TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

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Mapping Study on Legal Frameworks and Procedural Laws for Eliminating FGM Medicalization

Hiring Office:

Yosra Diab, FGM programme UNV Expert

Purpose of consultancy:

Egypt remains one of the countries with the highest rates of female genital mutilation (FGM) medicalization globally. According to the Egyptian Family Health Survey (EFHS) 2021, 86 percent of Egyptian married women between the ages of 15 and 49 have undergone FGM. Data further indicates that doctors perform 74% of FGM cases in this age group, while nurses perform an additional 10%, representing a consistent pattern that has remained unchanged since 2014. These high medicalization rates underscore the critical need for substantial focus on medicalization as a key factor that could significantly accelerate the abandonment of FGM.

Medicalization lends an air of false safety and legitimacy to the practice, contributing to the entrenchment of FGM in society even further when performed by trained medical staff. The involvement of healthcare professionals institutionalizes and normalizes this harmful practice, complicating efforts to achieve its complete abandonment. While legal frameworks and policies have been established to combat FGM, the participation of healthcare professionals in its continuation reflects a significant gap between policy and practice. Medical professionals often hold considerable authority in Egyptian communities, with parents deferring to their judgment despite the absence of medical justification for FGM. This underscores the critical role that healthcare providers play in perpetuating the practice and highlights the urgent need for targeted interventions within the medical sector.

To address this issue effectively, it is crucial to focus on the enforcement of existing laws and policies while also addressing the cultural and economic factors that drive FGM medicalization. Public awareness campaigns, enhanced training for medical professionals on the harms of FGM, and stricter enforcement of legal prohibitions are essential components of a comprehensive approach. Additionally, the inclusion of healthcare providers in advocacy and intervention efforts is vital to dismantling the legitimacy that medicalization has afforded to this practice.

Building on UNFPA's Egypt CO policy dialogue on FGM medicalization and its recommendation to further strengthen data and evidence generation to guide future efforts, the objective of this consultancy is to conduct a comprehensive mapping study to identify and analyze global good practices and procedural laws related to FGM medicalization. The study will explore successful interventions, challenges, and opportunities across various contexts, with a particular focus on strengthening legal frameworks and policies that govern FGM medicalization. Furthermore, the study should develop a comprehensive, applicable uniform procedures model for documenting and reporting FGM cases within medical health facilities. It should also suggest structured surveillance systems of FGM across countries, identify entry points, checkpoints whithin the institutional frameworks and medical/ medicolegal SOPs that if strengthened will allow adequate monitoring points to capture FGM cases (identification, monitoring), and provide medical and legal recommendations. By examining what has worked in different settings and assessing the context in Egypt, , this study will provide valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders in Egypt and beyond to effectively strengthen the processes of identifying, documenting and reporting cases of FGM, and accordingly lead to effectively

	combating FGM in all its forms and whithin the divers frameworks and service delivery networks.	e public and pri	vate institut	
Scope of work: (Description of services, activities, or outputs)	his consultancy aims to conduct a comprehensive mapper global best practices and procedural laws regarding FC explore successful interventions, challenges, and opport legal frameworks and policies governing FGM practices. documenting and reporting FGM cases in medical surveillance systems to enhance monitoring across coun will identify key entry points within institutional framew facilitate effective identification and reporting of FGM strategies in various contexts and assessing their applicativaluable insights and recommendations for policymak contributing to more effective efforts to combat FGM within service delivery networks.	GM medicalization and medicalization in the control of the control	on. The stud on strength uniform mod ropose structy, the consul cal/legal SOF mining succe e study will priolders, ultim	
Duration and working schedule:	The consultancy will require 40 working days and is expected to be completed within 3 more from the commencement date to allow for review and revision from UNFPA.			
Place where services are to be delivered:	Work from home			
Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy etc.):	The consultant will be responsible for the following tasks:			
	Deliverable	Payment	Due Dat	
	1. Inception Report: Outline the methodology, work plan and proposed timeline for the study.	10%	23/9/202	
	Literature Review and Case Study Documentation: Comprehensive review of existing literature, policies, and guidelines on legal frameworks to combat FGM medicalization. Identify and document case studies, success stories, and best practices.		7/10/202	
	3. Draft Report: Submit a draft report that includes a developed uniform procedures model for documenting and reporting FGM cases within medical health facilities. Additionally, provide recommendations for the development and implementation of a structured surveillance systems of FGM across countries, identify entry points, checkpoints whithin the institutional frameworks and medical / medicolegal SOPs that if strengthened will allow adequate monitoring points to capture FGM cases (identification, monitoring), and provide medical and legal recommendations. By examining what has worked in different settings and	30%	21/10/20	

	assessing the context in Egypt, , this study will provide valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders in Egypt and beyond to effectively strengthen the processes of identifying, documenting and reporting cases of FGM, and accordingly lead to effectively combating FGM in all its forms and whithin the diverse public and private institutional frameworks and service delivery networks.				
	4. Final Report: Submit the final mapping study report, including The final report will include a detailed implementation plan and guidelines for rolling out the proposed procedures and surveillance systems within healthcare facilities across Egypt. Further consultations with key stakeholders will be conducted to refine the recommendations and ensure their practical applicability	30%	4/11/2024		
	5. Presentation : Present an overview of the study, key findings, and recommendations to relevant stakeholders	10%	18/11/2024		
Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline:	The final documents must be shared with UNFPA as a Microsoft Word Document within the. The aforementioned documents must be shared both through E-mail to Ms. Yosra Diab. All the work should be finished by the 31st of November 2024.				
Supervisory arrangements:	FGM Programme Expert, Ms. Yosra Diab, under the overall guidance of the Assistant Representative/Head of Programmes Ms. Germaine Haddad				
Expected travel:	No				
Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:	A. Advanced university degree in Law, Medicine, social science, gender and development or related fields. B. Minimum of 10 years working experience in conducting research on issues related to legal frameworks, gender and sexual/reproductive health C. Understand the Egyptian context as well as FGM practices D. Experience in working with UN agencies, national and international NGOs as well as government stakeholders. E. Excellent planning and organisational skills F. Excellent ability to meet deadlines G. proficiency in English and Arabic H. Excellent writing skills in Arabic and English				
Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner (e.g support services, office space, equipment), if applicable:	The consultant is responsible for arranging all their comm	unication and trans	portation		
Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:	N/A				
Signature of Requesting Officer in Hiring Office:					

Date:18/09/2024

Docusigned by:

Yosun Dinb

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