

Girls in Crises - Literature Review

Terms of Reference

About Plan International UK

Plan International UK strives to advance children's rights and equality for girls all over the world. We recognise the power and potential of every single child. But this is often suppressed by poverty, violence, exclusion and discrimination. And its girls who are most affected. As an independent development and humanitarian organisation, we work alongside children, young people, our supporters and partners to tackle the root causes of the challenges facing girls and all vulnerable children.

Background and rationale

Plan International UK, and the wider Plan International Federation, has considerable experience and expertise working with girls and young women across our humanitarian programme portfolio.

In order to scale up on our policy and advocacy work on this issue we are commissioning a full literature review of the research and evidence that exists on girls in crises. This work will inform our future research agenda and wider influencing approach.

Objectives

The objectives of this literature review are to:

- Conduct an academic review of the existing literature that focuses on issue of girls in crises covering (but not limited to) the following areas:
 - Education in Emergencies
 - Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Emergencies
 - Gender based violence and exploitation of girls
- Produce a summary of the existing literature highlighting the main trends and themes
- Provide details of the main evidence and research gaps in existing literature that could provide a basis for future in-depth research
- Provide indication of the quality of the existing research and literature (programmatic evaluations vs peer-reviewed)

Suggested research methods

- Desk based research of academic literature

- Telephone interviews with key contacts

Audience and how this study will be used

The final output will be an internal document that will be used by Plan International UK policy, advocacy and programmes staff to support the development of our internal thinking on the issue, and support the organisation to develop its future research and influencing agenda.

Outputs

- Mapping and key informant interviews report
- The final output will be expected to take the form of a 15 – 20-page literature review featuring:
 - Summary of existing literature and the main trends, themes and gaps in the evidence
 - Recommendations for how Plan International could take forward this work including potential partnerships
 - Appendix – List of documentation reviewed, people and organisations interviewed.
- Other deliverables: A presentation of key research findings during an internal planning workshop

Framework

The literature review and findings from the study will be presented within the following framework:

- **Protracted conflict** – intense violence, often armed, causing instability and displacement of people; which is frequently protracted.
- **Refugee crises** – significant populations are displaced across international borders for prolonged periods.
- **Natural disasters** in non-conflict settings – floods, earthquakes and epidemics resulting in breakdown of services and the internal displacement of people.
- **Disaster Risk Reduction** - identifying, assessing and reducing the risks of disaster, in particular the impact that disasters has on girls

Timeframe

The consultant is expected to develop a detailed timeline for this piece of work, but it is anticipated that the whole piece of work should not exceed 12 days.

Management

Consultant(s) will report directly to the Policy and Advocacy Manager at Plan International UK and will be carried out in close collaboration with staff across the Policy and Programme Directorate.

Skills and Experience

The desired specifications and qualities of the consultant(s) are:

- A commitment to promoting and supporting child and girls' rights
- Excellent understanding of gender equality and children's rights, with proven background in carrying out similar research topics in fragile settings and humanitarian contexts.
- A minimum of 6 years' experience in carrying out research on gender equality, through an inter-sectional lens, with demonstrable relevant academic and practical experience in research and gender analysis.
- Demonstrably strong analytical, writing and communication skills, with a track record of writing policy briefing papers for external audiences.
- Conversant with child protection in emergencies, education in emergencies, gender in emergencies and child rights and advocacy.
- Fluent spoken and written communication skills in English.
- Ability to deliver on tight time frames and meet deadlines within agreed budgets

Application Process

Plan UK welcomes a response to these Terms of Reference, with a CV and short written statement including:

- An outline of costs & timescales
- A capability statement demonstrating how they meet the required qualifications and competencies;
- Examples of relevant previous work
- Copies of all relevant Curriculum Vitae (CVs). Only CVs for the specific individuals that will form the proposed evaluation team should be included.
- Two references (including one from your last client/employer).

Responses should be sent to: Amelia Whitworth (Amelia.whitworth@plan-uk.org) no later than 5pm on Friday 1st June. Phone interviews will be conducted that week.

