TERMS OF REFERENCE

STATISTICS SUPPORT CONTRACT

AUGUST 2019

SUMMARY

TITLE	Statistics support consultant
PURPOSE	Provide statistics support to the IDM IWDA research team
OUTCOMES	Prepare and submit five articles to academic journals for peer-review
EXPECTED DURATION	104 DAYS
REPORTING TO	Dr Kylie Fisk
LOCATION	Melbourne (possibility of working remotely)
COMMENCEMENT	September 2019
COMPLETION	Full time until February 2020 **OR** negotiable part time until April 2020
BUDGET	$44,700 ($414 per day plus reimbursable travel costs)

INTRODUCTION

The IWDA IDM team requires statistics support to augment IWDA IDM research team capacity to further analyse IDM Fiji data and write up results for publication in academic journals. The IDM Program is in the final year of implementation of the current program and is seeking to maximize outputs including technical and academic outputs, to demonstrate the potential of IDM data and build the evidence base available on which to promote interest in the IDM, including from future funders and participants at the April 2020 conference.

The purpose of this consultancy is to replicate and extend previous analysis of IDM Fiji data, and write up the results for publication including in academic journals. The consultant will work with the IDM IWDA research team to achieve this purpose, conducting statistical analyses in R and modelling analyses used in previous work. The consultant will therefore have a defined number of statistical techniques to apply within a pre-defined theoretical framework, with code in R already existing for some of these analyses. For this reason, the consultancy has a strong focus on written publication of work, with an indicative expectation of five papers in 6 months. The consultant will share authorship with IDM IWDA research staff, with author order depending on contribution as laid out in the journal/s selected.

This role is suitable for a recent graduate or current graduate level student in social science, psychology, development, economics, statistics or related fields.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Individual Deprivation Measure (IDM) is a new, gender-sensitive and measure of multidimensional poverty. It has been developed to assess deprivation at the individual level and overcome the limitations of current approaches that measure poverty at the household level.

The current IDM Program is a partnership between the Australian National University and International Women's Development Agency with funding and strategic support from the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Our goal is that by April 2020 the IDM is ready for global use as an individual measure of deprivation and a tool for tracking how development is changing the lives of the most deprived.

The IDM assesses individual deprivation using 15 key dimensions of life that women and men with lived experience of poverty say matter. By interviewing multiple adult members of the same household, the IDM helps to reveal disparity within households where it exists.

Along with strategic partners ANU and DFAT, IWDA is responsible for supporting the consistent, coherent and strategic implementation of the IDM program. This includes implementation of core research activities such as implementing the IDM survey in a range of contexts, and advancing opportunities for the use of data generated by the IDM to inform development programming.

Between 2015 and 2016, an IDM study was conducted in Fiji in partnership with the Fiji Bureau of Statistics. Analysis has already been conducted on the IDM Fiji data, and shared via a number of reports and papers, focusing largely on descriptive analysis. Additional analysis work has been undertaken on a smaller number of the IDM dimensions using inferential statistical techniques developed in 2018 and 2019.

ACTIVITY DETAIL

1. Meet with IDM IWDA research staff to receive background briefing on project to date;
2. Read key documents, including IDM Fiji Country Report, IDM Fiji Technical Guide, UNECE Working Paper;
3. In consultation with IDM IWDA research staff, develop an analysis plan and publication plan;
4. Conduct statistical analysis of IDM Fiji data using R software, aligned with previous analyses by IDM IWDA staff;
5. Prepare manuscripts for academic journals using analysis of IDM Fiji data, including:
    a. At least two (2) papers, targeted to specific academic journals, that highlight the utility of the IDM for intersectional (gender, age, disability, urban/rural) analysis and multidimensional (overlapping dimension deprivation) analysis;
    b. At least two (2) papers, targeted to specific academic journals, that highlight the utility of the IDM for understanding within-household variation and its implications for gender inequality;
    c. At least one (1) methodology paper, targeted to specific academic journal/s, presenting and justifying the IDM method of indicator, theme, and dimension construction;
6. Incorporate feedback from IWDA and ANU research teams and submit articles to selected academic journals;
7. Incorporate reviews from journals (when necessary) and resubmit to journals;
8. Attend workshops and present to technical teams at IWDA and ANU as required;
9. Provide advice with regards to technical considerations that arise throughout the consultancy, documenting issues and solutions;
10. Assist with other research objectives on an ad-hoc basis in consultation with IDM Research Fellow and Research Officer.

STAKEHOLDERS

Key Internal (Primary): Senior Research Fellow – Dr Kylie Fisk, Research Officer – Carol McInerney and Knowledge Translation, Policy, Advocacy & Strategic Engagement advisor- Jo Crawford

(Internal- Secondary): IT Project Manager, IDM Communications Coordinator, Director IDM

Key External (Primary): ANU IDM Research Team and DFAT

SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME – FULL TIME

Extended end date of April 2020 negotiable for part-time hours

TASK	DAYS	TIMING
1. Analysis plan and publication plan	15	By 1 Oct 19
2. Draft of first paper (any)	23	By 1 Nov 19
3. Draft of second two papers (any)	20	By 2 Dec 19
4. Drafts of final two paper/s (any)	27	By 13 Jan 20
5. Final consultancy report outlining process, issues, and recommendations arising, related to project implementation. 6. Revision of papers as necessary (ongoing throughout consultancy).	19	By 7 Feb 20

REQUIREMENTS

The individual should possess the following skills and experience:

ESSENTIAL

1. Strong knowledge of statistical concepts including regression analysis
2. Strong knowledge of and experience with R
3. Completed (or completing) graduate level university qualification in social science, psychology, development, economics, statistics, or related fields
4. Excellent attention to detail and commitment to data integrity
5. Strong writing skills
6. Experience in presenting the results of quantitative analysis in reports and academic papers

DESIRABLE

1. Experience with analysis of multidimensional data
2. Experience with communicating technical information to a general audience
3. Understanding of the broader gender data landscape

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Candidates are invited to submit expressions of interest addressing the following:

- Addressing the Essential criteria as set out in the 'Requirements' section
- A copy of your CV

Expressions of interest that do not cover these requirements will not be considered.

Expressions of interest will be assessed as they are received and suitable candidates will be invited to interview on a rolling basis until the roll is filled.

If you would like more information regarding this opportunity, or you would like to express interest pending an application, please contact Carol McInerney on cmcinerney@iwda.org.au

Applications should be sent to jobs@iwda.org.au with the subject heading: "Application for IDM Research Consultancy_[insert first initial and surname]."