

P4SP Terms of Reference

Assignment name	Case Study: Perceptions of the Relationship between Social Protection and Intimate Partner Violence in the Pacific
Commence date	January 2025
Completion date	30 June 2025

The tasks and dates specified in this Terms of Reference are subject to change and flexibility is expected to accommodate for such changes.

1 About P4SP

P4SP is a four-year, AUD 18 million Australian Government program to support governments in Pacific nations and to strengthen their national social protection systems. Implemented by Development Pathways, the program delivers both bilateral and regional activities to support partners to improve the quality, inclusiveness and sustainability of social protection systems, and to build awareness of, and demand for, quality and inclusive social protection. P4SP is a highly adaptive and demand-driven program. As such, the operating context, and the priorities of government and DFAT Posts in each country are key determinants for the scope of P4SP's engagement.

The outcome P4SP is working towards is that government's increasingly address gaps and bottlenecks in the coverage and inclusiveness of social protection policy and program delivery.

2 Assignment

P4SP invites expressions of interest (EOI) from qualified organisations, consortia, and/or individuals, hereinafter referred to as "Supplier/s" to undertake these important case studies. This procurement process will be conducted in **two** stages:

Stage 1: Expression of Interest (Current Stage)

Stage 2: Full Proposal (By invitation only)

2.1 Background

Intimate partner violence is a pervasive issue globally, with 26% of women aged 15 and older experiencing intimate partner violence.¹ The Pacific region reports particularly high rates, with five countries (Kiribati, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) reporting 42-48% of women having experienced intimate partner violence of a physical and or sexual nature, in the last 12 months.²

Intimate partner violence is rooted in gender inequality and harmful social norms, which is exacerbated by social, community and individual risk factors. See [Annex 1](#) for key definitions and [Annex 2](#) for list of key contributing risk factors for intimate partner violence.

Cash transfers and cash plus programs³ can influence factors that affect intimate partner violence risk, despite not directly addressing underlying causes. Global frameworks identify three primary pathways through which cash transfers can play a preventative, neutral or harmful effect on intimate partner violence. These are the:

- i. economic security and emotional well-being pathway;
- ii. the intra-household conflict pathway; and
- iii. the women's empowerment pathway (see [Annex 3](#) for details).

However, if not designed mindfully, these programs may miss opportunities for prevention or even cause harm. Cash influxes, particularly to women, can challenge existing gender norms, potentially leading to backlash and increased intimate partner violence risk, especially for women with disabilities or elderly women receiving payments.

The relationship between social protection cash and intimate partner violence in the Pacific context remains unclear due to limited evidence. Limited evidence from the Pacific is an issue not only for the interface between intimate partner violence and social protection, but for social protection more broadly. To understand the evidence landscape better, and identify gaps it in, P4SP commissioned an [Evidence Review of Social Protection in the Pacific and Timor-Leste](#). The review identified two key findings related to intimate partner violence:

- i. Women across the Pacific and Timor-Leste face considerable hardship, including high rates of gender-based violence (GBV). They are disproportionately impacted by crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in even higher rates of violence, more unpaid domestic work, reduced access to health services, and economic hardship.⁴ In formal social protection systems in the Pacific and Timor-Leste, women consistently receive fewer benefits and less coverage.⁵ This is exacerbated by women being less likely than men to be engaged in formal employment, making them ineligible for many social insurance

¹ UN Women (2021). [Measuring the shadow pandemic: Violence against women](#).

² UNFPA (2023). [Women experiencing intimate partner violence - Know VAW Regional snapshot](#).

³ Cash transfers are direct payments that help people and households with different vulnerabilities and circumstances to increase their income and meet basic needs. Cash plus approaches (also known as integrated social protection) are social protection programs linked to complementary or 'plus' components in addition to regular cash payments. These plus components might include activities related to alternative livelihoods, nutrition, behaviour change communication, psychosocial support or linkages to health and financial services

⁴ Pacific Women Lead (2021). [Gender and COVID-19 economic recovery measures in the Pacific](#).

⁵ Handayani, S. W. (2014). [Gender dimension of the Social Protection Index: Assessing results for Asia and the Pacific](#).

schemes. For the increasing number of Pacific women engaged in paid work, they are concentrated in lower-paid jobs with vulnerable work conditions, and their domestic caring responsibilities continue to impact time and productivity.⁶

- ii. In the Pacific, even within informal social protection systems, women may be disadvantaged. For example, in PNG women have reported that they face intense pressure to share financial resources, facing threats and violence from those who feel they are entitled to these resources.⁷ Similar sentiments were expressed by women from Solomon Islands.⁸ It is possible that social protection programs could have an influence on GBV, though there was a lack of evidence on this topic.

Given this context, DFAT and P4SP have initiated this assignment to examine perceptions of Pacific intimate partner violence service providers⁹ regarding the links between government-led cash transfer schemes and intimate partner violence. This assignment aims to contribute to the knowledge gap and inform future social protection research, policies and practices in the region. It also aims to provide insights into whether the global evidence of social protection cash transfers having a neutral or preventative impact on intimate partner violence risks and rates, is consistent with the Pacific experiences by comparing study findings with established global frameworks and evidence.

2.2 Objectives

The assignment aims to:

- i. Start to build an understanding of the interface between cash payments and intimate partner violence in the Pacific context.
- ii. Identify and analyse perceptions of intimate partner violence service providers regarding the linkages between intimate partner violence and government-led cash transfer programs.

2.3 Scope and Approach

The scope of the assignment will be determined by the Supplier based on the countries identified for inclusion in the case studies and the nature of cash payments that have been / are being delivered. The case studies will consider various cash payments, including but not limited to:

- Regular social protection payments (e.g. benefits for older women, disability support, unemployment benefits).

⁶ Private Sector Development Initiative (PSDI). (2022). [A secure retirement: leveling the playing field for women in the Pacific](#).

