TERMS OF REFERENCE
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT
UNICEF CHINA

Subject / Title: Senior Consultant for development of a discussion paper on children’s rights and infrastructure development under the Belt & Road Initiative

Expected start date: Immediate

Duration: 35 days (before November 30, 2020)

Supervisor: CSR Specialist, South-South Cooperation and Partnerships

1. Background / Context

The Belt & Road Initiative (BRI), first announced by President Xi Jinping in 2013, has the aim of connecting Asia with Africa and Europe via land and maritime networks along six corridors through investments in transport, energy and infrastructure construction as well as manufacturing in BRI countries to drive local economic growth.

Infrastructure projects mainly executed and driven by Chinese state-owned companies which have the potential to bring positive changes to children’s lives through their investments in the communities in which they operate as part of infrastructure and social development including roads, railway, water and sanitation, education, healthcare, as well as by providing employment opportunities for youth and adults. Though there is lack of evidence-based assessment related to the potential environmental and social impacts of such infrastructure projects on children and other vulnerable groups.

In April 2019, UNICEF and National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) signed the Joint Declaration on Accelerating SDGs for Children through Shared Development in Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Countries during the second Belt and Road Forum. According to the Declaration, the parties will jointly promote and advocate children’s rights and ensuring that children can benefit from shared development in BRI countries.

Against this backdrop, a research plan has been developed to inform policy and industry guidance in the infrastructure sector under BRI to enhance social and environmental factors benefiting children, and to accelerate achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2. Objective

UNICEF is seeking a consultant to map children’s rights in infrastructure development and deliver a discussion paper on: the risks/negative impacts and opportunities/positive impacts that BRI infrastructure investment and development pose to children’s rights (Part I), the role of different actors, how to manage and mitigate these negative impacts and how to maximize the positive impacts on children (Part II), as well
as, recommendations for how each actor can address these risks and contribute to the opportunities (Part III).

These efforts will also involve delivery of a concept for a working group (and facilitation of two working group consultation sessions) and written recommendations on how UNICEF can take this agenda forward, post discussion paper.

**Main areas of responsibilities include:**

1) Desk research and literature review of  
   a. Mappings, reports, and studies on the impacts of infrastructure development, with focus on BRI infrastructure development, on human rights/children’s rights  
   b. Associations, initiatives, and efforts addressing human rights/children’s rights in infrastructure, with focus on BRI infrastructure development  
   c. Policies, legislations, regulations, standards, guidance of infrastructure with focus on BRI infrastructure development  

2) Stakeholder engagement  
   a. Develop the TOR and concept for a working group of different stakeholders to discuss key challenges to respecting children’s rights in BRI infrastructure, working towards consensus on key principles for best practices  
      i. Organising and facilitating two working group discussions, one is to discuss about the outline of the discussion paper and the other one is to review the draft of the paper  
   b. Determine the stakeholders and experts to be engaged  
   c. Organise for and execute individual stakeholder discussions  
   d. Engage internal UNICEF stakeholders for feedback on draft discussion paper  
   e. Collect external stakeholder feedback on draft of discussion paper  

3) Drafting and finalising the discussion paper  
   a. Generate content based on desk research, literature review, and stakeholder engagements  
   b. Draft discussion paper  
   c. Revise draft discussion paper based on feedback collected  
   d. Submit final discussion paper  
   e. Written initial recommendations for how UNICEF and its partners can take this agenda forward, based on the content in the discussion paper

**3. Deliverables**  
The consultant is expected to deliver the followings by end of the contract:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Deliverables</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Mapping of children's rights and infrastructure with focus on BRI infrastructure</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Mapping of the infrastructure value chain</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Mapping of different actors along the infrastructure value chain</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Mapping of children’s rights impacted by different activities along the infrastructure development value chain</td>
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<td><strong>2. Concept for a working group</strong></td>
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4. **Timeline (35 days in total)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Working Days</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Orientation</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Review project plan / ensure alignment</td>
<td>1 day</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Map out workplan in further detail</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Desk research and literature review of</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mappings, reports, and studies on the impacts of infrastructure on children’s rights</td>
<td>4 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Associations, initiatives, and efforts addressing children’s rights in infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Legislation and regulation of infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mapping of children’s rights and infrastructure</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mapping of the infrastructure value chain</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mapping of different actors along the infrastructure value chain</td>
<td>3 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mapping of children’s rights impacted by different activities along the value chain</td>
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<td><strong>Submit deliverable 1a-c</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Planning for stakeholder engagement</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Submit deliverable 2a and 3a</strong></td>
<td>1 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>• (UNICEF to provide feedback within 5 working days of receiving)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Engagement of relevant stakeholders</strong></td>
<td>1 day</td>
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• Preliminary individual discussions with relevant stakeholders including discussion of the outline of the paper

Submit deliverable 3b
• Organise for and facilitate group stakeholder discussion

Submit deliverable 2b-1

Compose Part I: Major risks and opportunities poses to children’s rights
• (UNICEF to provide feedback within 10 working days of receiving) 3 days

Compose Part II: Role of different actors in mitigating risks and leverage opportunities
• (UNICEF to provide feedback within 10 working days of receiving) 2 days

Compose Part III: Recommendations for how each actor can address these challenges and contribute to the opportunities
• (UNICEF to provide feedback within 10 working days of receiving) 4 days

Draft discussion paper
• (UNICEF to provide feedback within 10 working days of receiving) 6 days

Engagement of relevant stakeholders
• Organise for and facilitate the second group stakeholder discussion to review draft discussion paper 2 days

Submit deliverable 2b-2

Final discussion paper 4 days

Written strategy recommendations for UNICEF 4 days

5. Supervision / support

During the whole consultancy process, the supervisor with responsibility for this project will be available to work with and guide the consultant on an as-needed basis, seeking inputs from Public Partnership Officers. The supervisor will review the quality of the technical support and deliverables to ensure adherence to UNICEF standards and expectations and process for payment.

6. Consultancy Requirements

- An advanced university degree (Master’s or higher) in law, social or political science, public policy, international development, or related fields.

- Minimum 10 years of work experience with one of the following is required: human rights/children’s rights and business with sectorial expertise (infrastructure or similar like mining, transportation)
preferred. Prior experience in working with UNICEF on children’s rights and business is an advantage.
- A strong research background is required.
- Applicants must have a proven record of excellent writing and analytical skills in English.

7. **Travel required:** Consultant is expected to work remotely. No travel is expected. Note that this is a part-time consultancy, consisting of 35 working days before November 30, 2020.