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**Terms of reference**

**needs assessment of the requirement for the inclusive education of hard of hearing children & youth in province number 3 of nepal**

**Summary:**

The International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH) seeks support from experienced researchers to undertake a needs assessment study on the requirements for the inclusive education for hard of hearing children in Nepal. This data will feed into IFHOH’s position paper on inclusive education and contribute to an advocacy plan to promote the right to education for hard of hearing children. This will also contribute to the work of the Inclusive Education Task Team of the International Disability Alliance. This Task Team is currently working towards framing the implementation of the Sustainable Development Groups (SDGs) from the perspective of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and disabled people’s organisations (DPOs), while ensuring participation of the most marginalised groups.

**About IFHOH:**

IFHOH was established in 1977 and is an international non-governmental organization of national associations supporting and advocating with and for hard of hearing and late deafened people. We provide a platform for co-operation and information exchange among our members and interested parties. As an umbrella organization IFHOH works to promote greater understanding of hearing loss issues and to improve access for hard of hearing people worldwide. We uphold and educate on the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities and the UN post-2015 Sustainability Development Goals. IFHOH is registered at Vereinsregister Amtsgericht Hamburg, Germany (Nr. 69 VR 10 527) and has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). IFHOH is a founding member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA) – a network of eight global—and, six regional organisations of persons with disabilities (DPOs), representing the voice of the estimated one billion persons with disabilities worldwide. Established in 1999, IDA is the authoritative and representative voice of persons with disabilities in the United Nations (UN) system, both in New York and Geneva. IDA’s mission is “To advance the human rights of persons with disabilities, as a united voice of organizations of persons with disabilities, utilizing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other human rights instruments”.

**Background:**

There are 466 million persons with hearing losses worldwide (432million adults and 34million children) constituting almost one-third of all persons with disabilities in the world and is one of the largest category of disability. Yet, persons with hearing loss *(Including children)* often go unrecognized and under-served because of the invisible nature of the hearing loss and the lack of access to technological advances, including hearing aids. In educational systems in developing countries, often the needs of hard of hearing persons are not recognized and effective support is not provided. IFHOH has developed an Education policy paper but the focus is on the experiences of students in developed countries. While some aspects of inclusion and accessibility are universal and cut across all countries, there are unique aspects in developing countries. The articulation of these aspects will strengthen the advocacy work of IFHOH and contribute to a richer, revised Education policy paper. Towards this, IFHOH will undertake a needs assessment exercise in Nepal and Uganda that will contribute towards a position paper and an advocacy plan that will help determine IFHOH’s larger strategic interventions to improve the access and quality of inclusive education for children who are hard of hearing or deafened. This will also contribute towards a global report on the status of implementation of Article 24 of the CRPD and SDGs 4 for all children will disabilities to be published by the International Disability Alliance.

The needs assessment will be done in the Nepal and Uganda in conjunction with SHRUTI and the Uganda National Association of the Hard of Hearing (UNAHOH) respectively.

SHRUTI is a non-profit organization established by people who are hard of hearing and deafened (HoH/d) in 2012 to provide them with a unified voice. SHRUTI promotes the rights and empowerment of people who are HoH/d in Nepal by working to eliminate the communication, access and attitudinal barriers that prevent them from participating in society. It implements projects with the Nepalese Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, as well as a range of international organizations, such as Disability and Development Partners in the UK, the Abilis Foundation, Royal Dutch Kentalis, MyRights, and Workability International Japan to promote the achievement of our objectives. SHRUTI is also a founding member of the Asia Pacific Federation of Hard of Hearing and Deafened People (APFHD), and an active member of the International Federation of Hard of Hearing (IFHOH), the International Federation of Hard of Hearing Young People (IFHOHYP), the National Federation of Disabled Nepal (NFDN) and the Nepal Social Welfare Council.

 UNAHOH a community-based organization registered as a non-government entity in Uganda. UNAHOH is a member of IFHOH and Patrick Gift Egessa, its President, is a member of the IFHOH Board. The Association is dedicated to improving the lives of hard of hearing people, creating awareness of the nature of hearing loss and removing barriers for those with a hearing loss.

**Purpose and intended use of the baseline data collection**

The purpose of the consultancy is to undertake a **mapping exercise** of the educational status of hard of hearing children within the Kampala school district in Uganda and Province Number 3 of Nepal, **identifying factors** that are key to inclusive education. This will be done through a needs assessment survey. This data will be used to develop a IFHOH position paper and an advocacy plan to promote the right to inclusive education for hard of hearing children.

**Some of the issues that the needs assessment will consider, but not limited to, are as follows**:

* Barrier free environments
* Captioning in the classroom
* Captioning of videos and other audio visual materials
* Language Development
* Hearing aids and Cochlear implants
* Assistive Technology
* Support Services (e.g. tutoring)
* Social Interactions
* Teacher Education

Theproject would considerparticipation rates of hard of hearing children and existing programmes and reports about hard of hearing children related to Africa and Uganda and Nepal and the Asian region.

The project would liaise with other professionals for health care services i.e. speech language and audiological services as well as educators in the field and in non-profit organizations.

As well, there would be contact with government officials about the project and key educational and organizational informants about the results of the project.

