United Nations Children's Fund

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

Title	Funding Code	Type of engagement	Duty Station:
Child Poverty Analysis Expert		☒ Consultant ☐ Individual Contractor	Remotely

Purpose of Activity/Assignment:

The purpose of this assignment is to provide technical support for UNICEF and national counterparts - mainly Ministry of Planning and Central Statistics Organization (CSO) - in designing, preparation, execution, data management, and data analysis of child poverty study.

1. **Background:**

Child poverty is defined as "deprivation of the material, spiritual, and emotional resources needed for children to survive, develop and thrive" (UNICEF, 2004). It exists in a variety of forms but has a focus on a lack of material adequacy at its heart. This means that child poverty is multi-dimensional, and that material deprivation and monetary poverty are key elements alongside an appreciation of links to psychosocial wellbeing, social and political participation, and other non-material outcomes.

In context of Yemen, child poverty is a persistent issue limiting the potential of a large portion of Yemen's population, limiting educational attainment, generating poor health outcomes, and preventing children from realizing their basic rights. Poverty was already high in the pre-crisis period, and the escalation of conflict has depressed living standards further. Yemen is the poorest country in the Middle East and North Africa region. In 2021, more than two-thirds of the country's population was in urgent need of some form of assistance, with most of them being children. The conflict has been occurring for eight years, causing negative impacts on people's life, public institutions, and infrastructure.

As a result, monetary poverty rates increased significantly after the outbreak of the conflict. The level of poverty is already on an upward trend between 2014 and 2021, and the situation appears to be deteriorating sharply. The monetary poverty rate has increased over time. It rose from 34 % in 2005 to 76.9% in 2016 and stimulated to reach 82% in 2022.

Poverty in Yemen is characterized by insufficient income to obtain the required quantity and quality of food, living in an environment subjected to diseases, poor access to high-quality health service, and low quality of education. According to the results of 2021 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), Yemen is considered one of the top ten countries with high multidimensional poverty. The Arab Poverty report indicate that 76.3 of the total population are living in multidimensional poverty in Yemen. The report used data available from different surveys during 2009–2014.

Millions of Yemeni children are facing deprivations that cannot be explained using the concept of monetary poverty alone. Thus, an analysis of multidimensional child poverty is crucial to understand closely children poverty levels and have a clear picture on the multiple challenges and deprivations they are facing. To this end, UNICEF wants to do the child poverty analysis benefiting from the recent MICS survey results.

2. **Justification and Purpose**

There is no clear information on child poverty in Yemen from multidimensional perspective. The latest poverty analysis was done by WB in 2016 based on the Household Budget Survey implemented in 2014 measures national poverty rates from income dimensions which measures only monetary poverty.

There is a need for up-to-date evidence on child deprivations in Yemen to inform the response and planning processes. Hence, the child poverty analysis will directly inform response by national counterparts and international humanitarian and development actors including on social protection and enhancing the equity lens of response and programming. For UNICEF, updated analysis on child multidimensional poverty is needed to inform UNICEF planning for the coming years.

Therefore, the purpose of this assignment is to support UNICEF YCO and government partners - mainly Ministry of Planning and Central Statistics Organization (CSO) - in the design, preparation, execution, data management, and data analysis of child poverty study. Hence, the assignment will focus on the following specific objectives:

- Raise awareness of government decision makers on multidimensional child poverty and its impact and measures.
- Support the Ministry of Planning and the CSO to develop nationally owned methodology for measuring child poverty at national and governorate level.
- Provide capacity building training and on-the-job coaching for data analysis.
- Carry out the analysis and drafting report and findings.

3. **Methodological Approach**

Over the last decades, several approaches have been developed for assessing multidimensional poverty, including for children and with specific measurement methods for children, these include the Bristol method, the MODA approach and the MPI. UNICEF in 2020 developed a position paper on child poverty measurement which defines some criteria that a child poverty measurement should have, and this assignment will be guided by the key characteristics of a child multidimensional method mentioned in the position paper. The position paper can be access on: https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Measuring-monitoring-poverty-position-paper-English_2020.pdf. In the meantime, technical notes were developed to operationalize the Position Paper.[1]

The Multidimensional Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) has been developed by UNICEF and rolled out in many countries globally. This method is similar to the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), but the difference is that the child is the unit of analysis. MODA approach is tailored to each country context, and it

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[1] **These are the links where the material can be found:**

https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Technical-Briefing-Note-1.pdf

https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Technical-Briefing-Note-2.pdf

https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Technical-Briefing-Note-3.pdf

https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Technical-Briefing-Note-4.pdf

https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Technical-Briefing-Note-5.pdf

https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Technical-Briefing-Note-6.pdf

applies a life-cycle approach when selecting dimensions (health, education, nutrition etc.) for analysis to capture the different deprivations that children experience at different stages of their life including access to basic rights including among others Nutrition, Health, Education, Water, Sanitation, Housing, Protection, and Information.

