**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**Impact Assessment Study on Family Health House Model in Afghanistan**

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global healthcare provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all. Led by a courageous and determined group of women, IPPF was founded in 1952 at the Third International Planned Parenthood Conference. Today, we are a movement of 120 autonomous members with a presence in over 146 countries. The South Asia Regional Office (SARO) is one of the reginal offices among six. SARO works in eight south Asian countries through the country partners. Afghanistan is one of the countries among them where we work with Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA).

The Family Health House (FHH) model has been implemented in Afghanistan as part of an effort to improve the accessibility and quality of primary health care services for rural and underserved communities. The objective of this assessment is to assess the impact of the Family Health House model on improving health outcomes and strengthening the overall healthcare system in Afghanistan

The International Planned Parenthood Federation – South Asia Regional Office (IPPF-SARO) is seeking a qualified research consultant (individual, company, or institute) to lead the research study's inception and design, implementation, synthesis and analysis, and final reporting.

The contract can be awarded either to a natural (individual) or legal (company) person with the requested qualifications. The researcher(s) are expected to collaborate closely with IPPF-SARO and AFGA for this study.

Interested applicants must submit technical and financial proposals. Proposals should be prepared in accordance with the annexe ToR and sent to **adas@ippf.org** **copying** **procurement@ippf.org**, with the subject line: **“Application – FHH- Impact Assessment Study”** by **7 April 2025.**

Proposals which do not fulfil these specifications may be disqualified from review.

***All details are mentioned in the ToR (Annexure I)***

**Annexture – I TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE |** CONSULTANCY TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THE FAMILY HEALTH HOUSE MODEL ON IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES AND STRENGTHENING THE OVERALL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM IN AFGHANISTAN.

# About IPPF

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global healthcare provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all. Led by a courageous and determined group of women, IPPF was founded in 1952 at the Third International Planned Parenthood Conference. Today, we are a movement of 120 autonomous members with a presence in over 146 countries. The South Asia Regional Office (SARO) is one of the reginal offices among six. SARO works in eight south Asian countries through the country partners. Afghanistan is one of the countries among them where we work with Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA).

About our Member Association (MA)/Country Partner in Afghanistan

Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA) is one of the oldest non-governmental organizations in Afghanistan. AFGA was set up in 1968, with the aim of providing families, women specially, integrated sexual and reproductive health services.  In the last five years (2019–2023), AFGA provided 14,309,705 SRH services. It served a total of 2,523,052 clients across its service delivery points. This included 2,271,059 poor and marginalised clients (90%), and 1,669,190 clients in humanitarian contexts, highlighting the organisation's significant outreach to underserved populations.

AFGA works in 11 provinces of Afghanistan by running 10 static clinics, 16 mobile clinics, 67 Family Health Houses (FHHs), and one newborn and maternal health care hospital.

# Background

The Family Health House (FHH) model has been implemented in Afghanistan as part of an effort to improve the accessibility and quality of primary health care services for rural and underserved communities. The model focuses on providing integrated health services, including sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and maternal and child health (MCH), at the community level. This initiative aims to reduce health disparities, enhance healthcare access, and improve health outcomes for families, especially women and children in Afghanistan.

AFGA has adapted and demonstrated the effectiveness of Reproductive Health service delivery through the innovation and initiation of Family Health Houses (FHHs) to scale up and expand access to vulnerable communities, affected by conflict, earthquakes, floods, and drought. AFGA’s FHH model has been developed to allow for the expansion and continuation of services in areas where community outreach midwives’ movement is restricted.

This model of care is a community-based health and home-based reproductive health facility. FHHs are established in the houses of AFGA midwives or in a rented place, with a structure of 1-2 rooms of OPD and delivery room with basic equipment managed by a midwife. The FHH model established to provide services to populations where maternal mortality rate is very high. In 2023, AFGA provided 414,748 services to vulnerable clients through 67 active FHHS.

The SRH and MCH services are delivered through 67 FHHs. The service package includes antenatal care, delivery and postnatal care, family planning, gynaecological, basic obstetric, vaccination and non-SRH services to women, young girls and children.

