

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

June 27, 2024
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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 23, 2024 (JST=GMT+9)

2. Evaluation Schedule

Accepting Proposal: June 27, 2024 ~ July 23, 2024
Evaluation Process: July 24, 2024 ~ July 30, 2024
Notification: by the beginning of August, 2024
Contract: August 15, 2024

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, Midline Household Survey

2. Evaluation Criteria

- 1) Soundness and feasibility of sample tracking 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. 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---almost exclusively meaning a proposal by a government employed groom---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 13–17 delays their pregnancy.

In the FY2023, we have successfully conducted the baseline household survey followed by the first phase of the intervention. Using the structured questionnaire, the one which is basically the same as the baseline questionnaire, with some additions of marital and pregnancy questions, the midline household survey will be conducted.

Completing the first phase of the intervention, we have realized the importance of measuring the effectiveness of the intervention. Therefore, we also collect the information measuring the level of girls' understanding of sexual and reproductive health knowledge. In addition, the first phase of the

intervention revealed that there are two cases of pregnancy among the treated girls. We also conduct the qualitative study on how these girls get pregnant despite the intervention.

4. Scope of Work on the Research

A CONTRACTOR will do the following activities:

- (1) Tracking the 10 baseline households in each 100 villages.
- (2) Conduct household survey of 1000 eligible households using the agreed questionnaire.
- (3) Conduct the test measuring girls' understanding of the sexual and reproductive health knowledge and record the scores.
- (4) Conduct the qualitative survey on pregnant girls asking their narrative.
- (5) Submission of the data (quantitative survey in computer-based format, qualitative survey in word or pdf format).

5. Expected Outcome

- (1) Data of 1000 households. (2) Test scores of 500 girls. (3) Qualitative narrative.

6. Research Schedule

Term of Research work:

Research work shall be conducted from August 15, 2024 to March 31, 2025

Making a contract: August 15, 2024

Submission of the reports (specified in clause 8): February 17, 2025

7. Payment method

IDE-JETRO 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-JETRO the following by February 17, 2025.

- Data of 1000 households (computer-based format, preferably in STATA).
- Data of 500 girls test scores.
- Qualitative narrative of pregnant girls.
- 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 JPY3,993,000 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.

11. Statement of Accounts for Settlement and Working Record

Statement of Accounts for Settlement and Working Record of which form is provided by IDE-JETRO shall be submitted immediately after submission of final report within the contract period.