

Terms of Reference for Individual Consultant

<b>Title</b> Quantitative Research Consultant - Education		<b>Duty Station:</b> Global Office of Research and Foresight (Italy) Remote
<b>Start date:</b> 01-Nov-2024	<b>End date:</b> 01 – Nov-2025	Total working days estimated: 120 days over a period of 12 months
<b>Purpose of Activity/Assignment:</b> Support the research design and data analysis of a multi-county study on innovations in education.		
<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>The Education section of UNICEF Innocenti - Global Office of Research and Foresight is seeking a remote-based consultant for an estimated 120 working days to support the research design and data analysis of innovative education programmes across multiple countries. The innovations in education research portfolio embeds implementation research into large-scale and cross-country innovative partnerships and programmes, these innovations include digital learning, low tech, and no tech solutions. The overall aim of the research portfolio is to inform improvements in innovations in education delivery to improve children’s learning, and to synthesize lessons across countries to build global public goods.</p> <p><b>Major areas of work and responsibility</b></p> <p>The consultant will collaborate with the broader research team to support the design and implementation of the quantitative component of innovations in education programme, supporting the quantitative data analysis across multiple innovative education programmes in three countries: Sudan, Lebanon, and Bangladesh. The consultant will conduct quantitative analysis of administrative data from the implementation of education programmes, and of related backend data from digital learning programmes within these education systems.</p> <p>In particular, the consultant will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a quantitative research framework to understand and track performance across innovative learning programmes, utilizing administrative data and back-end data from digital learning programmes.</li> <li>- Support data cleaning, analysis and data visualization activities.</li> <li>- Support research co-creation meetings and communication with in-country partners (e.g., Ministries of Education, Country Offices, etc.) with specific technical expertise in quantitative methods.</li> <li>- Contribute to the production and dissemination quantitative research outputs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Supervision</b></p> <p>The consultant will work under the direct supervision of the Education Manager</p> <p><b>Methodologies and Tools</b></p>		

Software to be used and subscription required for data analysis: Stata 15 or higher

### Conditions of Consultancy

The consultant should note the following:

1. This consultancy may require the consultant to travel in order to complete the required deliverables effectively and efficiently. Travel costs should NOT be included in the bid for the contract as travel costs will be provided at time of travel and approved by consultant's direct supervisor. UNICEF Innocenti does not make travel arrangements for consultants. The consultant will arrange their own travel, clear the anticipated cost with UNICEF and invoice UNICEF for the travel cost as soon as the travel has been completed. UNICEF Innocenti will assist consultants with arrangements for visas, work permits, vaccinations, etc.
2. All other costs related to completing the deliverables such as hardware, required software, certificates/ subscriptions and associated running costs are expected to be factored into the proposed professional fees.
3. UNICEF does not regard Individuals engaged under a consultancy contract as "staff members" under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and UNICEF's policies and procedures. Consultants are therefore not entitled to benefits such as leave pension 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.
4. 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. Prospective consultants are encouraged to ensure that they fully understand (a) the requirements of each deliverable and (b) the workload associated with reaching a deliverable.
5. UNICEF Innocenti recognises that, due to the locations of some of its research, events may occur that either delay deliverables or prevent them from being completed. These events need to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine the impact on the payment schedule of the contract. It is UNICEF Innocenti's objective to be fair to consultants in situations where deliverables are delayed or no longer attainable through no wrongdoing of the consultant.
6. Consultants 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.

Minimum Qualifications required:  Bachelors  Masters  PhD  Other

Enter Disciplines: Economics, Social Policy, Education, Statistics or related social sciences.

**Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:**

**Essential skills:**

- A minimum of five years of progressively responsible professional work experience at national or international levels in the design and implementation of rigorous research, with developing country-level experience essential
- Strong data and analytical skills and extensive knowledge of common statistical software packages (e.g. STATA, R, SPSS)
- Demonstrated experience in both qualitative and quantitative research designs and methods, including experimental and quasi-experimental methods.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and excellent attention to detail.
- Strong interpersonal skills and demonstrated ability to work well as part of a geographically dispersed team and to forge and manage partnerships.
- Commitment to UNICEF's core values of care, respect, integrity, transparency, and accountability.

**Desirable qualifications:**

- PhD in Economics or related quantitative discipline.
- Previous experience with data analysis of large datasets for digital learning programmes very desirable.
- Previous experience working with UNICEF or other UN organization.
- Ability to work in a multicultural, multi-ethnic environment.
- Fluency in another UN language.

**Core Values**

- Care
- Respect
- Integrity
- Trust
- Accountability
- Sustainability

**Competencies**

- Builds and maintains partnerships
- Demonstrates self-awareness and ethical awareness

- Drive to achieve results for impact
- Innovates and embraces change
- Manages ambiguity and complexity
- Thinks and acts strategically
- Works collaboratively with others

Deliverable/Output:	Estimated number of working days	Deadline
Support provided to implementation research co-creation, including completing literature and existing data review, evidence generation plan for country 1	15	By/before November 30, 2024
Analysis of administrative and platform data conducted for country 1	20	By/before January 14, 2025
Draft research brief for country 1	10	By/before March 15, 2025
Revision of research brief for country 1 based on internal and external feedback	20	By/before June 18, 2025
Data visualization for country 2 and 3 based on data analysis	10	By/before July 16, 2025
Data analysis for administrative and backend platform data for country 2 and 3	15	By/before August 30, 2025
Cross-country analysis and draft of research report based on cross country data analysis	20	By/before October 30, 2025
Data analysis for related innovations in education programme's primary and administrative data	10	By/before October 30, 2025

The **financial proposal** should be your costs **by deliverable, in USD** for the full consultancy period, and should keep in mind that consultants are responsible for determining their own tax liabilities and are not entitled to benefits and must obtain their own software for data analysis.

This position will also require travel to implementing countries, however, please **do NOT include the cost of travel in your estimates**. Please also keep in mind that value for money is part of the evaluation criteria for candidates under consideration.