# Objectives

The aim of this study to assess whether the Family Health House model is effective for improving health outcomes. Therefore, the specific objectives are as follows -

* To assess the effectiveness and role of FHH model in delivering services and their impact on health-seeking behaviour and outcomes.
* To explore the acceptability and adaptability of FHH model by the community.
* To understand challenges or barriers that affect the implementation and effectiveness of the model.
* To assess the concept of social capital by empowering midwives for better health outcomes and collective outcomes
* To prepare evidence-based recommendations for sustainability and scalability of the FHH model in the Afghanistan context.

# Proposed Methodology

Sampling
A representative sample of Family Health Houses will be selected across provinces. The assessment will cover selected provinces in Afghanistan where the Family Health House model has been implemented by AFGA.

## Target Respondents

Total 25 narratives interviews need to be conducted with relevant stakeholders.

* We are proposing to conduct 17 narrative interviews with FHH midwives across
* 5 key informant interviews with other stakeholders in the country
* And 3 in-depth interviews with AFGA team members on challenges, sustainability and scalability aspects.

## And 100 exit interviews (close ended as well as narrative) with the clients to understand the effectiveness of FHH model.

Key themes to be explored

* Current sexual and reproductive health issues
* Sexual and reproductive health seeking behaviour
* Sexual and reproductive health services utilization
* Sexual and reproductive health outcomes
* Quality of care
* Social capital
* Community engagement
* Barriers and challenges
* Sustainability and scalability

# Roles and Responsibilities

The contract can be awarded either to a natural (individual) or legal (company) person with the requested qualifications. The service provider will be in direct engagement with the IPPF South Asia Regional Office for this study.

Contractor’s specific roles and responsibilities will include:

* Develop and finalise work plan with IPPF SARO
* Desk review (e.g. literature, service statistics, national policies and exploring secondary data analysis etc) to inform research design.
* Engage and collaborate closely with AFGA, to identify study locations and most appropriate study design and methodology for data collection.
* Finalising research approach and methodology including research protocol, mixed methods data collection tools and consent forms.
* Identify the key indicators of the model’s effectiveness and impact as well as sustainability based on the objectives.
* Finalisation of tools and resources.
* Develop detail study protocol (including detail study design, detail methodology, consent/assent forms, study tools and guides) for ethics approvals including any national and/or institutional requirements.
* Recruitment or provide the required number of high-quality in-country investigators for both quantitative interviews and qualitative research, especially those well versed with the local language. As well as training and onboarding these team members. Overall, the team structure should be such that supervision and monitoring is undertaken to ensure data quality.
* Lead and coordinate with the data collection team in Afghanistan (with capacity to work in local languages, as required).
* Collect and analyse quality quantitative and qualitative data that will enable the team to understand the impacts of FHH model implemented by AFGA.
* Ensuring data quality at the highest level through effective supervision and monitoring.
* Data entry and transcriptions, translation (where relevant), cleaning, coding, and data validation.
* Prepare a high-quality comprehensive report detailing the findings of the study and make recommendations for further action to be shared with SARO and AFGA for review.
* Finds dissemination meeting with AFGA and SARO team
* Periodic engagement with IPPF SARO team to provide updates on study, identify and mitigate any emerging risks, debrief data collection updates on the synthesis and analysis.

# Deliverables

The main deliverables of the consultancy are as follows:

1. **An inception report**: which will
	1. **Review existing data on the program at an organisational level** to detail the program structure and identify the key areas of work that the study will consider as part of the evaluation process.
	2. Describe the **conceptual framework** that will be used to justify the study, as well as the **detailed methodology** for its implementation.
	3. Contain a **focussed results framework** with key outputs and outcomes that will be measured
	4. Detail a **work plan** for consultancy, indicating the phases from tool development, their key deliverables, and milestones.
	5. The **study design and methodology must be discussed and finalised** in consultation with the IPPF-SARO and AFGA team.
2. **A detailed Protocol**, which includes the study design, consent/assent forms, tools/guides subject to comments and inputs from both the AFGA and SARO teams, the contractor will be responsible for developing the protocol and other related documents to make a successful implementation.
3. **Suitable data collection tool/s** for collecting both quantitative and qualitative data based on the approved study design. The finalisation of these tools will be subject to comments and inputs from both the AFGA and SARO teams.
4. **Data Collection** needs to be conducted by in-country investigators/moderators because of the language. Consult will also be responsible for training of in-country investigators/moderators and close coordination with them for data collection.
5. **Recruitment plan of study respondents** anddetails of participants who meet the inclusion criteria, collated, and recorded, along with unique identifiers allocated.
6. **Data folder** consisting of the
	1. Audio recordings of interviews
	2. The transcribed interviews
	3. Translated interviews
	4. All filled questionnaires
	5. Data with value labels and variable labels to be shared with us.
	6. Syntax (SPSS) to be shared
7. **Data Synthesis and analysis** which will be reviewed by the SARO and AFGA teams as well as **a thematic analysis structure and a** **coding matrix** for the analysis of qualitative data. As well as quantitative data cleaning, coding, synthesis of results, analysis. Consultation with SARO and AFGA on preliminary analysis.
8. **Final report** capturing all the details, including key findings and recommendations from the study.

