancy will be done by a team of at least two people sharing the allocated hours.

- The consultants must have the followings qualifications:
 - Advanced University degree in social/development sciences or other related areas with previous work experience and considerable skills in analysis and report writing;
 - Strong background in research and gender equality/SGBV, with a special focus on West Africa;
 - Excellent written and spoken communication skills in English

Budget

The consultants must include as part of their expression of interest a financial offer for the work. The estimated working-days for the assignment is 40 and the budget is maximum DKK 100.000.

Submission of expressions of interest.

Interested consultancy teams are requested to submit their CVs highlighting relevant experiences together with an expression of interest which includes the following:

1. A brief understanding of the task
2. Summary of proposed approaches and methods
3. Budget
4. Work plan

The expression of interest must include specific roles and responsibilities and relevant experiences of the team members.

Interested individuals should submit an expression of interest to Legal Advisor Grant Shubin GRSH@dignity.dk and Project Manager Kari Øygaard kla@dignity.dk, by November 25th.

DIGNITY will notify applicants on the status of their applications no later than December 1st.