

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Bangkok, Thailand
Vacancy Announcement 2019/055

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UNICEF Consultancy – Senior Nutrition Consultant Outposted to Health Division, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

The Regional Nutrition Section, UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office is seeking an individual consultant to provide high level Nutrition technical support to the Health Division under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.

1. Background

The focus area of Nutrition in ASEAN, which falls under Health Cluster 1 as Health Priority 7, has a growing volume of work: seven activities have been identified in the 2016-2020 Work Programme, several more nutrition-related activities are included under Health Priority 1 (NCDs), and seven major additional actions were identified in May 2018 to operationalize and monitor the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration to End All Forms of Malnutrition (ALD-EAFM). The ASEAN Nutrition Surveillance System also needs to be operationalized after several years of discussion. Given this increasing focus on nutrition, and the fact that the ASEAN Health Division currently does not have any staff focusing on Nutrition, a senior consultancy position is needed to cover the focus area of Nutrition.

UNICEF EAPRO and ASEAN have a Framework Agreement signed in 2014 and currently in process of being updated, and also a joint work programme for the period 2016-2020. UNICEF and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) have initiated a new partnership called RISING: Regional Initiatives for Sustainable Improvements in Nutrition and Growth for the period 2018-2021. It aims to increase the effective coverage, at scale, of key evidence-based nutrition interventions in four regions, including East Asia and Pacific. The partnership aims to strengthen the organizational and technical leadership of regional platforms to support the scale up of key evidence-based interventions to improve ECN and WN. For the purpose of this partnership regional platforms refer to regional economic commissions (RECs), regional associations and regional development partners. ASEAN is one of the RECs of focus under the RISING partnership.

2. Objective of the outposting of a nutrition consultant:

The overall objective of the consultancy will be to strengthen organizational and technical capacity and leadership in the ASEAN Secretariat for nutrition, in order to contribute to nutrition policy change and development across the ASEAN Member States (AMS) and the elevation of commitment and investment in nutrition.

3. Work Assignment:

1. Provide support and relevant inputs to the Nutrition focus area in the ASEAN Health Cooperation based on the current ASEAN Strategic Framework of Health Development and the ASEAN strategic framework and action plan for nutrition 2018-2030, including supporting the development,

implementation, monitoring and evaluation of nutrition projects/programmes of the ASEAN Health Cluster 1 and the ALD-EAFM

- a) Provide technical inputs and direction in the implementation of regional nutrition programme activities, in consultation with ADR or Head of the Division, on regional health priorities focused on Promoting Healthy Lifestyle:
 - Health Priority 1: Prevention and control of NCDs - selected activities related to nutrition
 - Health Priority 7: Promotion of Good Nutrition and Healthy Diet
 - b) Provide technical support and facilitation for the implementation of the ASEAN strategic framework and action plan for nutrition 2018-2030, including for the development of new ASEAN standards related to nutrition, such as the guidance on infant and young child feeding and standard for national laws on the Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes; minimum standards and guidance on maternal nutrition package policies/standards; standards for implementation of integrated management of acute malnutrition; standards for nutrition indicators for surveys and routine data collection, data collection methods and data quality assurance; standard for national laws on regulations on marketing of foods and beverages to children; minimum standards and guidance for school nutrition policies and programmes.
 - c) Assist in developing programmes, projects and securing approval for their implementation following existing internal processes of UNICEF EAPRO and ASEAN
 - d) Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and projects relevant to the nutrition focus area and in relation to the operationalization of the ALD-EAFM aligned with the governance and implementation processes of ASEAN
 - e) Coordinate with relevant ASEAN Sectors/bodies and divisions in ASEAN Secretariat engaged or involved with the implementation of the Plan of Action 2018-2030, particularly Agriculture, Social Welfare and Education
 - f) Coordinate inter-linked and cross-cutting areas relevant to the nutrition focus area
 - g) Prepare information and advocacy materials on nutrition and coordinate with other divisions in ASEAN Secretariat for public dissemination/publication following ASEAN processes
 - h) Liaise with the ASEAN member states and external parties on nutrition following ASEAN processes
- 2. Support and service the Meetings and other relevant events of the Health Ministerial and Senior Official Levels, Cluster Meetings, Member State hosted meetings and events on Nutrition, training sessions, meetings in other ASEAN Health Platforms and Platforms in other ASEAN Divisions, as well as external meetings**
- a) Prepare the necessary nutrition-related documents required for various regular ASEAN meetings including agenda, discussion papers and drafting reports
 - b) Act as a resource person and facilitator on Nutrition at meetings and trainings, with guidance from ADR and Head of the Health Division
 - c) Assist the host organisation and/or sectoral/cluster chair in preparing for meetings and/or other special events
 - d) Participate in meetings related to Nutrition of other ASEAN Divisions, including Agriculture, Social Welfare and Education
 - e) Assist the ASEAN Secretariat and lead AMS in designing and preparing supplementary meetings and activities identified in relation to the operational framework of the ALD-EAFM, including a multi-sectoral high level symposium, technical consultations and trainings.