⁷ Parker, J., Arrowsmith, J. & Boyd, A. (2017). Papua New Guinea: Work and care in a subsistence economy. In M. Baird, M. Ford & E. Hill (Eds.), *Women, work and care in the Asia-Pacific* (pp. 245-259). Routledge.

⁸ Eves, R. (2017). [Conflicts over credit: Challenges to women's economic empowerment in Solomon Islands](#). *State, Society & Governance in Melanesia*

⁹ For the purposes of this TOR, intimate partner violence service providers refer to specific specialised agencies providing direct counselling and psycho-social support services (case management) to survivors of violence. This may include crisis centres, and other counselling and psycho-social support centres. The scope of who is included in the study will be determined based on the context in each country the study is undertaken.

- COVID-related payments.
- Humanitarian response payments.

This assignment will leverage existing approaches, knowledge and support structures for intimate partner violence research in each specific country context. It will draw on key frameworks that explain and clarify the relationships between cash transfers and intimate partner violence. This approach ensures that the research is grounded in local realities and current good practices in Pacific contexts, while also contributing to the broader understanding of how cash transfer programs interact with intimate partner violence dynamics in Pacific settings.

The assignment design and implementation will prioritise ethical considerations and safety at every stage. This includes careful selection of research methods, culturally sensitive engagement with participants, and robust data protection measures. The assignment design and implementation will consider:

- Initial case study in one or two Pacific Island countries (to be determined in consultation with the successful Supplier).
- Highly localised approach in each country, informed by local context and expert insights.
- Focus on perceptions of intimate partner violence service providers with exposure to intimate partner violence issues, rather than direct experiences of intimate partner violence survivors.

2.4 Possible Areas of Inquiry

Areas of inquiry will also be determined in consultation with the research partners selected and will be informed by local context, but may include:

- Perceptions of social protection and cash transfer schemes.
- Myths, stigma, attractiveness, targeting, key beneficiaries, and fiscal cost.
- Variations by payment type (e.g. Household, Disability, Elderly) and frequency.
- Perceptions of formal social protection cash transfer systems for intimate partner violence survivors/victims.
- Effectiveness, accessibility, and inclusivity.
- Perceived risk factors/stressors in household dynamics related to gender inequality and intimate partner violence.
- Decision-making and control over cash utilisation.
- Existing mitigation strategies and behavioural adaptations to potential intimate partner violence risks associated with cash inflows.
- Perceptions of how social protection/cash transfers could impact intimate partner violence risks and gender inequalities (short to long term).
- Ideas for social protection programs (including cash plus) and do-no-harm initiatives to reduce Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) inequalities and improve wellbeing outcomes, including intimate partner violence risk reduction.
- Possible consideration of informal (non-state funded) social protection, determined on a country-by-country basis.

2.5 Key Ethical Considerations

Given the sensitivities surrounding intimate partner violence research, this assignment focuses on perceptions of individuals that understand intimate partner violence and indirect exposure to those experiencing intimate partner violence, rather than direct survivor experiences. While this approach reduces key risks, particularly harm to survivors, it presents challenges for researchers.

Interviewing intimate partner violence service providers may potentially lead to biased data, as their experiences might disproportionately reflect more severe or problematic cases, which could result in a misleading representation of the overall relationship between cash transfers and intimate partner violence in the broader population. Suppliers will need to consider this when designing the approach and methodology.

The assignment will focus on gathering perceptions about the links between intimate partner violence and social protection, rather than referencing specific cases or clients. Selecting appropriate participants with varied viewpoints, while adhering to cultural and linguistic requirements, will be a key responsibility of the research team, underscoring the importance of local expertise in the assignment design and implementation.

Given the high prevalence of intimate partner violence in the region, participants may include survivors, perpetrators, or both. Therefore, ethical considerations and 'do no harm' principles are central to the methodology, especially in identifying, surveying, and supporting participants. The successful Supplier will be responsible for ensuring robust ethical considerations and adherence to 'do no harm' principles throughout the research process.

The Supplier must outline how they will manage ethical considerations¹⁰ throughout the process of undertaking this case study, including (but not limited to):

- gathering information and documentation in a manner that presents the least risk to respondents, is methodologically sound, and builds on current experience and good practice.
- ensuring the safety and security of respondents and the research team.
- protecting confidentiality to ensure safety and data quality.
- data security, compliance with local data protection laws and international ethical standards for research on violence against women and a plan for secure destruction of raw data after an agreed period.
- culturally appropriate informed consent.
- knowledge of clear referral pathways to support services.
- adopting a trauma-informed and survivor-centred approach in interactions and preparing protocols for handling potential disclosure.

Throughout the assignment, the Supplier must continuously monitor and assess risks, being prepared to modify or halt the research if unforeseen ethical issues arise.

¹⁰ WHO. (2007). [Ethical and safety recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies.](#)

3 Expression of Interest (Stage 1)

Interested parties are invited to submit an EOI addressing the following criteria, including a statement outlining whether the Supplier intends undertaking the study independently or in a consortium, and details of all partner organisations/entities involved.

3.1 Applicants

The assignment will be undertaken by either a research organisation, a non-governmental organisation (NGO), an individual consultant or small team of consultants, or a consortium (“Supplier”). P4SP may also propose collaboration between different suppliers/parties who submit or are included in proposals.

We strongly encourage applications from consortiums that combine qualitative research capabilities, a deep understanding of intimate partner violence and associated networks in specific countries, and knowledge of social protection in the Pacific. This combination of skills and expertise will be crucial for the successful execution of this complex and sensitive assignment.

However, if an entity excels in one aspect (e.g. research or intimate partner violence networks) but lacks a partner for other areas, we still encourage you to submit a proposal, as P4SP may be able to facilitate pairing up of strong partners with complementary skills. Such proposals should clearly outline what the entity can contribute to the study and specify where they would need additional expertise from another partner.

