unicef | for every child

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Climate and Energy Consultant

CONTRACT MODALITY	Individual Consultancy
DUTY STATIO	**Bangkok,** Thailand & Home based
DURATION OF CONTRACT	1 year

Purpose of Assignment

UNICEF's new Strategic Plan 2026-2029 and its Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2030 places great importance on climate and environmental resilience for children. The goal is to ensure that 500 million children are better protected from disasters and climate and environmental risks by 2029. As global financing for development is under increasing pressure, transformative and innovative work is needed to protect and empower children using a child-centered and multi-sectoral approach to building climate resilience and contribute to mitigation efforts.

UNICEF has set the foundation for strengthening its expertise and extending its reach to support children around the world in a more coordinated way by developing climate programme proposals for some country offices. These build on locally viable solutions and explore new technologies, climate financing, behavioural change of children, and climate skills development of young people. To support UNICEF country offices to adopt the climate change solutions in these proposals, there is an urgent need to identify different opportunities for resource mobilization and to explore the application of innovative solutions in much needed areas such as climate-proofing social service delivery. It is also important to ensure that these are done in an inclusive and equitable approach, in line with UNICEF's mandate support for those most vulnerable and marginalized, including girls and children with disabilities, and without compromising on the social and environmental issues.

Sustainable energy adoption is one such solution, where its use around the world continues to increase, particularly in times of economic uncertainty and more frequent and unpredictable climate change impacts. This directly mitigates climate change but also builds climate resilience of vulnerable communities such as children and women when life-saving social services such as healthcare facilities and schools have continued access to electricity as the climate changes. With the newly established Centre of Excellence for Climate and Environment, a Sustainable Energy Strategy will be developed to guide UNICEF on its support to governments to scale the use of sustainable energy, such as solar, for better quality and reliable social service delivery.

A consultant for the CoE with expertise and experience in both climate and energy will be needed to provide technical support to the expansion of the sustainable energy work as aligned to the new Sustainable Energy Strategy, and to support UNICEF country offices to use the climate programme proposals for resource mobilization, programming and advocacy for climate change adaptation and mitigation for children.

Scope of Work

Assignment 1 - Sustainable Energy Strategy Implementation Support

- Coordinate sustainable energy programmes and projects in support of UNICEF COs.
- Develop M&E and impact measurement framework for sustainable energy and support implementation of the framework.
- Provide technical support and coordinate on integrating gender equity, disability inclusion, environmental management and children and youth engagement into sustainable energy programmes and projects.

Assignment 2 – Climate-Resilient Sustainable Energy Positioning Support

- Coordinate and provide technical support on research and development of climate-resilient sustainable energy technology for social service facilities, in partnership with external organizations and research institutions.
- Provide sustainable energy technical input to governments in their national climate policy development and global climate commitments and targets.
- Advocate for, and strengthen, UNICEF's unique role contributing to climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts through improved social service delivery with the support of sustainable energy.

Assignment 3 –Climate Programming Support

- Provide technical support on the implementation of the climate programme proposals, including advising on its use for resource mobilization, public and direct advocacy and programming and project design.
- Provide technical support on climate financing, climate adaptation solutions and behaviour change of children and climate skills development as needed.
- Coordinate technical support to ensure inclusive and equitable approach to climate proposal development and programming, in line with UNICEF's commitment to support gender equality, disability inclusion, social and environmental safeguarding and meaningful engagement of children and youth in this agenda.

Work Assignments Overview	**Deliverables/Outputs**	**Delivery deadline to complete the deliverable**
Assignment 1 - Sustainable Energy Strategy Implementation Support	10 technical request support provided to COs.	21 May 2028
	5 countries adopting equity, inclusion and ESS in their sustainable energy programme and project design or implementation.	21 May 2028
	3 countries implementing children and youth engagement activities for sustainable energy.	21 May 2028

	1 sustainable energy M&E and impact measurement framework developed and presented at global workshop to the Sustainable Energy taskforce	31 December 2027
Assignment 2 – Climate-Resilient Sustainable Energy Positioning Support	1 think piece on climate-resilient sustainable energy technologies for social service delivery.	31 December 2027
	3 countries supported with sustainable energy input into climate-related policies or global climate commitments.	21 May 2028
Assignment 3 –Climate Programming Support	Roll out of climate programme proposals through support on resource mobilization, public and direct advocacy and project design and programming.	21 May 2028
	Technical support to the CoE on climate financing, climate adaptation and behaviour change of children and climate skills development.	21 May 2028

Payment Schedule:
Payment will be 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.

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.
- Contracts are conditional upon the selected candidate's willingness to comply with any current or future vaccination requirements that may be established by UNICEF, where applicable. Failure to comply with applicable vaccination requirements, where required and without an approved medical exemption by UNICEF, may result in the withdrawal of the consultancy offer or termination of the contract in accordance with the General Terms and Conditions of Contract.
- 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.

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

Minimum requirements:

- **Education:**
    - Master's degree in Climate change, sustainable development, energy, environmental management, development studies, development management, economics, political science
- **Work Experience:**
    - 10 years' experience working in international development organizations on related matters, including project management, and sustainable energy, climate resilience
- **Language Requirements:**
    - English
- **Knowledge/Expertise/Skills:**
    - Climate change adaptation, sustainable energy and environmental management
    - National policy development, local development planning processes, M&E
- **Desirables:**

- Inclusion and equity integration, children and youth engagement