- f) Participate in external meetings relevant to nutrition, such as the UNICEF-hosted Nutrition Security Coordination Committee for East Asia-Pacific.

3. Support the relevant bodies of the ASEAN Community

- a) Provide necessary support in the implementation of relevant decisions / follow-up requirements from other ASEAN bodies/divisions in relation to Nutrition
- b) Coordinate and/or collaborate with other relevant bodies/divisions for harmonized or complementary activities related to nutrition
- c) Assist in monitoring compliance with agreements and the Operational Framework of the ALD-EAFM across relevant bodies/divisions.

4. Assist in producing ASEAN publications on nutrition and to populate the ASEAN Nutrition Surveillance System (ANSS) and nutrition scorecard

- a) Take the lead in preparing the update of the Food Security and Nutrition Profiles and ASEAN Nutrition report, to be published in 2020, in collaboration with the Head of the Health Division, the lead member state (Philippines) and other Member States, UNICEF, WHO and FAO.
- b) Liaise with ASEAN Member States (AMS), UNICEF, WHO and FAO to populate the ANSS and nutrition scorecard annually and to package the information for advocacy, high level meetings, publications and reports. Liaison with AMS follow the internal processes in ASEAN.
- c) In collaboration with UNICEF and the relevant divisions in ASEAN Secretariat such as those involved with ASEAN statistics, review the quality of the data submitted into the ANSS and facilitate additional analysis, technical assistance and capacity building as required.
- d) Promote stronger linkages between food security and nutrition data collection instruments in AMS, in collaboration with the Agriculture division
- e) Assist in producing and obtaining endorsement for various joint publications on nutrition with UN agencies and other ASEAN partners, including training package on Public Finance for Nutrition, guidance, tools, research, advocacy materials, reports and others

5. Support the Assistant Director and Head of the Health Division in undertaking substantive technical work on Nutrition

- a) Provide necessary technical and strategic input to the Assistant Director pertaining to the design and implementation of the ASEAN nutrition-related projects, programmes and activities including relevant advocacy initiatives.
- b) In collaboration with UNICEF, support a review of existing nutrition policies for maternal nutrition and early childhood nutrition (focusing on complementary feeding) in selected ASEAN countries and development of policy matrices and recommendations on ASEAN strategic frameworks for these areas.
- c) Identify additional areas of strategic and technical engagement on nutrition
- d) Monitor policy, financing and evidence developments on nutrition at regional and international level.
- e) Contribute to documentation of ASEAN nutrition initiatives and the RISING contribution to ASEAN.

6. Perform other assignments as may be assigned to her/him

Work Schedule and End Product: Monthly activities accomplished and progress against the main tasks and milestones

Estimated Duration of Contract: 11.5-month period starting as soon as possible with possibility of an extension for a further 11.5 months.

Qualifications or Specialized Knowledge/Experience Required:

General requirement:

- Work experience within the core values of the ASEAN Secretariat
- Candidate must be an **ASEAN national**
- Willingness to work under dual accountability (ASEAN and UNICEF EAPRO)
- Willingness to be based in Jakarta

Education and work experiences requirement :

- Postgraduate Degree (at least Master's Degree) in nutrition.
- At least eight (8) years' experience with proven record of accomplishment and exposure dealing with nutrition programmes addressing undernutrition in particular and also overweight and obesity.
- High-level technical skills and knowledge in nutrition, both in terms of technical interventions and also policy development, advocacy and strategic communication, planning, capacity building, budgeting and financing, multi-sectoral engagement and governance, nutrition survey and routine administrative data, research, monitoring and evaluation.
- Demonstrated competency in problem solving, planning and the development of policies and procedures
- Experience and sound ability to plan and organize successful meetings, trainings and events, including high level and large events.
- Sound interpersonal skills, including experience in cross-cultural environment and international settings. Demonstrated ability to motivate staff, influence stakeholders and work effectively with people at all levels of the organisation and across multiple organisations. Demonstrated ability to develop and maintain sound working relationships with stakeholders and commitment to collaborative work practices
- Demonstrated sound and wide-ranging oral communication skills in English.
- Demonstrated sound and wide-ranging writing skills in English. Lead role in developing large publications with multiple stakeholders an asset.
- Competency in computer skills with sound knowledge of Microsoft Office and Outlook; statistics knowledge and experience an asset.
- Proven ability for accuracy under pressure and adherence to deadlines
- Excellent command of English, written and spoken

Interested candidates are requested to submit CV or P11, cover letter, full contact information of minimum 2 references, availability, relevant example of previous work, and monthly professional fee in USD by **26 July 2019.**

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http://www.unicef.org/about/employ/files/UNICEF_Competencies.pdf

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

UNICEF is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages all candidates, irrespective of gender, nationality, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of the organization.

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