In the instance that entities submit an EOI that requires P4SP’s support in pairing up with another relevant and complementary supplier to meet the selection criteria, discussions will be held with each party to determine feasibility of the partnership, and those entities may be invited to jointly submit a full proposal.

Proposals may be for a Supplier to undertake case studies in two countries, or a Supplier to undertake a case study in a single country.

Suppliers should demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, outlining strategies to identify and respond to reasonable accommodation needs, if they arise.

3.2 EOI Requirements

The EOI will consist of a brief (3–6-page response) that provides an overview of the organisation/s capacity, as well as the indicative approach that they will apply to undertake this work. The response should include CVs and be divided into two sections:

Section One: Organisational Capacity (50%)

Section Two: Indicative Approach (50%)

The details of what to include in each section are outlined in Section 3.2.1 and 3.2.2.

3.2.1 Section One: Organisational Capacity (50%)

- A Statement outlining whether the supplier intends undertaking the study independently or in a consortium, and details of all partner organisations/entities.
- Overview of the supplier's experience in the Pacific region.
- Existing networks and partnerships in Pacific Island countries.
- Experience in qualitative and social research methodologies (surveys, Key Informant Interviews, focus groups).
- Knowledge of gender equality and intimate partner violence in the Pacific and demonstrated experience undertaking GBV research in accordance with best practice ethical standards
- An understanding of social protection, including in the Pacific.
- Experience in producing policy-relevant research outputs.
- If a consortium is proposed, an explanation of the contributions and strengths of each of the consortium partners.
- If a consortium is proposed, identify the lead consortium partner (refer to section 3.5).
- Approach to capacity building of local researchers or organisations, if applicable.

3.2.2 Section Two: Indicative Approach (50%)

- Proposed country/ies for the study and brief justification.
- High-level overview of potential methodology.
- Initial thoughts on ethical considerations and risk mitigation, including comprehensiveness of initial ethical and safeguards considerations for GBV research.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with government and development partners.
- Indicative team composition, highlighting expertise of key personnel and confirmation of availability and ability to complete the study within the specified timeframe (January 2025 to June 2025).

3.3 EOI Evaluation Criteria

The EOI will be evaluated based on the below criteria and their respective weightings. Each main criterion (Organisational Capacity and Indicative Approach) will be scored out of 50%, with sub-criteria scored as indicated. The total score will be out of 100%. The breakdown of the evaluation criteria for each section are outlined in Section 3.3.1 and 3.3.2.

3.3.1 Section One: Organisational Capacity (50%)

- a. Pacific region experience and networks (17%)**
 - Depth, duration, breadth and relevance of experience in the Pacific region (0-6)
 - Strength and diversity of existing networks in Pacific Island countries (0-6)
 - Quality and relevance of partnerships with local organisations (0-5)
- b. Research methodology expertise and experience (17%)**
 - Experience with qualitative research methods (surveys, KIIs, focus groups) (0-6)
 - Track record of producing quality policy-relevant research outputs (0-5)

- Demonstrated experience undertaking GBV research in accordance with best practice ethical standards (0-6)

c. Thematic knowledge (16%)

- Depth of knowledge in gender equality issues in the Pacific (0-5)
- Understanding of intimate partner violence dynamics in Pacific contexts (0-6)
- Understanding of social protection, including in the Pacific (0-5)

3.3.2 Section Two: Indicative Approach (50%)

a. Country selection and justification (15%)

- Appropriateness of proposed countries for the study (0-5)
- Strength of justification for country selection (0-5)
- Demonstration of understanding of country-specific contexts (0-5)

b. Potential methodology overview (10%)

- Clarity and logic of proposed methodological approach (0-5)
- Appropriateness of methods for research objectives (0-5)

c. Ethical considerations and risk mitigation (15%)

- Comprehensiveness of initial ethical and safeguards considerations for GBV research (0-5)
- Appropriateness of proposed risk mitigation strategies (0-5)
- Sensitivity to cultural and contextual factors in ethical approach (0-5)

d. Collaborative ability (10%)

- Evidence of successful collaboration with government partners and/or Civil Society Organisations (0-4)
- Track record of working with development partners (0-3)
- Proposed approach for collaboration in this study (0-3)

Please note: submission of an EOI in Stage 1 does not guarantee an invitation to submit a full proposal in Stage 2. Only those Suppliers whose EOI's best meet the evaluation criteria in Stage 1 will be invited to progress to Stage 2.

Stage 2 of the EOI, will require shortlisted applicants to collaborate with P4SP to submit a full proposal, as provided in [Annex 4](#).

3.4 Registration

It is highly recommended for applicants to register their intent to submit a proposal via email to admin@p4sp.org by no later than, Friday, 1 November 2024 at 5:00pm AEDT. Providing intent to submit a proposal will not impose any obligation on any interested party to submit a proposal.

Parties who have registered their intent to submit a proposal by the date and time specified in section 3.4 will receive all subsequent addenda related to this EOI. Such addenda may encompass information on the information session, responses to questions from other proposed applicants and/or modifications to the Terms of Reference subsequent to the release of this EOI.

Note: The date of the information session may occur prior to the registration closing date. Therefore, interested parties are strongly encouraged to register their interest promptly to ensure they do not miss this opportunity.

Registration can be made by providing the following information:

- Name of contact person
- Name of organisation
- Email address of contact person and receipt of addenda.

3.5 EOI Format and Submission Requirements

Submissions should adhere to the following format:

- Maximum 6 pages (excluding annexes such as CVs).
- Font size no smaller than 10-point, single column format in Word format.

Applicants should notify admin@p4sp.org in writing on or before the Closing Date and Time if they find any discrepancy, error or omission in this EOI.

The Closing Date and Time may be extended by Development Pathways in its absolute discretion.

All submissions are to be submitted via email to admin@p4sp.org with the subject line "Proposal for Pacific Intimate Partner Violence Case Studies 2024".

