

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

Title	Funding Code	Type of engagement	Duty Station:
Coordination of digital learning and skills development	RR / Sony / Botnar / Transion	Consultancy based on deliverables	Lagos, Nigeria (Home based)
<p>Purpose of Activity/Assignment:</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa with approximately 213 million people. Half of the population is below 18 years of age. The country has strived to provide quality inclusive education for all children under Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4), by increasing access to education. However, significant inequalities persist in all levels of the education system.</p> <p>Nigeria accounts for the largest global share of out-of-school children (15 per cent). Approximately 10.2 million children at primary school age and 8.1 million children at junior secondary school age are still out of school, although basic education became compulsory in 2004. Learning outcomes are also poor due to the limited access to schooling, a shortage of qualified teachers and insufficient teaching and learning materials. For instance, in 2021, about 70 per cent of students in grade 5 did not have foundational literacy and numeracy skills. These educational challenges are not equally distributed across the country, with children from poor families, rural areas and northern areas with a higher security risk more likely to be excluded from proper education and learning opportunities.</p> <p>The lack of access to quality education has a significant impact on the future of children and the country. Children who do not complete basic education and acquire foundational skills are less likely to find a job in an increasingly knowledge-based economy. These children are also less likely to be actively engaged citizens and to nurture healthy and prosperous families. This in turn limits the opportunities for the country to advance its economy, reduce poverty and build a more inclusive and democratic society.</p> <p>To ensure access to quality learning and improve children and adolescents' learning outcomes, UNICEF Nigeria supported the Federal Ministry of Education (FME) in strengthening digital learning ecosystems in the country. UNICEF supported the FME in developing the National Policy on Digital Learning, which provides the vision and direction on advancement of digital learning.</p> <p>UNICEF also supported the FME in developing and deploying an online learning platform, the Nigeria Learning Passport (NLP) (https://nigeria.learningpassport.org). The technology-based platform provides learners, teachers, school leaders, parents and the wider society with over 15,000 digitalized curriculum-mapped teaching and learning materials in core subjects for Primary 1–6 and Junior Secondary School 1–3. The content resources have been adapted in four major languages: English, Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba. The NLP offers online and offline models being used in formal schools, non-formal learning centres, and at home in both development and humanitarian contexts. The NLP is currently being implemented in 19 States reaching over 834,000users as of 6 May 2024 and aiming to reach 1.5 million users by the end of 2024.</p>			

Preconditions for the success of digital learning delivery through online means include sufficient internet connectivity, device access and the skills among teachers and learners to use the technology effectively to support learning. UNICEF therefore entered into a partnership with Airtel Nigeria and IHS towers to bridge the digital divide by providing connectivity to 400 schools and providing approximately 385 TB of data to access the NLP. UNICEF, with funding from Global Partnership for Education provided 13,500 mobile tablets for learners in 620 schools to learn using the NLP and capacity building of 63,000 teachers and education officers on the integration and deployment of ICT in the classroom. UNICEF also partnered with Sony to deploy an offline NLP model in remote and rural schools with limited internet access, while collaborating with BOTNAR Foundation to mobilize Nigeria Youth Service Corps as NLP champions who support effective use of digital learning in schools.

The expansion of digital learning in Nigeria requires strategic coordination of these initiatives so that digital learning systems support learning of all children in Nigeria, particularly for most marginalized children. To guide and further strengthen digital learning ecosystems in Nigeria, UNICEF Nigeria is seeking a consultant who provides technical support for digital learning programmes.

Main objectives

Under the guidance and general supervision of Chief of Field office and Chief of Education, the consultant;

- Supports the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the Education programmes within the country programme.
- Provides technical guidance and management support throughout the programming processes to facilitate the achievement of results on education programmes.
- Contributes to achievement of results according to plans, allocation, results based-management approaches and methodology (RBM), as well as UNICEF's Strategic Plans, standards of performance, and accountability framework.

Specific Objectives

The consultant will support the deployment of NLP and strengthen the digital learning ecosystems in Nigeria in collaboration with UNICEF Field Offices (FOs). Specific objectives are:

1. Support programme development and planning
2. Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results
3. Technical and operational support to programme implementation
4. Networking and partnership building
5. Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building

Main responsibilities and tasks:

