



**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PROPOSING A STRATEGY FOR SSTC IN MATERNAL AND WOMEN HEALTH AMONG CHINA, OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND UNFPA - JUNIOR CONSULTANT**

<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	
Hiring Office:	The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) China Office
Purpose of consultancy:	<p><b>I. Background</b></p> <p>In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by resolution 70/1, that sexual and reproductive health is crucial to equitable development and women’s empowerment. In SDG 3 on health issues and SDG 5 on gender equality. Notably, SDG 3 includes an ambitious target: “reducing the global MMR to less than 70 per 100,000 births, with no country having a maternal mortality rate of more than twice the global average”, and it calls for achieving universal health coverage by ensuring the provision of quality and healthcare services including effective, affordable vaccines, drugs and medical equipment and supplies.</p> <p>According to the most recent data, approximately 800 women die every day from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. Of the hundreds of thousands of women who died during pregnancy or childbirth in 2020, approximately 87 per cent lived in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. Most of these deaths and injuries are entirely preventable.</p> <p>UNFPA is the UN’s sexual and reproductive health (SRH) agency. UNFPA works with partners all over the world to create a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA's vision is to end preventable maternal deaths, unmet family planning needs, and gender-based violence by 2030, thereby contributing to the achievement of the SDGs.</p> <p>Making motherhood safer is a human rights imperative, and it is at the core of UNFPA’s mandate. UNFPA works around the world with governments, health experts and civil society to train health workers, improve the availability of essential medicines and reproductive health services, strengthen health systems, and promote international maternal health standards.</p> <p>China attaches great importance to the development of maternal and child health, achieving remarkable achievements and accumulating valuable experience. The material and child health service system in China has been continuously improved, and significant achievements have been achieved in maternal and newborn health. In 2014, China was listed by the World Health Organization (WHO) as one of the 10</p>



high-performing countries in maternal and child health. The MMR in China dropped from 88 in 1990 to 15.7 in 2022.

In 2021, China announced Global Development Initiatives (GDI), which aims to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and build a global community of development. The GDI prioritises cooperation in eight areas, namely poverty alleviation, food security, pandemic response and vaccines, financing for development, climate change and green development, industrialization, digital economy, and connectivity in the digital era. The South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund (SSCAF) of China was established in 2015 to support south-south cooperation and assist developing countries in implementing the 2030 sustainable development agenda, and it was renamed the Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund (GDF) in 2022 to align with President Xi Jinping's Global Development Initiatives (GDI).

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) is a modality for development that has been recognized and promoted in many international agreements. With the presence in over 150 countries and a global network of expertise in sexual and reproductive health, UNFPA is well positioned to broker national agencies and other stakeholders willing and ready to share with and learn from each other, and to mobilise resources for South-South Cooperation.

The Government of China is committed to working with multilateral organisations including the UN to advance the 2030 Agenda. Worldwide, UNFPA helps to train midwives, supports emergency obstetric and newborn care facilities and networks, and provides essential drugs and family planning services. UNFPA also provides assistance to make pregnancy and childbirth as safe as possible in emergency settings. UNFPA's expertise and experience can be harnessed for China's international development cooperation in maternal and newborn health.

With the support from the Government of China, several south south projects have been implemented through UNFPA to meet the SRH needs of women and girls in Africa and Asia countries including humanitarian assistance projects related to the Idai Cyclone and COVID-19.

The implementation of the projects shows that there are potentials for widening and deepening south south and triangular cooperation with UNFPA through regular technical exchange between professionals, training and study visits, exchange on innovations, partnership with the private sector, and policy dialogue. An overall planning/strategy is needed for the future SSTC in maternal newborn, and women's health between UNFPA and China to achieve synergy among different stakeholders such as China's medical team dispatched to other developing countries, academic institutions, NGOs and the private sector in China and beyond. The proposed strategy will be used for reference of decision makers of the Government of China and UNFPA in formulation of south south and triangular cooperation projects.

