

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS

TITLE	Expert on Better Care Reform	
Requesting Section	Kharkiv FO\Child Protection	
Type of engagement	Consultant	
Selection method	Competitive selection [advertisement]	
Justification for single source selection		
Start/End date	08-Jul-24	07-Jan-25
Duration <i>[up to 36 months without mandatory break-in-service]</i>	6 months	
Duty Station	Kharkiv	
Number of working days	150 days	
Terms of payment	Upon completion of each deliverable according to schedule	

Background:

UNICEF's Child Protection Program for Kharkiv Oblast will support safe and nurturing families for all Ukrainian children. This includes ensuring that every child at risk of or experiencing loss of care undergoes a thorough assessment and planning process that helps them access material support and other services that meet their needs, with a view of ensuring that they grow up and develop in a caring and safe family environment. This Program will support the local Government to advance the following three objectives: (1) strengthen families and keep them together by investing in social services; (2) support family-based alternative care (e.g. foster care, guardianship, and adoption) for children without adequate parental care; and (3) ensuring the development of and access to a minimum package of social services and resilience services. Furthermore, Kharkiv Oblast remains affected by the ongoing armed conflict with children and their parents evacuated and displaced within and outside the Oblast.

Purpose of assignment:

The consultant will work closely with UNICEF's implementing partners, provide technical support to the Child Protection Section, and work under the direct management of the Child Protection Specialist in Kharkiv to support to ensure the coordinated implementation of child protection programmes at the Oblast and notably Hromada levels through close collaboration with Deputy Mayors, Child Affairs Services, Social Services and other local actors, implementing partners and other UNICEF colleagues. Notably, the consultant will:

- Development, in coordination with UNICEF's Implementing Partners of detailed Workplans on Family-Based Alternative Care within Hromadas: One of the key goals of the Kharkiv Oblast program is to ensure the availability of a "Minimal Package of Services and Benefits" within Hromadas and strengthen of the alternative care system. The consultant will work closely with pilot Hromadas, Oblast-level administration (through an established Taskforce), and UNICEF team to develop and gradually update Hromada-level Work Plans, which will aim to create/improve human and institutional capabilities locally in the 12 priority Hromadas.
- Support the rollout of monitoring and evaluation procedures and frameworks in order to ensure the proper monitoring and reporting of progress of the Better Care Reform in 12 priority Hromadas, including by strengthening services, alternative care and resilience centres and services.

- Support to local authorities and child protection actors to setup and strengthen coordination mechanisms and tools at the local level as well as reporting to the Oblast-level authorities and UNICEF office.
- Strengthen the capacity of implementing partners and local child protection and other actors on the workplan, M&E framework, reporting requirements and tools that will be developed by the consultant, in collaboration with authorities, UNICEF and its partners as well as other and other topics pertinent to the Better Care Reform through trainings, mentoring, supervision and other modalities.
- Coordination of implementing partners at regional level through regular communication with partners in the field and updates of the UNICEF team and direct supervisor on the overall progress of programme implementation, achievements, and constraints.
- Provide regular updates on programme progress in Hromadas and through data collection and regular reporting, including inputs to donor reports briefing notes and other documents, as required.

The consultant will work closely with and under the supervision of the Child Protection Specialist Function at Kharkiv Field Office UNICEF Team.

Minimum requirements:	Education <i>[specify disciplines]</i>	Bachelor's degree	Social sciences, international law, international development, human rights, psychology, sociology or other related disciplines
	Professional experience <i>[number of years, relevant to the assignment, other specifics]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years of professional experience in social protection / child protection at national and/or subnational level. • Knowledge of the Ukrainian system of child protection, system of social protection, system of alternative care for children (residential and family-based). • Experience in strengthening social workforce and system of social services • Experience in development of wide strategies and plan of actions in area of child protection. • Experience in building a dialog with national and local governments and CSOs. • Experience providing consultancy services to UNICEF and other UN agencies is welcome. 	
	Language	English	Upper-intermediate [B2]
		Ukrainian	Proficient/Native [C2]
	Skills and competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good analytical skills • Good coordination skills • Good communication skills 	

Deliverable	Deadline	# of w/days
Inception Report	23.07.2024	12
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 1	28.07.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 2	02.08.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 3	07.08.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 4	12.08.2024	3,5

Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 5	17.08.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 6	22.08.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 7	27.08.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 8	01.09.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 9	06.09.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 10	11.09.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 11	16.09.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plans in Hromada 12	21.09.2024	3,5
Better Care Work Plan at Oblast-level	31.07.2024	10
M&E framework and process in 12 Hromadas	27.08.2024	30
M&E framework and process at Oblast-level	18.09.2024	14
Recommendations on roll-out of M&E framework per Hromada	23.12.2024	12
Final Report	06.01.2025	5
Sub-total:		125

Destination	Period <i>[month, year]</i>	Days
Kyiv (SSAFE Training)	July 2024-August 2024	5
Total:		8

Payment of professional fees will be based on submission of agreed deliverables. UNICEF reserves the right to withhold payment in case the deliverables submitted are not up to the required standard or in case of delays in submitting the deliverables on the part of the consultant

Individuals engaged under a consultancy will not be considered "staff members" under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and UNICEF's policies and procedures and will not be entitled to benefits provided therein (such as leave entitlements and medical insurance coverage). Their conditions of service will be governed by their contract and the General Conditions of Contracts for the Services of Consultants. Consultants are responsible for determining their tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local or other applicable laws.

The selected consultant is solely responsible to ensure that the visa (applicable) and health insurance required to perform the duties of the contract are valid for the entire period of the contract. Selected consultant are subject to confirmation of fully-vaccinated status against SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) with a World Health Organization (WHO)-endorsed vaccine, which must be met prior to taking up the assignment. The vaccine mandate, does not apply to consultants who will work remotely and are not expected to work on or visit UNICEF premises, programme delivery locations or directly interact with communities UNICEF works with, nor to travel to perform functions for UNICEF for the duration of their consultancy contracts.

UNICEF offers [reasonable accommodation](#) for consultants with disabilities. This may include, for example, accessible software, travel assistance for missions or personal attendants. We encourage you to disclose your disability during your application in case you need reasonable accommodation during the selection process and afterwards in your assignment.