



Terms of Reference for a consultant supporting youth-led mapping of sexuality education

[YSAFE](#) is the network for people aged under 25 who are volunteers in the IPPF European & Central Asia Network's national member associations. YSAFE aims to lead and empower a network of young champions to educate and advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Members have a particular expertise in comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) and elect a Steering Committee of five young people to lead the network with the support of staff at the IPPF EN regional office.

We are seeking a consultant help support our young members in devising and carrying out a project to map the status of sexuality education in Europe and Central Asia, totalling 14 days.

This consultancy will run from September – December 2024 and will cover the definition of research questions with the youth involved, agreeing methodology and supporting them in the early phases of their mapping. It is expected that a second consultancy agreement would be available for January – June 2025 to cover support to the later stages of mapping, analysis of results and the production of a report.

Context

A majority of YSAFE volunteers are involved in sexuality education and the current strategy of the network has a strong focus on improving access to quality provision across the region. The Steering Committee would like to conduct a mapping project that would see YSAFERS leading small groups of young people to investigate the status of sexuality education provision in their own countries, with the aim of producing a report of their findings by mid-2025.

The goals of this project will be to produce a meaningful contribution to current understanding of the status of sexuality education provision in the countries where YSAFE is active and to raise the capacities of the young people involved in carrying out this kind of research.

The project will be launched to the YSAFE network at their next annual meeting, which will be held in Lisbon, Portugal on 25th and 26th October. The consultant will attend and have a key role to play in the launch. One YSAFE delegate from each [IPPF EN member organisation](#) will attend. We are able to make a small grant available to YSAFERS who

go on to participate fully in the project, leading a group of volunteers in their home countries to work on the mapping, possibly including collaboration with youth groups representing specific communities as is common in YSAFE's working history at national level. Part of this grant will be to ensure some support from the staff coordinating youth work in their home organization. We would like as many youth groups to be engaged as possible, and will look to the consultant to provide ideas and support decision-making about possible different levels of engagement to capture input from lone volunteers and smaller groups with less time as well as bigger, more active national groups.

Topic focus

Due to limits of time and the important parallel emphasis on developing young people's capacities in conducting research, the scope of this project would be more limited than a full investigation of all aspects of comprehensive sexuality education such as the [previous research](#) IPPF EN worked on in collaboration with the BZgA some years ago. Instead, we envisage that the consultant will support YSAFE to home in on a specific aspect of sexuality education provision that they want to investigate, and delineate appropriate methods and measurables to be able to say how well it is currently implemented.

This should be driven by YSAFE's current strategy and the wishes of the young people involved, be broad enough to have relevance and interest to groups active in many different national contexts but tight enough to lead to meaningful findings in limited time – for example, provision for young queer people, content on HIV stigma, or discussion of pleasure. The methodology might look at teacher training methods, legal frameworks, or mainstream curricula. Both the topic chosen and the methodology should be as inclusive as possible of YSAFEs who are active in both very liberal and very restrictive national contexts – youth who are in a country with zero legal mandates for sex ed should still have something to evaluate.

This project may be viewed as a pilot to establish a practice of ongoing annual YSAFE mapping, laying the ground for future expansions to create a fuller YSAFE-led barometer of sexuality education.

Tasks

The consultant will be responsible for:

1. Design and facilitation of a half-day of sessions at the YSAFE Annual Meeting/IPPF EN youth forum in Lisbon, 25-26 October 2024, to determine the topic area and methodology scope with 25-30 young people
2. Support to the YSAFE Steering Committee to agree on a final design of the mapping phase of the project, including possibly offering different levels of engagement to small national-level groups and individual volunteers of the network
3. Production of a reference document for the young people carrying out the mapping work and system/tools for collecting their findings

4. Provision some direct support to young people setting out on their research to troubleshoot and answer immediate questions, through emails & some drop-in “office hours” calls

Timeline & Deliverables

This section of the consultancy is estimated to take 14 working days . During this period, the consultant will deliver the following, with concrete outputs delivered to the IPPF EN Director of Membership Support and Development:	
Deliverables	Timeline
Outline of session plans for half-day in Lisbon	20 September 2024
Delivery of sessions to define the topic question and methodology (travel expenses will be covered in addition to fee and accommodation provided)	25-26 October 2024
Reference document defining methodology; tools for collecting findings	1 November 2024
Online support in the form of answering collected questions by email, and presence at 3 online drop-in/“office hours” calls	Until 20 December 2024

The assignment shall start on the day of the last signature of the contract and shall be completed by December 31, 2024.

Consultant's Profile

It is anticipated that the consultant will possess the following key competencies:

- a) Knowledge of the technical guidance/standards on sexuality education (developed by IPPF, UNESCO and WHO/BZgA)
- b) At least 3 years of experience in leading the development of research into relevant topic areas
- c) Experience in training young people to participate in research
- d) Knowledge of issues around SRHR and delivering sexuality education in different contexts across Europe and Central Asia
- e) Experience of youth work in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights
- f) Experience of youth work with people from marginalized groups
- g) Fluency in English

Supervision

The consultant will work in close collaboration with two staff of the IPPF EN Regional Office, the IPPF EN Director for Membership Support and Development and the IPPF EN Youth Networker.

Application

Interested candidates are requested to indicate their interest as soon as possible, and then to send their costed work plan proposal and detailed CV, to both Catherine Bailey Gluckman, cbgluckman@ippf.org and Lena Luyckfasseel, lluyckfasseel@ippf.org, by **22 August 2024**.