

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

Title: Researcher/writer on climate, energy and environment issues and child rights	Funding Code: TBC	Type of engagement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultant <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Contractor Part-Time <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Contractor Full-Time	Duty Station: Remote work with one mission to Freetown
<p>Purpose of Activity/Assignment:</p> <p>Climate change, energy access and environmental degradation are equity issues, with children and young people often being the most vulnerable and affected. Addressing climate change, energy access and environmental degradation is therefore vital for building a more sustainable future for children. In addition, it is imperative that we integrate our actions on the SDGs and our humanitarian responses. Each of the Outcomes Areas of the UNICEF Sierra Leone Country Programme 2020-23 — health and nutrition; water, sanitation, and hygiene; child protection, social inclusion, and education - is affected in some way by climate change and/or environmental degradation. At the same time, each stream of UNICEF work also presents opportunities to strengthen action on climate, energy and/or the environment to deliver more sustainable results. There are major implications of climate change, lack of energy access and environmental degradation for children, and UNICEF has strong potential to strengthen the response to these issues.</p> <p>Little systematic and recent data is available on the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on the lives of children in Sierra Leone. Yet, coastal erosion and environmental pollution impact children in coastal and fishing communities, and the country is severely water stressed. In addition, occasional disasters, incl. landslides, are often compounded by freak weather events.</p> <p>A 2016 USAID Climate Change Risk Profile for Sierra Leone indicated that the following sectors will be particularly affected by climate change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture production (e.g., reduced productivity of fisheries, soil erosion and loss of productive topsoil, changes in aquatic species composition, increased disease incidence in staple crops, yield reductions and crop failure due to waterlogging and floods, post-harvest losses due to infrastructure damage, landslides and road flooding), • Water resources (reduced water quality and increased solubility of toxic compounds released from mining operations, increased temperatures, promoting algal, spread of waterborne disease vectors, risk of flooding), • Human health (reduced quality and quantity of drinking water, increased risk of waterborne illnesses such as cholera and diarrheal disease, expanded breeding sites for vector-borne diseases, • e.g., malaria and dengue), • Disasters (damage to transport infrastructure as well as mining and productive operations, damage to coastal infrastructure and production zones, loss of life, crops, and livestock). <p>Climate change projections suggest a worsening of this scenario since they foresee an increase in temperatures of 1.0—2.50C by 2060, more extreme weather, including more intense precipitations and an Atlantic Ocean level rise coupled with an increasing risk of storm surges.</p> <p>Already, climate change is regarded as a contributing factor to the rising food insecurity in the country. Similarly, the 2017 Freetown mudslide was caused by erosion and environmental degradation and calls for improve climate risk management. Furthermore, delivery of basic social services is hampered by lack of energy access for health facilities and schools, whereby in turn renewable energy sources could contribute to provide electricity and mitigate climate change.</p> <p>UNICEF Sierra Leone has responded through programmes such as humanitarian cash transfers to the affected population in the aftermath of the 2017 mudslide, as well as ongoing work on strengthening solid waste recycling and hygienic fish production in fishing communities. The Country Office is furthermore scoping out entry points for integrating climate change into primary and secondary grade school curriculum as well as harnessing the UPSHIFT</p>			

model to work on innovation to foster solutions towards climate change and environment issues. The Country Programme mid-term review in late 2021 will be an opportune moment to strengthen programming on climate change and children.

Against this background, UNICEF Sierra Leone is planning to commission a Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC), examining the baseline situation of climate, energy and environment-related issues affecting children and how they relate to UNICEF's priority sectors. The report will look at stakeholders, government policies and relevant Government and partner support climate change and environmental protection related programmes in Sierra Leone, overall and in specific sectors. It will provide a better understanding on the actual and likely future impact of climate change and environmental degradation on children and social service sectors. Consequently, it will provide recommendations on how UNICEF Sierra Leone could further incorporate and strengthen work on climate, energy, and environment-related issues in its country programme. Evidence generated by the analysis is expected to contribute to explore climate financing opportunities.

Scope of Work:

The international consultant will take the lead in producing a Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) for Sierra Leone, supported by a national consultant. The international consultant will be responsible for collecting, compiling, and reviewing key resources and coordinating the information gathering and review processes. In close cooperation with the national consultant, she/he will undertake key informant interviews with key national stakeholders as well as consultations with adolescents on the topic. The international consultant will take the lead in preparing the final report of the study. Although supported by a national consultant in identifying stakeholders and compiling key document, the international consultant will retain responsibility for the overall quality of deliverables.

