

Application Guideline for
“Delaying Early Pregnancy in Gaibandha District in Bangladesh,
Baseline Household Survey” Commissioned by IDE-JETRO

June 27, 2023
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President, Japan External Trade Organization

APPLICATION GUIDELINE

All of applicants should apply in accordance with this guideline, with recognition about contents of this specification.

1. Proposal Form Submission

Submit the Proposal Form in which all necessary items are filled, following the instruction stipulated above clauses by the deadline shown below by e-mail or mail/courier service.

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Application DEADLINE: 17:00 July 13, 2023 (JST=GMT+9)

2. Evaluation Schedule

Accepting Proposal: June 27, 2023 ~ July 13, 2023
Evaluation Process: July 14, 2023 ~ July 21, 2023
Notification: by the middle of August, 2023
Contract: August 15, 2023

SPECIFICATION

Enclosed Proposal Form shall be submitted following all requirements and conditions specified in the clauses below.

1. Title of the Research

Delaying Early Pregnancy in Gaibandha District in Bangladesh, Baseline Household Survey

2. Evaluation Criteria

- 1) Soundness and feasibility of sampling strategy to collect the required data.
- 2) Systematic arrangement for the survey to submit final results by the deadline without delay.
- 3) Credibility on institutional management experience to establish the team for conducting the questionnaire survey, especially by appropriate and sufficient allocation of its personnel. Some experiences in conducting questionnaire surveys with foreign clients (e.g. universities).
- 4) Experience with household surveys with questionnaires on the related subjects.
- 5) Familiarity with the conditions of the study area such as previous survey experiences, possession of networks/resources.
- 6) Qualifications and competence of the principal researcher. Proficiency in speaking/writing/reading Bengali and English required.

3. Background and Objectives of the Research

IDE-JETRO conducts household survey with an aim to prevent early pregnancy in Gaibandha district in Bangladesh. Gaibandha is one of the most child marriage prevalent areas in Bangladesh, with 70% of girls marry, of whom 64% become pregnant below age 18. Given the negative consequence of child marriage such as school discontinuation (Jensen and Thornton 2003), several programs have been implemented to prevent child marriage. However, the impacts are mediocre and mixed. In the South Asian context, daughters' marriage is collectively decided by parents and relatives, and it seems very difficult for parents to refuse a "good" proposal even though they understand the negative consequence of child marriage, and thus child marriage may be a social equilibrium. We argue that the realistic solution to avoid the most detrimental effect of child marriage is to prevent early pregnancy. Our field observation has revealed that child-married girls usually get pregnant right after the marriage without any reproductive health knowledge. We will conduct the randomized controlled trial (RCT) to explore how providing information on reproductive health knowledge and contraceptives with adolescent girls aged 14–17 delays their pregnancy. Prior to the RCT, the baseline household survey will be conducted using the structured questionnaire. The survey collects basic information on household and girls' socioeconomic measures as well as reproductive health knowledge of the adolescent girls.

References

Jensen, Robert, and Rebecca Thornton. 2003. "Early Female Marriage in the Developing World." *Gender and Development* 11 (2): 9–19. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/741954311>.

4. Scope of Work on the Research

A CONTRACTOR will do the following activities:

- (1) Random sampling of 100 villages in Gaibandha district.
- (2) Identify all the eligible households in each 100 villages. The eligible households are defined as those with at least one unmarried daughter aged 14 to 17. Based on the list of eligible households, random sampling of 10 households is conducted in each 100 villages.
- (3) Conduct household survey of 1000 eligible households using the agreed questionnaire.
- (4) Submission of the data (computer-based format).

5. Expected Outcome

Data of 1000 households. One section should be answered exclusively by adolescent girls aged 14–17.

6. Research Schedule

Term of Research work:

Research work shall be conducted from August 15, 2023 to March 29, 2024.

Making a contract: August 15, 2023

Submission of the reports (specified in clause 8): February 15, 2024

7. Payment method

IDE shall remit the amount of contract in two (2) installments as follows after receiving an invoice from a CONTRACTOR for each payment.

- (1) First payment (50% of total amount): upon the signing of the Agreement
- (2) Second and final payment: upon submission of the Report (as specified in clause 8)

8. Reports

A CONTRACTOR submits to IDE the following by February 15, 2024.

- Data of 1000 households (computer-based format, preferably in STATA).
- Summary Report minimum of 1 page in A4 paper.
- Statement of accounts and time sheets.

9. Budget Estimation Guideline

- (1) Total Budget: Maximum budget is JPY 3,605,000 which consists of Direct Expenses and Administrative Overhead.
- (2) Direct Expenses: See clause 10 for details.
- (3) Administrative Overhead: Administrative expenses on the Research activities, such as the cost on facility management and maintenance. 10 % of direct expenses is maximum.
- (4) Amount: Payment is conditional on the completion of submission specified in clause 8. If the data collected is less than 1000, the amount should be reduced. Methods to reduce the amount shall be negotiated between both parties.

10. General Condition of Expenditure and Account Management on the Research

(1) Expenditure Items

Expenditure items on the Research should be confined to the following items.

a. Honoraria for researchers

Keep daily reports describing the contents of your research to confirm the status of the work.

b. Wages and salaries for research assistants

Upon hiring research assistants, keep daily reports specifying the name of the employee and content of service, to confirm the status of work.

c. Point to Notice on Calculation of Honoraria for Researchers or Wages and Salaries for Research Assistants

A CONTRACTOR shall be required to instruct joint researchers or research assistants to take an appropriate and adequate recess (e.g. noon recess) in accordance with the labor law or the employment practice of your country.

A CONTRACTOR shall be required to exclude the rest period from the working hours of the day when a CONTRACTOR calculates the honoraria for joint researchers or wages for research assistants.

(2) Expenditure such as telecommunication and translation on the Research shall be borne within the amount of Administration Overhead.