

United Nations Children's Fund

Supervisor: <i>Haiyan Wang</i>		Start Date: <i>15 Jan 2024</i>	End Date: <i>31 Dec 2024</i>
Title International Consultant on Life Skills	Funding Code 0860/A0/06/602/002/020 SC180084	Type of engagement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultant	Duty Station: Beijing
Purpose of Activity/Assignment: <p>UNICEF is working with the Chinese Ministry of Education to support the integration of adolescent life skills (also known as transferable skills, 21st century skills) into its Technical and Vocational Education (TVET) in order to better prepare the students for school to work transition. This includes work to develop a China specific and age-appropriate life skills framework, assessment strategy and tools, and complementary learning resources to enable the integration of life skills into school and TVET curriculum.</p> <p>UNICEF China Education team is now seeking to engage an international consultant to provide technical input, expert review, international perspective and quality assurance to support</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of China specific adolescent life skills framework, including assessment strategy 2. Development of a learning strategy to integrate life skills into school and TVET curriculum, building on best international practice and evidence. 			
Scope of Work: <p>The scope of work will mainly cover two major assignments:</p> <p>Assignment One mainly involves providing technical input and expert reviews of the draft life skills framework, advise on the design and process of framework development based on strong international evidence and best practice, and comparative analysis to align the framework against internationally studied/evaluated standards. The assignment will also involve providing technical inputs to formulate a strategy and roadmap to integrate life skills into assessment system and to expert review relevant assessment tools based on best international practice. The consultant will work closely with the Shanghai Normal University (SNU) expert team, UNICEF and MoE, actively engage in technical discussions and provide several rounds of expert reviews according to a mutually agreed schedule.</p> <p>Assignment Two mainly involves providing technical input to development of learning strategy, including international mapping of good practice and evidence, advise on options of roadmaps to integrate life skills into school and TVET system, develop guidance on corresponding pedagogical approach and quality assurance mechanism. The consultant will work with UNICEF, MoE, the learning material development institutions and national curriculum experts, actively engage in technical discussions and provide several rounds of expert reviews and proposal according to a mutually agreed schedule.</p>			

Work Assignments Overview	Deliverables/Outputs	Delivery deadline	Estimated Budget
Assignment One: Development of Life Skills Framework			12 days
1. pre-reading of project materials and join virtual project inception with UNICEF and SNU expert team to develop understanding of the project objectives, methodology and work plans. Provide initial feedback on the intended methodologies, and reference guide to relevant international evidence and best practice	Written technical feedback and advice with reference links	Feb 2024	3 days
2. review draft framework and provide up to two rounds of expert reviews and technical comments, including assessing the alignment and compatibility with internationally studied/evaluated standards	Up to 2 rounds of written technical commentaries on life skills framework drafts Minimum one written comparative analysis of the framework against any internationally studied/evaluated standards	Apr-Sept 2024	2* 3=6 days
3. review draft assessment strategy and join virtual project briefing with UNICEF, SNU and the assessment tool development expert team, provide technical comments on the assessment tool development strategy based on the framework developed (tbc)	Written technical review of assessment tool development strategy	Nov/Dec 2024	3 days
Assignment Two: Development of Learning strategy			22 days
1. conduct international mapping to provide a summary report on various approach and options for integration of life skills into school and TVET system, including analysis of the respective pros and cons, effectiveness and potential to adopt to China context.	Written Technical commentaries with reference links	Mar 2024	6 days
2. based on the draft life skills framework, propose a learning strategy to integrate life skills development into Chinese TVET system, taking into account the feature of TVET education system and challenges for Chinese students.	Written Technical commentaries with reference links	Apr 2024	5 days

3. Join at least one virtual discussion with China expert group to present on the learning strategy and collect feedback, based on which to finalise the strategy and develop guidance on pedagogical approach and quality assurance mechanism.	Written summaries of the key points discussed along with relevant references.	Apr 2024	5 days
4. Final presentation and submission of the learning strategy.	Written technical proposals with reference links	May 2024	3 days
5. (to be confirmed) one international travel to China to present on either the international mapping of best practice or the learning strategy	Trip to China and presentation	tbc	Internal travel will be covered by UNICEF separately)

Minimum Qualifications required*:

☐ Bachelors ☒ Masters ☐ PhD ☐ Other

Enter Disciplines:

Education, psychology, social research, social science and/or other relevant disciplines, specialized skills development will be a plus

*Minimum requirements to consider candidates for competitive process

Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required *:

- Minimum ten years of experience in education related field, preferably in the TVET sector
- Hands-on experience on developing competency frameworks, competency-based education assessment, life/transferable skills teaching or TVET curriculum development
- Proven experience of international consultancy experience working with overseas countries and/or international organizations
- Excellent writing and speaking skills in English
- A good team player, able to work with deadlines
- Understanding of China education context, particularly the TVET sector

The following are considered strong(admirable) assets:

- Previous technical roles with established national and international education framework and assessment projects (i.e. PISA etc.) is an asset
- Previous international consultancy experiences with UN agencies and/or China related projects
- Chinese language skills

*Listed requirements will be used for technical evaluation in the competitive process