



CONSULTANCY - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Health Innovation Consultant: Artificial Intelligence for Immunisation & Community Health

Division: UNICEF Office of Innovation, Stockholm, Sweden

Duration: 12 months

Duty Station: Remote

Advertising summary

UNICEF's Health Innovation portfolio leverages AI to transform child health outcomes, focusing on critical areas like immunization and community health support. This role engages industry partners and stakeholders to scale innovative solutions that prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable children worldwide.

The consultant will be responsible for supporting the health innovation team in coordinating AI for Public Health and Immunization initiative to support the broader Health Innovation vision for programme acceleration and system strengthening. This will include supporting the engagement with external stakeholders: private sector, start-ups, donors and the internal: UNICEF Health Programme Group, regional offices (ROs) and country offices (COs), facilitating consultations to identify needs and opportunities, supporting horizon scanning for needs and emerging health innovations, and supporting partnership efforts to ensure impactful and scalable health solutions.

Child Safeguarding

Is this project/assignment considered as "Elevated Risk Role" 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](#) and [Child Safeguarding FAQs and Updates](#)

UNICEF works in some of the world's toughest places, to reach the world's most disadvantaged children. To save their lives. To defend their rights. To help them fulfill their potential.

Across 190 countries and territories, we work for every child, everywhere, every day, to build a better world for everyone.

And we never give up.

For every child...innovate

UNICEF has a 70-year history of innovating for children. We believe that new approaches, partnerships and technologies that support realizing children's rights are critical to improving their lives.

The **Office of Innovation** is a creative, interactive, and agile team in UNICEF. We sit at a unique intersection, where an organization that works on huge global issues meets the start-up thinking, the technology, and the partners that turn this energy into scalable solutions.

UNICEF's Office of Innovation creates opportunities for the world's children by focusing on where new markets can meet their vital needs. We do this by:

- Connecting youth communities (or more broadly -- anyone disconnected or under-served) to decision-makers, and to each other, to deliver informed, relevant and sustained programmes that build better, stronger futures for children.
- Provoking change for children through an entrepreneurial approach -- in a traditionally risk averse field - - to harness rapidly moving innovations and apply them to serve the needs of all children.
- Creating new models of partnership that leverage core business values across the public, private and academic sectors in order to deliver fast, and lasting results for children.

The Office of Innovation specifically looks to form **partnerships around frontier technologies** (like drones and UAVs, blockchain, 21st century skills, urban technologies, new banking tools, wearables and sensors, or 3D-Printing) that exist at the intersection of \$100 billion business markets and 1 billion person needs – and to identify how they can grow and scale profitably and inclusively.

Our team

We're an interdisciplinary team around the world tasked with identifying, prototyping, and scaling new technologies and practices. With our partners, we focus on convening and collaborating on new and different solutions, low- and high-tech, by:

- **Looking** at the 2-5 year horizon to evaluate emerging and trending technologies and to see how UNICEF can work with the private sector on doing better business while improving essential services for children;

- **Investing** in early stage solutions that show great potential to positively impact children in the 02 year future including the Venture Fund that invests in open source technology solutions from start-ups based in UNICEF's programme countries;
- **Identifying** proven solutions that can be implemented at national scale in multiple countries – taking the ideas that help thousands in one country, bringing them to dozens of countries across multiple sectors, and impacting the lives of millions of children.”

How can you make a difference?

Through a problem-driven approach guided by the respective UNICEF Programme Groups (PG), each innovation portfolio is committed to supporting the identification, development and scale-up of country-level innovative solutions, to meet the demands and priorities in line with UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2022-2025, and ultimately the attainment of related SDGs.

UNICEF's Health Innovation portfolio strives to accelerate the UNICEF health programme results for children through game-changing innovations, focusing on priority areas where innovation can make a huge difference including immunization, community health, community health worker support, and strategic partnerships. This position is focused specifically on the use of AI in immunisation.

UNICEF's role in innovation for health is to leverage industry, the private sector, funders and donors to ensure when developing solutions they build with the most marginalised children in mind, this is who UNICEF must reach by working hand in hand with government partners. UNICEF does not develop AI solutions beyond prototypes, but having the expertise required within our organisation to identify, adapt, co-create, validate and safely scale solutions for health outcomes is crucial.

Objectives

The consultant will be responsible for supporting the health innovation team in leading our AI for Public Health and Immunization initiative. This will include supporting the engagement with external stakeholders: private sector, start-ups, donors and the internal: UNICEF Health Programme Group, regional offices (ROs) and country offices (COs), facilitating consultations to identify needs and opportunities, supporting horizon scanning for needs and emerging health innovations, and supporting partnership efforts to ensure impactful and scalable health solutions.

The primary use cases under consideration include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying platforms for monitoring and predicting vaccine stock outs
- Predicting immunisation coverage
- Predicting outbreaks to inform preventative campaigns and actions
- Identifying models and solutions for training of community health workers in low-income countries
- Reducing administrative burden for health workers through task shifting.
- Supporting and complementing ongoing GIS modeling efforts
- Other additional opportunities for AI for community health

Your main responsibilities will be:

