

TERMS OF REFERENCE
Gender Equality Operational
Research
Save the Children Canada

Title of Assignment	Gender Equality Operational Research Consultant	
Location	Remote	
Duration	2 months - Up to 23 days	
	From: Early March, 2023	To: Mid-May, 2023

Background

Child marriage is a serious human rights violation and a form of gender-based violence that affects more than 12 million girls worldwide. Globally, Burkina Faso ranks 7th for child marriage and despite recent progress, too many girls continue to face the harmful effects of child marriage - which can lead to early and high-risk pregnancies, exposure to intimate partner violence or domestic abuse, and isolation from family, friends, school or livelihoods. In an effort to stop this practice and violation of human rights, Save the Children Canada (SCC) is implementing a project called "My Body. My Decision. My Rights: Reducing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM) in Sierra Leone and Burkina Faso" with the aim to reduce CEFM, empower girls to make decisions about their future and realize their human rights by addressing the underlying conditions that reinforce gender inequality and by making alternative opportunities more accessible and meaningful for girls. The project not only focuses on preventing CEFM, but also responding to it by working with adolescent girls who are already married or in unions, along with their partners, to create more gender equitable relationships and households.

Purpose of the Assignment

In order to support the evidence, learning, and resources of the CEFM project, Save the Children Canada is seeking to hire a consultant to develop research tools, analyze the data collected locally, and develop the final report of the gender equality operational research of the project in Burkina Faso. This will include a recompilation of lessons learned, best practices and recommendations on considerations/gaps/challenges regarding how CEFM has been addressed.

Key research questions:

1. Which key aspects of the gender equality (GE) strategy have contributed most to a shift in attitudes and practices regarding GE and CEFM?

Sub questions and focus:

- i. Did the safe spaces represent the best channel to produce a shift in attitudes and practices regarding GE and CEFM among adolescents? How? Are the sessions with married adolescents considering their needs and interests/priorities? How? How knowledge and skills learned through safe spaces sessions concretize into new practices? What could be improved in the delivery of the sessions (process and content) taking into account who, according adolescents, is influencing harmful practices and how?
- ii. Are the community-based women and girls' groups making a difference in their communities when it comes to GE and CEFM? If yes, how? And if not, why? What has been their most successful strategy? What barriers have they faced when trying to raise awareness about GE and the harms of CEFM?
- iii. How is the work of the gender equality champions perceived in the communities? Has it

contributed to prevent CEFM and enabled adolescent girls to better access sexual and reproductive health services? How?

- iv. Have the VSLA contributed to the empowerment of girls? How or how not? Which type of power especially (to, in, within, with)? Is this different for married vs unmarried adolescents? What about girls vs boys? Did the VSLA contributed to the reduction of GBV and how?

2. Collection of challenges, unintended results, lessons learned and best practices around the point above and recommendations for future CEFM projects

Scope of work

The consultant would assist to:

1. Develop data collection tools for consultations (FDG and KII) with different stakeholders (very young adolescents in and out of school (aged 10-14 years); older adolescents in and out of school (aged 15-19 years); parents/caregivers; teenage mothers (aged 12-18 years) and teenage fathers (aged 15-18 years); partners of teenage mothers over the age of 18; service providers; and other key informants (projects staff and partners, community leaders, services providers, etc.) based on document review.

Data collection will be done by enumerators selected, trained and supervised in the field by SC and the target of the consultations will be as it follows:

➤ Surveys

TARGET	Girls		Boys		TOTAL
	In School	OOS	In School	OOS	
VYA	130	15	130	15	290
OA	130	15	130	15	290
Married adolescent girls and boys	130	15	130	15	290
Caregivers of	50	50	50	50	200
Total	440	95	440	95	1070
	Women		Men		TOTAL
Government officials - Ministry of Gender, Women and Children, Ministry of Health and the One Stop Information Centre.	6		6		12

➤ Focus Groups Discussions

FGDs	Total		
	Female groups	Male groups	Total
Participants			
# Number of FDG (8 to10 participants)			
In school VYA (10-14 y.o.)	3	3	6
Out of school VYA (10-14 y.o.)	3	3	6
Out of school OA (15-19)	3	3	6
In school adolescents (10-19) caregivers	2	2	4
Adolescent mothers (12-18 y.o.) and partners (15+ y.o)	3	3	6
Traditional, religious, community leaders, women and girls groups, gender equality champions	3	3	6
Safe spaces and VSLA facilitators	3	3	6
Teachers	2	2	4

2. Data analysis and report development

Deliverables

Deliverable	Process	Estimated LoE in Days	Timeline
Tools for data collection and inception report development	Complete document review; create tools; complete induction meeting with SCC's team to share materials and integrate inputs and feedback Tools must be in English and French	Up to 5 working days	March 2023
Final report	Review all raw data collected in Burkina Faso by local consultancy team, analyze data, and develop final report based on findings, including lessons learned, best practices, and recommendations. Final report must be in English and French	Up to 16 working days	April/May 2023
Presentation of findings with SCC	Conduct meeting with the SCC team to share and walk through materials developed and integrate inputs and feedback before finalizing	Up to 2 working days	May 2023
TOTAL		Up to 23 working days	

Timeframe

The consultancy will take place from early March, 2023 – mid-May, 2023, during which the consultant is expected to work up to a maximum of 23 working days.

Qualifications and Experience

- Masters degree in Gender Equality, or related field, or equivalent training/experience;
- A minimum of 5 years of experience in research, data analysis and monitoring/evaluations
- A minimum of 5 years of experience in gender equality work, particularly in GAC funded projects and with GAC project development;
- Strong writing and communication skills in both French and English
- Strong understanding of gender equality and GBV issues, as well as how to design and measure in international development programming

Competencies, Skills and Behaviours

- Excellent writing, analytical, and research skills
- Excellent knowledge and skills of Excel and other relevant database tools
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills to develop strong working relationships across cultural and organizational boundaries with internal and external stakeholders, and managing through influence
- Superior English and French writing skills

Application requirements:

Interested candidates should submit their application to Claudia Guidarini, Gender Equality Advisor, by **Monday, March 6, 2023**.

Email: cguidarini@savethechildren.ca

The application should include:

- Technical proposal (maximum 3 pages): Outline, methodology and timeline for the assignment.
- Financial proposal in Canadian dollars.
- CV of consultant(s), including relevant work experience and qualifications.