

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Bangkok, Thailand**

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The Knowledge Management and Evaluation Section of UNICEF, Asia Pacific Shared Services Center (APSSC) is urgently seeking an individual consultant to conduct a study on MICS/Child Injury.

Consultant for MICS/Child Injury Feasibility Study

In order to enhance the policy relevance of data collected through the UNICEF supported Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), new module areas are being proposed in order to obtain evidence on emerging themes and to monitor the MDG plus agenda. One proposed theme that has been put forward is the subject of child injury. Evidence confirms that from the age of one year, the risk of dying from injury increases as children grow more independent and interact with their environment and as the threat of death from infectious and non-communicable diseases falls. Hundreds of thousands of children die each year from injuries or violence, and millions of others suffer the consequences of non-fatal injuries.

The consultant will examine the research methodology, questionnaires and findings of a series of child injury focused household surveys conducted in Asia over the last 8 years. The surveys which took place in Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam relied on large sample sizes to enable reliable identification of causes of death and their breakdown by categories such as age, sex and urban or rural location. The data collected looked at deaths from all causes in the previous three years as well as all circumstances that required children and adults to miss work or school or to be hospitalized from injury in the previous year. In extensive collaboration with child injury and household survey specialists the consultant will explore suitable indicators, tools and methodological challenges around collecting data through household surveys on the different child injury topics.

This consultant will undertake an assessment on whether the topic of child injury can be developed into an appropriate module in MICS as well and other cross sectoral national household surveys. MICS surveys are modular in structure providing the opportunity for countries to select the modules of relevance and importance to the country context. However the methodology and scope of MICS does not make it possible to collect data on *all* child related issues. A technical feasibility assessment for each new topic before potentially moving towards validation and testing of new modules must be conducted before inclusion of any new topic into the actual MICS globally standard questionnaires. This consultancy will serve as the technical feasibility assessment for child injury and the assessment will be shared with the global MICS team for further discussion and consideration.

The consultant will liaise with regional child injury specialists to determine what type of child injury indicators should be collected at the population level and what are the policy relevant uses for this data. In collaboration with child injury specialists the consultant will identify a minimum set of indicators. The consultant will liaise with the APSSC MICS specialist/MICS team in HQ and other household survey specialists to assess whether the identified child injury indicators can be reliably and accurately collected through national household survey programmes such as MICS.

Based on the above mentioned consultations the consultant will examine the research methodology, questionnaires and results of a series of household surveys conducted in Asia over the last 8 years. The consultant will discuss with those involved in the surveys on lessons learned and the data collection and data use challenges. Based on the consultations with child injury and household survey specialists the consultant will explore the possibility of what, if any, previously used and validated research tools can be developed and adapted for MICS and will provide examples of indicators, possible modules and examples of statistical tables to show possible presentation and disaggregation of data.

Specific Tasks

- Liaise with Child Injury Specialists to identify the possible key indicators that should be measured through national household surveys.
- Undertake desk review of regional surveys on child injury and consult via e-mail and teleconference with actors involved in survey implementation to identify possible research tools, methodological issues and challenges.
- Produce a comprehensive report documenting possibilities, if any, of including child injury as a topic into MICS with full methodological discussion. Propose indicators, possible modules and tabulations that could be considered.

Duration of Contract

3 months. No travel in the region is anticipated.

Deliverables

- Full assessment report on the possibilities of including child injury as a topic into MICS with discussions on:
 - Key indicators relating to child injury and measurement issues
 - Methodological considerations and strengths and limitations of using the MICS tool
 - In the event that child injury can be incorporated into the MICS as a module the report will contain possible questions that will be included in the module with example of tabulations.
 - Electronic copies of materials and references used for the report.
- Power point presentation presenting the summary and findings of the assessment report.

Qualifications or Specialized Knowledge/Experience Required:

- At least a Master's Degree or equivalent in Social Sciences, Statistics, Epidemiology, or other related technical field
- At least 8 years of experience in survey design and child injury programming
- Knowledge and familiarity with the topic of child injury and accidents.
- Experience in the design of research tools and implementation of population based research studies
- Fluency in English
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills;
- Familiarity with MICS or DHS an asset

Interested candidates are requested to provide CV, P11, proposed professional fee (lump sum) in US dollars, which should be inclusive of all accommodation costs in Bangkok in case of international consultants, by **30 October 2009** to rjames@unicef.org, with copies to, kwiboonpanich@unicef.org, and hrbangkok@unicef.org