Call-out for reviewers to join research project review panel (RP2)

The UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP) based within the Department of Sexual, Reproductive Health and Research (SRHR) is the main instrument within the United Nations system for research in sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), bringing together policy-makers, scientists, health care providers, clinicians, consumers and community representatives to identify and address priorities for research to improve sexual and reproductive health.

The research project review panel (RP2) entails the external review body of research projects conducted by the department. The RP2 secretariat organizes management of reviews of the department’s research projects by archiving study protocols and communication related to research. This way RP2 aims to uphold research quality and good research practice.

The RP2 reviewer assists the Department and its collaborators to foster recognition of universal ethical principles and scientific principles of good research practice, and the use of these scientific and ethical principles into practices and considerations studies are being developed and implemented in sexual and reproductive health in order to protect the health and rights of individuals in different social and cultural settings, according to World Health Resolution 41.9.

The panel provides scientific, technical, ethical and financial review of research projects under consideration by RHR. The type of research under consideration is not restricted to, but includes: basic, biomedical, epidemiological, social science, operations, implementation, health systems and programme development research.

To widen the RP2 reviewer pool, we are looking for experienced Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights researchers with expertise related to various aspects of SRHR, inclusive also, of reviewers with a specific methodological expertise for example, Implementation research or with expertise in biostatistics or epidemiology. We are looking for senior researchers, preferably holding a PhD and with a publication list matching the stated expertise. Experience from research proposal reviewing will be valuable. In case an applicant does not have a PhD but have similar experiences from research into a topic under the full scope of sexual and reproductive health and rights, the applicant can still be considered. We encourage reviewers from low- and middle-income country (LMICs) settings and reviewers with experiences related to SRHR research involving the LGBTQI+ community and/or in implementation research to apply.

Kindly note that all reviews are done on voluntary basis. All consenting reviewers will be presented by name on the WHO HRP webpage. Review processes are currently conducted only by distance means.

Would you like to contribute to improving quality of sexual and reproductive health and rights research globally? Would you like to support HRP/SRHR WHO by becoming one of our senior expert reviewers? Please write to us with your resume and list of publications at RP2@who.int