

Terms of Reference

“How to” guide on developing rights-based policies affecting older people”, for Arab governments.

1. Background

In 2020 UNFPA Arab States Regional Office (ASRO) commissioned an assessment of the alignment of Arab national ageing strategies with human rights standards to promote and protect the rights of older people. In coordination with HelpAge International, National ageing strategies and specific age-related policies and national constitutions for six selected countries were reviewed for their alignment with human rights standards.

[“The Rights of older persons, a review of national ageing strategies in the Arab region”](#) provides analysis of these strategies and found that there is much that, if implemented fully, would advance older persons’ enjoyment of their rights. However, there are significant gaps. While the strategies reviewed address some elements of the rights covered, they do not address all of them. Another gap is the range of rights that are included, which is limited to social, economic, and cultural rights, and does not fully address every aspect of those. There is inadequate attention to civil and political rights, including fundamental rights such as the right to equality and non-discrimination, autonomy, and access to justice.

Introduction

A human rights-based approach to ageing policies is based on human rights principles and the rights older people enjoy which are enshrined in international agreements, instruments, and national legislation. A human rights-based approach imposes on the state a fundamental duty to secure the legislative environment and the necessary resources to realize the rights of older men and older women, promoting equality. It also imposes a duty to ensure the full and meaningful participation of older people in, and influence on, policy development.

HelpAge International is looking for a consultant to complete the writing of a 20-page “How to” guide on developing rights-based policies affecting older people, for Arab governments, based on the review referred to above.

Objectives of the guide:

The guide will

- 1) Assist Arab governments take a human rights-based approach to the policies, strategies and plans on ageing that they develop
- 2) Assist Arab governments address the identified gaps referred to above when reviewing current policies or establishing new ones.

Building on and complementing the review mentioned above, the guide will:

- Explain why a human rights-based approach is important in the development of ageing policies and describe the various benefits of using this approach.
- Specify the key elements of a human rights-based approach to policy development.
- Identify the rights-holders and duty-bearers.
- Explain the various human rights principles and how they are important throughout the process of ageing policies development.
- Define and practically describe the steps that governments and others need to take when developing ageing policies to ensure the development process and content of the policy developed is rights-based.

Suggested Chapters may include:

- Aligning Policy with International and Regional Rights Standards
- Consultation and Inclusion of Older people in Different Stages of Policy Development
- Intersectionality: Considering Diversity in Older Age
- Language: Reflecting Human Rights in the Language Used
- Building in Accountability mechanisms
- Evaluating Impact and Amending Policy
- Conclusion

Time requirements and duration

- i. The consultancy will require 10 days of work. A first draft will be ready for feedback and input by 15th September 2021.
- ii. The consultant is expected to present a time plan with his/her offer.
- iii. The consultant is expected to highlight experience and examples of previous work in this area.
- iv. Please submit your ideas on what each chapter heading (see above) should include.

Indicative budget

HelpAge is looking for Expressions of Interest for this assignment including all costs.

Qualifications/requirements of consultant

HelpAge anticipates hiring a single consultant.

Essential

- Knowledge of national policy-making processes
- Knowledge of human rights-based approaches to policy making.
- Knowledge of international human right standards
- Experience of assessing existing policy-making processes from a human rights perspective.
- Ability to apply international human right standards to ageing-related policy making processes.
- Ability to assess existing ageing-related policy-making processes from a rights perspective.
- Demonstrable ability to write effectively for a policymaking audience.

Desirable

- Knowledge of ageing-related policy-making processes.
- Knowledge of how human rights apply in older age.
- Familiarity with Arab speaking countries and policy frameworks in the Middle East

How to apply

Interested consultants are invited to submit an Expression of Interest for delivery of the assignment. The short Expression of Interest should include:

- A short cover letter.
- Financial proposal: The financial proposal should provide cost estimates for services rendered including daily consultancy fees.
- Clear work plan including output/deliverable and time frame for each stage of the project.
- Costing of each aspect (including day rates and any additional costs).
- The applicant's CV (maximum 3 pages) outlining his/her experience.
- Examples of relevant studies previously produced.
- Contact information for 2 professional references.

Selection of the consultant will be done by a HelpAge project committee and based on the experience of the consultant, the quality and relevance of the expression of interest, and the proposed budget. Selection will be based on value for money, within resources available. Final negotiated fees will be specified in the consultancy contract.

The deadline for submission is midnight **(Jordan time) on the 8th of June 2021.**
Please submit your application to Ms. Farah Al Sharief at:
farah.alsharief@helpage.org

The Consultant assents that they will not at any time, either before or after the termination of this service, use, disclose or communicate to any person confidential information relating to the program, databases, staff, partners, and donor work, except insofar as disclosure is required in providing the services, or in respect of which HelpAge has given prior consent in writing. This restriction shall continue to apply after the termination of the service without limit in point of time.