

Resource and Support Hub Consortium Advisory Group

Terms of Reference

In December 2019, DFID (UK Department for International Development) launched the Resource and Support Hub (RSH) - a new centrally-managed programme for safeguarding against sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment (SEAH). This programme aims to provide a global service to the aid sector as a whole by marshalling quality evidence, tools and guidance on safeguarding; it will also provide more tailored assistance to smaller, local civil society organisations (CSOs) in developing countries to strengthen their safeguarding policy and practice against SEAH.

The RSH contract is delivered by a consortium, led by Options, with Social Development Direct as technical and delivery lead and also including GCPS Consulting, Terre des Hommes and Sightsavers. It will run from December 2019 for an initial two years, with an option to extend for a further three years.

The RSH forms part of a suite of initiatives announced at the 18 October 2018 international summit on Putting People First: Tackling Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment in the Aid Sector. At the Summit, DFID and other donors committed collectively as well as individually to focus on four strategic shifts to prevent and respond to SEAH. The RSH focuses on delivering the fourth strategic shift - 'to strengthen organisational capacity and capability across the international aid sector'.

The RSH objectives are to ensure that organisations delivering aid have access to the tools, guidance, support and training they need to ensure they do no harm. It has an online platform which is free, user friendly and accessible to all. It delivers three separate but interlinked pillars:

- Pillar 1 - A free to access 'one-stop shop' for guidance, tools and support on safeguarding against SEAH
- Pillar 2 - Facilitating access to support services and specialists in focus countries
- Pillar 3 - Building evidence and boosting innovation for best practice

Purpose of the Consortium Advisory Group (CAG):

The CAG will form a steering and reference group for this project and will have the following main functions:

- To provide advice on programme strategy and methods;
- To advise and draw on developing country networks to ensure service uptake;
- To ensure that Hub puts the needs of survivors and victims first and that they are reflected in the products and support provided;
- To advise on equitable stakeholder engagement and the consistency and appropriateness of programme definitions and framing.



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Tasks

The main tasks associated with these functions include, but are not limited to:

- CAG members will provide advice on programme developments and methods in order to support the design and implementation of the Hub
- CAG members will provide advice on communications and network development to ensure service uptake.
- The CAG will provide guidance to the Hub to support it in developing, promoting and adhering to strict standards that ensure survivors' and victims' well-being, dignity and support are a priority for all agencies and that their approaches to victim and survivor engagement are sensitive and avoid re-traumatising survivors
- During inception, the CAG will input on key frameworks including CSO service eligibility criteria and country mapping tools
- Support in the identification of evidence gaps and actively participate in discussions about opportunities to plug these gaps through further research (where these cannot be met through existing DFID opportunities in RED or elsewhere).
- Provide advice on the work undertaken in Pillar 3, namely the Hub's contribution to the global debate on safeguarding, including existing communities of practice.

Participants

The CAG consists of a mix of around 10 - 12 individuals comprising researchers, field practitioners, CSOs, private sector and multilaterals, with representation from across the global north and south, including representation from our regions.

The CAG will be chaired by the Senior Technical Adviser or the Team Leader.

Frequency of meetings

Meetings are held quarterly. Between meetings, the CAG may be consulted on key decisions and to provide specific inputs as required. Meetings will be conducted via zoom link.

Time commitment from CAG

This will require approximately 1 - 2 days per quarter to include attendance at quarterly 2-3 hour meetings, review of documents relating to meetings and of other materials that CAG members are invited to comment on.

Payment

An honorarium will be paid per meeting; CAG members will be informed about this when they are first briefed on the programme.

Criteria for application

Representation from global north and south, including representation from our target regions and/or countries



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Expertise/ experience on safeguarding as a researcher *or* field practitioner *or* representatives /individuals of SEAH survivor/victim networks *or* thought leader in this area from CSOs, private sector *or* multilaterals. We are seeking to achieve a balance of individuals representing these areas of expertise.

Due diligence will be undertaken on individuals selected and references will be taken up.

Conflict of Interest

Candidates are asked to consider and declare in their application if there could be a potential conflict of interest between their role on the CAG and their potential to become a beneficiary of (paid) services by the RSH, either as an individual or as part of their organisation. If there is one, either perceived in the future or actual, they will be asked to declare it, at the time, and recuse themselves from any decisions from which they could benefit personally. All participants are asked to sign a conflict of interest policy for the RSH prior to becoming a CAG member.



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