

Terms of Reference

Child Marriage – Data analysis and report development

March 2024

Project Background

Solomon Islands Endim Vaelens Agenstim Pikinini (SIEVAP) 2022-2025 is a collaborative initiative enabled through New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) Negotiated Partnerships with three New Zealand agencies of ChildFund, Save the Children and World Vision (henceforth referred to as the “Coalition”). SIEVAP has implemented its activities at the community level through to government and policy levels to share learnings and raise voices together to jointly influence systematic change and seek a demonstrable impact on ending violence against children in Solomon Islands. This will be achieved through increasing children’s participation in society as agents of change and advocates for ending violence against children; supporting families and communities protect children from all forms of violence, respond to, and address child protection issues; and working closely with the Solomon Islands Government on policy and legislative reforms to protect children from all forms of violence.

Background information/context

Over the years a reoccurring issue was the marriage age, which allows for boys and girls aged 15 years to 18 years to be able to marry with parental or guardian consent. This allows for child marriages and possible child exploitation by parents or guardians because under the Child and Family Welfare Act 2017 a child is anyone under the age of 18. However, the Islanders Marriage Act allows the marriage of a person between 15 and 17 years of age, where consent is given by a parent or guardian. More so, the Act is silent on the issue of the young person’s consent, and so it is possible that a young person could be married against their own will as this provision recognizes parental/guardian consent. In this way, there is a clear inconsistency with the key principle of the United Nation on the Convention on the Right of a Child (UNCRC) that in all actions taken in respect of a child, the primary consideration should be the best interests of the child (Article 3 UNCRC).

The Islanders Marriage Act 1945 is currently under review by the Law Reform Commission (LRC). Thus, the SIEVAP coalition has conducted consultations with children, youths, parents/caregivers, community leaders and faith leaders in schools and communities based on the Law Reform Commission Consultation Paper. The LRC have launched the Consultation Paper and the coalition work with LRC to tailor the consultation questions to obtain views on child marriage from a social perspective.

Objective

SIEVAP Coalition is seeking to engage an expert consultant to undertake a literature review on the social impacts of child marriage in Solomon Islands, data analysis on the data collected from consultations and compile a report.

Expected Deliverables

Save the Children Solomon Islands expects the following deliverables to be provided:

- i. Situational Analysis Report on Child Marriage in Solomon Islands
- ii. 2-page summary of findings and recommendations. This to be developed in simple English to support distribution to communities engaged in the initial consultation.

Timeline

Key Task	Estimated Days	Timeline
Undertake rapid literature review and meeting with team for background context	10 days	22 nd April to 3 rd May 2024
Data Analysis: Analyse data gathered from community consultations by the three member agencies (World Vision Solomon Islands, Save the Children Solomon Islands and ChildFund)	5 days	6 th to 10 th May 2024
Validation Workshop: Facilitate validation workshop with key stakeholders to validate key findings and recommendations from the analysis of the community consultation data. (This activity will be facilitated remotely with the support of SIEVAP in-country working group for external consultant).	2 days	13 th - 14 th May 2024
Report compilation and review: close collaboration with the SIEVAP Working Group in-country and New Zealand based technical advisers to review report.	15 days	15 th May 2024 – 4 th June 2024
2-page summary of findings and recommendations. This to be developed in simple English to support distribution to communities engaged in the initial consultation.	3 days	5 th – 7 th June 2024
TOTAL DAYS	30 days	

Qualification

The consultant will have the following skills and experience:

- i. Demonstrable experience in qualitative research on child protection (ie. Child marriage) with a Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) lens
- ii. Strong analytical skills and ability to clearly synthesize and present findings, draw practical conclusions, make recommendations and to prepare well-written reports in a timely manner.
- iii. Demonstrates integrity by complying with Save the Children values and ethical standards.
- iv. Complying with Code of Conduct and Child Protection Policies of Save the Children
- v. Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.
- vi. Excellent writing and presentation skills in English, including ability to write concisely.

Intellectual property and confidentiality clause

The SIEVAP coalition owns all intellectual property rights of data collected from the consultation. The consultant shall take appropriate measures to ensure the confidentiality and protection of all data.

Application Procedure

Interested individuals and companies are invited to share an expression of interest (max 4 pages), for attention of Natasha Sokeleke natasha.sokeleke@savethechildren.org.au before COB on 19th April 2024.

The subject of the applications should be marked as: **DATA ANALYSIS FOR CHILD MARRIAGE**

Application materials should include:

1. Expression of interest (2 pages max) clearly summarizing your understanding of the assignment, relevant experience, summary of delivery timelines, illustrative budget with daily rates in SBD, and contact details for three past referees.
2. Profile and Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Applicants may be required to provide examples of previous work, similar to that described in this ToR. We thank you in advance for understanding that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.