EXPECTED ACTIVITIES

1. Compile and systematize evidence and research related to climate change, energy, and environment (CEE) issues in Sierra Leone
 - a) Review guidance materials and CLACs prepared in other UNICEF offices
 - b) Review UNICEF's corporate priorities on CEE and related engagement to risk-inform programmes (review of key UNICEF documents related to CEE and risk reduction)
 - c) Compile and systematize literature related to the climate, environment and energy situation in the country and the impact of CEE issues on children and social sector delivery mechanisms in Sierra Leone Review Government responses to/priorities on CEE and analyse how child inclusive existing CEE policies, strategies and programmes are child responsive
 - d) Identify and compile information on past, present/ongoing or planned programmes related to energy, environment, and climate change and stakeholders active in these fields in Sierra Leone. This should include a review of on-going donor supported climate risk management financing initiatives in the country overall and specifically as it responds to child needs and UNICEF covered sectors.
 - e) Collect information and reports from different sections in UNICEF Sierra Leone about the office's work and linkages to climate, energy, and environment
 - f) Identify and collect data and information from government ministries, development partners, UN and community based organizations to fill gaps to better understand the situation and needs of children in a changing climate in Sierra Leone at present or under future climate situations to inform action related to climate change, environment, and energy issues
 - g) Identify and provide evidence as required to support the development of child-responsive climate financing proposals (including Green Climate Fund Readiness proposals), with details to be discussed

2. **Report writing**
 - a) Undertake a desk review of the collected information
 - b) Summarize research and draft individual sections of the CLAC
 - c) Prepare guides for stakeholder interviews
 - d) Undertake interviews and meetings with stakeholders to inform the analysis
 - e) Lead a consultation with adolescents on CEE related issues to reveal how they affect their lives, including preparing research tools (considering also 'left behind' children, e.g. migrant children, children living with disability and illness etc.).
 - f) Conduct additional research to fill data gaps and answer specific questions as needed

- g) Finalize a comprehensive report incorporating input and feedback of stakeholders, and the proposal of a CEE policy approach for UNICEF with associated strategies and sector-specific recommendations
- h) Produce an additional a-page brief presenting the main findings in infographics and engaging language. Depict key data sets in response to climate financing needs (details to be discussed)

For the preparation of the CLAC final report, it is expected to follow the template (1) as well as the guidance note (2), with local adaptation to be discussed at the start of the assignment.

1. CLAC report outline (see Annex)
2. CLAC guidance note (will be shared with selected consultant)

3. Overall editorial support

- Fact checking, editing, and checking of references as needed
- Coordinate the internal and external review process and the incorporation of comments

4. Administrative and planning support

- Coordination of the overall work as well as the part covered by the national consultant
- Brief training of UNICEF staff on CEE notions and CEE-informed programming

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](#)

Work Assignment Overview			
Tasks/Milestone:	Deliverables/Outputs:	Timeline	Estimate Budget
Hold inception meetings to define work plan and methodology for study	A short inception report detailing the methodology and work plan		15% of total amount
Key national documents compiled, including policies, programmes concerning CEE, as well as identification of data and research gaps regarding children and CEE issues affecting them in Sierra Leone	Comprehensive list of literature reviewed for the CLAC and overview of national policy framework; identification of data and research gaps	Month 1	
Key stakeholders in the field of climate change, energy, and environment in Sierra Leone, and those directly addressing children's issues identified	List of stakeholders active in the fields of climate change, energy, environment and children in Sierra Leone and their related activities	Month 1	
Interviews conducted with UNICEF programme sections Stakeholder interviews held with government, development partners and UN agencies	List of ongoing or planned programmes on climate change, energy, and environment, identifying specifically those relevant for children in Sierra Leone. The analysis is expected to highlight the needs of children and sector programmes and UNICEF support options for Child responsive climate change action	Month 2-3	
Consultation held with adolescents on climate change	Notes from FGDs and analysis of findings on young people's and adolescents' perceptions and expectations for action on climate change	Month 3	
Brief training of UNICEF staff on CEE notions and CEE-informed programming conducted	Training delivered in situ or remotely tbd	Month 1-3	
CLAC report drafted in line with global CLAC guidance highlighting the national policy framework, the specific issues facing children due to climate change and environmental degradation and recommendations for better incorporating climate change in the country programme. The report shall include a comprehensive chapter on climate financing and partnership options against the backdrop of existing programmes and needs	Draft report Document/table listing data and research gaps regarding children and climate, energy and environment issues affecting them	Month 4	35% of total amount
Report finalized incorporating stakeholder feedback	Final report	Month 5	50% of total amount
4-page brief produced presenting the main findings from the report in infographic and engaging language, incl. separately key data set in response to climate financing needs (details to be discussed)	CLAC brief	Month 5	

