

## **Request for Proposal (RFP)**

### **Landscape Assessment on Gender-Based Violence and Reproductive Justice in India**

#### **About Population Foundation of India**

Founded in 1970 by the late JRD Tata, Population Foundation of India (PFI) is a leading NGO dedicated to population dynamics, gender equity, and sexual and reproductive health. With over 50 years of service, PFI champions gender-sensitive policies and programs that prioritise the health and well-being of India's population, particularly women and youth. PFI's work is guided by an ecosystem-based strategy that combines strategic engagement with policymakers, media, and key influencers; support for community-led accountability in health; knowledge generation and dissemination; use of technology; scaling of pilot projects; and social and behavioural change communication. Together, these efforts address population issues, challenge social and cultural norms and practices, including those related to gender-based violence and advance women's empowerment, reproductive justice, positive masculinity, and gender equality. Population Foundation of India also collaborates closely with and provides technical support to both national and state governments, as well as other NGOs. For more details please refer website of the organization is <https://populationfoundation.in/>

#### **Background and Scope of Work**

Gender-based violence (GBV) and reproductive justice (RJ) are interlinked public health and human rights concerns with significant implications for social equity and justice. Survivors of GBV often face limited access to reproductive health services, while systemic barriers, including poverty, caste, religion, geography, and restrictive socio-cultural norms further undermine bodily autonomy and informed decision-making. Weak and fragmented government mechanisms, inadequate response systems and regressive social norms continue to perpetuate the underreporting of gender-based violence (GBV) cases. Given these intersecting challenges, Population Foundation of India proposes commissioning a landscape assessment on GBV and RJ at the national level as specified below in areas of enquiry.

#### **Objective**

The landscape assessment seeks to:

- Map existing policy frameworks, government programme responses, institutional mechanisms, stakeholder roles, and socio-cultural drivers shaping GBV and RJ
- Identify systemic gaps, barriers, and opportunities within current policy and programme approaches, especially integration of GBV under National Health Mission
- Identify effective government and non-government programme responses and SBC strategies with a focus on male engagement, youth-centred and intersectional strategies.
- Generate evidence-based, actionable recommendations to strengthen policies, programmes, advocacy, and strategic engagement.

## **Key areas of enquiry for landscape assessment**

### **1. Status of GBV and RJ – map trend, pattern and magnitude of issue**

The assessment will examine the historical and contemporary trajectory of GBV and RJ in India. It will examine the multiple forms of violence, including intimate partner violence (IPV), child marriage, sex-selective practices, human-trafficking, workplace harassment, and cybercrimes against women and girls in India, with special focus on Rajasthan. The study will examine how GBV affects women's safety, health and well-being, with attention to how these intersect across life cycle such as adolescence, motherhood, and older age.

Reproductive justice will be analysed through indicators such as access to modern contraceptive methods, abortion care, maternal health, bodily autonomy, and availability of SRH services for adolescents and marginalised groups. Emerging challenges, including climate change, forced migration, displacement, and cybercrimes against women and girls, will also be considered. Data gaps will be identified across national and state-level surveys, while the potential of new digital data sources will be explored.

*This area of enquiry will be pursued through a comprehensive review and analysis of existing data sources, including NFHS, NCRB, PMA, and helpline records, as well as relevant research studies, to strengthen the evidence base on GBV and RJ both nationally and within Rajasthan.*

### **2. Policy and Legal Environment**

The assessment will examine India's global commitments, particularly the SDGs, and assess how they align with national policies and programmes, alongside a review of the health system's response to GBV. It will identify and analyse key national frameworks and laws, including but not limited to the Domestic Violence Act, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, POCSO, National Women Empowerment Policy and National Health Policy and relevant Supreme Court and Rajasthan High Court judgements. The Justice Verma Committee Report (2013) and subsequent reforms will be revisited to assess progress on legal accountability.

The assessment will pay particular attention to the coherence of policies across ministries and the extent to which implementation has kept pace with commitments. It will examine financing gaps, budget allocations, and accountability structures at the national level, while documenting Rajasthan-specific policy innovations and gaps.

*This area of enquiry will be pursued through a thorough examination of relevant policy frameworks and legislative documents.*

### **3. Programmatic Landscape**

The assessment will map and synthesize government and key non-government programmes and innovations addressing GBV and RJ at the national level and in Rajasthan. This will assess programme coverage, reach, responsiveness, alignment with national commitments, and the integration of GBV and RJ into key health initiatives, including RMNCH+A, Ayushman Bharat, the National Health

Mission, NCD programmes, and mental health.

Attention will be given to the role of feminist, rights-based, and community-led organisations in driving change, as well as youth-focused interventions such as RKSK, male engagement and CSE initiatives. The study will also review emerging partnerships, including digital platforms, telemedicine services, and helplines, which increasingly influence both access to reproductive health and pathways for GBV response.

*This area of enquiry will be approached through a review of existing literature, analysis of government documents (best practices compendium, annual reports, websites etc.), and examination of successful models and case studies from leading NGOs working on GBV and RJ.*

#### **4. Institutional Architecture and Governance**

The landscape assessment will map the roles of key ministries, including Health and Family Welfare, Women and Child Development, Education, Law and Justice, and Home Affairs, alongside national bodies such as NITI Aayog, the National Commission for Women, and the National Human Rights Commission at the national level. It will examine mechanisms for coordination across these actors and assess the responsiveness of police, judiciary, and health systems to survivors' needs. Local governance structures such as panchayats and municipal bodies will be reviewed for their contribution to GBV prevention and reproductive justice. Institutional accountability systems for reporting, grievance redressal, and monitoring will also be evaluated to identify bottlenecks and opportunities for strengthening governance.