**COMPONENT 1 – Project Consultant (April 2019-March 2020)**

**Tasks**:

* Identify the base of evidence available, including but not limited to some of the issues highlighted above, from existing data sources (literature review, including published and grey literature, official data and statistics, administrative data, case studies, etc.)
* Review and analyze the available evidence and identify the missing data/ evidence
* Develop an interview instrument to be used in the collection of field data in Nepal and Uganda
* Oversee the work of the project associates/consultants working on data collection in Nepal and Uganda
* Compile and organize the available evidence into a folder of resources to be shared with the IFHOH Management team
* Prepare a final report based on this initial data collection and the data from the needs assessment in Nepal and Uganda
* Present the report to the IFHOH management team.
* Prepare a position paper based on the report and inputs form the IFHOH management team.
* Finalise and implement a media plan.

**Deliverables:**

* A short document (1-2 pages max) describing the methodology to be used for the report and data collection (1 week to 10 days after the start of the mission). This should include a proposed outline of the report and the needs assessment tool.
* A database with all evidence collected, organized as agreed at the beginning of the consultancy in the above methodology document
* A narrative report (first draft by October 2019, final version by December 2019)
* A position paper (first draft by January 2020, final version by February 2020)
* A media plan, including proposed implementation strategy (first draft by December 2019, implementation by March 2019)
* Any additional deliverables that are agreed at the beginning of the consultancy

**Timeline**: March 2019-March 2020

**Qualifications:**

* Relevant university degree in education, disability studies, public policy
* Strong research experience and knowledge of data management and analysis
* Proven experience and expertise on education sector reform, including education data
* Demonstrated interest and familiarity with the rights of persons with disabilities, especially inclusive education, CRPD article 24 and related jurisprudence
* Familiarity with the systems and context in Nepal & Uganda is strongly desired
* Ability to write a concise and analytical research report in English

**Budget:**

* Applicants are invited to submit a budget/quotation within their proposal. The total budget for this component is 10,000 US Dollars.

**COMPONENT 2 – Project Associate- Nepal (April 2019 till October 2019)**

**Tasks**:

* Undertake literature review and collect available data
* Identify inclusive education requirements and accessibility needs of hard of hearing children in Province Number 3, Nepal
* Identify contacts for interviewing based on the needs assessment tool developed by the project consultant
* Undertake needs assessment survey, conduct interviews/FGDs and/or mandated based on the methodology developed by Project Consultant
* Finalise report based on the data collected
* All tasks will be undertaken in close collaboration with IFHOH’s member in Nepal and under the supervision of the IFHOH management team

**Deliverables:**

* A concept note on the proposed methodology to implement the needs assessment
* A comprehensive report based on the data collection (first draft by August; final report by September 2019)

**Timeline**: April- October 2019

**Qualifications:**

* Relevant university degree in education, disability studies, public policy
* Strong research experience and knowledge of data management and analysis
* Proven experience and expertise on education sector reform, including education data
* Demonstrated interest and familiarity with the rights of persons with disabilities, especially inclusive education, CRPD article 24 and related jurisprudence
* Familiarity with the systems and context in Nepal
* Knowledge of Nepalese
* Ability to write a concise and analytical research report in English

**Budget:**

* Applicants are invited to submit a budget/quotation including local/in-country travel costs, with their proposal. The total budget for this component, including travel costs, is 6,000 US Dollars.

**COMPONENT 3 – Project Associate- Uganda (April 2019 till October 2019)**

**Tasks**:

* Undertake literature review and collect available data
* Identify inclusive education requirements and accessibility needs of hard of hearing children in Kampala, Uganda
* Identify contacts for interviewing based on the needs assessment tool developed by the project consultant
* Undertake needs assessment survey, conduct interviews/FGDs and/or mandated based on the methodology developed by Project Consultant
* Finalise report based on the data collected
* All tasks will be undertaken in close collaboration with IFHOH’s member in Uganda and under the supervision of the IFHOH management team

**Deliverables:**

* A concept note on the proposed methodology to implement the needs assessment
* A comprehensive report based on the data collection (first draft by August; final report by September 2019)

**Timeline**: April- October 2019

**Qualifications:**

* Relevant university degree in education, disability studies, public policy
* Strong research experience and knowledge of data management and analysis
* Proven experience and expertise on education sector reform, including education data
* Demonstrated interest and familiarity with the rights of persons with disabilities, especially inclusive education, CRPD article 24 and related jurisprudence
* Familiarity with the systems and context in Uganda
* Knowledge of local language
* Ability to write a concise and analytical research report in English

**Budget:**

* Applicants are invited to submit a budget/quotation including in-country/ local travel, with their proposal. The total budget for this component, including travel costs, is 6,000 US Dollars.

INTERESTED CONSULTANTS CAN SEND A PROPOSITION IN RESPONSE TO (COMPONENT 1+2+3); (COMPONENT 2+3); OR COMPONENT 1; COMPONENT 2; COMPONENT 3 SEPARATELY.

**Contracting and Remuneration:**

* A tripartite consultancy contract (as per Swiss law) will be signed between the selected consultant(s), the International Disability Alliance (IDA), and IFHOH.
* Applicants are invited to submit a copy of their passport and commercial/consultant registration/tax numbers. Only applicants with valid commercial and/or consultant registration and/or tax numbers will be considered.
* Payments will be made in several instalments and upon successful completion of the deliverables and submission of invoices.

Please send a letter of interest and a detailed proposal (with budget/quotation) by **11 March 2019.**

**The documents will be sent to** consultancy@ida-secretariat.org.

**Note:** The subject line of the e-mail should be “Application for IFHOH (Nepal/Uganda) Consultancy”.

IFHOH reserves the right to select different consultants for the three components.