Applications must be submitted by no later than the Close Date and Time: Sunday, 10 November 2024 at 5:00pm AEDT. Applications submitted after this Close Date and Time will not be accepted.

Once submitted, applicants will be provided with an automatic email receipt issued by P4SP. If applicants have not received an email receipt from P4SP, they must contact admin@p4sp.org prior to the closing date to allow time to resubmit their proposal if required.

Please contact admin@p4sp.org if you have any questions about this EOI, including if there are reasonable adjustments that would assist you in completing your application.

3.6 Entities eligible to respond

A proposal may only be submitted by a legal entity or, if a joint response or consortium, by legal entities, with the capacity to contract. If a joint proposal is submitted in response to this EOI, Development Pathways will not enter into separate Agreements. The joint tenderers must be party to a single Agreement and nominate a lead for the contracting arrangement.

If an applicant proposes to operate the services under a consortium arrangement and the consortium has not been constituted as a legal entity at the time of the proposal submission, then Development Pathways may in its discretion consider the proposal, and the proposal will be treated as having been submitted by the consortium. Acceptance, if applicable, of the proposal by Development Pathways will be subject to the consortium being duly constituted as a legal entity and the Agreement being with that legal entity.

3.7 Progressing to Full Proposal (Stage 2)

Only Suppliers whose EOIs best meet the evaluation criteria and are shortlisted from Stage 1 will progress to Stage 2 and be invited to submit a full proposal. Submission of an EOI in Stage 1 does not guarantee an invitation to submit a full proposal in Stage 2.

Detailed requirements and format for the Stage 2 full proposal is provided in [Annex 4](#).

4 Key dates

Work under this contract is expected to commence by January 2025 and conclude by June 2025. An indicative delivery timeline is outlined in the below table; however, proposals that demonstrate an ability to complete this study ahead of this schedule, or that include an extended delivery timeline (with justification), are welcome.

Description of stage	Timeline
Stage 1 – Call for Expressions of Interest (this stage)	
Procurement release	15 October 2024 (open for 25 consecutive days)
Closing date for registration of intent to submit a proposal Refer to section 3.4 for registration details.	1 November 2024 at 5:00pm AEDT
Closing date for questions on this EOI	6 November 2024 at 5:00pm AEDT
P4SP will hold an Information Session during this period and ensure answers are made publicly available. Refer to section 3.4 for registration details.	Between 28 October and 1 November 2024
Closing date for EOI	10 November 2024 at 5:00pm AEDT
The P4SP panel will assess all submitted EOI against the assessment criteria. Shortlisted applicants will progress to an interview and technical approach discussion. This may include proposals from P4SP to work with other entities.	11-15 November 2024

Anticipated EOI outcome notification date for Stage 1. Successful applicants will be informed by email of the outcome of the Stage 1 EOI process, with shortlisted applicants being invited to progress to Stage 2.	19 November 2024
Stage 2 –Submission of full proposal - only for shortlisted Suppliers	
Discussions/consultations with relevant stakeholders about proposals	To be advised to successful applicants progressing to Stage 2. The indicative timeframe is November to December 2024, which is subject to change in Development Pathways absolute discretion.
Information session held with all Suppliers and supported with responses	
Submission of the full proposal	
Review of full proposals and identify preferred Supplier	
Anticipated contracting of the preferred Supplier	

5 Reporting

The Supplier will report to the P4SP GEDSI Adviser.

6 Place of work

This activity will be undertaken remotely and in country, and the Supplier will be required to engage in meetings with the P4SP team and DFAT based in Australia (AEST/AEDT time zones) as well as stakeholders in the country/ies where the study is being undertaken.

7 Invoicing schedule

The Supplier will invoice on a milestone basis. The milestone schedule will be agreed during contracting.

8 Adherence to DFAT, Development Pathways and P4SP Policies

Development Pathways will require the successful supplier to adhere to Development Pathways and P4SP policies, as well as the applicable to DFAT guidelines, as per [Annex 5](#).

8.1 Child protection

P4SP is committed to protecting the rights of children and ensuring a child-safe environment in all aspects of our work. We may require Suppliers to provide police check(s) for its personnel and reserve the right to conduct other screening procedures, if required, to ensure a child-safe environment.

8.2 Gender equality, disability, and social inclusion

P4SP is committed to technical excellence in gender equality and our team will work closely with our partners to ensure a context-specific and consistent approach is applied to all our programs to improve the livelihoods of the world's most marginalised groups.

8.3 Preventing sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment

P4SP is committed to respectful and safe workplaces and does not tolerate sexual exploitation, abuse, or harassment of any kind. P4SP is committed to ensuring the safety of everyone who interacts with our program.

Annex 1 - Key definitions

Gender Equality (GE) refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Gender equality is not a women's issue but should concern and fully engage men as well as women. Equality between women and men is seen both as a human rights issue and as a precondition for, and indicator of, sustainable people-centred development.¹¹

The following terms are commonly used interchangeably, although they are not exactly the same. The terms originate from various disciplines and conceptual backgrounds, and they continue to evolve.¹²

Violence against women (VAW) is defined by the United Nations as 'any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.' It encompasses, but is not limited to:

- physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women;
- non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
- physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere;
- trafficking in women and forced prostitution; and
- physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the state, wherever it occurs.

Gender-based violence (GBV), in its original meaning, is 'violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman, or violence that affects women disproportionately. It includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty'. (...) 'Gender-based violence, which impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of human rights and fundamental freedoms under general international law or under human rights conventions, is discrimination within the meaning of Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.' (General recommendations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1992).

