Terms of Reference
Expert to review SRHR Content for a Mobile App for tertiary students in Zimbabwe and Zambia

Overview

The UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) is seeking for a consultant to review the articles that will be included in a mobile application that aims to empower Zimbabwean and Zambian tertiary students with a tool to access information about sexual and reproductive health, safety on campus, mental health, general health and wellbeing as well career guidance.

Background

The work is part of the Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future (O³ PLUS), a project that seeks to ensure that young people in higher and tertiary education institutions in the East and Southern Africa region realize positive health, education, and gender equality outcomes through sustained reductions in new HIV infections, unintended pregnancy, and gender-based violence. The project will thus enable them to reach their full educational potential and contribute more effectively to the development of their countries and region as graduates, professionals, and young leaders. Working closely with relevant regional structures, national ministries, higher and tertiary education institutions (HTEIs), and key partners, UNESCO will support innovation in access to life skills-based sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services for HTEI students while advocating for policy and practice changes to make campuses safe and inclusive learning environments for students and staff. The project will institutionalize health and well-being programs for students while engaging leadership for long-term commitment and sustainability.

In line with the O³ PLUS results framework, a mobile application will be developed to assist Zambian and Zimbabwean tertiary students with access to sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) information and services. As mobile phones are widely used by students in Zambia and Zimbabwe HTEI campuses, the app can be a solution that offers a friendly and safe environment/space where young people, especially young women, can freely request for SRHR information, and improve their knowledge of sexual and reproductive health issues. They can also get support and services in real-time through services such as counselling chat, SOS messaging and calling in.

App Objectives

• Provide students with correct SRHR information so that they can make informed decisions.
• Improve student well-being by providing information and services related to Sexual and reproductive health, dating tips, HIV and AIDS, sexual abuse, Alcohol and Drug
abuse, mental health, general health, Safety on campus students, career guidance, etc.

- Provide a safe space for students to network and discuss topical issues
- Provide helpline facility and links for quickly accessing emergency and referral services
- To disseminate information in real-time to students through a popularized media
- To keep track of student needs, questions and pressing issues

Guiding Values
- Confidentiality and Privacy – a safe and secure space
- Accessibility - a pleasant user experience for all users, including those with a disability or impairment.
- Inclusivity – a diverse and tolerant space that promotes respect for all values and ubuntu
- Empathy – a design that caters for real students’ needs, and an app ‘owned’ by students
- Innovation – a flexible, responsive, and sustainable app ecosystem

Target Population
The app will be used by students in 12 HTEIs in Zimbabwe and 12 HTEIs In Zambia.

Scope of work
UNESCO ROSA requires the successful candidate, to review the content that will be featured on the Future+ mobile application in Zimbabwe and Ownu mobile application in Zambia. This includes articles on sexual and reproductive health, safety on campus, mental health, general health and wellbeing as well career guidance. The content has been developed following a student driven process. The topics of the articles were selected by students during a first workshop while a second workshop focused on developing the content of the articles. The workshop built on preparatory work done by students with support from SRHR experts to draft the articles that will be accessible on the mobile app. This approach is a key factor in students’ acceptance and use of the app.

The articles are covering the following topics:

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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Focus Areas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol and Drug Abuse</td>
<td>Marijuana, heroine, alcohol, mutoriro, broncho-dilators, glue/guka, jolly juice, codaine, cough syrup, tumbwa, sex enhancers (drugs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual and Reproductive Health</td>
<td>Relationships, heartbreaks, semester marriages, multiple partners, pregnancy, abortion, contraception, menstrual hygiene, cervical cancer, STIs</td>
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General Health | Non-Communicable Diseases, nutrition, personal hygiene, physical activity
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Mental Health | Mental Illness, depression, suicide, eating disorders, academic distress
Safety | Gender-based violence, cybercrimes, bullying, campus safety, sexual harassment,
HIV and AIDS | HIV and AIDS, ART, PrEP, PEP, positive living
Career and Financial Management | Financial literacy, career guidance, etiquette and grooming, interviewing and CV writing, entrepreneurship

**Deliverables and timeline:**

The consultant will have the following deliverables:

- A rigorous review and editing of all articles (estimated to have around 45 articles in total, 400 words each) developed by students to ensure high quality of the content provided. Articles need to attain certain standards, which implies that the content needs to be in the right context, be engaging and easy to read for the targeted audience. The consultant needs to ensure accuracy of information provided.
- Rigorous review of the SRH frequently asked questions and answers ensuring high quality of the content and accuracy of information.

It is estimated that the work shall not exceed 8 working days.

**Required expertise and qualifications**

The successful bidder is expected to demonstrate experience and list relevant projects as follows:

- A minimum of a master’s degree in a related field (education, development or public health)
- At least 5 years’ experience in the field of education, youth development and mentorship, sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Sound understanding of higher and tertiary education context supported by two references/examples
- Proven experience of developing high quality, age appropriate, student materials, supported by two references/examples
- Proven experience producing high quality digital content supported by two references/examples
- Excellent writing and communication skills

4. Reporting
The contract will be managed by the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa based in Harare, Zimbabwe. The consultant will be expected to provide an updated status in a written format on a weekly basis. Formal reporting is expected upon delivery of each deliverable. Additional reporting activities may be requested by UNESCO ROSA on a need basis.

5. **Budget and Payment**

The consultant will be selected following a competitive bidding process. Candidates must submit a cost estimation (in USD) as an expression of interest, clearly itemizing costs. Payment will be done upon submission of each deliverable.

6. **Copyright, Patents and Other Proprietary Rights**

All rights, including but not limited to title to property, copyright, trademark and patent; in any work produced by the consultant by virtue of his/her contract, shall be vested in UNESCO which alone shall hold all rights of use.

7. **Evaluation of Proposals**

All interested consultants are required to submit, as separate documents, a technical and financial proposal separately via email. The technical proposal shall be no more than 4 pages concisely presented and structured to include the following information:

- Presentation of your profile/ up to date Curriculum Vitae
- Brief description of the steps that will be followed to undertake the work
- Proposal of timeline
- Information which the bidder considers confidential, if any, should be clearly marked as such.

The financial proposal should be no more than 1 page and should detail: an appropriate Price Schedule which includes, as a minimum, the consultancy rate (in USD) and indication of which items may be negotiated, if applicable, or which items can be modified as per the budget. Full and final costing should include all taxes. In addition, two sample reports are to be submitted, and these will be assessed on quality, effectiveness of the presentation of findings and conclusions, amongst other key issues.

**Performance monitoring**

During the consultancy period the consultant will be evaluated on:

- capacity to deliver products of an optimal technical quality within the agreed timelines;
- proper and smooth project management (including communication with all stakeholders);
- their service orientation and responsiveness to UNESCO’s needs and expectations.

8. **Submission of proposal**
Interested consultant may submit their CV, technical proposal, work sample and financial proposal via email to vacancies.harare@unesco.org and copy t.mutandi@unesco.org no later than 15 August 2022.