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| **Heading: Technical support for Pilot Testing of Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)****Section in Charge**: **Education****How does the consultancy relate to work plan:** **Output 1 Sub activity 1.3. Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) services piloted through establishing coordination mechanism and capacity development of key partners****Outcome reference**: **203 Education Programme: By 2022, children, especially the most disadvantaged, will acquire knowledge and skills in an inclusive, safe, quality learning environment to complete pre-primary, primary, transition to secondary and complete lower secondary education** **Output reference**: **Output 1 Early Learning: MOE and other partners at National and Subnational level have increased capacity to give a head start to children 3-5 years old through quality preschool and kindergarten education (0600/A0/05/203/001/003)**  |
| 1. Background:

Myanmar is committed to achieving SDG Goals 4.1 on Primary Education and 4.2 on early learning. However, 2014 Census revealed that children of primary school age with a mild disability reported a lower school attendance rate than children without a disability. Less than four in ten children with a moderate disability and less than one in five children with a severe disability were attending primary school. School attendance rates are, on average, five times lower for children with disabilities than their counterparts. This is reconfirmed by a more recent qualitative study by UNICEF and MoSWRR (Situation Analysis of Children with Disabilities, 2016, MoSWRR /UNICEF) which found that children with a disability in Myanmar are among the most vulnerable. 67 percent of the children surveyed did not attend school. Lancet estimated that around 43% of children under five in low and middle income countries like Myanmar needs early intervention services. Using proxy indicators like malnutrition, severe anaemia and congenital and acquired disabilities, it was estimated that at least 42% to 45% of young Myanmar children and families require Early Childhood Intervention services. Early childhood intervention (ECI) services are intensive and serve children principally from birth to age three and up to five years of age. They are tailored to meet the needs of individual children with fragile birth status, developmental delays, disabilities, malnutrition, chronic health issues that affect their development, and atypical behaviours, such as autism spectrum, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorders. ECI services include a process for conducting the following activities: community outreach to identify children with special needs, universal screening of child development, referrals to ECI services, initial ECI intake, comprehensive child and family assessments, establishment of eligibility for ECI services, preparation of an Individualised Service Plan, regular home visits or visits to a daily childcare centre (usually once or twice a week), including the parents and the child caregiver, regular re-assessment and plan revision, transition services to inclusive preschools or primary schools or, if needed, special services for children with complex disabilities, follow-up services, as needed. All visits are conducted in the natural environment of the child and family and using the child and family’s daily routine as a basis.While most disabilities can be prevented or corrected early, there lacks integrated ECI in Myanmar. The existing services of government are hospital based and only in urban, hence, unable to support majority of children in their most important early years. Myanmar Policy for ECCD (2014) Objective 3 stated: “Improve the development and status of children 0 to 5 years with developmental delays, malnutrition, chronic illnesses, disabilities and atypical behaviours, with a special focus on achieving the full acceptance and inclusion of children with special needs”. Through the implementation of ECI pilot, all children from birth to 60 months of age will benefit from improved knowledge and care of their parents and caregivers on early childhood care and development. More importantly, children with developmental delays, disability and chronic illnesses will benefit most from early intervention and can transit into the inclusive preschools and schools smoothly. Developing, improving and expanding ECI and rehabilitation services will help children not only achieve their full potential, but also prevent the discrimination and stigmatisation of those with special needs.Since 2015 as part of Country Programme Document and Multi Year Work Plans, UNICEF has been supporting MoSWRR to lead other relevant ministries, professional associations, academic institutions, INGOs, NGOs working for young children and the Disable Persons’ Organizations to develop National ECI System. The Leprosy Mission Myanmar (TLMM) has been engaged through a Partnership Cooperation Agreement as per agreement with MoSWRR. With technical support from international and national consultants and facilitation by TLMM, the ECI Strategic plan was launched in April 2017. National Action Plan was also developed to initiate the pilot phase of service delivery in 2018.The new Country Programme Document (2018-2022) and joint multiyear workplan (2018-19) with MoE and MoSWRR, emphasis was put on continuing support to Early Childhood Intervention system development. MoSWRR continues to lead high level coordination with facilitation from TLMM and financial and technical support from UNICEF. Training of core trainers on the screening and assessment tools were carried out. Advocacy and consultations with stakeholders were facilitated at each pilot site. Orientation training of volunteers on screening tools was organized. Programme guideline and procedures were developed. Preparation of M&E manuals are in process. MoSSWRR also received funding from the central government to initiate the pilot phase in 2018-19 in 9 pilot sites across 4 States and Regions namely Yangon, Ayeyarwaddy Delta, Mon and Sagaing in Upper Burma. MoSWRR has also engaged national consultant to supervise the trainings and quality assurance of outreach services for children. |
| 1. Objectives of the consultancy:

This technical support will ensure smooth implementation and review of ECI pilot services led by MoSWRR in 9 sites starting **October 2018** and provide recommendations for future scaling up.Technical support to the National multisectoral ECI Coordination Committee, ECI Steering Committee, Task Force and 8 technical working groups (a. Advocacy and Communication, b. Intersectoral Collaboration and Coordination, c. Planning and Developing Pilot Sites, d. Service Development, e. Pre and In service Training, f. Screening and Assessment, g. Supervision, Monitoring and Evaluation, h. ECI Organization) for final steps of preparation and implementation of pilot phase of the ECI in 4 regions, Yangon, Sagaing, Ayeyarwaddy and Mon of Myanmar for the following tasks: 1. Technical support providing oversight in field testing of adapted training modules, ECI guidelines and procedures manual and identification of needed revisions based on experience; 2. Review of implementation of Pre and in service training manuals and identification of needed revisions;3. Review of the implementation of the service delivery models and M&E Guide and tools and identification of needed revisions for successful programme expansion in phases; |
| 1. Geographic Area: Nay Pyi Taw, Dagon East in Yangon Region, Monywa, Ayartaw and Chaung U in Sagaing Region, Pathein and Kangyidaunt in Ayeyarwaddy Region, Paung and Thathon in Mon State
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| 1. Duration (including potential extension): 40 working days spread across 11 months (mid August 2018 to end July 2019)

*(with possibility for extension if planned activities were delayed due to conditions beyond UNICEF’s control)* |
| 1. Supervisor: Education Specialist (ECD), UNICEF
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| 1. Type of Supervision/support required from UNICEF:

Periodic update on the progress and prioritization of support needed by technical working groups. |
| 1. Description of assignment:
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| **Tasks** | **End Product/deliverables** | **Duration/****Deadline/ % of fee Payable** |
|  Technical support to National multisectoral ECI Coordination Committee, ECI Steering Committee, Task Force and 8 ECI technical working groups for finalization of service delivery design, tools and instruments to initiate pilot phase of the ECI program in October 2018 In Country |  1. Field visit report on preparedness for ECI pilot phase with recommendations on finalization of service delivery design, tools and instruments
 |  **10 working days**(in country)August 2018 (2nd-3rd week)30% |
|  Technical support for continuous quality assurance during the pilot phase through field visits and review of quarterly progress reportsIn Country and Home Base | 1. Recommendations for adjustments for quality assurance of ECI services
 | **14 working days** January 2019 (10 days in country), and April 2019 (Home based),30% |
| Review of service delivery models, M&E guide and tools In country  | 3. Recommendations for revisions of service delivery models, M&E guide and tools | **10 working days** (in country)July 2019 30% |
| Prepare final Report with recommendation for revisions (design of service, training modules, programme guideline and procedures, M&E guide and tools) and for scale up of ECI servicesHome Base | 4. Final narrative report (20 pages) and power points with recommendations for revisions and for scale up of ECI services | **6 working days**End July 201910% |
| 1. Advertisement / Invitation / Request for Expression of Interest

