**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS**

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| **Title**  MHPSS International Consultant | **Funding Code**  **SM200755** | **Type of engagement**  Consultant  Individual Contractor Part-Time  Individual Contractor Full-Time | **Duty Station:**  Home based/ Yangon |
| **Purpose of Activity/Assignment:**  To develop MHPSS messages and storytelling to support children and caretakers to support well-being and reduce distress of conflict affected communities. | | | |
| **Scope of Work:**  UNICEF seeks to engage a competent individual consultant with expertise in mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) to support in the development of targeted MHPSS messages to support children and families in Myanmar. UNICEF seeks to engage a competent consultant with expertise in working with children and families and helping them to manage challenges through engaging and creative approaches to discussing psychoeducation and well-being so that they can reduce their distress through social and emotional learning, through emotional regulation and the identification of coping strategies. The consultant will support in providing MHPSS messages that are culturally adapted that will assist in nation-wide rolling out of digital and audio based MHPSS interventions especially useful for children/adolescents and families living in conflict-affected communities where in-person MHPSS activities has become extremely difficult to support hard-to-reach communities where internet connectivity is unreliable and remote services have become challenging.  The consultant will provide written narrative scripts on key MHPSS messages including psychoeducational storytelling. The narrative descriptions on the key MHPSS messages will include a full description of the story including spoken words, pauses, actions, settings, characters and sounds as well as accompanying movements/activities that go along with the story. The key MHPSS messages will be adapted by a communications agency into audio recordings, picture-based flipbook/booklet (snapshots based on animated video versions) and animated video versions which will be distributed through UNICEF implementing partners and through youth targeted interactive platforms for engagement. The tasks of the consultant will include:   1. **Development of a narrative script of age-specific, interactive psychoeducational storytelling for children/adolescents to promote emotional well-being:** 4 x children/adolescent written narrative script on storylines provided in English and Myanmar with a duration of 6-10 min each if spoken, including pauses in narrative. The interactive psychoeducational storytelling will target different age groups of children and adolescents including 2 x targeting ages 4-7, 1 x targeting 8-12, and 1 x targeting 13-17. The storylines will include psychoeducational interactive messages to promote the emotional well-being of children and adolescents and will normalize stress responses to relevant crisis that children are currently facing (displacement, loss, insecurity, emotional isolation due to Covid-19 etc.) and provide guidance on how to manage difficult emotions when confronted with a new and rapidly changing reality. Storylines should include a reflection of challenges in life and the storyline should evolve around overcoming adversity and can incorporate interactive activities into the storyline such as breathing exercises and other stress management techniques related to the age group and/or body movements related to the key character “children acting out a bird flapping its wings to stay stable during a storm, standing as a tree blowing in the wind with roots grounded etc.” UNICEF will provide an overview of a field level assessment conducted through partners in measuring key concerns of children and caregiver well-being particularly in conflict affected areas. The assessment with caregivers will be carried out to ensure messages address the relevant challenges vulnerable populations are facing in terms of their well-being and the well-being of their children. As well UNICEF will provide input from partners who are working closely with parents and caregivers on key identified needs. 2. **Development of narrative script of MHPSS messages developed for parents/caregivers:** 4 x MHPSS messages in written narrative script provided in English and Myanmar with a duration of 2-3 min each if spoken, including pauses in narrative. MHPSS messages for parents and caregivers will focus on the promotion of child and family wellbeing during the Covid-19 crisis and the armed conflict through the provision of psychoeducational messages on stress and coping as well as positive parenting tips on caring for their children during a crisis, common stress reactions of children of different age groups and practical tips for parents to reduce their children distress as well as their own and suggestions for activities and creative play for parents to do with children. UNICEF will provide an overview of a field level assessment conducted through partners in measuring key concerns of children and caregiver well-being particularly in conflict affected areas. The assessment with caregivers will be carried out to ensure messages address the relevant challenges vulnerable populations are facing in terms of their well-being and the well-being of their children. As well UNICEF will provide input from partners who are working closely with parents and caregivers on key identified needs. | | | |
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| **Child Safeguarding**  Is this project/assignment considered as “[Elevated Risk Role](https://unicef.sharepoint.com/sites/DHR-ChildSafeguarding/DocumentLibrary1/Guidance%20on%20Identifying%20Elevated%20Risk%20Roles_finalversion.pdf?CT=1590792470221&OR=ItemsView)” from a child safeguarding perspective?       YES       NO     If YES, check all that apply:    **Direct contact role** YES        NO   If yes, please indicate the number of hours/months of direct interpersonal contact with children, or work in their immediately physical proximity, with limited supervision by a more senior member of personnel:     |  | | --- | |  |   **Child data role** YES      NO   If yes, please indicate the number of hours/months of manipulating or transmitting personal-identifiable information of children (name, national ID, location data, photos):     |  | | --- | |  |   More information is available in the [Child Safeguarding SharePoint](https://unicef.sharepoint.com/sites/DHR-ChildSafeguarding/SitePages/Amendments-to-the-Recruitment-Guidance.aspx) and [Child Safeguarding FAQs and Updates](https://unicef.sharepoint.com/sites/DHR-ChildSafeguarding/DocumentLibrary1/Child%20Safeguarding%20FAQs%20and%20Updates%20Dec%202020.pdf) | | | |