<p>Minimum Qualifications required:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bachelors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Masters <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Enter Disciplines:</p> <p>Advanced university degree in climate change, environmental science, natural resource management, meteorology, social and economic development, or related areas. Alternatively, a degree in communications or journalism with demonstrated expertise on environment related issues can also be considered.</p>	<p>Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 8 years' experience in international development with research and analysis on climate change and environment related topics and their impact on communities and children • Understanding of the international climate change action set up incl. main players for risk financing • Excellent research skills required • Demonstrated expertise in child rights or any of UNICEF's main areas of work (health, WASH, nutrition, child protection, social policy, education, gender, HIV/AIDS) • Good understanding of key climate risk financing opportunities incl. at least basic understanding of Green Climate Fund Readiness window opportunities • Ability to coordinate, convene stakeholders and report in a timely manner. • Excellent organizational skill, service-mind, punctual, self-motivated, proactive, reliable and demonstrated ability to work in harmony with government, private sector and staff members of different national backgrounds. • Excellent Team working skills incl. some supervisory experience • Respect for the principles of UNICEF. • Excellent report writing skills. • Strong communication skills including and presentation skills. • Proven capability to meet deadlines and work under pressure.
<p>Administrative details:</p> <p>Visa assistance required: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Transportation arranged by the office: <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Home Based <input type="checkbox"/> Office Based:</p> <p>If office based, seating arrangement identified: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>IT and Communication equipment required: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Internet access required: <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Annex 1 CLAC indicative Outline

Contents

Acronyms

Executive Summary

1. Climate, environment and energy situation in the country
 - 1.1. Current climate, including variability, climate related disasters and other environmental factors
 - 1.2. Observed and projected changes
 - 1.3. High Exposure Areas
 - 1.4. Other relevant environmental issues
 - 1.5. Energy Access
 2. Government responses to/priorities on CEE
 - 2.1 CEE policies and strategies
 - 2.2 Ongoing/ Planned initiatives on CEE covering Sierra Leone
 - 2.3 Main players on CEE (Government, NDA, development partners, NGOs, etc.)
 - 2.4 Analysis of climate financing options
 3. The impact of climate, environment and energy issues on children
 - 3.1 Impact of climate and environmental disasters on children
 - 3.2 Impact of CEE on access to basic services and infrastructure
 - 3.3 Impact of CEE on Water and Sanitation
 - 3.4 Impact of CEE on Health
 - 3.5 Impact of CEE on Education
 - 3.6 Impact of CEE on poverty, access to food and nutrition
 - 3.7 Impact of CEE on child protection
 - 3.8 Impact of CEE on social inclusion
 - 4 Child-inclusive CEE policies, strategies and programming
 - 4.1 Discussion of child-responsiveness of existing CEE policies and strategies address children's needs
 - 4.2 Discussion of child relevant sector policies and strategies versus CEE issues
 - 4.3 Discussion whether children benefit from investments and programmes on CEE
 - 5 The UNICEF Country Programme and linkages to CEE
 - 6 Recommendations (to UNICEF, Government, development partners, communities) (to include options for UNICEF climate related programming)
- Annex 1. Climate and environment related exposure and vulnerability maps.
Annex 2 (Child) Population density and distribution map Annex 3. Map
Annex 4. CEE related policies, strategies and plans (incl. existing and planned Climate Finance proposals)
Annex 5. Institutional Coordination Frameworks
Annex 6. Ongoing and planned initiatives supported by development partners
Annex 7. Who's Who in CEE in Sierra Leone (incl. outside support)

References