While the terms 'gender-based violence' and 'violence against women' are frequently used interchangeably in literature and by advocates, the term 'gender-based violence' highlights the gender dimension, in other words, the relationship between (1) women's subordinate status in

¹¹ UN Women. n.d. [Concepts and definitions](#)

¹² This section is directly taken from content by UNFPA kNOwVAWdata. (2016). [Measuring Prevalence of Violence Against Women" Key Terminology](#). p.1-7, other sources are cited where necessary.

society and (2) their increased vulnerability to violence because of unequal power relations and gender roles. The use of the term ‘gender-based violence’ provides a context in which to examine and understand the phenomenon of violence against women. It shifts the focus from women as victims to gender and the unequal power relationships between women and men created and maintained by gender stereotypes as the basic underlying cause of violence against women. This also means that women can be victims of gender-based violence perpetrated by other women to reinforce the patriarchal order, as for example from their own mother or their mother-in-law.

It is important to note that the term is increasingly being used to include the notion that men and boys may also be victims of gender-based violence, especially sexual violence, as are those who step out of strict/ traditional gender roles, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI).

Family violence¹³ is any behaviour that’s violent, threatening, controlling or intended to make you or your family feel scared and unsafe. Family violence isn’t always physical. It can happen to anyone, no matter their age, gender or sexual orientation. It can continue even when you’ve left a violent relationship.

Family violence is always the fault of the person causing the abuse. It’s never the fault of the person experiencing abusive behaviour. Family violence can affect anyone in all types of relationships. It can occur in:

- past or current intimate relationships, including relationships where you are dating or living together, regardless of gender or sexuality
- relationships involving carers of people with a disability or a medical condition, or elders
- relationships with relatives and guardians
- culturally recognised family groups.

Domestic violence (DV) refers to abusive behaviour (physical, sexual, emotional violence and neglect) that occurs within the private, domestic sphere, generally between individuals who are related through blood or intimacy. In most contexts, ‘intimate partner violence’ (intimate partner violence) is the main type of domestic violence, but in some societies violence by in-laws can also be the most dominant form. The term, ‘domestic violence’ should be used carefully in order to avoid confusion, since (1) it overlaps with ‘intimate partner violence’ and ‘gender-based violence’ and (2) it is not confined to women. For example, domestic violence also includes child abuse and elderly abuse in the domestic sphere.

Legal definitions of domestic violence vary among countries; they often include violence against domestic workers who live in the same household.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) usually consists of a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviours, including physical, sexual and psychological attacks, as well as economic coercion, by a current or former intimate partner. It can occur within heterosexual or same-sex relationships and does not require sexual relations.

Partner is a challenging concept. In work on violence against women it is often used as a short term for ‘intimate partner’, and even then, it is often misunderstood. This is because in many

¹³ Australian Government. n.d. Services Australia. [What is family violence.](#)

countries and contexts, the concept of partner in everyday use is not understood as including spouse or husband. Rather, depending on the context, it is understood as business partner, colleague, extramarital relationship, or 'sweetheart', or only as common-law or as 'same-sex partner'.

The definitions below are based on use in data collection on violence against women.

Intimate Partner is a person with whom one has a close personal relationship that may be characterised by the partners' (1) emotional connectedness, (2) regular contact, (3) on-going physical contact and sexual behaviour, (4) identity as a couple or (5) familiarity with and knowledge about each other's lives. The relationship need not involve all of these dimensions.

Intimate partner relationships include current or former:

- spouses (married spouses, common-law spouses, civil union spouses, domestic partners)
- boyfriends/girlfriends
- dating partners; and
- ongoing sexual partners.

Intimate partners may or may not be cohabitating. They can be opposite sex or same-sex. And if the victim and the perpetrator have a child in common, and a previous relationship but no current relationship, then by definition they fit into the category of 'former intimate partners'.

Countries differ as to what constitutes common-law (de facto) marriage. Other societies have no concept of a partner that is NOT a spouse; such societies don't recognize 'partnerships' between men and women outside of marriage.

Types of Violence

- **Physical violence** refers to the intentional use of physical force with the potential for causing death, injury or harm.
- **Sexual violence** refers to any sexual act or attempt to obtain a sexual act, or unwanted sexual comments or acts to traffic, that are directed against a person's sexuality using coercion by anyone, regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including at home and at work. Rape is the term that is commonly used for the first type of sexual violence mentioned above (forced/coerced intercourse). Rape can be defined as non-consensual sexual penetration, however slight, of any part of the body of the victim with a sexual organ, or of the anal or genital opening of the victim with any object or any other part of the body. The invasion is committed by force, or by threat of force or coercion, such as that caused by fear of violence, duress, detention, psychological oppression or abuse of power, against such person or another person, or by taking advantage of a coercive environment, or committed against a person incapable of giving genuine consent.
- **Marital Rape:** Sexual intercourse forced on a woman by her husband, knowingly against her will.
- **Psychological violence** (often also referred to as 'emotional violence') refers to any act or omission that damages the self-esteem, identity or development of the individual. It includes, but is not limited to, humiliation, threatening loss of custody of children, forced isolation from family or friends, threatening to harm the individual or someone they care about, repeated yelling or degradation, inducing fear through intimidating words or gestures, controlling behaviour, and the destruction of possessions.

- **Economic violence** includes denying a woman access to and control over basic resources. It causes, or attempts to cause, an individual to become financially dependent on another person, by obstructing their access to or control over resources and/or independent economic activity. It includes acts such as the denial of funds, refusal to contribute financially, denial of food and basic needs, and controlling access to health care or employment.
- **Technology-facilitated violence** involves digital violence committed and amplified through the use of information and communications, technologies or digital spaces against a person based on gender. It is facilitated through the design and use of existing as well as new and emerging technologies (both hardware and software). Technology-facilitated gender-based violence takes many forms, including sextortion (blackmail by threatening to publish sexual information, photos or videos); image-based abuse (sharing intimate photos without consent); doxing (publishing private personal information); cyberbullying; online gender and sexual harassment; cyberstalking; online grooming for sexual assault; hacking; hate speech; online impersonation; and using technology to locate survivors of abuse in order to inflict further violence, among many others.¹⁴

Coercive control is often defined as a pattern of controlling behaviour, used by a perpetrator to establish and maintain control over another person. Coercive control is almost always an underlying dynamic of family and domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Perpetrators use coercive control to deprive another person of liberty, autonomy and agency.¹⁵

The **term survivor of violence** refers to any person who has experienced sexual or gender-based violence. It is similar in meaning to “victim” but is preferred because it implies resilience.

