

## UNICEF China Terms of Reference For Consultant Recruitment

**Job Title of Consultancy:** Child-centered Disaster Risk Reduction Consultant

**Requesting Section:** Public Partnerships Section

**Name of Supervisor and Job Title:** Zhang Yan, Partnerships Specialist

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### **Background of Consultancy Request:**

At the global level, UNICEF has integrated DRR into the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CCC). UNICEF recognizes its crucial responsibility to integrate DRR across its work. Our presence before, during and after a disaster also means that it is ideally placed to address disaster risk and to undertake risk reduction measures. UNICEF also recognises the importance of gender in disaster risk reduction – and that ignoring the different capacities of girls and boys means undermining those of the community as a whole to address disaster risk and cope with disasters.

In the East Asia and Pacific region, it is one of the most vulnerable to climate-related disasters, with half of the population directly affected every year by floods, droughts and storms<sup>1</sup>. Children in East Asia-Pacific countries are faced with the compounding crises from devastating socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate crisis. Climate change and environmental degradation can erase much of the gains we have made on child health and well-being so far, unless we urgently take child-sensitive climate actions to scale and put children in the center of the disaster risk reduction strategies and actions.

In China, UNICEF, in its previous Country Programme (2016-2020), has worked closely with government counterparts towards the goal of increasing national and local capacities in DRR and resilience to prevent loss of life and minimize negative social and economic impacts on vulnerable children and communities in the event of future disasters. The experience of DRR programming, together with some innovative actions and evidence in China and the East Asia Pacific region, is in line with the recently released National Plan of Action (NPA) for children, emphasizes the importance in coordinating among responsible line ministries and considering the special needs of children when formulating emergency plans.

In response to this need, UNICEF China Country Office, together with East Asia and Pacific Regional Office propose to initiate a paper on the *Child-centered DRR in education system: practices in China and the East Asia and Pacific Region*.

### **Purpose of Activity/Assignment:**

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<sup>1</sup> UNISDR, 2019, [Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019](#)

UNICEF is seeking a consultant to conduct a research, with inputs from UNICEF China and EAPR, to summarize the existing child-centered DRR approaches in education system and emergency planning from within China and other countries; recommendations to Chinese government agencies on how to better mainstream the child-centered DRR in education system; and suggestions on capacity building for different stakeholders, such as government agencies, schools and communities to enable them better prevent, reduce and manage disaster risks and be better prepared and more resilient to disasters. Overall, the outcome paper aims to contribute to the national efforts for strengthening knowledge and experience sharing in disaster risk reduction within the education system.

### **Major Tasks, Deliverables & Timeframe:**

#### **Major tasks and deliverables overview:**

1. Review, consolidate and conduct a stock take analysis of existing policies and current practices on child-centered DRR within China's education system. Area of focus should be at both national and subnational level with the aim of understanding whether DRR forms an integral part of school preparedness measures both within the curricular and also as part of safety, security and preventative measures of schools and education bodies.
2. Reflect on the 3 pillars of the [comprehensive school safety framework](#) to contribute towards the analysis. An understanding of the impact this has on surrounding/ host communities will also add value to the analysis. This will also help make the case for the importance and relevance of mainstreaming DRR into education and the role of other sectors such as emergency management and health in creating a safe learning environment, with reduced disaster risks, for children.
3. Provide comparative insights between the China model and good practices from other countries within the region to highlight areas for potential future knowledge sharing engagement with both an inward looking and outward sharing perspective that can potentially support an internal audience such as the Ministry of Emergency Management in DRR knowledge exchange forums.
4. Provide recommendations on improvement of mainstreaming the child-centered DRR in education system, as well as suggestions on capacity building for relevant stakeholders in China.
5. Consider the elements of children, adolescents and youth as active stakeholder of DRR in the analysis. Include examples of young people contributing/ engaging in DRR from a school-based/ education perspective. Cite examples from other countries that has relevance for the China context, and vice-versa as part of knowledge sharing.

#### **Deliverables details & timeframe**

A paper is expected from the consultant within 20 working days.

No.	Contents	Suggested methodology	Working days
1.	Review of good practices on child-centered DRR in China and countries in East Asia and	Desk review	4

	Pacific countries, including some case studies		
2.	Draft outline for the paper, which elaborates on the structure, content and flow, for review by CO and RO. Make adjustments based on feedback.		1
3.	Consultation with related Chinese agencies and UNICEF experts in the region and country office	Consultation sessions	3
4.	Draft paper and provide recommendations on improvement of mainstreaming the child-centered DRR in education system; suggestions on capacity building for relevant stakeholders in China; and recommendations to UNICEF for supporting the mainstreaming of DRR in education.	Based on consultant findings & internal consultation with UNICEF resources	5
5.	Prepare the first draft, besides the contents above, also consider to include the elements of children and youth as active stakeholder of DRR in the analysis.	Based on consultant findings & internal consultation with UNICEF resources	4
6.	Finalize the report and an accompanying slide deck for presentation to external partners.		2
7.	Participate in DRR related event and present the key findings and recommendations from the research		1

### **Methodology & Expected Output:**

*Methodology:* desk review, consultation with UNICEF EAPR regional office and China office, as well as government partners at different levels if needed.

*Expected Outcome:* The recommendations of the paper will be channeled to the key government agencies for advocating child-centered DRR in education system. The targeted audience are officials at Ministry of Emergency Management, Ministry of Civil Affairs, National Working Committee on Children and Women under State Council, Ministry of Education and management teams of schools.

*Expected Output:* The paper to be published in China Disaster Reduction magazine or national level disaster reduction journal for wider dissemination.

**Start Date:** 27 December 2021

**End Date:** 31 March 2022

**Total Working Days:** 20

**Consultancy Requirements:**

**Minimum Academic Qualifications required and disciplines:**

- An advanced university degree (Master's or higher) in disaster risk reduction, emergency management, public policy, international development, or related fields.
  - A minimum of five years of relevant professional experience in research on human rights, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian assistance, emergency management.
  - A strong research background is required.
  - Applicants must have a proven record of excellent writing and analytical skills in both English and Chinese.
  - Developing country work experience is considered an asset.
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