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| **Budget Year:** | **Requesting Section/Issuing Office:** | | **Reasons why consultancy cannot be done by staff:** | | | |
| *2021 - 2021* | *Child Protection* | | The Consultant needs to have specialized mental health qualifications specific to working with children to ensure quality of child mental well-being and specific considerations when designing MHPSS messages to uphold do no harm principles. | | | |
| **Included in Annual/Rolling Workplan***:*  Yes  No, please justify: This consultancy work is urgently required to build capacity of UNICEF partners on PSEAVID-19 and the military coup. | | | | | | |
| **Consultant sourcing:**  International  **Consultant selection method:**  Competitive Selection (Roster)  Competitive Selection (Advertisement/Desk Review/Interview) | | | | | **Request for:**  New SSA – Individual Contract  Extension/ Amendment | |
| **If Extension, Justification for extension/single sourcing:** T | | | | |  | |
| **Supervisor:**  **Noriko Izumi, Chief, Child Protection** | | **Start Date:** | | **End Date:** | | **Number of Days (working)** |
|  | | *1st December 2021* | | *31st December 2021* | | *22 working days, full time, regular office hours* |
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| **Work Assignment Overview** | | | |
| Tasks/Milestone: | Deliverables/Outputs: | Timeline | Estimate Budget |
| 1. Develop 4 x narrative script of age-specific, interactive psychoeducational storytelling for children/adolescents to promote emotional well-being | 4 x children/adolescent written narrative script on storylines provided in English and Myanmar with a duration of 6-10 min each if spoken, including pauses in narrative.   * 2 x targeting ages 4-7 * 1 x targeting 8-12 * 1 x targeting 13-17 | Nov- Dec [monthly]  15 days | 7500 |
| 1. Develop 4 x narrative script of MHPSS messages developed for parents/caregivers | 4 x MHPSS messages in written narrative script provided in English and Myanmar with a duration of 2-3 min each if spoken, including pauses in narrative. | Nov – Dec  7 days | 3500 |
|  | **TOTAL** | 22 days | 11,000 |

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| **Estimated Consultancy fee** | **USD** |  | **11.000** |
| Travel International (if applicable) | Not Applicable |  | 0 |
| Travel Local (please include travel plan) | Not Applicable |  | 0 |
| DSA (if applicable) | Not Applicable |  | 0 |
| **Total estimated consultancy costs[[1]](#endnote-1)** | **USD** |  | 11,000 |
| **Minimum Qualifications required:** | **Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:** | | |
| Bachelors  Masters  PhD  Other  Enter Disciplines:  Requires Degree in mental health, psychology social work or a related field. | At least 5 years' professional experience in the provision of specialized mental health services;   * Proven professional experience in and ability to provide strategic framework and documents for MHPSS programming, engagement, and coordination with reference to global guidance and standards. * Demonstrated expertise and professional experience in developing quality MHPSS material * Good understanding of conflict-sensitive programming and previous professional experience in programming in conflict settings a strong asset; * Excellent communication, analytical and writing skills; * Professional experience working with Ethnic groups in Myanmar, considered a strong asset. | | |
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| **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: | | |
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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

   **Text to be added to all TORs:**

   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. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)