

TERMS OF REFERENCES

Empowerment study

2017



*This study will receive funding under an operating grant
from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020).*

Overview of the European Network to reduce vulnerabilities in health

Since 2015, Médécins du Monde France has been hosting the European Network to reduce vulnerabilities in health which brings together 23 NGOs that provide frontline health and social services to people facing multiple vulnerability factors. The Network is unique because of the actors and the populations we work with .

Everyone is likely to be ‘vulnerable’ at a given moment in their life. To tackle health inequalities, there are two sides to the issue of access of healthcare. Effective health care may not be offered on the supply side, and individuals may not use services from which they could benefit on the demand side. Solving the access problem requires tackling both demand and supply side issues and for better health for all to be a political priority. **Therefore, our strategic goal is to contribute to reinforcing health rights and effective access to healthcare for people facing multiple vulnerabilities in Europe.**

We seek to make visible those who are invisible to policy makers. **The Network’s common data collection** document gaps in access to healthcare which can be used as an **advocacy lever for change**. The Network's data has been cited by the IOM, OECD, FRA, European Commission and the European Parliament – demonstrating the added value of robust data for policymaking. We seek to restore the issue of access to healthcare to the heart of EU political discussions.

For more information: <https://mdmeuroblog.wordpress.com/>

Objectives of the empowerment study

Much of the work of Network partners is concerned with empowerment. We all have our ways and definitions or what it means to empower a self-support group or small organization. **In essence, empowerment in our context is about facilitating people we work with to have or take more control over all aspects of their life.** Empowerment is a process rather than a way to reach a state. It is a multidimensional process that encompasses psychological, political, economic and social matters which make it complex to measure. We would like to question partners at different level: empowerment in health, empowerment in their projects and empowerment in the governance.

The network is built on four objectives:

1. Members of the *Network to reduce vulnerabilities in health* obtain increased capacity and skills on reducing (multiple) vulnerabilities in health through improved service delivery, greater patient empowerment, data collection and advocacy.
2. People facing multiple vulnerabilities will get access to higher quality care in the health programmes run by Network members. They will also obtain the skills and knowledge they need to get easier access to higher quality care in mainstream healthcare systems.
3. Based on the Network's data collection, academics will be able to acquire greater understanding about how vulnerabilities contribute to health inequalities, more academic analysis on vulnerabilities will be produced within the broader health inequalities knowledge stream.
4. Local, regional, national and EU health authorities have an enlarged evidence base concerning vulnerabilities in health that can be integrated into health policy-making.

The partners are (www.mdmeuroblog.wordpress.com):

- Austria – the Center for Health and Migration
- Austria - AmberMed
- Bulgaria – The Bulgarian Family Planning and Sexual Health Association
- Czech Republic – Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organizations in the Czech Republic
- Croatia – Udruga let
- Hungary – Menedék
- Ireland – Migrant Right Centre Ireland
- Italy – NAGA
- Lithuania- Demetra
- Norway – Health Centre for Undocumented Migrants
- Poland – Association for Legal Intervention (SIP)
- Romania – Carusel
- Slovenia – Slovene Philanthropy
- 10 Médecins du monde – Doctors of the World organisations (Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands and UK)

In this framework, the Network would like to capitalize lessons learned to help improving practices on empowerment and to replicate good practices for other projects within differing contexts etc.

The global objectives are:

- To understand the good practices on empowerment in domestic projects/programms in 10 partners ;
- To identify the key challenges and difficulties in developing an empowerment approach in these 10 partners
- To prepare and organize the workshop with the European Project Coordinator and empowerment in Budapest

Where and when

This consultant will be based in Paris with travels to partner's countries selected for this study. Travels will be defined and agreed with MdM. This study will be conducted between October 2017 and February 2018.

Calendar:

- 1-19th of October: Preparation of the workshop on empowerment in Budapest
- October: Preparation phase (review of the documents and briefings)
- 19th-20th of October: to facilitate with the DRI team the workshop on empowerment
- November-December: Field work phase (data collection and analysis)
 - o Note: 8th of November: Launch of the European Observatory report and possibility to meet and interview people in Brussels (most of them will be present)
- By 15th of December: 1st draft study
- December - February: Exchange/feedback from MdM (drafting phase)
- 15th February (at the latest): Final report submitted to MdM

Methods

The consultant is placed under the direct supervision of the Vulnerability Network Coordinator. The consultant will collaborate with the Network Secretariat team based in Paris and Brussels to successfully deliver the study. Interviews will take place via online meetings as much as possible, in addition, the consultant will travel to meet and interview the selected persons for this study.

The interviews will be conducted in English, French or Spanish. The expected outputs will be delivered in English.

Expected outputs (Deliverables)

- To support actively the preparation of the workshop on empowerment in Budapest: provide an agenda and supporting materials/ tools for an interactive workshop
- To animate ½ or a full day workshop
- A document indicating the precise methodology and the timeline of the consultancy in agreement with the Vulnerability Network Coordinator
- A report with preliminary results
- A final report in English

Budget

This consultancy received funding under an operating grant from the European Union's Health programme (2014-2020).

	Number of days Unit cost in Euros	Unit cost in Euros	Total cost Euros	Remarks
Fees	50	300	15000	

Transport, hotel and food expenses are covered by the organisers (European network to reduce vulnerabilities in health) when going in countries for the study .

Required skills and competencies

Knowledge :

- Methodological knowledge: qualitative and quantitative approaches, survey techniques (documentary analysis, in situ observation, indirect observation, interviews, focus groups, questionnaires, statistical analyzes, surveys, etc.), qualitative and quantitative data analysis techniques, methods of communication and valorization of basic or applied research
- Theoretical knowledge: sociological (and even multidisciplinary) concepts and theories on the family, the individual, health and disease, work and occupations

Expertise :

- Proficiency in the techniques of diagnosing a subject, a problem, etc.
- Proficiency in documentary research, statistical data, bibliographic references
- Proficiency in documentary and forecasting techniques
- Process control to define an object, a problem
- Mastery of techniques for designing, collecting, analyzing data from qualitative and quantitative surveys
- Proficiency in communication techniques related to the dissemination and enhancement of survey results
- Proficiency in English, Spanish and French, computer skills (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Modalisa), expression and writing skills

Skills/experience:

- Experience on the topic of empowerment (theory and practices)
- Knowledge and professional experience of evaluation/capitalisation
- Professional experience in NGOs

APPLICATION

Consultants are invited to submit an application via email to dri@medecinsdumonde.net and specifying **"Empowerment- Vulnerability Network"** in the subject line. The application should be not more than 10 pages and include the following information:

Technical proposal including:

- Understanding of terms of reference,
- Technical approach and detailed methodology,
- CVs and availability of the consultant
- References of previous experience with 1 similar project
- A statement attesting the absence of any conflict of interest.

Financial proposal including:

- The total budget, inclusive of VAT, with the budget breakdown (fees,.).

Applications must be received by: 15/09/2017, 17 pm Paris-time