

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

Title	Funding Code	Type of engagement	Duty Station:
Social Economic Consultant		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultant <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Contractor	Sana'a, Yemen
Purpose of Activity/Assignment:			
Under the supervision of the Social Policy Officer and general guidance of the Social Policy Chief of Section, the Consultant provides professional technical assistance and support to the Ministry of Planning in a way that contributes to achieving SP RWP for 2024 as per the tasks detailed in this document.			
1. Background / Scope of Work:			
<p>Yemen is the poorest country in the MENA region. The national poverty rate rose from 34 % in 2005 to 49 % in 2014 and is expected to increase to more than 80% during 2023. The situation has been deteriorated further after the eruption of conflict in 2015, including insecurity and political instability, widespread displacement, increased food insecurity, malnutrition, and disease. The current level of hunger in Yemen is unprecedented and is causing severe hardship for millions of people. In 2023, 21.6 million people will need humanitarian assistance in 2023. The main factors behind these figures are food insecurity, malnutrition, health, water and sanitation, and protection needs. This includes some 17.3 million people who are estimated to need food and agriculture assistance, 20.3 million people who need support to access critical health services and 15.3 million people who will require support to access clean water and meet basic sanitation needs¹.</p> <p>Socioeconomic conditions are deteriorating rapidly further affected by declining remittances, trade disruptions, severe fuel supply shortages, and the disruption and declining humanitarian operations. Challenges like fluctuating currency values, high inflation, and heightened social unrest, have hindered the non-oil sector, especially the private sector. As a result, projections indicate that Yemen's GDP will contract by 0.5% in 2023, a sharp contrast with the 1.5% growth observed the previous year ². In addition, and according to the WB, fiscal pressures mounted in the regions controlled by the Internationally Recognized Government of Yemen (IRG), mainly due to stagnant oil exports. A pronounced decrease in IRG revenues in the first half of 2023 suggests a potential 40% drop for the year. This decline, largely stemming from the oil blockade, has been further exacerbated by the reduction in customs revenues due to the redirection of imports away from Aden port.</p> <p>The macroeconomic and social crises, most notably an energy, liquidity, and exchange rate crises, reduced purchasing power, have deepened the economic downturn and left more than half of all households with insecure sources of food and non-food items. The monopoly of basic commodity imports also has an enhancing effect on inflationary processes. In addition, the importers of basic commodities are facing increasing difficulties in obtaining hard currency to finance their imports. Humanitarian partners have been increasingly stretching to fill some of these gaps to ensure continuity of essential services.</p> <p>Looking ahead, 2024 holds uncertainty for Yemen's economic landscape due to oil export constraints and ongoing political negotiations. Economic stability hinges on sustainable foreign currency inflows and political developments. However, a lasting truce or peace agreement could swiftly strengthen Yemen's economy.</p>			

¹ <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/yemen-humanitarian-needs-overview-2023-december-2022-enar>

² <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2023/10/26/yemen-economic-monitor-highlights-ongoing-challenges-amid-renewed-hope#:~:text=Challenges%20like%20fluctuating%20currency%20values,growth%20observed%20the%20previous%20year.>

In 2015, given the importance and impact of socio-economic developments on child wellbeing and development, UNICEF Yemen Country Office (YCO) launched the Yemen Socio-Economic Update to inform decision-making, programming on children and their families, reporting and writing funding proposals. Since 2015, eighty-three (83) issues of YSEU have been published in both Arabic and English.

In the context of the ongoing crisis and its social economic impact on poverty and inequalities in the country, there is still a dire need to continue providing technical support to the Ministry of planning in monitoring the socio-economic situation and its impact on children and their families with a view to inform internal as well as external decision-making and programming.

2. The purpose of the consultant's assignment

The main purpose of this exercise is to continue supporting Ministry of Planning preparing and publishing a monthly Yemen Socio-Economic Update (Jan 2023- Jan 2024) and in-depth analytical papers to inform decision-making and programming for children and their families in Yemen.

Specific objectives are as follows:

- Collect and analyses the most recent data on the socio-economic situation in the country and understand its impact on child wellbeing and development in Yemen.
- Draft, finalize and publish bi-monthly YSEU (as per the agreed list of topics for the period of this contract), in consultation and collaboration with Ministry of Planning (both south and north), UNICEF, and other technical experts.
- Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Planning on policies and programme aimed at improving child wellbeing and development in Yemen.
- Prepare in-depth analytical papers on certain issues related to children based on 2023 MICS results to inform UNICEF programming and decision making.
- Provide technical support to UNICEF work on Multidimensional Poverty Analysis and on public finance for children (PF4C).

