REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES

LRPS-2022-9175105

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND (UNICEF)

Wishes to invite you to submit a proposal for

International Institutional Consultancy for the provision of support to the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare in the process of development of the Strategy for Deinstitutionalization for the part related to children and youth
THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES HAS BEEN:

Prepared By:

Ana Popivoda
(To be contacted for additional information, NOT FOR SENDING PROPOSALS)
Email: apopivoda@unicef.org

Approved By:

Kosa Buskovic

Date: 19.05.2022

Date: 19.05.2022
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES FORM

This FORM must be completed, signed and returned to UNICEF. Proposal must be made in accordance with the instructions contained in this Request for Proposal for Services (RFPS).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT
Any Contract resulting from this RFPS shall contain UNICEF General Terms and Conditions for Institutional and Corporate Contracts and any other Specific Terms and Conditions detailed in this RFPS.

INFORMATION
Any request for information regarding this RFPS must be forwarded by email to the person who prepared this document, with specific reference to the RFPS number.

The Undersigned, having read the Terms and Conditions of RFPS No. LRPS-2022-9175105 set out in the attached document, hereby offers to execute the services specified in this document.

Signature: ____________________________________________
Date: __________________________________________________________________________________________
Name & Title: ____________________________________________
Company: ____________________________________________
Postal Address: ____________________________________________
Tel No: ____________________________
Fax No: ____________________________
E-mail Address: ____________________________________________
Currency of Proposal: ____________________________________________
Validity of Proposal: ____________________________________________

Please indicate which of the following Payment Terms are offered by you:
10 Days 3.0%____ 15 Days 2.5%____ 20 Days 2.0%____ 30 Days Net____ Other____
10 Consultancy fee

International Institutional Consultancy for the provision of support to the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare in the process of development of the Strategy for Deinstitutionalization for the part related to children and youth

1. Background and Context

All children, adolescent, youth and adults have a right to family life, whether in their own family or alternative family. All persons have the right to live independently and to be included in the community, as well as the right to choose their place of residence and where and with whom they live, and the right to live in dignity. Those rights are set out in the relevant UN and European human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the revised European Social Charter and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. In practice, the right to live in family and community requires the availability of family support and family and community-based alternative services which provide the support which people to enable them to participate in everyday life.

The reform of the social and child protection system in Montenegro, led by the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare, has intensified since 2011, with the EU and UN (UNICEF and UNDP) assistance. It has resulted in renewed policy and legal framework. At the same time, important efforts have been invested in strengthening institutional capacities and expanding family and community-based services for vulnerable children and families. This reform has encompassed a new Law on Social and Child Protection (2013), reorganization and introduction of modern working methods in Centres for Social Work (case management, Integrated Social Welfare Information System), establishment of the Institute for Social and Child Protection (in charge, inter alia, for quality assurance of the system) and the Division for Development of Social and Child Protection Services; strengthening of intersectoral cooperation and professional capacities of relevant sectors for the prevention of family breakdown; expanded family and community based services (foster care particularly non-kin foster care, day care centres for children with disabilities, small group home, family outreach service for the prevention of family breakdown, home care for elderly, national SOS helpline for victims of domestic violence, day care centers for elderly and persons with disabilities, etc.).

The development of family support and community-based services is one of the key aspects of the social welfare and childcare system reform and deinstitutionalization is perceived as a core stone of the overall reform. The Law on Social and Child Protection, emphasizes the prevention of institutionalization and availability of services in the least restrictive environment as a key reform principles, including development a pluralism of services and service providers (state and non-state); partnerships and joining of different entities responsible for activities and programmes, especially at the local level, with the objective of making services available in the least restrictive environment and preventing institutionalization. Furthermore, Article 117 of the Law, provides that public institutions which perform activities related to the provision of accommodation (placement) to children, youth, adults and elderly shall be transformed with a view to developing services supporting independent living, counselling-therapeutic or socio-educational services, in accordance with the plan of transformation adopted by the competent state administration body. Still, the most progressive achievement of the Law on Social and Child Protection is Article 70, calling for ending placement of children under three years of age in residential institutions.

