

Terms of Reference (ToR) for Study on ‘Status, Trend and Services of Acid and Burn Violence Survivors in Nepal’.

1. Background and Overview

ActionAid is a global justice federation working to achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication. It was founded as a charity in 1972, and throughout its history it has innovated and evolved its approach to better address the structural drivers of poverty and injustice. ActionAid believes people living in poverty and exclusion have the power within them to create change for themselves, their families and communities and ActionAid is a catalyst for that change. In the 1990s, ActionAid adopted a human rights-based approach to development, which is ongoing as its core approach. In 2003, the ActionAid International federation was established, comprising members in every region of the world, and headquartered in South Africa.

ActionAid International Nepal is a member of the federation, working for human rights, anti-poverty and gender equality. It is a non-governmental national social justice organisation established in 1982 and working locally in different provinces of Nepal. It is also a part of both national and global social justice movement and other civil society networks, alliances and coalitions.

Acid and Burns violence constitute gender-based violence, a form of discrimination under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW Committee), which monitors State compliance with the treaty, describes gender-based violence as “violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately.” The CEDAW Committee has further noted that gender-based violence both results from and perpetuates traditional discriminatory attitudes that confine women to stereotypical, subordinate roles and positions.

Burns are a global public health problem, accounting for an estimated 180 000 deaths annually. Burns are the second most common injury in rural Nepal, accounting for 5 percent of disabilities, according to the World Health Organisation. Beating and burning are the two most common forms of domestic violence in Nepal, according to women’s rights organisations and several academic studies. The outcome of burn injuries in Nepal is very poor. Children and females are at high risk. There is a lack of knowledge about burn prevention, proper first aid, and skin donation among the Nepalese population. Delay in presentation and extensive burns are poor prognostic factors.

Severe burns require immediate and extensive treatment, which most Nepalis cannot afford. There is little assistance available from the government. Existing Nepali law provides no compensation to victims of burn violence or burn accidents, and reparations are nominal. The ordinance was recently passed by Parliament, and while this is a big step in the right direction to provide justice to those who suffer from acid burns, the law does not take into account the pain of other burn violence survivors.

In all of Nepal, there are only six hospitals that can treat serious burn injuries, and five of them are in Kathmandu. If 10% of a human body suffers burn injuries, they require serious medical attention. But there is hardly a dozen burn specialist doctors in Nepal and nearly all of them are in Kathmandu. If a person needs critical care, they must come to Kathmandu. A majority of patients come from rural areas and many times, it is too late. Nepal’s public healthcare system is so inadequate that if a person with burn injuries to 30 % of their bodies comes in, doctors have a tough time providing treatment.

This ToR is prepared to hire a Consultant/Firm who will conduct a situational study on the status and trend of acid and burn violence in Nepal and services provided them at the local to national level. The task includes consultations with project partner, acid and burn violence survivors, their families, service providers like Police, hospitals/health post, OCMCs, legal institutions, safe houses, judicial committee. And based on this study, recommendations will be developed to share and urge the governments of Nepal to ensure gaps and fulfil rights of Acid and Burn Violence Survivors.

2. Objectives

ActionAid International Nepal has been actively involved in the work for ensuring the rights of women and girls and ending the violence against them. Acid and Burn Violence is one form of violence where AAIN is working in a holistic approach to ensure their rights through prevention, advocacy, medical treatment and reintegration. Henceforth, understanding and analysing causes, changing trends, services provided to them by the government and gaps and challenges Acid and Burns Violence Survivors are facing to live a dignified life are areas where we want to know and identify for further interventions and advocacy.

Hence, the main objective of this assignment is:

- To conduct the situational and analytical study on the trending context and causes for acid and burn violence in Nepal. At the same, also identify and analyse the existing gaps and challenges in the services and mechanisms that address the needs and rights of Acid and Burns Violence Survivors at local to national level.

3. Area of Study

This study will focus in 3 provinces: Province 2, 3 & 5 of Nepal as the rate of acid and burn violence are high.