¹⁴ UNFPA .n.d. [Technology-facilitated gender-based violence: A growing threat](#)

¹⁵ Australian Government. n.d. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. [Coercive Control](#).

Annex 2 - Contributing risk factors for intimate partner violence

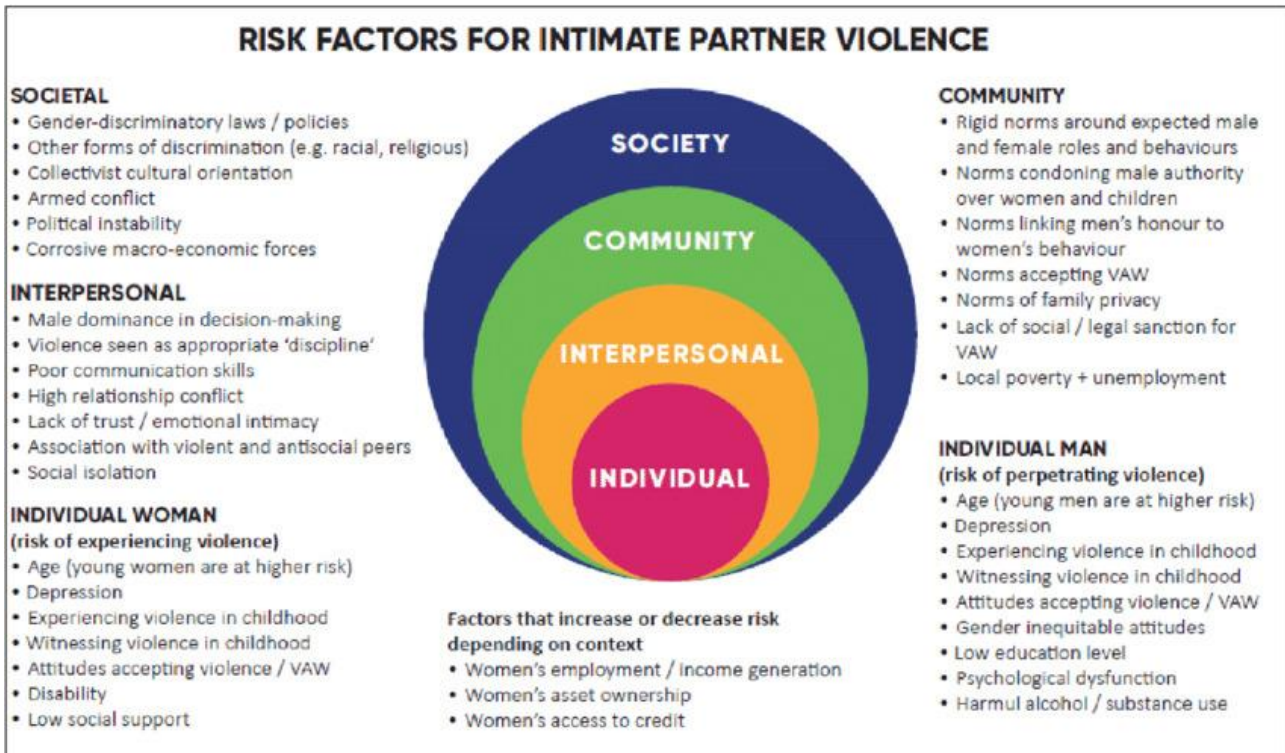


Figure 1: Socio-ecological framework depicting contributing factors towards intimate partner violence experienced by women.¹⁶

¹⁶ The Prevention Collaborative. (2020). [Risk factors for intimate partner violence.](#)

Annex 3 - Program theory linking cash transfers (social protection) and intimate partner violence

This theory suggests that there are three primary pathways through which cash transfers affect intimate partner violence:

- i. the economic security and emotional well-being pathway;
- ii. the intra-household conflict pathway; and
- iii. the women’s empowerment pathway.

