

## Terms of Reference (ToR) for Project Mid-Term Review

### **Introduction:**

Gender-based violence (GBV) results not only from the actions of individuals, but also from societal attitudes, norms, and behaviors that perpetuate gender bias and enable such violence. This social understanding of gender relations and acceptable practices is shaped by the words and actions of a range of stakeholders: families, schools, employers, religious bodies, private companies, and local and national government bodies. The law plays a key role in this context, in framing our understanding of rights and responsibilities in relation to gender equality and the duties to end or to respond to GBV. There is a need for a carefully coordinated and sustained programme of initiatives to challenge gender-discriminatory laws, and practices on all fronts.

The central problem that this project addresses is the development of such a strategy, with a particular focus on addressing gender- discriminatory laws, as well as gender-discriminatory practices in relation to the prevention and prosecution of gender-based violence, and to this end, establishing a strong network of CSOs and a plan for action to advocate for changes to grounded in rigorous research. The project aims to make duty bearers accountable, to advocate with lawmakers to take action and to empower civil society in advocating for lasting change - a much-needed framework through which key actors can enact a considered, coordinated response to the root causes of legal impunity for rape and other forms of gender-based violence.

### **Key Outputs:**

This project aims to strengthen the law and policy framework on addressing gender based violence, with a special focus on sexual violence. This project's goal is to strengthen a rape law reform movement through the establishment of a coalition of CSOs working on justice for rape survivors and through conducting rigorous legal research to identify protection gaps and formulate legislative and institutional reform proposals.

1. Establishment of a Civil Society Coalition comprising of rights organizations, women's organizations, and individuals to collaborate on the proposed reform and GBV interventions with government agencies and statutory bodies
2. Publication of the Rape Law Reform Research Reports series on the existing GBV legal framework in Bangladesh, which includes the history of legal reform and also analysis of reported cases to show how gaps in the law result in unjust practical outcomes for rape survivors.

3. Convening a series of Community Consultations in Bogura, Patuakhali and Cumilla with various stakeholders to understand priority areas in legal reform to respond to GBV.
4. Establishing an Advisory Committee, composed of experts, to draft reform proposals, including a CGBV Legislative Advocacy Strategy.

**PARTNERSHIPS:**

BLAST is solely responsible for delivery of all activities in the work plan. We have formed informal working partnerships with a number of civil society organizations who are now part of the Coalition, including as noted above, leading rights and justice organizations and women’s rights bodies, such as ASK, BRAC Human Rights and Legal Services, BNWLA, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad and Naripokkho.

We work particularly closely with these groups and also with a larger network of women’s groups and rights organizations across the country with whom we have long standing working relationships developed in the context of joint advocacy on among others, establishing gender equality, addressing gender-based violence and related law reform or in relation to cross-referrals or campaigns on particular cases supporting victims and survivors of gender-based violence.

Through our years long experience of, amongst other areas, working together on the same platform in relation to advocacy, Public Interest Litigation (PIL), and legal aid referrals, we have established strong networks which we are able to leverage in the CGBV project, as it is precisely these working relationships and long standing discussions which make possible our progress now in holding substantive reviews on the working of the law and identifying the need and areas for reform .

**Scope of Mid-Term Review:**

The project Mid-term review will identify the results achieved after two years of implementation. It will compare progress to the baseline survey findings in three project locations in the Bogura, Cumilla and Patuakhali areas. The review findings will be used to set baseline indicator values for an anticipated further new phase. The review should be done as per OECD/DAC evaluation criteria. irrelevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability should be assessed. The evaluation criteria should focus on following key questions:

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Relevance	The extent to which project activities are suited to the priorities and policies of workers, government, employers, the project implementor and donor.
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In evaluating the relevance of the project, it is useful to consider the following questions:

- To what extent are the objectives of the project still valid?
- Are the activities and outputs of the project consistent with the overall goal and the attainment of its objectives?
- Are the activities and outputs of the project consistent with the intended outcome and impact?

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### Effectiveness

A measure of the extent to which the project activity attains its objectives.

In evaluating the effectiveness of the project, it is useful to consider the following questions:

- To what extent were the objectives achieved?
- What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the objectives?

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### Efficiency

Efficiency measures the outputs -- qualitative and quantitative -- in relation to the inputs. It is an economic term which signifies that the project uses the least costly resources possible in order to achieve the desired results. This generally requires comparing alternative approaches to achieving the same outputs, to see whether the most efficient process has been adopted.

In evaluating the efficiency of the project, it is useful to consider the following questions:

- Were activities cost-efficient?
- Were objectives achieved on time?
- Was the project implemented in the most efficient way compared to alternatives?