The development of family and community-based services focuses on intensifying family and community-based care while reducing current institutional placement, in line with the key policy national, regional and international recommendations. Development of family and community-based services contributes to the full compliance with the Montenegrin major reform principles in the area of social and child protection: decentralization, deinstitutionalization and living in the supportive, least restrictive environment.
Preventative services for children and their families were on the rise, with important stagnation in the last 3-4 years. While until 2010 there was only one day care centre for children with disabilities, there are now 17 such day care centres across the country. As regards alternative care for children, significant efforts have been invested in the development of foster care. While kinship care had been used as a form of alternative care, non-kin foster care had been underdeveloped in Montenegro. In the past years, legal reform, capacity building of relevant professionals, development of services, quality assurance mechanisms, and mass media campaigns contributed to the achieving zero children from 0-3 years of age in institutional care, 50% decrease of a number of children in institutional care overall and 15% increase in the number of children in foster care in the period 2010-2020. Still, the foster care system is Montenegro is not properly developed and does not adequately address number of issues, including budgeting for foster care, development of special forms of foster care, renumeration for foster families, case management for foster care, monitoring and evaluation system for foster care, etc.

At the end of 2021, there were 119 children in Montenegro's institutions. However, over the years, children with disabilities remain overrepresented in institutional care (accounting for more than 50% of children in institutions). When it comes to adults, capacities for the elderly accommodation in the residential care have been significantly increased # a home for the elderly has been opened in Pljevlja (capacity 68), and at the end of 2020, homes for the elderly have been established in Podgorica (capacity 270) and Nikšić (capacity 208). Compared to the period of 4 years ago the capacities for residential care of elderly have been doubled.

The social welfare and child care system reform should continue as a matter of priority and the deinstitutionalization process should be accelerated for all children and adults and in particular children and adults with disabilities. In this spirit, in 2022, the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare has prioritized deinstitutionalization in its key short-, mid- and long-term strategic reform documents, which will be initiated with the development of the five-year Strategy on deinstitutionalization which will be the framework for strategic actions for both deinstitutionalisation of children and adults in Montenegro. While UNDP will provide technical support to the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare’s Working group on development of actions related to deinstitutionalization of adults, UNICEF will be a key supporting agency for overall deinstitutionalization process and more specifically deinstitutionalization of children, adolescents and youth in Montenegro.

2. Objectives, Purpose & Expected Results

- The purpose of this assignment is to support the Government of Montenegro, i.e., the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare to advance the rights of the most vulnerable children, adolescents, youth and adults in Montenegro who live in large scale institutions and provide them with equal opportunities to live safe and dignified life in a caring family or family like environment i.e. accelerate deinstitutionalization process in Montenegro and ensure children, adolescents, youth and adults are removed from large scale residential institutions to family and community-based care.

- The primary purpose of this assignment is to provide technical guidance and support to the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare and its Working group which will resulted in developing of the evidence based Strategy on Deinstitutionalization for the part related to children and youth accompanied with a costed five-year strategic framework and Result Based Monitoring Matrix on deinstitutionalization of children, adolescents, youth and adults in line with the relevant regional and international standards. The Strategy will include development of specific outcomes, outputs and activities with related indicators and budgeted action plan with clear monitoring and evaluation framework. The Strategy will include first year Action plan for its implementation.