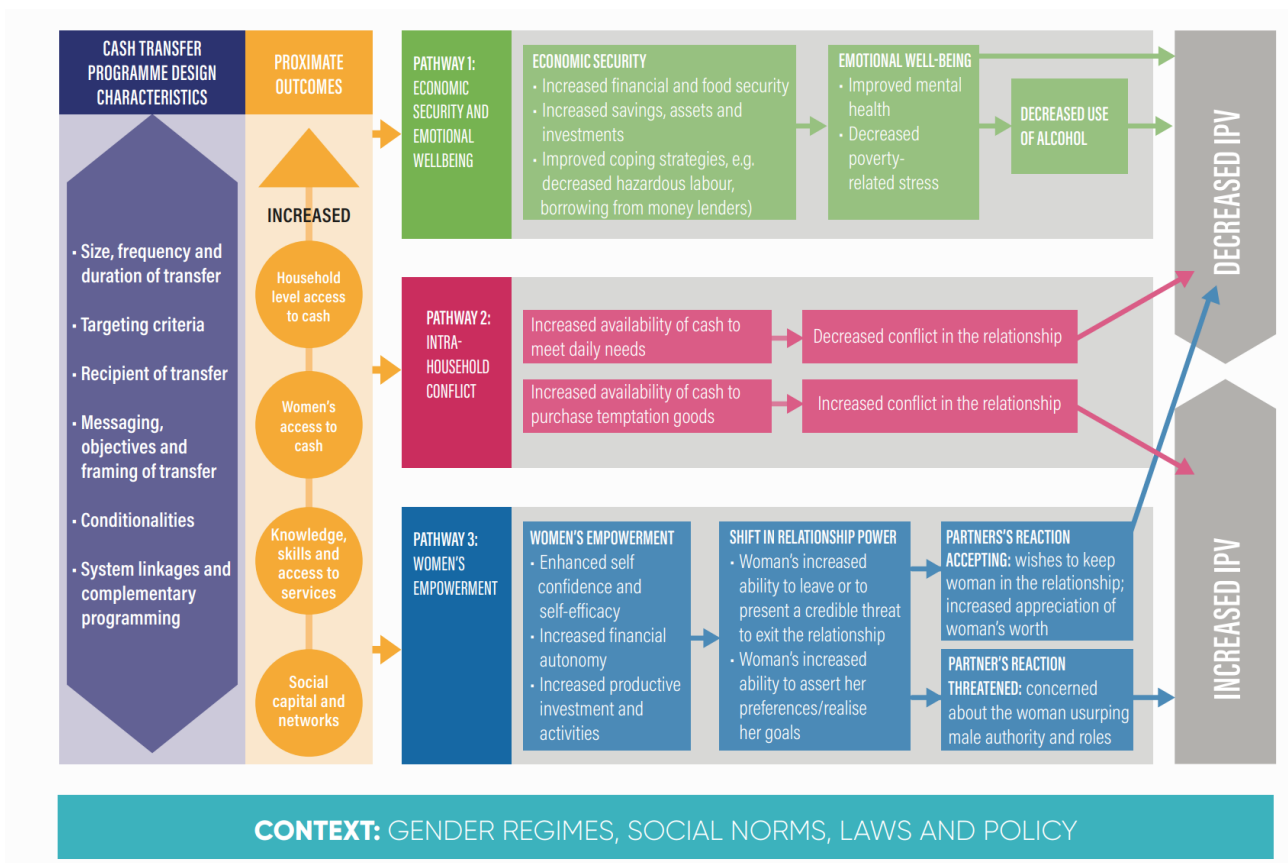


Figure 2: Program Theory Linking Cash Transfer and Intimate Partner Violence.¹⁷

¹⁷ S Buller, Ana Maria & Peterman, Amber & Ranganathan, Meghna & Bleile, Alexandra & Hidrobo, Melissa & Heise, Lori. (2018). A Mixed-Method Review of Cash Transfers and Intimate Partner Violence in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. p.33.

Annex 4 - Full Proposal (Stage 2)

Only Suppliers whose EOIs best meet the evaluation criteria and are shortlisted from Stage 1 will progress to Stage 2 and be invited to submit a full proposal. Submission of an EOI in Stage 1 does not guarantee an invitation to submit a full proposal in Stage 2.

Detailed requirements and format for the Stage 2 full proposal are provided below.

1 Full Proposal Requirements

Suppliers should demonstrate an approach to reasonable accommodations throughout all aspects of the full proposal. The proposal should demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, outlining strategies to identify and respond to reasonable accommodation needs, if they arise.

1.1 Technical Proposal (30%)

- **Detailed experience of the Supplier and formalised consortium partners specifically in the one country or two agreed countries, including:**
 - Networks built with Government and Civil Society on gender equality and intimate partner violence issues.
 - Specific examples of relevant work in these countries.
- **Comprehensive description of working relationships, roles, and responsibilities between the Supplier, consortium members, and/or other partners for this assignment, including:**
 - Previous collaborative experiences.
 - How the team's composition addresses the linguistic / cultural diversity of the selected countries.
 - Expertise in undertaking qualitative research in the Pacific and knowledge/ understanding of social protection and cash transfer programming in the Pacific.
 - Demonstrated experience undertaking GBV research in accordance with best practice ethical standards
- Updated record of accomplishment in delivering high-standard social research in the Pacific, with emphasis on the agreed countries.
- Feasibility and clarity of workplan.
- Robustness of data management approach.

1.2 Detailed Delivery Approach (50%)

- **Refined methodology, addressing:**
 - Sensitivity and ethical considerations specific to the agreed countries.
 - Logistical requirements, and overall approach to reasonable accommodation, if required.

- Agreed collaboration with local partners.
- Intersectionality in gender, disability, and social inclusion issues.
- Demonstration of deep understanding of intimate partner violence and gender equality context, actors, and stakeholders in each agreed country.
- **Full team composition, including:**
 - Qualifications.
 - Detailed roles and responsibilities.
 - Time allocation for each team member.
 - Language capabilities relevant to the selected countries.
- **Comprehensive risk assessment and mitigation strategies specific to the agreed countries and proposed methodology.**

1.3 Estimated Budget Proposal (20%)

- Budget breakdown by team member, country, and activity.
- Value for money considerations.

2 Full Proposal Evaluation Criteria

The full proposal will be evaluated based on the below criteria and their respective weightings. Each main criterion (Technical Proposal, Detailed Delivery Approach, and Budget Proposal) will be scored out of the allocated percentage, with sub-criteria scored as indicated. The total score will be out of 100%.

2.1 Technical Proposal (30%)

- a. Country-specific experience and networks (6%)**
 - Depth and relevance of experience in the agreed countries (0-2)
 - Strength and diversity of networks with Government and Civil Society on gender equality and intimate partner violence issues (0-2)
 - Quality and relevance of specific examples of work in these countries (0-2)
- b. Consortium/partnership effectiveness (6%)**
 - Clarity and appropriateness of roles and responsibilities among partners (0-2)
 - Quality of previous collaborative experiences (0-2)
 - Effectiveness in addressing linguistic/cultural diversity of selected countries (0-2)
- c. Research track record (6%)**
 - Quality and relevance of previous social research in the Pacific (0-3)
 - Specific research accomplishments in the agreed countries (0-3)
- d. Workplan (6%)**
 - Clarity and logical flow of proposed activities (0-2)
 - Feasibility of timeline (0-2)
 - Alignment with project objectives and deliverables (0-2)
- e. Data management approach (6%)**

- Comprehensiveness of data collection, storage, and protection plans (0-3)
- Adherence to ethical standards and local regulations (0-3)

