

CONSULTANCY - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Senior Advisor on Giga Connectivity Credits (SSA)

UNICEF Office of Innovation – Giga

Duration: 12 months (Deliverable-Based)

Duty Station: Remote (with travel to Geneva)

Advertising summary

Giga seeks a Senior Advisor on Giga Connectivity Credits to provide strategic advisory services to UNICEF's Giga Connectivity Credits team, focusing on organizational structure, HR processes, MVP strategy development, and resource deployment for connectivity credits development in Geneva.

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](#)

UNICEF works in some of the world's toughest places, to reach the world's most disadvantaged children. To save their lives. To defend their rights. To help them fulfill their potential.

Across 190 countries and territories, we work for every child, everywhere, every day, to build a better world for everyone.

And we never give up.

For every child...innovate

UNICEF has a 70-year history of innovating for children. We believe that new approaches, partnerships and technologies that support realizing children's rights are critical to improving their lives.

The **Office of Innovation** is a creative, interactive, and agile team in UNICEF. We sit at a unique intersection, where an organization that works on huge global issues meets the start-up thinking, the technology, and the partners that turn this energy into scalable solutions.

About Giga

Launched in 2019 as a joint initiative between UNICEF and ITU, **Giga** has set the ambitious goal to connect every school in the world to the internet. Half of the world's population has no regular access to the Internet. Millions of children leave school without any digital skills, making it much more difficult for them to thrive and contribute to local and global economies. This has created a digital divide between those who are connected and those who are not, a divide that has become even wider during the Covid-19 pandemic. UNICEF and ITU have therefore joined forces to create **Giga**, an initiative to connect every school in the world to the Internet and address this new form of inequality.

Giga focuses on connecting schools so that children and young people have access to information, opportunity, and choice. It also uses schools as anchor points for their surrounding communities: if you connect the school, you can also connect local businesses and services. This creates opportunities for service providers to generate revenue from paying users, making connectivity more sustainable. A 2021 report by the Economist Intelligence Unit found that a 10% increase in school connectivity can increase effective years of schooling by 0.6% and increase GDP per capita by 1.1%.

You can read more about Giga's work at <https://giga.global/> and by following us on twitter @Gigaglobal

How can you make a difference?

Giga seeks a Senior Advisor on Giga Connectivity Credits to provide strategic advisory services to UNICEF's Giga Connectivity Credits team, focusing on organizational structure, HR processes, MVP strategy development, and resource deployment for connectivity credits development in Geneva.

Your main responsibilities will be:

- Organizational Structure Optimization and staffing needs development.
- MVP Strategy Development and User Engagement.
- Strategic Advisory and Implementation Support.
- Performance Evaluation and Scaling Advice.
- Knowledge Sharing and Partnership Facilitation.
- Reporting and Strategic Recommendations.

Description of assignment

	Tasks	Deliverables/Outputs	Days Required / Deadline
1	Conduct initial meetings with the Giga Connectivity Credits team to assess current structure, HR needs, and organizational setup. Review existing workplans.	Meeting summary and initial assessment report.	4 Days (1 st Month)
2	Provide a detailed report with recommendations on team structure optimization, HR processes (including JDs for immediate hiring needs), and integration within the larger Giga team.	Team structure optimization and HR process recommendation report.	4 Days (2 nd Month)
3	Assist in the implementation of recommended changes. Begin advisory on MVP strategy development.	Implementation assistance documentation and progress report.	4 Days (3 rd Month)
4	Review progress on organizational adjustments. Provide guidance on MVPs and early user engagement strategies.	Progress review report and further guidance documentation.	4 Days (4 th Month)
5	Facilitate connections with potential early users and partners for MVP testing. Advise on contract preparations for Geneva-based initiatives.	Partnership and early user engagement report.	4 Days (5 th Month)
6	Conduct mid-term review of organizational changes and MVP strategy execution. Outline adjustments if necessary.	Mid-term review report with adjustment recommendations.	4 Days (6 th Month)
7	Oversee the initiation of major contracts in Geneva. Continue support on MVP deployment and user feedback integration.	Contract initiation oversight report.	4 Days (7 th Month)
8	Provide strategic advice on scaling MVPs based on early successes and feedback. Begin preliminary assessment of vendor and partner performance in Geneva.	MVP scaling advisory report.	4 Days (8 th Month)
9	Conduct follow-up meetings with the Giga team to review progress on MVP scaling and Geneva initiatives.	Follow-up meeting summary and progress evaluation report.	4 Days (9 th Month)

10	Offer insights and strategies for further scaling of connectivity credits development based on lessons learned.	Scaling strategy insights and recommendations report.	4 Days (10 th Month)
11	Prepare a comprehensive report on the advisory role's impact, including achievements, challenges, and recommendations for future strategies.	Comprehensive impact assessment report.	4 Days (11 th Month)
12	Present findings and strategic recommendations for the next phase of the Giga Connectivity Credits initiative to UNICEF leadership.	Presentation and strategic recommendation document.	4 Days (12 th Month)

To qualify as an advocate for every child you will have...

- Master's degree in business administration, Technology Management, or a related field. *A bachelor's degree in a relevant field combined with 2 additional years of professional experience may be accepted in lieu of an Advanced University Degree.
- 8 - 10 years of extensive relevant work experience in leading and scaling technology companies internationally, with a proven track record in executive management, business development, and strategic advisory roles.
- Demonstrated experience fostering innovation, growth, and positive leadership within technology sectors.
- Experience in navigating high-level contracts, vendor selection, and government relations.
- Strong background in blockchain, AI, and other emerging technologies is preferred.
- Excellent analytical and strategic thinking skills, with a strong attention to detail and a commitment to achieving high-quality outcomes.
- Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) is an asset.

Travel:

- The consultant is expected to travel up to 6 times to Geneva for a stay of 1 night each.
- The consultant is responsible for arranging his/her own travel, including visa and travel insurance.

Payment details and further considerations

- Payment of professional fees will be based on the 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.
- Consultant is responsible for his/her own health and travel insurance.
- Consultant is responsible to arrange his/her own travel, including visa.

How to apply:

- Interested applicants are required to submit a financial proposal with an all-inclusive fee. Please see the financial proposal template.

- Financial proposal must include travel costs (economy class) and daily subsistence allowance, if travel is required as per TOR and any other estimated costs: visa, travel/health insurance
- **Applications without a financial proposal will not be considered.**

For every Child, you demonstrate...

UNICEF's values of Care, Respect, Integrity, Trust, Accountability, and Sustainability ([CRITAS](#)).

To view our competency framework, please visit [here](#).

UNICEF is here to serve the world's most disadvantaged children and our global workforce must reflect the diversity of those children. The UNICEF family is committed to include everyone, irrespective of their race/ethnicity, age, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, socio-economic background, or any other personal characteristic.

UNICEF offers reasonable accommodation for consultants/individual contractors 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.

UNICEF has a zero-tolerance policy on conduct that is incompatible with the aims and objectives of the United Nations and UNICEF, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination. UNICEF also adheres to strict child safeguarding principles. All selected candidates will be expected to adhere to these standards and principles and will therefore undergo rigorous reference and background checks. Background checks will include the verification of academic credential(s) and employment history. Selected candidates may be required to provide additional information to conduct a background check.

Remarks:

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and advance to the next stage of the selection process.

Individuals engaged under a consultancy or individual contract 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 and Individual Contractors. Consultants and individual contractors 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 candidate 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 candidates 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. It 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.