

**Supporting uptake of survivor-centered practice for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions with gender-based violence (GBV) survivors in humanitarian settings**

The Global Women's Institute (GWI) at the George Washington University is a university-wide initiative to advance gender equality through research, education, and action to bring about change in the lives of women and girls worldwide.

GWI is currently implementing a grant from the USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) for the project, "Supporting uptake of survivor-centered practice: Building consensus between GBV and MHPSS actors around shared guiding principles and recommendations for progressing practice," over an 18-month period from January 2022 – July 2023. The project addresses critical knowledge gaps and the current lack of consensus on safe, effective mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors and those at risk, by collaborating across MHPSS and GBV fields of specialization in order to generate consensus. The project engages humanitarian MHPSS and GBV specialists working from local to global level, in a process of consensus building called a "Delphi process."<sup>1</sup> This online Delphi process, consisting of three rounds of questionnaires, and is complemented by in-person workshops at national and regional levels. Its goal is the development of clear, usable, consensus-based guidance to support service providers at field level in providing safe, appropriate MHPSS care for GBV survivors.

The consultancy is expected to start in September with two days of onboarding (dates flexible) and continue through March 2023. The consultant will provide in-depth technical support for in-person facilitation with a group of GBV and MHPSS experts working in humanitarian settings; and for tool and resource development related to MHPSS for GBV survivors in humanitarian settings. Specifically, the main components of the consultancy will be co-leading a regional-level consultation meeting to support and inform the consensus-building process and Delphi study, planned for November 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya; and co-leading development of guidance products following the consultation and in preparation for a validation meeting in 2023. Due to the key in-person regional activities planned to take place in Nairobi, Kenya, consultants based in and/or with strong networks in East Africa are strongly encouraged to apply.

**SCOPE OF WORK**

- (1) Core Task 1:** The Consultant will use subject matter expertise to help facilitate a two-day in-person regional consultation meeting, and provide administrative and logistical support for organizing the consultation meeting, alongside the GWI Research Program Associate. The purpose of this consultation is to engage key humanitarian GBV and

MHPSS actors in East Africa, as well as members of the GWI and Trócaire project team and Advisory Board, in reviewing the results of the Delphi Study and national consultations, with particular attention to developing shared guidance in remaining areas where consensus is lacking.

Specific sub-tasks include:

- Working closely with GWI and Advisory Board members, identify participants for this meeting and manage invitations. Participants will be drawn from national and sub-national GBV and MHPSS actors from East and Southern Africa involved in the Delphi process, and key members of the Advisory Board.
- Organize meeting logistics including identifying and booking the venue and related aspects (i.e. meals, technology, a/v), with support from GWI.
- Support GWI in booking participant travel and hotels, as needed. This may include taking the lead on supporting local travel bookings (as those can be more difficult to arrange from GWI's end), and logistics support to the GWI Program Research Associate during her travel to Kenya.
- Working closely with GWI Research Scientist and partners, co-develop meeting agenda, and other materials such as presentations and handouts.
- Participate in meetings, on boarding and preparation with the Global Women's Institute team as needed.
- Lead the in-person facilitation team, including direct facilitation as well as supporting co-facilitators from the Global Women's Institute, Trócaire, and the Advisory Group. The consultant holds overall responsibility for ensuring the meeting is running smoothly and accomplishing the tasks on the agenda.
- Lead post-meeting finalization, with support from the GWI Research Program Associate to prepare and disseminate post-meeting materials and minutes, and follow up on any action items.

- (2) **Core Task 2:** The Consultant will co-lead, with partner Trócaire and support of the GWI Research Program Associate, the development of guidance products following the consultation and in preparation for a validation meeting in 2023.

Specific sub-tasks include:

- Develop videos, infographics and other communication tools to share best practices, drawing on the results of the Delphi Process and the national and regional consultations. Specifically, the project is committed to producing:
  - 5 booklets (3-5 pages each) sharing consensus-based guidance targeted at an audience of GBV and MHPSS service providers. These resources will be practical, include dos and don'ts, and be endorsed by global coordination structures. Each publication will address a different issue (e.g. couple's interventions) identified through the Delphi technique and will share guidance developed.

- 5 job aids/ infographic posters (1 page) summarizing consensus-based guidance on a specific issue (each poster is linked to a booklet above)
- 5 video explainers (2-3 minutes) providing practical guidance on specific issues. The audio of these videos will also be shared as short podcasts. These will link to the booklets and job aids above.
- 1 Guidance document (15-20 pages) providing an overview of the process and detailing consensus-based guidance developed for each issue.

The target audience for these documents is: staff of humanitarian agencies, including local/women-led organizations, donors, academics/researchers across Protection/GBV and MHPSS sectors; including staff working directly to deliver programs and services, in addition to those managing and supporting programming at sub-national, national, regional and global levels.

- Work with the Trócaire Program Coordinator to review the detailed dissemination plan in the proposal, and make preliminary arrangements as needed to ensure timely dissemination in the last quarter of the grant.
- (3)** Additional specific tasks as needed to support the implementation of the two core tasks outlined above.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Strong experience in mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors in humanitarian settings, in a program- and/or research-related capacity, with preference for candidates who have some programming background in GBV and/or MHPSS in humanitarian settings.
- Demonstrated skills and experience in facilitating discussions with humanitarian stakeholders including practitioners, policymakers and researchers.
- Fluency in English; language skills in French, Spanish or Arabic a bonus.
- Excellent writing and communication skills, with examples of guidance documents and/or infographics previously developed by the consultant for a similar audience (humanitarian / GBV / MHPSS).
- Strong networks among humanitarian practitioners and/or researchers in GBV, mental health, protection, and/or child protection.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team, based remotely.
- Preference for candidates based in and/or with strong networks in Kenya or East Africa.
- Optional: Experience using qualitative and/or participatory methods within research or programming, related to sensitive topics such as violence and mental health.

#### PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The work described above will be completed between **September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**, with time commitment by month estimated as follows:

- September 2022 – 2 days
- October 2022- 7 days
- November 2022 – 14 days
- December 2022 – 8 days
- January 2023 – 8 days
- February 2023 – 8 days
- March 2023 – 8 days
- OVERALL TOTAL: 55 days

Alina Potts, Research Scientist at GWI, will supervise the work of the consultant. Skylar Wynn will support the work of this position, in line with her role as GWI Research Program Associate.

The period of performance can be extended with written approval of both parties.

#### TRAVEL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Global Women's Institute will cover or provide reimbursements for agreed upon travel related expenses as it relates to the consultation.

Any reimbursements agreed upon for food should have an itemized, legible receipt for each transaction and cannot contain alcohol of any kind. GWI will cover the costs for flights, the most basic flight or inexpensive route (within reason) available, i.e. no upgrades or seat assignments.

#### HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants should apply no later than **Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis as they are received, so applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

To apply, submit your **daily rate, cover letter, and CV** by email to Skylar Wynn at [swynn007@gwu.edu](mailto:swynn007@gwu.edu).