1. Field Consultations and Engagement to understand the need:

United Nations Children's Fund

- Conduct field consultations with country offices, regional offices, and relevant partners to gather insights on needs, gaps, and opportunities for AI in health, community health worker support, and innovative approaches to scale impact.
 - Organize and facilitate virtual and in-person consultation workshops to align CO efforts with global health innovation strategies.
 - Document and analyze field feedback to identify priority areas and refine the innovation focus within the roadmap.
 - Support in research and learnings related to AI for Health and related innovations
- 2. Horizon Scanning and AI sector engagement:**
- Identify and map emerging AI innovations across focus areas.
 - Build collaborations with relevant companies, entrepreneur and academic institutions
 - Develop a database of promising innovations and solutions, including both internal and external sources, and assess their potential scalability and alignment with UNICEF's priorities.
 - Leverage the use of innovative entrepreneurship models to facilitate design and development of AI for community health and immunization
 - Support the development of guiding criteria for sourcing "game-changing" solutions, using frameworks such as UNICEF's 5D innovation model.
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- 3. Operationalization Support and Country Deployment:**
- Provide support to help operationalize the roadmap in focus countries
 - Develop validation frameworks for AI models against the main use cases in line with UNICEF data policies.
 - Support the technical assistance to drive successful identification, sourcing and implementation and scale of innovative solutions
 - Support training and capacity development for piloting AI solutions for immunisation in country programmes.
 - Facilitate communications with partners and internal stakeholders to ensure alignment and support partnership and resource mobilization efforts.

Description of assignment

	Deliverables/Outputs	Tasks	Delivery deadline	% of payment/ Estimated combined working days
Nov 2024– May 2025				
1	Field Engagement	A field engagement report detailing field consultations, including key insights, priority areas, and recommendations for aligning with the health innovation roadmap	Month 2	15%
2	Horizon Scanning Summary and Database	A summary of emerging health innovations mapped and assessed, along with a regularly updated database of potential solutions	Month 4	15%
3	Roadmap Support Plan	A plan to support the operationalization of PG-OOI joint health innovations concept	Month 6	15%
4	AI for Immunisation Validation Framework	Develop criteria for model assessment	Month 8	15%
5	Country Deployment and operationalisation	Report on operationalisation in selected countries	Month 10	20%
6	Final Consultancy Report and Recommendations	A final report summarizing achievements, lessons learned, and recommendations for continued efforts in field engagement, partnership development, etc.	Month 12	20%

**Please note that the dates/duration are proposed and can be revised/updated in line with country readiness, priorities, and schedule to fit needs.*

To qualify as an advocate for every child you will have...

- Advanced university degree in Public Health, Data Science or Machine Learning. **A first University Degree in a relevant field combined with 2 additional years of professional experience may be accepted in lieu of an Advanced University Degree.*

- At least 5 years of experience in health innovation, health programming and project management.
- Strong understanding of the health programming and health innovation landscape, including AI, digital health, and community health interventions.
- Demonstrated experience with partnership building, resource mobilization, and capacity-building initiatives.
- Experience working in developing countries is a plus.
- Candidates with experience developing or scaling AI software in the private sector are welcome.
- Strong analytical skills, with the ability to synthesize complex information and translate it into actionable recommendations for health programming and innovation.
- Excellent communication, facilitation, and analytical skills.
- Fluency in English (spoken and written).

Travel

- The consultant may be expected to travel to Stockholm, Sweden and selected countries of deployment during the period, the length of each trip is expected to be four (4) days. Additional trips may occur based on 2025 workplan.
- The consultant is also expected to travel on mission.
- Consultant is eligible for standard DSA for all work-related travel
- The contract will include reimbursement budget for travel and subsistence costs based on:
 - Reimbursement of economy class flight cost upon submission of receipts based on actual travel
 - Payment of DSA/per diem based on actual travel days applicable during the month of travel, not exceeding the official rate.
 - The travel payment will be included in the lumpsum and may be revised towards the end of the contract based on the travel amounts claimed.
- Consultant will be responsible for arranging his/her own travel, including visa.

Payment details and further considerations

- Payment of professional fees will be based on the 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. Consultant is responsible for his/her own health and travel insurance

How to apply:

- Interest applicant is required to submit a financial proposal with all-inclusive fee. Please see the financial proposal template.

- No need to estimate and include mission travel related cost in the all-inclusive fee.
- **Applications without a financial proposal will not be considered.**

General Terms and Conditions:

Please review UNICEF's General Terms and Conditions for Consultants [here](#) for important information regarding contract obligations, including medical insurance, SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) vaccination, and income tax requirements.

For every Child, you demonstrate...

UNICEF's values of Care, Respect, Integrity, Trust, Accountability, and Sustainability ([CRITAS](#)).

To view our competency framework, please visit [here](#).

UNICEF is here to serve the world's most disadvantaged children and our global workforce must reflect the diversity of those children. The UNICEF family is committed to include everyone, irrespective of their race/ethnicity, age, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, socio-economic background, or any other personal characteristic.

UNICEF offers reasonable accommodation for consultants/individual contractors 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.

UNICEF has a zero-tolerance policy on conduct that is incompatible with the aims and objectives of the United Nations and UNICEF, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination. UNICEF also adheres to strict child safeguarding principles. All selected candidates will be expected to adhere to these standards and principles and will therefore undergo rigorous reference and background checks. Background checks will include the verification of academic credential(s) and employment history. Selected candidates may be required to provide additional information to conduct a background check.

Remarks:

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and advance to the next stage of the selection process.

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.

The selected candidate is solely responsible to ensure that the visa (applicable) and health insurance required to perform the duties of the contract are valid for the entire period of the contract. Selected candidates are subject to confirmation of fully-vaccinated status against SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) with a World Health Organization (WHO)-endorsed vaccine, which must be met prior to taking up the assignment. It does not apply to consultants who will work remotely and are not expected to work on or visit UNICEF premises, programme delivery locations or directly interact with communities UNICEF works with, nor to travel to perform functions for UNICEF for the duration of their consultancy contracts.