2.2 Detailed Delivery Approach (50%)

a. Methodology and methods (25%)

- Appropriateness of proposed methodology and methods (0-5)
- Comprehensiveness of initial ethical and safeguards considerations for GBV research (0-5)
- Feasibility of logistical arrangements (and overall approach to reasonable accommodation, if required) (0-5)
- Strength of collaboration with local partners (0-5)
- Integration of intersectionality in gender, disability, and social inclusion issues (0-5)

b. Context understanding (5%)

- Demonstrated experience undertaking GBV research in accordance with best practice ethical standards (0-5)

c. Team composition (8%)

- Relevance and strength of team qualifications (0-2)
- Clarity and appropriateness of roles and responsibilities (0-2)
- Adequacy of time allocation for each team member (0-2)
- Sufficiency of language capabilities for selected countries (0-2)

d. Risk assessment and mitigation (12%)

- Comprehensiveness of risk identification (0-6)
- Appropriateness of proposed mitigation strategies (0-6)

2.3 Estimated Budget Proposal (20%)

a. Budget breakdown (15%)

- Clarity and detail of budget by team member (0-5)
- Clarity and detail of budget by country (0-5)
- Clarity and detail of budget by activity (0-5)

b. Value for money (5%)

- Overall cost-effectiveness of the proposal (0-5)

3 Phasing for Full Proposal (Stage 2)

Stage 2 will be structured in phases. The following outline provides a guide to anticipated phasing, but this will be confirmed prior to the submission of full proposals by shortlisted Suppliers.

Phase	Deliverable
Phase One	
Inception & Planning	<p>Inception Report, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed workplan. • Stakeholder mapping. • Methodology outline. • Preliminary literature and data gap analysis. • Team structure and roles. • Revised budget and timeline.
Phase Two	
Methodology Development	<p>Detailed methodology report, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research design. • Sampling strategy. • Ethical considerations and risk mitigation strategies. • Data collection methods. <p>Consider cultural adaptation of research methods, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory dialogue approaches such as <i>talanoa</i>, <i>kakala</i> etc. • Providing materials in local languages and use interpreters when needed. • Respecting local customs, dress codes, and taboo subjects. • Local gender norms in research design and implementation.
Data Collection Tools	<p>Draft and final versions of all data collection instruments (e.g., interview guides, survey questionnaires) for review and approval before field work begins.</p>
Data Management Plan	<p>Detailed plan outlining data collection (accommodating different cultural concepts of time and scheduling), as well as storage, protection, and eventual destruction or archiving procedures.</p>
<p>Ethics Approval Documentation (if applicable)</p> <p>Consider community hierarchies and seek appropriate permissions.</p>	<p>Official documentation from relevant ethics committees, country research approval committee and/or institutional review boards certifying that the research project has been reviewed and approved, ensuring it adheres to ethical standards and protects participants' rights and well-being.</p> <p>Please note: Given the high prevalence of intimate partner violence in the region, participants may include survivors, perpetrators, or both. Therefore, ethical considerations and 'do no harm' principles are central to the methodology, especially in identifying, surveying, and supporting study participants. The successful supplier will be responsible for ensuring robust ethical considerations and adherence to 'do no harm' principles throughout the research process.</p>

Phase Three	
Country level Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country-specific Field Study Guidelines, including cultural contextualisation. Stakeholder Engagement Plan, in consultation with P4SP and DFAT. Capacity Building Plan (if applicable).
Phase Four	
Data Collection and Initial Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interim Progress Reports (monthly or bi-monthly-TBC). Raw Data Sets (anonymised). Analysis Plan. Preliminary Findings Report.
Phase Five	
In-depth Analysis and Country Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Country Report(s), include how cultural and ethical considerations were addressed and their impact on the research. Final Country Report(s), include how cultural and ethical considerations were addressed and their impact on the research. Presentation of country-specific findings to P4SP and DFAT, include how cultural considerations were addressed and their impact on the research.
Phase Six	
Synthesis and Final Reporting (If research is undertaken in more than one country by a single supplier)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Synthesis Report(s) (for one or both countries), include how cultural and ethical considerations were addressed and their impact on the research. Final Synthesis Report, include how cultural and ethical considerations were addressed and their impact on the research. Executive Summary. Policy Brief.
Phase Seven	
Internal and external Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal presentation of results for internal audience. Final Technical Report (for program use). Public Summary Report, including research benefits flow back to participating stakeholders. Academic Journal Article Draft (if applicable). Blog Posts and/or Other Media Products.
Phase Eight	
Assignment Closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons Identified Report. Data Archive and Destruction Report.

Annex 5 - P4SP | Policy Declaration Form

I _____ confirm that I have read, understood, and agree for Consultant Company [‘insert company name’] with [insert ACN], and its Specified Personnel to abide by the following Development Pathways, Partnerships for Social Protection (P4SP) and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) policies, which have been provided to me via email correspondence.

Development Pathways policies:

- Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy and Procedure
- Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy
- Code of Ethical Conduct
- Conflict of Interest and Mitigation Procedure
- Environmental Policy
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Fraud Control Strategy
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement
- Privacy Policy
- Safeguarding Policy for Children and Adults at Risk
- Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) policies:

Policies and guidance as identified on the DFAT [website](#): including but not limited to the below listed DFAT policies, strategy and guidance:

- [Child Protection Policy 2017](#)
- [Disability Inclusive Strategy: Development for All 2015-2020](#)
- [Displacement and Resettlement of People in Development Activities Policy 2015](#)
- [Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy](#)
- [Environment Protection Policy](#)
- [Ethics, Integrity and Professional Standards Policy Manual Chapter 6: Gifts, Benefits, Hospitality, Sponsored Travel and Sponsorship](#)
- [Family Planning and the Aid Program: Guiding Principles](#)
- [Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Policy](#)
- [Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment Policy](#)

Signature Declaration

Name	Signature	Date