

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS

TITLE	National Consultant to support the Access to justice for children programme.	
Requesting Section	Child Protection	
Type of engagement	Consultant	
Selection method	Competitive selection [advertisement]	
Start/End date	01-Jul-24	31-Dec-24
Duration	6 months	
Duty Station	Kyiv	
Number of working days	104 days	
Terms of payment	Upon completion of each deliverable according to schedule	

Background:

UNICEF will support the Government of Ukraine in further advancing the EU accession agenda and acknowledges that one of the vital components of the EU integration process is ensuring that the rights and welfare of children are upheld to international and EU standards. UNICEF stands ready to further strengthen partners' efforts to ensure equitable access to justice and child-friendly judicial procedures.

Before the war, the Government of Ukraine made steps to reform the justice system, shifting the focus to enhancing adherence to international standards on the rights of all children in contact with the law, inclusive of those who are victims or witnesses of crimes, children who are suspected in committing a crime and other categories of children, who come in contact with the law for different reasons.

The war has dramatically increased risks for children, reducing their access to services and restricting their access to justice. Nevertheless, the Government of Ukraine strives for European Union accession. A vital component of the EU integration process is ensuring that the rights and welfare of children are upheld to the standards set by the EU. It requires harmonizing legislation and providing guarantees for child rights protection.

The Government of Ukraine is adopting the National Strategy on Justice for Children for 2024-2028 to ensure a child-friendly environment and effective justice for children in accordance with international standards and recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

The UNICEF Better Care programme provides a foundational support system that can be leveraged to prevent child offending through integrated services that address the risk factors of child offending, focus on early intervention, ensure support before entering any stage of the criminal, administrative, or civil justice system, and ensure integration into the community.

Purpose of assignment:

To support the Child Protection Team, focusing on Access to justice for children pillar, as UNICEF strategically positions itself in the area of the justice system reform as a part of the EU accession process.

The Consultant's scope of the work will include:

More specifically, the consultant will support the Child Protection Team, with main focus on Access to justice for children pillar in the following areas:

- Technical support to the Ministry of Justice and the Inter-Agency Co-ordination Council on Justice for Children (ICCJC), co-chaired by UNICEF to ensure comprehensive stakeholder engagement and coordination;
- Operationalization of the National Strategy on Justice for Children for 2024-2028 to ensure strategic positioning of UNICEF;
- Facilitate the revision of specific legislation/legal frameworks on Justice for Children in line with international and EU justice standards, including for child survivors, witnesses, and children in contact or in conflict with the law;

- Support capacity building of justice for children professionals in child rights protection and child-friendly justice based on the EU standards. Technical support with the implementation of specialization of professionals working in the justice sphere;
- Facilitate the development of services for children in contact with the law, including child-friendly criminal, administrative, and civil procedures, and support the implementation of specialized child protection services/models, including the coordination of the Barnahus model implementation;
- Support the operationalization of the concept note on Access to justice for children..

Implementation of tasks will require a close collaboration and coordination with national core stakeholders, including Inter-Agency Co-ordinational Council on Justice for Children, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Supreme Court, Prosecutor General's Office, Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Ministry of Health of Ukraine, National Police of Ukraine, the Coordination Centre for Legal Aid Provision, civil society organizations – UNICEF implementing partners.

The consultant will work closely with and under direct supervision of the UNICEF Child Protection Officer, NOB and overall guidance of Child Protection Specialist, P4 and Chief of Child Protection, P5.

Minimum requirements:	Education <i>[specify disciplines]</i>	Master's degree	Advanced degree (Master's or equivalent) in one of the following fields is required: law, human rights, international relations.
	Professional experience	Minimum five years of work experience in justice and child protection. Experience in the development of the national child protection system with a focus on justice. Experience in coordination and cooperation with high-level national, and sub-national governments and with international/local CSOs working in the sphere of justice and child rights.	
	Language	Ukrainian	Proficient/Native [C2]
		English	Upper-intermediate [B2]
Skills and competencies	The ability to plan, organize, prioritize, and deliver under pressure is a requisite. Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in a diverse organization tailoring language, tone, style, and format to match the audience.		