This TOR will be posted in UNICEF Intranet, UN Job List, UNICEF Website, LinkedIn and also in MIMU. |
| 1. Selection process (EOI to be attached to TOR)

Interested candidates are required to complete the Expression of Interest Form circulated with the call for proposals, answering the technical questions included. The consultant will be identified by UNICEF based on a competitive selection process, taking into account the candidate’s experience, the quality of the answers produced, and of the lump-sum requested. All expenses inclusive (except for local travel costs for necessary meetings, visits which will be reimbursed on actual and approved rates not higher than ICCS rates) and other related costs should be reflected in the proposed budget.)If deemed opportune, UNICEF will require a telephone interview with shortlisted candidates.  |
| 1. Qualification and specialized knowledge/experience required for the assignment:

The consultancy is expected to be conducted by a qualified professional who has experience starting up system for early child intervention services. At a minimum, the consultant is expected to meet the following qualifications:A. An advanced university degree in one of the following fields is required: sociology, child development, public health, family health, health or educational research, or other relevant technical fieldsB. More than 7 years of experience in early childhood development programmes, preferably in the Asia Pacific Region or countries with situation similar to Myanmar C. Demonstrate expertise on setting up and review of early child intervention systems especially in developing countries, which empower parents and families D. Demonstrate experience in capacity building of government officials and multidisciplinary teams including academic institutions E. Experience working in Myanmar/ understand the context of Myanmar as an asset;F. Able to show examples of similar work done for past clients;G. Demonstrate ability to deliver on time and with exceptional results;H. Capable of working in sensitive situations and under tight deadlines; |
| 1. Other conditions:

The consultant has to work closely with National Consultant(s) recruited by MoSWRR and focal persons from the Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement and The Leprosy Mission Myanmar. Periodic meeting and reporting as agreed upon will be submitted. The consultant also needs to collaborate with international consultant for Pre and In service training program development in order to strategically plan for phased expansion.Consultant is required to use his/her own laptop and submit all deliverable in digital format. While group meetings will be organized with logistic support from the Leprosy Mission Myanmar, no desk space will be available during in country visits. Consultant needs to travel to Nay Pyi Taw for meeting with key ministries, and technical working groups.If the travel permit is granted by the Government, the consultant will visit some project sites in selected townships such as Dagon East in Yangon Region, Monywa, Ayartaw and Chaung U in Sagaing Region, Pathein and Kangyidaunt in Ayeyarwaddy Region, Paung and Thathon in Mon State.**Life and health insurance** UNICEF does not provide or arrange life or health insurance coverage for consultants and individual contractors. Consultants and individual contractors are not eligible to participate in the life or health insurance schemes available to United Nations staff members. Consultants and individual contractors are fully responsible for arranging, at their own expense, such as life, health and other forms of insurance covering the period of their services as they consider appropriate. The responsibility of UNICEF is limited solely to the payment of compensation for service-incurred death, injury or illness as per the provisions detailed below.**Insurance for service-incurred death, injury or illness**Consultants and individual contractors who are authorized to travel at UNICEF expense or who are required under their contract to perform services in a UNICEF or United Nations office shall be provided with insurance coverage, through a UNICEF-retained third party insurance provider, covering death, injury and illness attributable to the performance of official UNICEF duties. Compensation in the event of service-incurred death, injury or illness shall be equivalent to amounts stipulated in the agreement between UNICEF and the insurance provider. **Payment**Payment schedules should be directly linked with deliverables at specific time intervals. Payments should be processed based on satisfactory delivery of the services/products as certified by the supervisor/ manager.**Confidentiality:** The documents produced during the period of this consultancy will be treated as strictly confidential, and the rights of distribution and/ or publication will reside solely with UNICEF. The contract signed with the consultant will include the other general terms defined by UNICEF. |
| 1. Nature of Penalty Clause to be stipulated in the contract:

UNICEF Myanmar reserves the right not to pay the Contractor or withhold part of the payable amount if one or more requirements established for this assignment is not met or deadline set for the accomplishment of the tasks is missed. |