**The objective of the study:**



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a proposed planning/strategy for south south and triangular cooperation in maternal and newborn health, and women’s health between UNFPA and China report. The report will, among others, contain the following:</li> </ul> <p>Section I Background</p> <p>Section II Needs of developing countries in Africa and South Asia in maternal health and women’s health</p> <p>Section III Analysis of the comparative advantages of the key stakeholders in SSTC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNFPA regional offices and country offices</li> <li>- National institutions of China at the central and provincial level, academic institutions and NGOs, China’s medical team, and the private sector,</li> <li>- The counterparts (MOH) of partnering countries</li> </ul> <p>Section IV</p> <p>Strategy of SSTC between China and UNFPA</p> <p>Strategy for SSTC in maternal health and women’s health can include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote in-depth understanding of specific needs of developing countries in Asia and Africa to be addressed through SSTC in maternal and women’s health;</li> <li>2. Approaches recommended for SSTC to address needs of other developing countries; specify the role of UNFPA, national institutions of China at the central and provincial level, academic institutions and NGOs, China’s medical team, and the private sector, and that of the counterparts of partnering countries in each of the approach, approaches including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical exchange and support in the form of short-term training and study visits rendered through UNFPA CO and regional offices in consultations with the Chinese national partners including the private sector and other developing countries</li> <li>- Compilation of appropriate technology to be shared through SSTC</li> <li>- Dialogue between policy makers, professionals, and youth</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Approach proposed to strengthen the supply chain for essential commodities including drugs, vaccines and medical devices in the thematic areas of maternal health that suppliers from China be part of the supply base</li> <li>4. Preparedness and preposition for supplies related to sexual and reproductive health in response to national disasters</li> </ol>
<p>Scope of work:</p> <p><i>(Description of services, activities, or outputs)</i></p>	<p><b>Deliverable 1: Research and Compile Topics for Technical Consultations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify potential topics for technical consultations between partners in China and UNFPA partners.</li> <li>• Document findings and recommendations in a concise report.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable 2: Assist in Organizing Technical Consultations</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support senior staff in organizing and scheduling technical consultations.</li> <li>● Take meeting minutes and assist in preparing consultation notes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable 3: Assist in Developing the Outline Draft of SSTC Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide research and input for the outline draft of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) strategy.</li> <li>● Gather relevant data and prepare initial sections for review.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable 4: Support in Drafting Proposed Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assist in drafting sections of the proposed strategy document based on provided guidelines.</li> <li>● Collaborate with senior team members to ensure coherence and clarity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable 5: Address Feedback from UNFPA Regional Offices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review and consolidate feedback from UNFPA regional offices in Africa and Asia.</li> <li>● Prepare summaries and suggested revisions for consideration.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable 6: Assist in Revising the Proposed Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Incorporate feedback and revisions into the draft proposed strategy.</li> <li>● Ensure consistency with UNFPA standards and guidelines.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable 7: Support Finalization of the Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assist in finalizing the strategy document based on feedback and revisions.</li> <li>● Prepare final draft for submission and distribution to stakeholders.</li> </ul>
<p>Duration and working schedule:</p>	<p>Time frame from July to November starting from the date when contract is signed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 5 working days for deciding on technical consultation topics</li> <li>● Technical consultations in a period of 40 days</li> <li>● Outline draft in August</li> <li>● Draft of the SSTC proposed strategy in September</li> <li>● Comments collected in September and Early October</li> <li>● Finalisation of the Strategy of Chinese and English version in November</li> </ul>
<p>Place where services are to be delivered:</p>	<p>Outside UNFPA</p>
<p>Payment schedule:</p>	<p>UNFPA will make three payments upon completion of the milestones entailed in the delivery schedule below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 20% upon Deliverable 1 accomplished</li> <li>- 60% upon completion of Deliverable 2, 3 and 4</li> <li>- 20% upon completion of Deliverable 5 and 6</li> </ul>



<p>Delivery schedule, monitoring &amp; progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline:</p>	<p>The supplier is expected to deliver the following periodic outputs,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consultations topics</li> <li>2. Consultation notes and list of participants in consultations</li> <li>3. Outline of the Draft strategy</li> <li>4. Draft strategy</li> <li>5. Final Strategy in Chinese and English</li> </ol>
<p>Supervisory arrangements:</p>	<p>The work will be guided by the Assistant Representative and overseen by the Deputy Representative. The UNV and Program Associate for South South Collaboration projects will assist and monitor the assignment's preparation and completion.</p>
<p>Expected travel:</p>	<p>Travel is not expected for this assignment.</p>
<p>Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:</p>	<p>Qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research on China's international development cooperation and external assistance experience</li> <li>- Access to China's governmental agencies in international development organisations such as the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), the National Health Commission (NHC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), as well as an extensive network of think tanks and research institutions for international development.</li> <li>- Understanding of UNFPA mandate in China and globally</li> </ul>
<p>Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA:</p>	<p>UNFPA will ensure access to its personnel and documentation for background study, needs assessment, information collection, feedback collection, etc.</p>
<p>Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:</p>	<p>Please refer to UNFPA China CP9 Program Document</p>