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TERMS OF REFERENCE

Climate-Resilient Education Consultant

CONTRACT MODALITY	**Individual Consultancy**
DUTY STATION	**Remote work, HQ, COE Bangkok**
DURATION OF CONTRACT	**11.5 Months**

Purpose of Assignment

Climate change and environmental degradation are disrupting education access, learning continuity, safety and equity. UNICEF is seeking a consultant to strengthen its global climate-resilient education offer and support country and regional offices to translate climate and disaster risk evidence into practical education policies, plans, financing strategies and implementation approaches.

The assignment will advance climate-resilient education across four mutually reinforcing pillars: (1) policy, planning and finance; (2) climate-resilient educational infrastructure; (3) climate-resilient education systems; and (4) green skills and leadership. Work will connect system-level action - such as climate-responsive sector planning, financing, data, early warning, standards and partnerships—with school- and individual-level action, including resilient learning environments, curriculum, teacher capacity, education continuity, green skills and youth-led climate action.

1. Policy, planning and finance: Support integration of education into climate and disaster risk reduction policies and of climate resilience into education policies, plans, budgets, data systems, early warning arrangements, financing and partnerships.
2. Resilient infrastructure and systems: Strengthen approaches to climate- and disaster-resilient school design, standards, renewable and resilient education continuity and learning recovery, teacher development, and curriculum integration.
3. Green skills and leadership: Advance climate and disaster risk reduction in experiential and non-formal learning, community service learning, green skills and youth-led climate action.

Scope of Work:

Under the supervision of the Education Specialist (Climate), the consultant will collaborate with headquarters, regional offices, country offices and partners to strengthen UNICEF's climate-resilient education programming and support the following areas:

1. Policy, Planning and Finance

• Support integration of education priorities in climate and disaster risk reduction policies, including NAPs and NDCs, and integration of climate resilience in education sector policies and plans.
• Strengthen climate-risk-informed education planning, budgeting, climate-finance mobilization, data and analysis, early warning systems, coordination and partnerships.
• Develop practical guidance, investment cases and technical inputs for country-level policy and financing processes.

2. Climate-Resilient Educational Infrastructure

• Support approaches to climate- and disaster-resilient school design, upgrades and retrofits, national resilient construction standards, renewable and resilient energy, green school grounds and sustainable school practices.

• Connect infrastructure investments with school vulnerability mapping, multi-hazard risk assessment and education continuity.

3. Climate-Resilient Education Systems

• Advance climate and disaster risk reduction considerations in curricula, teacher training, education system resilience, school emergency management plans and protocols, and education continuity and learning recovery.

• Provide technical assistance, capacity strengthening, knowledge management and monitoring support to country and regional offices.

4. Green Skills and Leadership

• Support green skills, experiential and non-formal skills development, community service learning and youth-led climate action. Document scalable approaches that connect learning, livelihoods, participation and local climate solutions

Work Assignment Overview	Deliverables/ Outputs	Delivery deadline and Input days
Provide technical support to advance climate-resilient education across four pillars: policy, planning and finance; resilient infrastructure; education systems; and green skills and leadership. Develop guidance and knowledge products, support country implementation and partnerships, and consolidate evidence and progress to inform scale-up.	**Deliverable 1:** Inception package — 2027 workplan, stakeholder map and results framework across the four pillars of climate-resilient education, identifying priority country-support requests, deliverables, timelines and quality standards.	**15 February 2027** **25 days**
	Deliverable 2: Internal knowledge hub and capacity-strengthening package — Curated internal UNICEF repository and compendium of existing tools, resources, case studies and guidance across all four pillars. Covers policy, planning and finance; resilient infrastructure and sustainable school practices; curriculum integration, teacher training, school emergency management plans and protocols, education continuity, learning recovery and community service learning; and green skills and leadership. Includes two to three information -sharing and capacity - strengthening sessions.	**31 March 2027** **25 days**
	Deliverable 3: Public technical guidance on climate -risk -informed education policy, planning and finance — Practical, externally accessible guidance for governments and education partners on integrating climate and disaster risk into education policies and sector plans, strengthening climate finance	**30 April 2027** **25 days**

	and risk - informed planning, and using data, analysis, early warning, coordination and partnerships.	
	Deliverable 4: Partnership and resource - mobilisation package — Mapping of potential partners, collaborators and financing opportunities across all four pillars, alongside two donor -facing investment cases demonstrating UNICEF's comparative advantage and linking system - level reforms with results for schools and learners**.**	**30 June 2027** **25 days**
	Deliverable 5: Cross -country synthesis of implementation experience and promising practices — Comparative analysis of implementation experience across the four pillars, identifying common challenges, lessons learned and promising approaches, with recommendations for adaptation, replication and scale -up.	**30 November 2027** **25 days**
	Deliverable 6: Climate -resilient educational infrastructure package — Technical guidance and practical approaches for school vulnerability mapping and multi - hazard risk assessments; resilient school design, construction, upgrades and retrofits; construction standards; renewable and resilient energy; green spaces; sustainable school practices; and long - term operations, maintenance and recurrent financing.	**30 July 2027** **25 days**
	Deliverable 7: Green skills and leadership package — Adaptable programme approaches and practical activities to support experiential learning, non -formal green skills development, meaningful youth participation and youth leadership in climate action, including tools that can be adapted for country -level programming.	**31 August 2027** **25 days**
	Deliverable 8: Quarterly technical - support and progress summaries — Four concise quarterly updates tracking workplan delivery, country and regional technical assistance, progress and results across the	**31 December 2027** **25 days**

	four pillars, key challenges and risks, and recommended next steps.	
	Deliverable 9: Climate -risk data integration and investment prioritisation framework — Framework to integrate climate-hazard, child-vulnerability, education-access and infrastructure data into education-sector planning and investment decisions. Identifies priority schools and locations, adaptation needs, indicators, and prioritised and costed interventions across the four pillars.	**30 September 2027** **25 days**
	Deliverable 10: Climate-resilient education financing pathways and implementation roadmap — Practical roadmap to help governments and UNICEF Country Offices mobilise and align domestic education budgets, climate finance and development-partner resources. Identifies financing instruments and entry points, opportunities to integrate interventions into national climate and education plans, and measures to strengthen project preparation, access to finance, and sustainable funding for implementation and recurrent costs.	**29 October 2027** **25 days**

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.
- The selected candidate is solely responsible for ensuring 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.

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

Minimum Qualification required:

Education:

Masters degree in Education, climate change, environmental studies, disaster risk reduction, public policy, sustainable development, international development, economics, engineering, architecture or another relevant field. Minimum of two years of relevant professional experience in climate-resilient education, education systems strengthening, climate policy or related areas

Work Experience:

- Demonstrated expertise in climate-resilient education policy, planning, financing and education systems strengthening.
- Experience in at least two additional pillars: resilient educational infrastructure; curriculum, teachers and education continuity; or green skills and youth leadership.
- Experience supporting governments, UN agencies or development partners in low- and middle-income or climate-vulnerable contexts.

Language Requirements:

- Fluency in English (written and spoken) is required.
- Knowledge of an additional UN language is an asset

Knowledge/Expertise/Skills:

• Excellent analytical, drafting, project management, coordination, facilitation and communication skills.

Desirables:

- Experience with UNICEF, UN agencies, or international organizations.
- Experience supporting multi-country programmes or technical assistance coordination.
- Familiarity with climate-resilient education, EiE, DRR, or climate adaptation in education.
- Experience with global initiatives or Communities of Practice.
- Knowledge of UNICEF programming approaches and systems strengthening.