

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Individual Consultant: Consultant for Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (open to National Consultants only)

Duty Station: New Delhi (home based)

Contract Duration: 11 months

Closing Date: 5th June 2024

1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

In recent years, UNICEF's work to support the unique needs of young people has gained momentum, as the challenges facing them have come more sharply into view. UNICEF is committed to deliver for all children and young people through its overall impact goal of 'realizing the rights of every child, especially the most disadvantaged. Building on the current work with, and for, adolescents, in line with the United Nations Youth Strategy, UNICEF is developing a new global partnership, Generation Unlimited (GenU), which is dedicated to expanding opportunity for young people from ages 10 to 24 years. Maximizing the potential of the United Nations system, Governments, Civil Society Organizations, and the private sector, and of young people themselves, GenU is focused on finding new ways to ensure that every young person is in school, undergoing formal or informal learning or training, or is employed by 2030. The focus will be on reaching those in the greatest danger of being left behind: including girls, the poor, young people with disabilities or on the move, or affected by conflict and natural disasters.

YuWaah, the Indian chapter of GenU is a public-private-youth partnership, with a mission to enable every young person in India, especially the most disadvantaged, to realize their potential by accessing learning, career guidance, social impact and economic opportunities, and support their mental wellbeing.

The mental health of young people in India is an area of increasing concern. According to a 2018 report by the World Health Organization (WHO), 7.5% of Indians suffer from mental health disorders, and young people are particularly vulnerable. The report also states that suicide is the leading cause of death among Indians aged 15-29. For India, the economic loss due to mental health conditions, between 2012-2030, is estimated at USD 1.03 trillion. (World Health Organization)

The significance of mental health and wellbeing in the overall health of children and adolescents cannot be overstated. Research consistently demonstrates that early detection and intervention in mental health issues can significantly alleviate the burden on affected individuals. The socio-economic impact of untreated mental health issues is profound, affecting academic performance, employability, and societal engagement. Therefore, there is a need for comprehensive, multi-sectoral interventions to address the diverse challenges faced by adolescents and youth in India. There is a need to work with key ministries to ensure that both in and out of school/college children, adolescents and youth are targeted through preventive mental health interventions.

The purpose of this consultancy is to support UNICEF India in implementing its emerging area of work on enabling mental health and wellbeing of adolescents and young people.

2. OBJECTIVES

The consultant will:

Support Facilitation of MHPSS programming for young people across school and higher education systems

- i. Coordinate and liaison with the Ministry of Education on MHPSS programming in school and higher education systems
- ii. Support and coordinate a national consultation and technical advisory group on enabling mental wellbeing of adolescents and young people
- iii. Coordinate with UNICEF sections and teams (Child protection, Health, Education) to help converge various engagement initiatives on mental wellbeing of adolescents and young people
- iv. Develop and finalize a year-long engagement plan for YuWaah to enable mental wellbeing of adolescents and youth aligned to global GenU and UNICEF priorities

- v. Develop a master presentation and concept note for funding
- vi. Support the identification and liaisons partners from the private, CSO and public sector for collaboration and implementation of YuWaah's Mental Wellbeing work, provide oversight on innovative pilots on enabling mental wellbeing
- vii. Support the planning and implementation of YuWaah's mental wellbeing work on key calendar dates with partners and young people
- viii. Tracking programmatic and partnership outcomes
- ix. Study on effective strategies towards convening and converging partnership ecosystem

3. MAJOR TASKS AND ACTIVITIES TO BE ACCOMPLISHED

Work Assignments Overview (Include Major Tasks and Activities)	Deliverables/Outputs	Date for submission of Deliverable	No. of Deliverables
1. Development of one-year long engagement plan for YuWaah around Mental Health and Psycho-social Wellbeing	Gantt chart capturing Joint action programme of YuWaah and UNICEF carrying activities, timelines and outcome indicators FY 2024-2025	9 Jul 2024	1
2. Facilitation of national consultation on mental wellbeing	Agenda for National Conclave; Outcome report	6 Aug 2024	2
3. Expanding resource support for Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people	Master Concept/ strategy note and pitch deck outlining YuWaah's Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people	6 Sep 2024	2
4. Establishing and convening technical advisory group (TAG)	Agenda and outcomes of TAG; Calendar of Meetings	27 Sep 2024	2
5. Development of training manuals for school functionaries and front-line workers	Report carrying Table of Contents, content outline and structure	29 Oct 2024	1
6. Create implementation roadmap for MOE implementation of MH interventions	Rolling Workplan FY 2024-25 on Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people based in schools	6 Nov 2024	1
7. Identification and engagement of 1 solution partner on testing and scaling models of Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people based in schools	Concept note carrying proposed implementation plan of partner	11 Dec 2024	1
8. Identification and engagement of 1 solution partners on testing and scaling models of Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people based in colleges	Concept note carrying proposed implementation plan of partner	15 Jan 2025	1