For the analytical work, there should be a baseline. The data source identified to design the child poverty framework is the 2022-23 MICS conducted in Yemen. The poverty analysis and the child poverty profiles will be computed from this data source, while poverty trends will be computed by applying the same framework to the DHS 2013 data.

4.   **The consultant's duties and responsibilities**
In elaboration with the above methodology, the consultant should perform the following tasks:

Task A: Awareness Rising
- Develop an awareness rising materials on multidimensional child poverty and its measurements.

Task B: Development of a Nationally Owned Child Multidimensional Poverty Methodology
- Support (remotely) national consultations on the national MPI methodology.
- Develop the methodology note on the measurement and analysis, including the sensitivity analysis.
- Discuss proposed developed methodology and get it approved by UNICEF and relevant government agencies.

Task C: Analysis and Reporting
- Support (remotely or in Amman) a training for key government staff particularly Ministry of Planning and Central Statistics Organization.
- Draft the child multidimensional poverty analysis report and share it with SP programme, UNICEF programmes, and relevant government agencies.
- Consolidate the draft report with the received feedback.

Task D: Validation of findings
- Support (remotely) consultations on findings with UNICEF relevant government agencies, and research centers.
- Finalize the draft analysis report.
- Facilitate (remotely) a workshop to validate results.

* **Note**: The national consultant will work closely with the international consultant to prepare and deliver tasks that can't be achieved remotely, such as awareness rising and discussion with relevant government stakeholders, with guidance and direction of the international consultant.

Budget Year:	Requesting Section/Issuing Office:	- Reasons why consultancy cannot be done by staff:
		- *This is work requires dedicated specialized technical capacity working under the supervision of UNICEF*
U.S.D 32,000	*Social Policy*	

Included in Annual/Rolling Workplan: ☒ Yes ☐ No, please justify:

Consultant sourcing:		Request for:
☐ National ☒ International ☐ Both **Consultant selection method:** ☐ Competitive Selection (Roster) ☒ Competitive Selection (Advertisement/Desk Review/Interview)		☒ New SSA ☐ Extension/ Amendment

If Extension, Justification for extension:			
Supervisor:	**Start Date:** *15th March 2023*	**End Date:** *15th Oct 2023*	**Number of Days (working)** *7 months*

Work Assignment Overview			
Tasks/Milestone:	Deliverables/Outputs:	Timeline	Estimate Budget
Task 1: Awareness Rising	- Awareness rising materials prepared and submitted	1 month	
Task 2: Development of a Child Poverty Methodology and tools	- A methodology note and sensitivity analysis developed and endorsed	1.5 months	
Task 3: Analysis and Reporting	- Trainings for government staff conducted. - Draft analysis report prepared and submitted	3 months	
Task 4: Validation of findings	- Consultations on findings conducted - Final analysis report submitted after consolidating all feedbacks - Presentation on key findings	1.5 months	
Estimated Consultancy fee			
Travel International (if applicable)	N/A		
Travel Local (please include travel plan)	N/A		
DSA (if applicable)	N/A		
Total estimated consultancy costs[i]			

Minimum Qualifications required:	Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:
☐ Bachelors ☒ Masters ☐ PhD ☐ Other At least master's degree in economics, Public Policy, Social Sciences, International Relations, Political Science, or other relevant disciplines is required.	- At least 10 years of experience / expertise in conducting multidimensional poverty analysis, including child poverty concept with specific expertise on the MPI/MODA and any other multidimensional poverty approach. - Good analytical skills in gathering and consolidating data and research. - Experience on conducting capacity building and training particularly on poverty related aspects. - Good knowledge of Yemen context would be an asset. - Excellent communication and advocacy skills are required. - Familiar with policy and strategic context in MENA region is an added advantage.

Administrative details: Visa assistance required: ☐ Transportation arranged by the office: ☐	☒ Home Based ☐ Office Based: If office based, seating arrangement identified: ☐ IT and Communication equipment required: ☐ Internet access required: ☒
Request Authorised by Section Head *Bilal Ishaq Al-Kiswani (Chief Social Policy)*	**Request Verified by HR:**
Approval of Chief of Operations (if Operations): _____ *Representative (in case of single sourcing/or if not listed in Annual Workplan)* _____	*Approval of Deputy Representative (if Programme)* _____

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[1] Costs indicated are estimated. Final rate shall follow the "best value for money" principle, i.e., achieving the desired outcome at the lowest possible fee. Consultants will be asked to stipulate all-inclusive fees, including lump sum travel and subsistence costs, as applicable.

Payment of professional fees will be based on submission of agreed 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.