



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

CONSULTANCY TO UNDERTAKE A SCOPING STUDY OF THE CHILD MARRIAGE RESPONSE SYSTEM IN GHANA

1.0 Background

Eduwatch in partnership with STAR Ghana Foundation, is implementing phase 3 of the Securing Educational Rights of Vulnerable Students in COVID-19 Era (SERVE III) project, aimed at promoting girls education through strengthening systems for girls' re-entry and child marriage response in Ghana.

Globally, 15 million girls marry before their 18th birthday each year, and a breakdown reveals that each day 41,000 girls get married, every minute 28 girls get married and every two seconds a girl gets married¹. Ghana is home to 2 million child brides. Of these, 600,000 married before age 15², a situation that affects girls' right to education. Ghana's 2021 Population Census Report recorded 80,000 girls as being either married or living with their partners.

Child marriage affects girls access to education, especially where there are 1.4 million out of school children in Ghana, 49% of whom are girls, due to socio-cultural factors including child marriage.

There have been several responses to addressing child marriage issues in Ghana, including community, policy, and legal interventions. However, the practice persists due to among others, the lack of an effective response system to prevent its occurrence and support victims to re-integrate into society and continue their education.

As part of the implementation process of the SERVE III project, Eduwatch wishes to engage the services of a consultant to undertake a review of child marriage reporting and response systems in Ghana. This will enhance Eduwatch's advocacy for effectiveness and increased responsiveness in the existing Child Marriage Response system.

¹ <http://www.girlsnotbrides.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/GNB-factsheet-on-child-marriage-numbers-Oct-2014.pdf>

² UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to end Child Marriage 2017

2.0 Objective of the Assignment

The objective of this assignment is to undertake a review of child marriage reporting and response systems in Ghana.

3.0 Scope of Work and Technical Requirements

The Consultant is expected to conduct a review of child marriage reporting and response systems in Ghana. The objectives are to:

- a. Map out institutions, laws and policies that exist to protect girls from child marriage and support their re-integration into society.
- b. Identify and assess the effectiveness of existing systems for reporting and responding to child marriage cases at all levels.
- c. Identify and assess the effectiveness of social protection mechanisms established by law and policy by the state to protect victims of child marriage after their rescue and support their reintegration into society.
- d. Make recommendations to strengthen effectiveness and responsiveness of reporting, response and support systems in child marriage.

4.0 Assignment Time-frame

The assignment shall commence by 7th November, 2022 for a maximum of 20 days.

5.0 Qualifications

An advanced University degree in education, development studies or other equivalent qualification with knowledge and understanding of child marriage issues in Ghana.

6.0 Bidding Process

Eduwatch invites interested consultants to submit a letter indicating Expression of Interest, their CVs containing evidence of similar assignments undertaken and a budget for the assignment to info@africaeducationwatch.org no later than 2nd November, 2022. The subject of the email should read: ToR for Review of Child Marriage Response Systems.