9. Strengthening evidence and knowledge products	Report on support provided towards strengthening evidence systems and knowledge products	5 Feb 2025	1
10. Development of A/V resources for training for school functionaries and front-line workers	Report on structure and script of A/V resources	7 Mar 2025	1
11. Scheme documentation on Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people based in schools	Executive summary of proposed scheme for Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people based in schools	28 Mar 2025	1
12. Identification and engaging 1 tech-based solution partner on testing and scaling models of Mental Health and Wellbeing programming for young people	Concept note carrying proposed implementation plan of partner	2 May 2025	1
13. Development of comprehensive, live, resource package on MHPSS awareness	Resource package created for ensuring all youth benefitting from YuWaah programmes gain access to MHPSS resources	16 May 2025	1
14. Tracking programmatic and partnership outcomes	Report on support provided to ensure that programme and partnership progress are on track and that any challenges have been resolved	26 Sep 2024; 10 Jan 2025; 3 May 2025	3

4. DUTY STATION

New Delhi (home-based)

5. OFFICIAL TRAVEL INVOLVED (ITINERARY AND DURATION)

There will be 3 air travel trips of 3 days each (total 9 days) to program implementation areas in Chhattisgarh, Mumbai, Kerala.

6. ESTIMATED DURATION OF CONTRACT

11 months, from 1st July 2024 to 31st May 2025.

7. QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE / EXPERIENCE/ COMPETENCIES (CORE/TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL) / LANGUAGE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

Qualification:

- Minimum education requirement of a Bachelor's Degree in development, social sciences, public policy, social work, sciences, technology, environmental science
- Advanced degree in mental health related subjects like psychology and social work will be preferred.

Years of Experience/Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:

- In-depth expertise in Mental health, psycho-social wellbeing and youth engagement with demonstration of engagement for a minimum of 4 years essential
- Knowledge of mental health issues affecting adolescents in India, especially in intersection with areas of skilling, jobs, entrepreneurship
- Demonstrated fundamental analytical skills (e.g. ability to find correlations and pull out commonalities in priorities expressed by stakeholders) preferred
- Understanding of key concepts of gender and equity is good to have
- Experience on diverse methods of monitoring & evaluation and learning framework
- Experience in working with public and private sectors is good to have especially UN agencies
- Familiarity with the SDGs and the individual targets, especially those related to climate change, gender, jobs and youth preferred

8. TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA (WITH WEIGHTS FOR EACH CRITERIA)

Technical and Financial ratio is 75:25 (technical proposal-75 points and financial proposal-25 points)

S. No.	Evaluation Criteria	Max. Marks	Min. Marks
1.	Educational Qualification - Bachelors Degree in development, social sciences, public policy, social work, sciences, technology, environmental science (2) - Advance degree in mental health related subjects like psychology & social work (3)	05	42
2.	Relevant Experience - At least four years of experience working specifically on Mental health, psycho-social wellbeing and youth engagement. (15 marks) - Relevant experience on diverse methods of monitoring, evaluation and learning framework (15 marks) - Demonstrated skills such as fundamental analytical skills through submission of a sample report (10 marks)	40	
3.	Cover Letter Cover letter with technical knowledge and skills acquired and examples of their applications especially towards youth engagement on mental health and psycho-social wellbeing, monitoring, learning and evaluation with a focus on gender inclusion and equity.	10	
	Sub-Total	55	42
3.	Interview	20	n/a
	Total	75	56

Note: Applicants scoring 42 marks (out of 55) will be called for interview. Qualifying score in technical evaluation is 56 out of 75 marks.

9. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payment will made on submission and acceptance of 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.

10. IMPORTANT NOTES

- 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 health insurance (and visa if applicable) 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.
- 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.

HOW TO APPLY:

The application to be submitted through the online portal and must contain four separate attachments, as follows:

1. A cover letter (max 2 pages) which demonstrates strong technical aptitude and understanding of technology architecture principles, with examples of the pointers listed under Technical Evaluation Criteria **(to be uploaded online under “Cover Letter” tab)**
2. A sample Report demonstrating fundamental analytical skills **(to be uploaded online against “Other – Applicant” tab).**
3. An updated CV demonstrating all requirements stated above **(to be uploaded online under “Resume” tab)**
4. A financial proposal indicating all-inclusive amount (professional fee + travel cost as applicable) against each of the deliverable, as per the template attached. Please do not forget to specify your name in the file while saving **(to be uploaded online under “Financial Proposal” tab).**

Important Note: Please do not indicate financials anywhere else in the online application form, please mark "n/a or 00", under the fee related questions in the online application form.

Without all the above 04 documents, your application will be considered incomplete and invalid and will not be considered further.

- Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF’s selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.
- Joint applications of two or more individuals are not accepted.
- Please note, UNICEF does not charge any fee during any stage of the process.
- Women, trans, non-binary and gender diverse candidates meeting the requirements are strongly encouraged to apply.
- UNICEF is committed to diversity and inclusion and encourages qualified candidates from all backgrounds including persons living with disabilities to apply.
- General Terms and Conditions for the Consultancy Contract is attached, for your reference.

For any clarifications, please contact:

UNICEF

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