Vacancy notice

Gender-Based Violence Consultant

The WHO Department of Reproductive Health and Research (RHR) seeks an experienced mental health and psychosocial support consultant to work on a project focused on gender-based violence (GBV) in emergencies. This one-year consultancy will help WHO to develop a feminist, survivor-centered approach, and accompanying training materials, for mental health interventions for GBV survivors. This will include conducting consultations to understand what approaches and resources are currently being used in humanitarian settings, developing case studies on mental health and GBV, and developing and piloting a training package for mental health specialists. This training package will go beyond the provision of basic psychosocial support to provide guidance on how to deliver more specialized mental health support in a way that is adapted to GBV survivor needs.

The consultant will report to the Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies Technical Officer, and work closely with the Mental Health Technical Officer. The candidate will work as a part of a team of experienced staff dedicated to preventing and responding to GBV globally. The consultancy requires a high level of judgement, integrity, and technical expertise in both GBV and mental health and psychosocial support.

This consultancy is for one year and is home based, with travel.

Individuals interested in submitting their application are invited to send their cover letter and CV to roesche@who.int, indicating “WHO Gender Based Violence MHPSS Consultancy” in the subject line. Closing date for applications 19 July 2019.

Terms of reference

Organizational Background

The Department of Reproductive Health and Research (RHR) works to enable people to protect their own health as it relates to sexuality and reproduction and to receive quality health care in matters related to sexual and reproductive health. To achieve this, the Department advocates and promotes sound public health strategies, sets norms and standards, engages in technical cooperation activities, and supports research. RHR’s overall strategic framework is provided by the WHO Global Reproductive Health Strategy approved by the 57th World Health Assembly in 2004. More information about RHR can be found at http://www.who.int/reproductive-health.

RHR includes the UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP). HRP is the main instrument within the United Nations system for promoting, conducting, evaluating and coordinating interdisciplinary research on sexual and reproductive health; for collaborating with countries in enhancing national capacities to conduct this research; for promoting and facilitating the use of research results in policy-making and planning for sexual and reproductive health care; and for the setting of standards and guidelines, including technical and ethical guidelines, in the field of sexual and reproductive health research. More information about HRP can be found at http://www.who.int/reproductive-health/hrp.

Summary of duties:

1. Lead consultations with health, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and GBV focal points across agencies to better understand currently used tools and approaches to meeting the mental health needs of survivors.
2. Conduct 1-2 site visits to develop case studies examining GBV and mental health.
3. Develop a training package on GBV for mental health professionals adapted to the humanitarian context.
4. Conduct 2-3 country-level trainings on GBV and mental health.
5. Facilitate a learning workshop to review lessons learned from pilot trainings.
6. Lead at least one webinar on mental health and GBV.
7. Produce monthly and/or quarterly reports on activities and other activities as required.

WHO Competencies

1. Producing results
2. Communicating in a credible and effective way
3. Fostering integration and teamwork
4. Building and promoting partnerships across the organization and beyond
5. Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences.

Functional Knowledge and Skills
- Proven experience in mental health and psychosocial support with, a good understanding of gender-based violence, survivor-centred perspectives and the humanitarian organizational structure.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in emergency and humanitarian response contexts, under constraints, and to meet deadlines.
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate on MHPSS across sectors, with government health authorities and with UN agencies.
- Demonstrated ability to work in multicultural settings and excellent inter-personal skills.

Essential Education Qualifications:
- Advanced University degree (Master’s level or above) in psychiatry, psychology, or social work or allied science from an accredited/recognized institute.

Desirable Education Qualifications
- Post-graduate qualification or specialized training in (a) public health and/or (b) MHPSS in emergency and humanitarian crises.

Essential Experience
- At least 7 years’ work experience in mental health and psychosocial interventions in emergency contexts, with demonstrated experience working with survivors of gender-based violence.
- Experience in capacity building and developing training packages.

Desirable Experience
- Experience in UN organizations or agencies, or non-governmental organizations providing technical assistance and support to humanitarian settings.

Language Skills
- Essential: Expert knowledge of English.
- Desirable: Knowledge of another UN language.

Other Skills
Skills required to use e-mail, PowerPoint, Excel, and word processing software independently and efficiently.