# Required Experience

It is anticipated that the consultant/company has expertise and previous experience in:

* Demonstrated knowledge of current evaluation theory and practice
* Extensive experience (5+ years) in conducting evaluations (preferably in development projects) and a proven record delivering professional results.
* The lead consultant (individual or company) should have at least a post-graduate degree (M.Sc., M.A.) in the Social Sciences
* Excellent writing and communication skills; strong skills in Mixed methods research design- qualitative and quantitative research, analysis, logical thinking, and synthesis of findings.
* Knowledge of SRH programs and delivery, and, preferably, in the South Asian context specifically about Afghanistan.
* Fluency in English is a must with specific experience in key areas of study: sexual and reproductive health and rights.
* Previous experience conducting study in South Asia and specifically in Afghanistan.
* Experience building local research capacity and collaboration with local researchers.

The consultant(s) with above mentioned qualifications are encouraged to apply.

# Role of IPPF and AFGA

The South Asia Regional Office of the International Planned Parenthood Federation will be responsible for:

* Developing and signing the contract with the selected consultant/s based on mutually agreeable terms.
* Approving the implementation plan and timeline in collaboration with AFGA.
* Providing feedback on the protocol including comments on the study design, methodology, consent/assent forms, study tools and guides.
* Providing feedback on all analysis tables, coding frameworks, and final reports.
* Supporting the training of investigators and supervision of data collection and quality from time to time.
* Disbursing payments within 20 days of a completed invoice being submitted to the team.

# AFGA will be responsible for

* Providing a full list of participants who meet the inclusion criteria, including contact details and connecting the research team with key stakeholders where relevant.
* Identify the local investigators/moderators, if needed.
* Supporting the training of investigators and supervision of data collection and quality from time to time.
* Providing feedback on the final report.

# Period of Assignment

The total duration of the assignment is expected to be from **15 April 2025 – December 2025.**

# Application Details

This call for expression of interest is open to:

* International individual consultants interested in the role, OR
* Evaluation consultancy firms or teams of consultants already organized under the leadership of an evaluator.

The selection of the consultant (or team of consultants) will be based on the qualifications and experience of potential candidates as described in their proposal for the assignment.

To apply, interested candidates are requested to email **adas@ippf.org** **copying** **procurement@ippf.org**with “**Application – FHH-Impact Assessment Study**” in the subject line, no later than **April 7, 2025**, along with:

* **A** **Technical Proposal (not more than 10 pages maximum)** indicating:
	+ The consultant’s/group’s suitability for the assignment and relevant previous work, including a description of their knowledge of the SRH and the experience in evaluation.
	+ Provide overall Study approach & methodology to respond to the scope of work, workplan, and timeline
	+ A detailed list of team members involved (if relevant) as well as their qualifications. This list must include proposed field investigators as well, if relevant.
	+ Provide a list of previous, similar assignments in the past 2 years
* **A Financial proposal**, with details of the daily rate for the evaluation work as well as any other potential cost and a breakdown of working days according to the expected deliverables. The financial proposal should reflect the person/ activity being budgeted, time envisaged, per unit rate, subtotals, and total. Also, indicate if the service tax or GST (as applicable) has been included or not.

Proposals will be evaluated according to an objective scoring system, considering the requirements outlined in this document and the impact study briefs, particularly the ability to manage a process conforming to the timelines set out. Evaluation criteria and weighting will be based on technical criteria (80%) and financial criteria (20%).

Any queries with respect to the ToR can be directed to **ADas@ippf.org****.**