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### Impact

The positive and negative changes produced by these initiatives, directly or

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indirectly, intended or unintended. This involves the main outcomes and impact resulting from the activity and on the output, outcome and key performance indicators. The evaluation should be concerned with both intended and unintended results and must also include the positive and negative impact of external factors.

In evaluating the impact of this project, it is useful to consider the following questions:

- What has happened as a result of the project?
- What real difference has the activity made to the beneficiaries?
- How many workers have been affected?

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#### Sustainability

Sustainability is concerned with measuring whether the benefits of an activity are likely to continue after donor funding has been withdrawn.

In evaluating the sustainability of the project, it is useful to consider the following questions:

- To what extent did the benefits of the project continue after donor funding ceased?
- What were the major factors which influenced the achievement or non-achievement of sustainability of the project?

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#### **Methodology:**

The review will include both qualitative and quantitative methods to collect information from both primary and secondary sources. This study will focus on participatory method that actively engages all stakeholders. In particular the consultant is required to

- Conduct a primary survey with beneficiaries
- Ensure appropriate collection of sample size and that procedure of sample design causes the least sampling error.
- Ensure study design, data collection and analysis generate findings consistent with the study objectives.
- Collect data from community level beneficiaries

## Expected Deliverables:

The following are the key deliverables:

1. Detailed baseline framework/design and implementation plan agreed with BLAST
2. Data collection tools agreed by BLAST
3. Sampling design as per population coverage
4. Inception report
5. Draft report
6. PowerPoint presentation of findings
7. Final report

## Period of Performance:

The review is planned to be commissioned by September 2021

## Evaluation Criteria:

Consultants/firms/organizations are required to have expertise and a minimum of 5 years of experience in the following:

- Consultant should have minimum master's degree in social sciences/statistic/law/human rights/Labour studies or any other relevant disciplines
- Experience of assessing compliance with workers' rights under the law
- Have very good understanding about government legal aid and NGO legal aid services
- Experience in gender analysis
- Experience in developing high quality analytical papers and reports.

## Criteria for consultant selection:

SL	Description	Weight
1	Conceptual Framework/Understanding the tasks	25
2	Methodology	15
3	Data collection, validation, analysis and presentation plan	10
4	Work Plan	10
6	Team Composition	25
7	Financial Plan	15
	Total	100

**Timeline:** 45 Working Days from the day of agreement signing

**Payment Condition:**

20 % after submission of inception report

30% after submission of draft report

50% after accepting the final report

(N.B: VAT and Tax will be deducted as per government policy for consultancy services)

**Preparation of the Proposal:**

The technical and financial proposals should be marked properly and should include the name and detail contact address of the lead consultant/agency mentioning. Mention the specific name while submitting the proposal.

**Confidentiality:**

All the outputs such as reports, documents, information produced by this assessment are the property of BLAST and cannot be sold, used, or reproduced in any manner by the assigned reviewer/team without prior permission from BLAST.

**Others Terms & Conditions:**

- a) Proposal must be sent from consultant's own email ID and receiving more than one proposal from same email ID will be treated as non-responsive.
- b) BLAST reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Proposals /tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever
- c) **Inspection/supervision:** BLAST authorized person will inspect the work and provide certification, which will be given based on the satisfactory completion of work otherwise payment may deduct based on situation.
- d) **Offer Validity:** 60 days from the date of submission.
- e) **Evaluation:** Proposal evaluation will be made based on BLAST Procurement Guideline 2018.
- f) **VAT & Tax:** VAT and Tax will be applicable as per Government rule. **VAT (15%) and Tax (10%) will be applicable at source under the term as 'consultation service' as per govt. rules.**
- g) **Payment:** Payment will be made by account payee cheque in favor of your consultant after satisfactory delivery and a notation on the completion report by the recipient (with name,

designation & date).

- h) Partial Payment:** Partial payment may be allowed.
- i) Alternative Offer:** Alternative offer will not be accepted.

### **How to Apply**

Please submit proposal **within 3:00 pm, 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2021** through email to: [purchase@blast.org.bd](mailto:purchase@blast.org.bd)

**Bid Clarification:** Queries regarding this TOR can be raised by 5<sup>th</sup> September , 2021, 3:00 p.m. through this email ID [purchase@blast.org.bd](mailto:purchase@blast.org.bd). All clarifications will be given to individual Consultant by September 07, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

For any further clarification any proposer may contact Tel: 01766487187, email: [purchase@blast.org.bd](mailto:purchase@blast.org.bd) .