Work assignment overview:

Deliverable	Deadline	# of w/days
<p><i>Deliverable 1.</i> Technical support to the Ministry of Justice and the Inter-Agency Co-ordinational Council on Justice for Children (ICCJC) to ensure comprehensive stakeholder engagement and coordination;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monthly report on technical assistance to ICCJC (Quarter 1-2, 10 days per quarter) including the following activities: internal weekly coordination meeting held, up to 6 ICCJC meetings organized and coordinated, up to 5 concept papers on joint UNICEF/ICCJC key interventions drafted, up to 5 analytical papers produced by ICCJC reviewed for alignment with UNICEF child protection guidelines. 	<p>By 31 December 2024 (Q1 – 30 Sep 2024; Q2 – 31 Dec 2024)</p>	20
<p><i>Deliverable 2.</i> Operationalization of the National Strategy on Justice for Children for 2024-2028 to ensure strategic positioning of UNICEF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on technical support to the National Strategy operationalization, including the following activities: up to 5 coordination meetings held; support to the development of the Action plan to the National Strategy. 	<p>By 31 December 2024</p>	10

<p><i>Deliverable 3.</i> Facilitate the revision of specific legislation/legal frameworks on Justice for Children in line with international and EU justice standards, including for child survivors, witnesses, and children in contact or in conflict with the law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on regulatory framework review: up to 5 normative acts reviewed and recommendations prepared 	<p>By 31 December 2024</p>	<p>10</p>
<p><i>Deliverable 4.</i> Support capacity building of justice for children professionals in child rights protection and child-friendly justice based on the EU standards. Technical support with the implementation of specialization of professionals working in the justice sphere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on implementation of capacity building activities, including those related to specialization of justice professionals: organizing up to 8 capacity building and coordination activities held with summary reports prepared (Quarter 2), support in drafting up to 5 recommendations for normative acts changes (Quarter 2); 	<p>By 31 December 2024 (Q1 – 30 Sep 2024; Q2 – 31 Dec 2024)</p>	<p>10</p>
<p><i>Deliverable 5.</i> Development of services for children in contact with the law including child-friendly criminal, administrative and civil procedures and support the implementation of specialized child protection services/models, specifically coordination of the Barnahus model implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on implementation of specialized child protection services/models (Barnahus) and child-friendly criminal, administrative and civil processes, including the following activities: review up to 5 training manuals/guidelines (Quarter 2), weekly coordination meetings involving UNICEF implementing partners, ICCJC on the Barnahus model implementation (Quarter 1-2), up to 5 project proposals reviewed (Quarter 2). 	<p>By 31 December 2024 (Q1 – 30 Sep 2024; Q2 – 31 Dec 2024)</p>	<p>30</p>
<p><i>Deliverable 6.</i> Support the operationalization of the concept note on Access to justice for children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mapping of existing Rule of Law/Access to Justice programmes (including those targeted on children) run by 1) Government agencies; 2) Non-government international organizations (Quarter 1) with a follow up report; - Mapping of the current legislative framework vis-à-vis concept note on Access to justice for children with further review and follow up report (Quarter 1) - Final report on consultancy report (Quarter 2) 	<p>By 30 August</p>	<p>20</p>
<p><i>Deliverable 7 Mandatory training completion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offline Secure Approaches in the Field Environment (SSAFE) and Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK) training upon request (4 days) 	<p>By 1 August (subject to availability of training sessions)</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>Total # of working days</p>		<p>104</p>

Travel plan:

Destination	Period <i>[month, year]</i>	Days
Target regions of programme implementation (Vinnytsia, Mykolaiv, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, Zhytomyr, Kirovohrad, Odesa, Poltava, Sumy, Volyn, Cherkasy, Dnipro, Lviv, Zakarpattia, Kharkiv)	2024	20
Additional regions may be jointly agreed upon request.		

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.

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.

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.