

TERMS OF REFERENCE
CONSULTANT / INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTOR

Section:	Nutrition Section	Date:	26.04.2021
Title:	Nutrition Surveillance Specialist	Duty station:	Home based with frequent travels to WCA
Reporting to:	Nutrition monitoring and information system Specialist	Contract type:	SSA, Individual Contractor
Duration:	7 months	Start date:	1.06.2021

Section	Content
Objectives	<p>The objective of the present consultancy is to support the Regional Office – Nutrition Section with management and harmonization of nutrition information among West and Central African (WCA) countries.</p> <p>Specific objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the implementation of quality nutrition surveys and use of related data in WCA countries 2. Strengthen the use of quality nutrition data by regional platforms and countries to inform programming
Background	<p>Malnutrition remains a global public problem. According to the 2019 Malnutrition Estimates (WB/WHO/UNICEF), 144 million children are stunted, 47 million are wasted. West and Central African Region (WCAR) accounts for the number 29 million (20%) of stunted children in the world and 7.3 million (16%) of wasted children.</p> <p>UNICEF in its Core Commitments for Children prioritizes establishment of timely nutritional assessment and surveillance systems and children and women have access to relevant information about nutrition programme activities. Quality data on the nutritional situation and programming, as well as nutrition-relevant investments is vital for decision-making and informing programme and policy adjustment to more effectively meet the needs of children and women.</p> <p>In West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO), major efforts have been undertaken over the past years to improve availability of nutrition information. With support of UNICEF and its partners, national nutrition surveys (SMART, MICS, DHS) are implemented regularly every 2-3 years. In the Sahel countries, annual SMART surveys are part of the national and regional nutrition surveillance systems for early warning. Existing regional platforms, such as Cadre Harmonise (CH), receive regular support from WCARO to improve use of available nutrition information to better informed humanitarian programmes.</p> <p>Every year, around 15 nutrition surveys, 2 IPC-Acute Malnutrition exercises and 2 Cadre Harmonise cycles take place in the region. UNICEF country offices in WCA are unequally equipped to support governments in conducting such activities and RO plays a key role in providing technical support, coordinating and documenting these exercises.</p>
Scope of work	<p>The consultant will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support nutrition surveys (including SMART): preparation and conduction in countries. The incumbent will ensure that quality surveys and reports are produced. S/He will travel to countries when needed. - Document good practices on nutrition surveillance and support sharing of appropriate guidance among colleagues and partners.

	- Contribute to strengthening regional platforms and partners to better use nutrition information into humanitarian situation assessment and programme design.		
Deliverables and Schedules	Activities	Deliverables	Due date
	Technical support to preparation, implementation and reporting of nutrition data – in all WCAR countries with a focus on 5 Sahel countries (example of support expected: identification of consultant who will conduct the survey, review of protocol, check quality of data, support to analysis and reporting).	Reports describing support provided to countries and clear action points. The SMART regional database will be updated regularly, and raw data stored in appropriate location to allow for future analysis.	By 30 th of each month
	Support IPC-Acute Malnutrition exercises in WCA countries, document challenges and lessons learnt.	Reports from IPC-AMN in countries are finalized and shared. Lessons learnt are documented and shared within and outside of Unicef.	After each IPC-AMN exercise, and no later than 15 th of December.
	Technical support to Cadre Harmonise: serve as Unicef focal point for CH-Nutrition Task Force and represent UNICEF WCARO as needed, during validation and consolidation workshops and other meetings as relevant.	Minutes and recommendations for future follow up from workshops/meetings are documented.	After each CH workshop and Nutrition Task Force meeting and no later than 15 th of December
	Total: 105 days		
Timing	The present contract will be for a duration of 7 months, part time, for a total of maximum 105 days.		
Reporting Requirements	Weekly call with the supervisor will be organised. Monthly short reports describing progress made and support requested from supervisor will be provided by the consultant.		
Profile Requirements	<p>a) EDUCATION At least a master's degree in nutrition or public health or related field – or equivalent professional experience</p> <p>b) WORK EXPERIENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least 5 years of experience in in nutrition, public health and/or health surveys. ○ Experience in coordinating nutrition surveys with SMART methods ○ Previous solid experience in Cadre Harmonise or IPC conduction ○ Demonstrated skills in data management included non-nutrition specific data (health, wash, etc.), analysis and report writing of survey results ○ Proven training skills to develop capacities in personnel ○ Good understanding of the problems of malnutrition in the West and Central Africa ○ Technical competency with the Emergency Nutrition Assessment (ENA) software and other statistical analysis software such as SPSS, STATA, SAS, EPI-INFO. <p>c) LANGUAGES Fluency in French and English.</p>		

	<p>d) COMPETENCIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to express clearly and concisely ideas and concepts in written and oral form. • Ability to work in a multicultural environment. • Proven skills in statistical analysis and report writing. • Work experience in sub-Saharan Africa; ideally in West and Central Africa • Work experience with major donors in the field of nutrition • Computer skills, including internet navigation and various office applications.
Administrative Issues	<p>This assignment will be part-time and home-based, with travels to countries. DSA and travel costs will be provided by UNICEF. The consultant will use his own computer; an UNICEF email account will be created. Bi weekly call with supervisor will be organised to discuss on progresses made and challenges faced. The individual contractor will be paid on 7 equal monthly settlements, based on negotiated daily fees, after satisfactory and approved monthly reports.</p>