Programme Implementation and Management

1. Girls Education and Skills Programme (GESP) Challenge Fund
 - Monitor the implementation of the Girls Education and Skills Programme (GESP) Challenge Fund (CF) by liaising with Implementation Partners.
2. Digital Learning
 - Coordinate planning and implementation of digital learning projects, including grants from Sony, Botnar, Airtel and Transsion, among others. This includes: 1) technical support to education officers; 2) monitoring of the digital learning projects and their indicators; 3) organization of regular meetings with the education team, other UNICEF sections, and external partners.
 - Organize and support meetings to get Passport-to-Earning (P2E) courses accredited by National Board for Technical Education (NBTE).
 - Coordinate the launch of NLP in Oshun and Kwara states including training of state officers in NLP implementation.
 - Coordinate UNICEF's participation in a high-level event on digital learning.
 - Follow up a data usage survey and develop a plan to promote data use for digital learning.
 - Coordinate an ICT facility survey at schools in collaboration with the government.
 - Support and follow up configuration of new devices procured for digital learning.
 - Coordinate donor visits (e.g., Airtel and IHS Tower) to schools.
 - Coordinate back-to-school campaigns using NLP.
3. Safe school
 - Coordinate the training of EMIS officers in supported states on the safe school data at school level.
 - Coordinate the training of School Based Management Committees (SBMC) on safe school implementation for targeted schools.
4. Communication, Advocacy, and Stakeholder Engagement
 - Build and sustain partnerships with relevant government counterparts, national stakeholders, global partners, donors, and academia through active networking, advocacy, and communication to achieve sustainable and broad results on education programmes.
5. Programme Review and Reporting
 - Prepare regular and mandated programme reports for management, donors, and partners to keep them informed of programme progress.
 - Collect and report programme progress and achievement data for Q3 progress updates in consultation with the Education Section of Nigeria Country Office.
6. Proposals and Fund-Raising
 - Support development of investment cases, project concept notes, and proposals for education programmes.
 - Support donor engagement and meetings.
7. Teacher Management Information System (TMIS)
 - Support and coordinate the implementation of TMIS in Lagos and Edo State.

Commented [JS1]: Since this is consultant contract, we need specific tasks. I added a few things here. Can you elaborate these items, and also add anything missing?

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](#)

Budget Year: 2024	Requesting Section/Issuing Office: Education	Reasons why consultancy cannot be done by staff: Specific expertise on digital learning required	
Included in Annual/Rolling Workplan: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, please justify:			
Consultant sourcing: National International <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Request for: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New – Individual Contract Extension/ Amendment	
Consultant selection method: Competitive Selection (Roster) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Competitive Selection (Advertisement/Desk Review/Interview)			
If Extension, Justification for extension:			
Supervisor(s):	Start Date: 1 September 2023	End Date: 30 October 2024	Number of Days (working) 52 days

Work Assignment Overview			
Tasks/Milestone:	Deliverables/Outputs:	Timeline	Payment
1) Girls Education and Skills Programme (GESP) Challenge Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GESP projects in Lagos have been implemented as planned and requests from Country Office and HQ are responded on time. 	After 2 months	100%
2) Digital Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A record of support provided for the planning and implementation of digital learning projects. • P2E courses accredited. • NLP launched in Oshun state. • Capacity to manage NLP developed in Kwara State. • High-level digital learning event coordinated. • Data usage acceleration plan developed and in place. • School ICT facility survey coordinated. • Device configuration completed. • Donor visits to schools coordinated. • Back-to-school campaigns using NLP implemented. 		
3) Safe school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A record of support/training provided for EMIS officers on safe school. • A record of support/training provided for SBMC officers on safe school. 		
4) Communication, Advocacy, and Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy materials and a record of implementation of the LP communication, advocacy and stakeholder engagement. 		
5) Programme Review and Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A record of supporting programme reports for management, donors, and partners to keep them informed of programme progress. • A record of supporting Q3 progress updates in consultation with the Education Section of Nigeria Country Office. 		
6) Proposals and Fund-Raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A record of support for the development of investment cases, project concept notes, and proposals for education programmes. • A record of support provided towards donor engagement and meetings. 		
7) Teacher Management Information System (TMIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A record of support provided for the implementation of TMIS in Lagos and Edo State 		
	Total		100%

Commented [JS2]: Please add deliverables if you add any activities in earlier section.

<p>Minimum Qualifications required:</p> <p>Bachelors Masters PhD Other</p> <p>Advanced university degree in education, digital education, instructional design, information systems management, ICT management, computer science or other relevant fields.</p>	<p>Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:</p> <p><u>Required skills and experiences</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 3 years of supporting digital learning programmes. • A minimum of 5 years of coordinating education programmes, including planning, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of programme activities. <p><u>Desired skills and experiences</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • Experience working in the UN system agency or UN organisation is an asset. <p>Language</p> <p><u>Required language skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency in English (verbal and written).
<p>Application and Selection:</p> <p>All applicants will be screened against qualifications and requirements set above. Candidates fully meeting all the requirements will be further evaluated based on technical evaluation through review of CV and interview.</p>	
<p>Administrative details:</p> <p>Visa assistance required:</p> <p>Transportation arranged by the office:</p>	<p>Home Based Yes Office Based: No</p> <p>If office based, seating arrangement identified:</p> <p>IT and Communication equipment required:</p> <p>Internet access required:</p>

Commented [JS3]: TO be changed.