4. Methodology

The study should be conducted using both secondary and primary data. Secondary review of the existing policies, plans, relevant studies, and other documents should be done prior to developing appropriate tools and systematically guide the study. The study team may use both qualitative and quantitative method for primary data collection. The study is anticipated to bring information

from different actors and stakeholders from survivors to service providers at local, provincial and federal level and local development partners. The study team may select for Key informant interview, Focused group discussion observation, among other tools for study. The consultant should clearly mention the methodology, along with sample size for quantitative data collection.

5. Roles and Responsibilities:

The Consultant is expected to provide the following Key Responsibilities:

- Initial discussion and agreement on the ToR with AAIN on the scope, deliverables, time frame and procedures of the study.
- Submission of inception report/proposal confirming the consultant's understanding of the Terms of Reference as well as their technical and financial proposal for this piece of work.
- Undertake desk review including analysis of study, policies and strategies relating to acid and burns violence in Nepal.

- Finalisation of the research protocol and tools, questions for qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis to be validated and agreed with AAIN technical team.
- Lead on and provide technical inputs and quality assurance during primary data collection in collaboration with AAIN.
- Produce the first draft study report and submit to AAIN.
- Conduct validation workshop with concerned stakeholders.
- Share study findings at national level policy workshop organized by AAIN in collaboration with BVS – Nepal.
- Produce the final report accommodating the inputs and feedback provided.

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- Assign a technical support team responsible for managing and supporting the overall process e.g. facilitating and providing required documents etc.
- Facilitate and support consultant's engagement with partner – BVS – Nepal.
- Monitor and ensure that the process is followed as per agreed methodologies and approach.
- Arrange and facilitate stakeholder validation meetings at various levels
- Review the quality of the reports and provide timely feedback to the consultant.
- Release payments after checking the quality of the deliverables which meet the standard and expectations.

6. Timeframe

The length of consultancy assignment will be paid for 30 working days starting from 2nd May 2023 to 12th June 2023, but the first draft of the study findings is needs to be shared by the end of May and the final study report incorporating all the feedbacks and comments needs to be completed by the agreement timeline.

7. Reporting

The Consultant will work closely with and report to Women's Rights Specialist from AAIN.

8. Consultancy Fees and Payment Modality

The Consultant will be paid for a maximum of 30 working days. Interested Firms/ Individuals should send their financial proposal and propose their consultancy fee (with detailed breakdown) not exceeding to NRR. for this assignment including applicable taxes. The amount is inclusive of applicable taxes. AA Nepal would need to deduct tax (as per Nepal Government tax law) before making any payments. Payment shall be done in the following instalments:

Installment	Percentage of total	Condition
1st installment	70 % of total amount	After signing the agreement/MoU
2nd installment	30 % of total amount	After completion of the assignment (Final Study Report)

9. Consultant Specification

The consultant should be expert with the following competencies:

- Advanced degree in Development Studies with specialization in gender studies would be an added advantage.

- At least 7 years of working experience in related field.
- Have good command in situational study and analysis study.
- Proven track record of similar type of study/research conducted in past.
- Have good network and linkages in national policy makers and concern stakeholders.
- Good facilitation skills, communication, and coordination skills.
- Fluency in written and spoken Nepali and English.

10. Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Key Areas for Proposal Evaluation	Weightage
Technical Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Understanding of assignment and delivery approach (20 points) ➤ Demonstrated minimum 7 years of experience in related research field (15 points) ➤ Demonstrated the capacity to carry out the assignment (20 points) ➤ Evidence of customer/ client satisfaction in terms of services provided in past (15 points) 	40%
Financial Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A clear financial proposal linked to the technical proposal, highlighting key costs and any reimbursable expenses (if any) (30 points) 	60%

Application Instructions

*Proposal Submission Guideline Interested consultancy firms/ individuals who meet the above requirement should send their technical and financial proposals to jobs.nepal@actionaid.org by **4TH May 2023**. Please provide At least three positive references/recommendations from past clients. Upon reviewing the Proposal, only short-listed companies will be contacted. Please note that ActionAid Nepal reserves the right to reject any proposal.*

Thank you!