

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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| TITLE | Joint Action to Stop Wasting Learning Consultant |
| CONTRACT MODALITY | Individual Consultancy |
| DUTY STATION | New York (Homebased/Remote) |
| DURATION OF CONTRACT | 4 Months |

Purpose of Assignment

The purpose of this consultancy is to support the five frontrunner countries (Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, and South Sudan) to document the implementation of the Joint Action to Stop Wasting (JASW) and produce learning briefs.

The consultant will provide technical and methodological support throughout the learning process — including the design of data collection approaches, facilitation of data gathering and analysis, and preparation of country-level learning briefs and multi-country thematic briefs.

In addition, the consultant will facilitate the synthesis of findings across countries, identifying common patterns, good practices, and lessons learned to inform adaptive management and guide the JASW partnership model.

Under the guidance of the global UNICEF and WFP teams, the consultancy will:

- Facilitate and coordinate the implementation of data collection exercises across the five frontrunner countries (Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, and South Sudan).
- To document implementation processes, programme adaptations, and key outputs.
- Follow up routine quantitative data collection by country teams through the JASW Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework, ensuring data quality, consistency, and timely reporting.
- prepare five country implementation briefs, summarizing key findings, lessons, and recommendations for each country.
- Develop and draft two to three cross-country thematic briefs, highlighting actionable insights, innovations, and lessons learned focused on the programmatic shifts. Thematic areas may include management of moderate wasting (MAM), maternal nutrition, prevention of relapse, and early identification and management of infants at risk of poor growth and development, among others.

Scope of Work

Facilitate and coordinate data collection exercises in the five frontrunner countries (Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, and South Sudan), ensuring consistency in approach, adherence to agreed methodologies, and integration of both quantitative and qualitative evidence. This will include working closely with country focal points from both agencies to adapt global tools to local contexts, conduct training sessions, and provide technical backstopping during data collection. The consultant will ensure that data collection processes capture operational realities and implementation experiences at national, subnational, and community levels.

- To document implementation processes, programme adaptations, operational bottlenecks, and emerging good practices. This will involve conducting and guiding mixed-methods analyses, including triangulation of routine monitoring data with qualitative insights gathered through interviews, focus group discussions, and direct observations. The consultant will help identify contextual factors that enable or constrain programme performance, sustainability, and scalability.
- Follow up on quantitative and routine data collection led by country teams through the JASW Monitoring and

Evaluation (M&E) framework, ensuring alignment between data reported at country and global levels. This includes validation and interpretation of M&E data and integrating monitoring results into learning analyses and reports. The consultant will also help identify data gaps and propose improvements to strengthen ongoing monitoring systems.

- Prepare five Country Implementation Learning Briefs, one per frontrunner country, summarizing key findings, lessons learned, adaptations, and recommendations for programme improvement. The consultant will provide detailed guidance on structure, content, and quality assurance for each brief, ensuring coherence across countries and alignment with the overall JASW Theory of Change. Develop and draft two to three Cross-Country Thematic Briefs, synthesizing evidence from multiple countries to highlight actionable insights, innovations, and lessons learned. Thematic areas may include but are not limited to: management of moderate wasting (MAM), maternal nutrition, prevention of relapse, and management of infants at risk of poor growth and development. Each brief will present comparative findings, evidence-based recommendations, and practical implications for policy, systems strengthening, and operational scale-up.
- Confidentiality Data collected under this assignment will be treated as strictly confidential. The rights of distribution and/or publication will reside with UNICEF and WFP. Data collected cannot be used for any purpose not related to this assignment. The consultant will not retain any data related to this assignment after completion of deliverables; all datasets will be transferred to UNICEF and WFP.

Working modalities

- The consultancy will be home-based, with possible travel to selected countries as required and subject to context and available resources.
- The consultant will work under the overall guidance of the JASW Global Team at UNICEF, in close collaboration with WFP team at HQ.
- He/she will work directly with UNICEF and WFP COs for coordination, technical support, and validation of findings.

| Work Assignments Overview | Deliverables/Outputs | Delivery deadline (in weeks/months) and input days to complete the deliverable |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Learning protocols and data collection/analysis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country-level learning plans finalized and available at global level • Data repository (quantitative and qualitative data) for each of the countries available, and preliminary results of data analysis presented in a Powerpoint presentation | 40 days (2 months) |
| Country briefs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft country briefs available for each of the countries and shared for feedback with global and country teams | 20 days (1 month) |
| Thematic briefs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country briefs finalized for each of the countries, based on feedback received from global and country teams • At least two thematic briefs | 20 days (1 month) |

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| | drafted and shared with global teams for review and finalization | |
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Payment Schedule:

Payment will be made on submission and acceptance of deliverables. UNICEF reserves the right to withhold payment in case the deliverables submitted are not up to the required standard or in case of delays in submitting the deliverables on the part of the consultant.

Important Notes

- Individuals engaged under a consultancy or individual contract will not be considered “staff members” under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and UNICEF’s policies and procedures and will not be entitled to benefits provided therein (such as leave entitlements and medical insurance coverage). Their conditions of service will be governed by their contract and the General Conditions of Contracts for the Services of Consultants and Individual Contractors. Consultants and individual contractors are responsible for determining their tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local or other applicable laws.
- The selected candidate is solely responsible for ensuring that the health insurance (and visa if applicable) required to perform the duties of the contract are valid for the entire period of the contract. Selected candidates are subject to confirmation of fully-vaccinated status against SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) with a World Health Organization (WHO)-endorsed vaccine, which must be met prior to taking up the assignment. It does not apply to consultants who will work remotely and are not expected to work on or visit UNICEF premises, programme delivery locations or directly interact with communities UNICEF works with, nor to travel to perform functions for UNICEF for the duration of their consultancy contracts.
- UNICEF offers reasonable accommodation for consultants with disabilities. This may include, for example, accessible software, travel assistance for missions or personal attendants. We encourage you to disclose your disability during your application in case you need reasonable accommodation during the selection process and afterwards in your assignment.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE / EXPERIENCE/ COMPETENCIES (CORE/TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL) / LANGUAGE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

Education:

Advanced degree in Public Health, Nutrition, Social Sciences, or a related field.

Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:

- Minimum 5 years of professional experience in programme evaluation, implementation research, or learning documentation.
- Proven experience in qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis in the area of nutrition.
- Demonstrated ability to synthesize findings and produce high-quality analytical reports.
- Experience working with UNICEF, WFP, or other UN agencies is an asset.
- Excellent writing and presentation skills in English (French desirable).