



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

TERMS OF REFERENCE	
Organisational Background	<p>Hope Behind Bars Africa mission is to close the justice and reformatory gap through strategic legal interventions, leveraging technology and evidence based advocacy.</p> <p>Hope Behind Bars Africa operates across five key program areas which includes Access to Justice Program, Reformation and Reentry Program, Death Penalty Program, Gender and Criminal Justice, and the Freedom of Peaceful Assembly Initiative. Its aim is to drastically reduce rights violations across all arms of the criminal justice system, from the police to the correctional facilities.</p> <p>Hope Behind Bars Africa is a member of the Campaign to Decriminalise Poverty and Status, World Coalition Against Death Penalty, Open Justice Alliance among others. It currently works across the 6 regions in the federation, with offices in Abuja and Edo state, Nigeria.</p>
Purpose of consultancy	<p>Hope Behind Bars Africa seeks the services of two researchers to curate up-to-date data and analysis on gender and death penalty in Nigeria highlighting intersectional and context-specific issues faced by women and minorities on death row in Nigeria.</p>
Background	<p>Capital punishment has been a highly controversial issue in Nigeria for many years. Despite being legal under Nigerian law, there is a growing concern about the use of this punishment and its impact on human rights in the country especially because Nigeria currently maintains the mandatory death penalty.</p> <p>One of the main arguments against capital punishment is the risk of wrongful convictions and executions. Nigeria's justice system is plagued by corruption, inefficiency, and delay. This raises serious concerns about the possibility of innocent individuals being sentenced to death and subsequently executed. The lack of reliable forensic evidence and legal representation for indigent defendants only exacerbates these risks.</p> <p>Furthermore, the use of capital punishment has been shown to disproportionately affect marginalized and vulnerable groups, including the poor, other minorities, and individuals with mental illnesses or intellectual disabilities. This raises serious questions about the fairness and equity of the justice system in Nigeria.</p>



	<p>The lack of disaggregated data on gender and the death penalty makes it difficult to drive informed advocacy and critical change. Most existing data is often inaccessible, hidden within abolitionist movements creating a significant barrier to advocacy efforts.</p> <p>To address these gaps, we aim to use an evidence-based approach to bring the death penalty, particularly its gendered impacts, to the forefront of human rights advocacy in Nigeria. The research/ document redistributed by other allies, keeping the momentum alive.</p>
<p>Scope of work: (Description of services, activities, or outputs)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data Collection and Analysis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop research tools and train data collectors. ○ Collect and analyze up-to-date data on women and other minorities sentenced to death in Nigeria. ○ Examine the intersectional factors (gender, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic status etc) influencing death penalty convictions. ○ Analyze case studies of women and minority groups on death row, including those convicted under different laws. 2. Legal Framework Review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review Nigeria's legal system, focusing on how the death penalty is applied to different groups. ○ Assess the impact of different laws on the sentencing of women and minorities. ○ Investigate discrepancies in sentencing based on gender, ethnicity, mental health status and other intersecting issues. 3. Reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Convene a focus group conversation and develop a report to document findings.
<p>Key deliverables</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research tools - Training of data collectors - Review of the death penalty system in Nigeria with attention to gendered and minority-specific disparities. - Report based on data and case studies of women and minority groups sentenced to death, illustrating specific challenges they face. - Participation at validation workshop - Presentation slides for dissemination of findings to stakeholders - Presentation of findings and recommendations to key stakeholders.
<p>Duration and working schedule:</p>	<p>Not to exceed 12 weeks.</p>



Place where services are to be delivered:	Nigeria.
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legal Consultant: Advanced degree (LL.M, PhD preferred) in Law, Human Rights, Criminal Justice, or a related field. ● Social Science Consultant: Advanced degree (Master’s or PhD) in Psychology, Sociology, Criminology, Gender Studies, or a related field. ● Strong analytical, research and report-writing skills. ● Ability to commit to the project timeline and meet deadlines. ● Familiarity with the Nigerian criminal justice system, correctional facilities, and laws related to the death penalty. ● Previous research on the death penalty, intersectionality, or criminal justice reform is an advantage. ● Ability to apply an intersectional lens to research.
Proprietary Rights	HBBAi holds the proprietary rights to all related materials, content, and reports developed for this assignment and reserves the right to publish, modify and distribute all content produced from this assignment.
Shortlisting Notification	We will only be reaching out to shortlisted candidates. If you do not hear from us by March 18th, please consider your application unsuccessful.
Method of Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A detailed proposal outlining the consultant’s understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology, work plan and budget. - Curriculum vitae highlighting relevant experience. - Contact details of two professional referees. <p>Send to hello@hopebehindbarsafrica.org</p>

Thank you for your interest.