3. The Consultant's Duties and Responsibilities

In elaborating of the above scope of work, the exercise suggests the following specific tasks:

- Propose the suggested list of key topics to be addressed by YSEU during the period of this contract (this list may be revised further in consultation with UNICEF to respond to the most urgent socio-economic developments and issues in Yemen);
- Develop and keep regularly updating a database of YSEU recipients, including their professional affiliations and contact details; and share the bi-monthly update to all stakeholders.
- Work with technical team at the Ministry of Planning to collect (from reliable sources) and analyses the most recent socio-economic data to inform the bi-monthly YSEU publication.
- Drafts the bi-monthly YSEU publication (in accordance with the agree list of topics) in collaboration with the technical teams at the Ministry and share it for inputs and comments with a peer-review consultant, UNICEF YCO, and relevant Ministries, for their feedback.
- Finalizes the draft, facilitates its translation from English into Arabic as well as design (the costs of these services will be separately covered by UNICEF YCO), and publishes the final copy of the YSEU issue in PDF format on the 1st week of each following

<p>month. Publishing should be endorsed by respective officers at Ministry of Planning and SP and approved by chief of Social Policy at UNICEF YCO via email or paper signature.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the ministry of planning to prepare in-depth analytical papers on concerning issues of children in 2023 MICS report to inform UNICEF programming and decision making. • Provide technical support to UNICEF work on Multidimensional Poverty Analysis through leading national consultations with government and non-government partners. • Provide technical support to UNICEF work on public finance for children (PF4C). • When and if required, makes feedback and presentations on specific issues covered by the YSEU to Ministry of Planning and UNICEF, and other partners, shall it be necessary. • Support the advocacy for children’s issues in national polices and programming particularly in recovery stage. • Provides support to Gov partners in Aden (mainly MoPIC and CSO) when necessary and based on UNICEF request and approval. 			
Budget Year:	Requesting Section/Issuing Office:	-	
	<i>Social Policy</i>		
Included in Annual/Rolling Workplan: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, please justify:			
Consultant sourcing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> International <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Request for: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New SSA <input type="checkbox"/> Extension/ Amendment	
Consultant selection method: <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive Selection (Roster) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Competitive Selection (Advertisement/Desk Review/Interview)			
If Extension, Justification for extension:			
Supervisor:	Start Date:	End Date:	Number of Days (working)
	<i>1 April 2024</i>	<i>31 March 2025</i>	<i>250 working days</i>

Work Assignment Overview			
Tasks/Milestone:	Deliverables/Outputs:	Timeline	Estimate Budget
Submit a list of key YSEU topics	List of topics	1 st week of April 2024	8.3%
Publish the 1st edition (#84)	Published 84 issue	1st week of May 2024	8.3%
Publish the 1st analytical paper	Published 1 st paper	1st week of June 2024	8.3%
Publish the 2nd YSEU edition (#85)	Published 85 issue	1st week of July 2024	8.3%
Publish the 3rd YSEU edition (#86)	Published 86 issue	1st week of Aug 2024	8.3%
Publish the 2nd analytical paper	Published 2 nd paper	1st week of Sept 2024	8.3%
Publish the Multidimensional Poverty Report	Published Analysis	Last week of Sept 2024	8.3%
Publish the 4th YSEU edition (#87)	Published 87 issue	1st week of Oct 2024	8.3%
Supported UNICEF work on PF4C	PF4C Road Map	1st week of Dec 2024	8.3%
Publish the 5th YSEU edition (#88)	Published 88 issue	1st week of Feb 2025	8.3%
Publish the 6TH YSEU edition (#89)	Published 89 issue	1 st week of March 2025	8.3%
Publish the 3rd analytical paper	Published 3 rd paper	Last week of March 2025	8.3%
Estimated Consultancy fee			
Travel International (if applicable)	Upon request and approval of UNICEF		
Travel Local (please include travel plan)	The consultant will be traveling to Aden regularly upon UNICEF request to support Gov partners (mainly MoPIC and CSO).		
DSA (if applicable)	For missions upon request and approval of UNICEF		
Total estimated consultancy costsⁱ			

<p>Minimum Qualifications required:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bachelors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Masters <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>A master’s degree in economics, Public Policy, Social Sciences, International Relations, Political Science, or other relevant disciplines is required.</p>	<p>Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum of five years of professional working experience in the area of social economic monitoring and analysis is required. - Developing country work experience and/or familiarity with emergency is considered a strong asset. - Strong understanding of the social economic context in Yemen. - Native Arabic speaker with professional fluency skills in English language - Excellent communication skills - Excellent working with people skills - Excellent Planning & Organizing skills - Drive for results - Very good Analysing skills - Applying Technical Expertise
<p>Administrative details:</p> <p>Visa assistance required: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Transportation arranged by the office: <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Home Based <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office Based: At the Ministry of Planning</p> <p>If office based, seating arrangement identified: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>IT and Communication equipment required: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Internet access required: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

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
