

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Gender Equality / Monitoring and Evaluation Consultancy

SMART-RMC Project

The Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) is seeking a consultant or consultancy team to develop, implement (initiate) and oversee the SMART-RMC project's gender equality (GE) and monitoring and evaluation (M+E) strategy ensuring globally recognized best practices, donor and CAM requirements. The consultant(s) will collaborate with project partners and CAM staff throughout the development of the Project Implementation Plan to produce the GE and M+E strategy, revise the Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) and develop the baseline study. Further, the consultant will develop robust M+E tools and resources as well as develop and conduct trainings which will support data collection of data throughout the three-year project. Interested parties should apply through the submission of an expression of interest, as outlined below, by September 10, 2021.

Note: that the consultant(s) must be eligible to work in Canada.

Time frame: September 2021 to December 2024

Location: Remote

About the Canadian Association of Midwives

CAM is the professional association representing midwives across Canada and believes that midwives play a unique and fundamental role in the provision of quality reproductive, maternal, and newborn health care – both in Canada, and internationally. Since 2008, CAM has been working through partnerships with other national midwifery associations to deliver reciprocal capacity building and project development initiatives. Through its association-to-association partnerships, CAM is committed to ensuring that the voices of midwifery associations in the meaningfully inform global maternal, newborn and child health programming. These voices inform the way we plan and prioritize our international work, and the ways in which we link expertise from the Canadian midwifery community with midwives around the world.

A. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan experience high maternal mortality as a result of a number of factors including inadequate skilled attendance at birth. Through the provision of gender-responsive, quality health care by a well-trained midwifery workforce, CAM and its project partners will contribute to the reduction of maternal and newborn deaths in both South Sudan and the DRC in this three-year project called SMART-RMC (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timely – Respectful Maternity Care). Key activities of the project focus on improving clinical care through; 1) training of health care providers in evidence-based innovations using a gender-sensitive rights-based approach, 2)

increasing communities' awareness of their sexual and reproductive rights (SRHR) to access health services and, finally, 3) strengthening the capacity of midwifery associations to deliver gender responsive programming and SRHR advocacy.

The SMART-RMC project is being implemented by the CAM in close collaboration with its project partners: Société Congolaise de la pratique Sage-Femme (SCOSAF: the midwifery association of DRC) and the South Sudan Nurses and Midwives Association (SSNAMA). CAM will oversee the overall management of the project as well as contribute its technical expertise, while SCOSAF and SSNAMA will also bring their own technical expertise while utilizing their contextual knowledge to implement quality improvement and advocacy campaigns.

The project will run from 2021-2024 and is supported by the Government of Canada, through Global Affairs Canada.

B. ASSIGNMENT CONTEXT, DELIVERABLES AND TIMELINE

Assignment

Under the supervision and guidance of CAM's Global Manager for Programs and Partnerships and in collaboration with CAM staff and project partners, the consultant(s) will have the responsibility of developing key elements of the SMART-RMC's Project Implementation Plan (PIP), including a gender and M+E strategy, the PMF, baseline survey, and aligning these to support the project activities and results framework. The consultant(s) will further develop robust M+E tools to track and monitor results throughout the life of the project as well as develop and conduct trainings related to the tools for enumerators in South Sudan and DRC. Finally, the consultant(s) will support the collection of data and compilation of results towards the preparation of project reports.

Throughout this work, the Consultant(s) will assess, identify, and strengthen the gender components of each activity and the M+E framework to ensure its alignment with Global Affairs Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP). It is expected that the project's gender strategy, together with related monitoring and evaluation activities will evaluate and report on best practices and disseminate the knowledge generated by SMART-RMC to inform and influence project stakeholders in gender responsive programming of future programs.

Expected Deliverables

The assignment consists of the following five deliverables:

1. Contribute to the completion of the Project Implementation Plan (PIP) – specifically, GE and M+E Strategy, PMF and full review of the plan using a gender lens.
2. Development of the baseline survey methodology and protocols.
3. Creation of an M&E framework & data collection tools.

4. Development and implementation of a training on GE and M+E for project focal points in DRC and South Sudan.
5. Support data collection for mid and end-line evaluation as required for project reporting.

Proposed Schedule

Timeframe	Deliverable
September 2021 to January 2022	PIP
	Baseline survey
	M+E framework
	Training of project focal points in DRC and South Sudan
January 2023	Mid-line evaluation
January 2024	End-line evaluation

D. SELECTION CRITERIA AND SUBMISSION FORMAT

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated primarily on the following criteria:

1. Experience developing and/or advising on GE strategies within global health projects;
2. Expertise developing monitoring and evaluation tools and frameworks;
3. Experience working on Global Affairs Canada-funded projects;
4. Experience developing and facilitating workshops (remote facilitation a priority);
5. Previous consultancy work in gender/M+E is considered an asset;
6. Ability to collaborate with project stakeholders in both French and English considered an asset.

Priority will be given to proposals that:

- a. Demonstrates a familiarity and/or experience with conflict/post-conflict environments;
- b. Reflect knowledge of SRHR and/or maternal/newborn health issues;
- c. Outline how their methods will support the capacity of SSNAMA, SCOSAF, and CAM to collect, analyze, and report on project indicators aligning with GAC's requirements.
- d. Has a budget not exceeding \$65,000 CAD [Though budgets of up to and above \$65,000 CAD will be considered for exceptional proposals].

Submission Format

The proposal should not exceed four pages outlining:

1. An overview of your skills and experience and/or the composition of your team (if applicable), indicating any relevant experience in gender programming, monitoring and evaluation, experience working with GAC, familiarity with the Feminist International

Assistance Policy (FIAP), workshop development and facilitation and report writing. Also, include any relevant experience in carrying out work in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Please provide this information in the following table:

Name of Individual or Team Member	Relevant Experience (bullet point form)	Links and Related Work
1.		
2.		
3.		

2. The proposed approach to completing each of the five deliverables identified in Section C above, including:
 - a. Detailed timeline per deliverable
 - b. Methodology
 - c. Level of effort for each deliverable
3. A budget of up to \$65,000 CAD
4. CVs of team members (not included in the page limit)

E. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please follow these instructions:

- Send the proposal documents as one PDF file and ensure that your full name (as lead Consultant, if in a team) or company name and the title “SMART-RMC Consultancy” are included in the file name.
- Send your PDF file by email in the subject line, “SMART-RMC Consultancy Proposal” to admin@canadianmidwives.org
- Deadline for applications is September 10, 2021 by 5pm EST.