

UNICEF China
Terms of Reference
For Consultant Recruitment

Job Title of Consultancy: Innovative Finance Consultant

Requesting Section: Public Partnerships Section

Name of Supervisor and Job Title: Arun Nair, Innovative Finance Specialist

Background of Consultancy Request:

The Chinese financial institutions' investments in developing countries have brought economic benefits. These investments - in connectivity infrastructure, such as transport, energy, water/sanitation, information and communication technology (ICT); manufacturing industries, and social sector infrastructure, such as health centers and schools - have the potential to contribute significantly to child-related SDGs, which calls for joint actions to promote a child-friendly investment strategy. This strategy should build "business case" to promote more socially responsible and sustainable investments that can enhance children's and young people's well-being and promote their equitable access to higher-quality public services. At the same time, this strategy should also minimize the negative impacts of the investment on children, especially the detrimental effects associated with social and environmental risks that may have disproportionately larger impact on children, the most vulnerable group of the demographic.

In response to this need, UNICEF China Country Office and the International Strategy Research Division of China Development Bank (CDB) propose to initiate a joint research project on the *Financing for Children and Social/Environmental Risk Mitigation for Chinese Financial Institutions*.

Purpose of Activity/Assignment:

UNICEF is seeking a consultant to conduct a joint research together with identified Chinese experts in the field of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) to take stock of key issues that impact children's development associated with infrastructure investment projects, jointly create a toolkit with CDB that will help them (and potentially other financial institutions) to screen their investment projects and incorporate a more inclusive child-lens perspective.

Major Tasks, Deliverables & Timeframe:

Major tasks and deliverables overview:

1. Identify the key issues that impact child/youth development associated with infrastructure projects based on a global scan of projects and environment

2. Review and consolidate the essential elements of international standards of child-friendly infrastructure based on a global scan of projects and entities
3. Propose recommendations on incorporating the child mandate within the Environment and Social Framework (ESF) that would address and include aspects related to 1 and 2
4. Review the projects (provided by CDB) and compare against the proposed ESF framework based on findings and provide recommendations to incorporate elements to the CDB projects
5. Develop the toolkit based on the recommendations and findings working closely with UNICEF and CDB

Deliverables details & timeframe

Chapter	Contents	Suggested methodology	Working days
1.	Youth and adolescent population structure, development and its impact on global economic development.	Global and China context and trends	2
2.	The key issues that the international community pays attention to the development of youth (history and development)	Based on consultant findings	3
3.	The essential elements of child-friendly infrastructure, including the Consolidation of UNICEF's guidance and best practices in member countries	Based on consultant findings & internal consultation with UNICEF resources	8
4.	ESG framework that has the closest impact on young people	Based on consultant findings & internal consultation with UNICEF resources	5
5.	UNICEF's participation in the project evaluation framework and case of other multilateral development agencies or national development agencies (content ii)	Consultation with CDB on projects that are provided for the case studies	10
6.	Select 1-2 overseas investment and financing projects (completed or under construction) of domestic financial institutions for investigation and interviews (content i)	Interviews with CDB investment project teams	10
7.	Put forward policy recommendations that Chinese-funded institutions' overseas practice that benefits the development of infrastructure for youth development	Consolidate current practices, gaps, lessons learnt and proposed recommendations on the investment projects provided by CDB	7
8.	Recommendations for the design and co-creation of the toolkit	recommendations and suggested implementation methodology on toolkit creation	5

Methodology & Expected Output:

Methodology: detailed review, environment screening (market), consultation with partners operating in this field.

Expected Outcome: Incorporate toolkit into the CDB investment projects screening process, and jointly advocate for other financial institutions to apply the plug and play toolkit.

Expected Output: detailed report and findings with recommendations and suggested implementation methodology on toolkit creation.

Start Date: 20 December 2021

End Date: 30 April 2022

Total Working Days: 50

Consultancy Requirements:

Minimum Academic Qualifications required and disciplines:

- An advanced university degree (Master) in economics, finance and investment, social or political science, public policy, international development, or related fields.
- A minimum of five years of relevant professional experience in research on human rights, children's rights, sectorial expertise (infrastructure or financial investment).
- A strong research background is required.
- Applicants must have a proven record of excellent writing and analytical skills in English.

Knowledge/Experience/Expertise/Skills required:

- Knowledge of children's rights and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
 - Experience in academic research in the environment, social and governance framework or has the experience on project/program evaluation.
 - Developing country work experience is considered an asset.
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