*The enquiry will be approached through a multi-level institutional analysis using relevant websites of ministries / departments, and national bodies will be examined for this purpose.*

#### **5. Social Norms and Intersectional Barriers**

The assessment will explore how regressive gender norms, patriarchal values, and toxic masculinity shape GBV and reproductive outcomes. It will document current strategies especially around transforming gender norms and engagement of men and highlight challenges and opportunities for scaling up norm change efforts. The influence of media and digital platforms will be assessed both as sites of violence and as important tools for advancing gender-equitable messaging.

Attention will also be given to the role of religious and community leaders in reinforcing or challenging harmful norms. Youth activism and feminist movements will be reviewed as drivers of accountability and social change, particularly in Rajasthan where community and institutional dynamics are distinct.

*This area of enquiry will be approached through a comprehensive review of literature, drawing on documented case studies, success stories, and innovative models and practices and their impact.*

## 6. Recommendations and Strategic Opportunities

The overall synthesis based on the above-mentioned points will provide actionable, evidence-based recommendations to strengthen:

- Policy coherence and intersectoral convergence
- Health systems response to GBV
- Program delivery and coverage
- Institutional accountability
- Community engagement and youth participation
- Communication strategies for behaviour and norm change

### Methodology

We will use a desk review approach for the landscape assessment and rely on secondary data sources to strengthen our argument. This will be complemented by key informant interviews.

- **Comprehensive desk review:** It will synthesize laws, policies, programme strategies, government documents, budgets, academic and grey literature, and relevant research studies. For the research studies, we will focus on those conducted in the last decade, i.e., from 2011 onwards, unless there is any groundbreaking formative research on the issue. Only studies conducted in India will be referenced.
- **Secondary data analysis:** Inferences will draw from secondary data sources and in-depth analysis such as NFHS, NCRB, Census, SRS, PMA, and helpline records, as well as state-level reports, especially from Rajasthan to draw comparative analysis with a focus on identifying systemic gaps, disaggregated data needs, and emerging evidence.
- **Key Informant Interviews:** Conduct key informant interviews with key stakeholders at the national/state level (list of stakeholders for KIIs to be finalized in consultation with Population Foundation of India).

### Project deliverables and timelines

- **Landscape Assessment Report:** A comprehensive report featuring an executive summary and actionable recommendations to inform policy and programmatic interventions..
- **PowerPoint Deck:** A visually engaging presentation designed for dissemination and stakeholder engagement, highlighting key insights and strategic directions.
- **Call to Action Narrative (1–2 pages):** A concise, compelling brief distilling the most significant findings into clear, actionable messages aimed at mobilizing support and driving change.

Total assignment duration: **120 days** from the date of signing the contract.

**Key milestones:**

Milestone	Days
Inception report along with qualitative tools and list of potential stakeholders for KIIs	20
Comprehensive desk review and secondary data analysis	30
KIIs and chapterisation plan	15
Draft report and PowerPoint Deck	25
Feedback from PFI	15
Final report and Deck	15
<b>Total number of days</b>	<b>120</b>

**General Terms & Conditions:**

- PFI requires the agency to uphold and demonstrate best practices in Safeguarding and Child protection. Agency will confirm that it will comply with PFI's Safeguarding and Child protection policy requirements.
- The assessment will follow the UNEG Norms and Standards for evaluation (<http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/1914>) as well as the ethical guidelines (<http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/2866>) and UNEG Guidance on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation (<http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/980>).
- The Agency will coordinate with PFI's authorised personnel for this project for all related activities under this assignment.
- The end-deliverables should be approved by authorised personnel of PFI for release of payments.
- All work/ reports developed/prepared under this assignment are the intellectual property of the office of PFI and cannot be used, published, copied, or otherwise disseminated without written approval from PFI. The agency would never share and use the data for any other purpose.

**Documents to be submitted along with quotation**

- Submit a technical proposal along with company profile, past work of similar kind and team profile in one file.
- A financial proposal must be submitted along with the break ups.

Quotation should be sent in one email to [ma.jose@populationfoundation.in](mailto:ma.jose@populationfoundation.in)

Interested agencies may obtain further information or get clarification about RFP from Population Foundation of India's office by writing to [varun.sharma@populationfoundation.in](mailto:varun.sharma@populationfoundation.in)

and with copy to [ma.jose@populationfoundation.in](mailto:ma.jose@populationfoundation.in)

It shall be agency's responsibility to ensure that the proposals reach us on or before the given timelines. Proposals received after the submission deadline for whatever reason may not be considered for evaluation. Any delay in agency's response shall not be used as a reason for extending the deadline for submission, unless PFI determines that such an extension is necessary and communicates a new deadline to the proposers.

#### General Information about RFP and Timelines

S.No.	Description	Information
1	RFP Issued by	Population Foundation of India, Delhi
2	Project	Landscape Assessment on Gender-Based Violence and Reproductive Justice in India
3	Response to RFP to be sent to	<a href="mailto:ma.jose@populationfoundation.in">ma.jose@populationfoundation.in</a>
4	Date of RFP	November 26, 2025
5	Date of sending and responding queries	December 1, 2025
6	<b>Last date for submitting the final proposals</b>	December 8, 2025

The contract will be awarded to the successful bidder following completion of all evaluations including negotiation, if necessary. The successful bidder will have to sign a contract with the PFI to undertake the assignment.