

**Terms of Reference**  
**Seeking the support of a suitable agency to provide Technical support to**  
**develop the Strategic Plan and M&E plan for the National Family Planning**  
**Programme, Sri Lanka 2024-2030**  
**WHO and UNFPA Sri Lanka**

## **1. Background**

Since the introduction of family planning (FP) to Sri Lanka in 1953 and the establishment of the National Family Planning Programme (NFPP), the country has made considerable progress in providing a wide array of FP services. During the period 1993–2000 the overall contraceptive prevalence increased from 66% to 70% mainly contributed by a greater increase in the use of modern methods. However, Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) was static between 2000 and 2016<sup>1</sup>.

In the past decades, the main objective of the NFPP was to control the population growth and to facilitate families to make informed decisions on their desired number of children. The Government affirmed the importance of FP in reducing infant and maternal mortality by integrating Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and FP. Following the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) the NFPP shifted from a demographically driven approach to FP to one that is based on human rights and the needs, aspirations, and circumstances of individual women and couples. The said conceptual transformation was evident in latter policies and strategies including Population and Reproductive Health Policy (1998); MCH policy (2012); National Health Strategic Master Plan (2016-2025); National Strategic Plan on Maternal and Newborn Health (2017 -2025); National Strategic Plan on Adolescent and Youth Health (2018-2025) and The Strategic Plan for the Well Women Programme (2019-2023) where family planning is considered as an integral component in the said National strategic plans with the aim of enhancing RMNCAH in Sri Lanka.

An external review, which was conducted on the family planning programme in 2016, highlighted series of strengths and opportunities for improvement under the key sections of enabling environment, supply & demand and proposed short term and long-term recommendations<sup>2</sup>.

COVID-19 pandemic has affected all RMNCAH service delivery including FP services during 2020-2021 period globally as well as nationally. Sri Lanka is currently undergoing the worst ever economic crisis; dual system shocks, impacting the health system. Current economic crisis is seriously affecting FP service delivery extensively from procurement and supply chain management of FP commodities to human resource issues at all levels of health care delivery. Family planning service access by the clients also seems to be affected by increasing rate of inflation, high cost of living and high transport cost - impacting indicators related to family planning and delaying reaching the SDG targets set forth by the country.

Hence, at this juncture, it is imperative to review the NFPP programme delivery in the context of the progress of recommendations made in 2017 by the external review and also to reorient FP programme to suit the current and upcoming challenges of economic crisis which may persists for the next few years.

WHO Sri Lanka and UNFPA Sri Lanka Office wish to seek support of a suitable agency to provide technical and other support to develop the Strategic Plan and M&E plan for the National Family Planning Programme, Sri Lanka 2024-2030 with Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.statistics.gov.lk/Publication/SSR/DCSSSRVol1Issue1Article6>

<sup>2</sup> <https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Family%20Planning%20Programme%20Review%202017.pdf>



## **2. Purpose of this consultancy**

This consultancy is for an Agency /entity to provide technical support to Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka to formulate the National Strategic Plan (NSP) & M&E plan for National Family planning Programme in Sri Lanka for 2024-2030.

## **3. Objective**

1. To conduct a situational assessment on implementation of National Family Planning Programme (NFPP) and on implementation of the proposed recommendations
2. Conduct Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis for the NFPP implementation in the current context and in achieving the SDG targets
3. To develop a draft National Strategic Plan & Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for National Family Planning Programme (2024-2030) that is pragmatic and feasible given the current context & finalize with stakeholder inputs

## **4. Work to be performed:**

In consultation and agreement with Family Health Bureau, WHO & UNFPA and in close collaboration with the respective working groups, the consultant/s will ensure implementation of the following specific tasks in a timely manner as per WHO rules and regulations:

- 1) Situational assessment of current implementation level of Family planning programme and service delivery including implementation of the proposed recommendations of external review (2016) through a desk review (rapid assessments, annual reports, performance reports, survey reports, etc.) of and stakeholder consultations - specially focusing on managerial and technical performance of the NFPP, supply chain and financial management, programme communication and progress made towards achieving SDG targets
- 2) Review the;
  - i. WHO and other global guidance /frameworks and reports to identify the priority strategies in FP including The Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030); Declaration of Astana on Primary Health care (PHC) 2018; Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage 2019; International Conference on Population and Development Program of action 2019; FP2030 partnership, etc.
  - ii. Documents available on other parallel developments in health sector development in Sri Lanka including primary health care strengthening and other health system strengthening efforts
- 3) Conduct a SWOT analysis and map the issues identified, recommendations for identified issues in line with global recommendations
- 4) Stakeholder discussions including members of TAC maternal health and FP; selected regional health authorities; UNFPA; NGO (FPASL, PSL) and WHO technical experts (WHO/SEARO).
- 5) Develop the draft National Strategic Plan 2024-2030 and the corresponding Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.
- 6) Share the draft NSP and M&E framework with Stakeholder group and improve based on their comments
- 7) Finalize the draft National Strategic Plan for NFPP in Sri Lanka (NSP-FP) for 2024-2030 with an M&E framework



The contractual partner is expected to work with WHO Sri Lanka, UNFPA, Ministry of Health and in close collaboration with relevant focal points of the Ministry of Health.

## **5. Deliverables**

- 1) Report on Situational assessment
- 2) Draft NSP & M&E plan
- 3) Two-page Advocacy brief highlighting the key findings and key strategies
- 4) PPT - highlighting the key findings and key strategies
- 5) Brief final technical report
- 6) Statement of expenditure

## **6. Planned timelines: 6 months - 2023 August 15- 2024 Feb 29**

## **7. Expected characteristics of the agency and experts in the team**

### **Mandatory:**

- a) Agency with more than 5 years of experience in conducting mixed method research or programme or project evaluation
- b) Lead expert should have minimum 07 year work experience in formulating strategic guidance or national strategic plans or monitoring & evaluation frameworks in relation to family planning or sexual & reproductive health related programmes
- c) Lead Expert and other members of the expert team with higher university/ post graduate degrees in public health or programme M&E or Gynecology & obstetrics or related disciplines

### **Desirable:**

- a) Agency with prior experience in conducting national or international work on developing strategic plans
- b) Agency with past working experience with UN agencies and Government agencies within last 5years
- c) Presence of a diverse technical team

### **The proposal shall include:**

1. A technical proposal describing methodology proposed and timelines
2. A separate financial proposal (not combined with technical proposal) describing details of the expenses,
3. Updated profile of agency and CVs of all experts of the team- highlighting requested expertise and experiences

## **5. Place of assignment: Sri Lanka**