The methodology

The following methodology should be used:
- Review the existing bulk of research, evidences and data generated (other resources might be available):
- Law on Social and Child Protection, 2021;
- Family Law of Montenegro, 2016;
- Analysis on the Foster care system and accelerate strengthening/expansion of foster care in Montenegro, 2021, UNICEF and Institute for Social and Child Protection;
- Roadmap for the transformation from institutional to community-based care based on a minimum package of family and community-based services including costing analysis, 2019, UNICEF
- Directions of Changes in the Near Future in Social and Child Protection Programs in Montenegro, , IPA project Strengthening Capacities of the Social and Child Protection System in Montenegro, Gordana Matković Government of Montenegro/MFSW
- Research on need for development and standardization of new social and child protection services in Montenegro, IPA Project Strengthening Capacities of the Social and Child Protection System in Montenegro, Institute for Social and Child Protection,
- Research on the needs for development of standardised services and new social and child protection services (2021); Institute for Social and Child Protection and UNICEF
- Analysis of the cross-sector system support for children with disabilities in Montenegro, 2020, Council on Child Rights and UNICEF
- Analysis of needs and opportunities for establishing family support and services provided at the community level for biological families, 2021, Institute for Social and Child Protection
- Prepare Inception report of the main strategic issues identified and how they should be addressed in the new strategic framework based on consultations with major stakeholders and aforementioned documents, as an initial input to the working group;
- Communicate and work directly with respective officials in the MFSW and the working group, UNICEF and UNDP for the strategy development;
- Provide direct and continuous assistance to the working group through provision of relevant inputs, feedback, providing and addressing comments and recommendations during the strategy drafting process;
- Co-draft the comprehensive evidence based and costed national strategy for the part related to reinstitutionalization of children, adolescents, youth (while the part related to adults will be supported by UNDP consultants) and take part in the presentation of the draft strategy;
- Draft costed framework action plan for 2023 in line with main strategic directions;
- Provide Final Draft of the DI Strategy following public consultation process and final inputs, feedback received by the Working group, experts and professionals from other sectors, CSOs, NHRI, etc.
- It is expected that UNICEF and UNDP consultants will exchange information on a regular basis and will structure the scope and content of support and work in synergy.
- To provide other related assistance as required.

UNICEF consultants will focus on development of the vision, major principles and directions of the strategy, the rationale, evidence-based justification, and particular segments of the Strategy related to children, adolescents and youth, including specific outcomes, outputs and activities with related indicators and budget which would be subject to further review of the Ministry and the working group, while UNDP assistance will be contributing to the same outcomes with regard to adult population.

All deliverables should be produced in local language and final product in both, local and English language.
Meetings will be scheduled by the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare who will be leading the Working group in the process of development of the Strategy on deinstitutionalization of Montenegro.

The consultancy company will be responsible for elaborating the methodology in more detail to be employed in their technical proposal. The implementation of the consultancy tasks will follow the methodology and workplan as agreed with UNICEF and in agreement with the MFSW upon the contract start.

3. Description of the Assignment

This consultancy should compile and analyse relevant evidence to feed into the drafting a DI Strategy with the Annual Action Plan. To cover potential knowledge gaps and validate existing findings, additional interviews with main counterparts of the system are envisaged (MFSW, CSWs, Institute for Social and Child Protection, other sectors, CSOs, ICRI, beneficiaries) to understand main achievements and needs for 5-year strategic period. This will serve as basis to technically support the national working group for strategy development.

Currently, there is a process of evaluation of the national childcare reform initiatives with a strong focus on de-institutionalization (DI), including in particular for children with disabilities for the period of 2009 to 2021 which findings will be very much considered during the process of drafting the Strategy. In addition, other aspects of DI and child care reforms which should be included, but not limited to, are:

- enhancement of the gate-keeping system (decision-making in the best interest of the child);
- development of a range of alternative family- and community-based care;
- promoting case management, including multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral response to child’s needs;
- creating and strengthening the social service workforce capacity to work for the prevention of separation and for family- and community-based care for children;
- closure or transformation of the large-scale institutions with reallocation of resources towards family- and community-based services and more specialized, family-based care services in the protection response;
- strengthening of family support (and reintegration) services for families and children;
- Minimum package of services at the local level.

Links with other reforms:

- Education sector: development of inclusive education as a key;
- Health sector: early detection & intervention in cases of disability, as a key factor to enable early intervention, and provision of specialized services and additional refer to family support services, rather than a rehabilitative, institutional approach to family support.
- Social Protection: increasing the coverage of children with universal and targeted services, especially for children with disabilities; Roma children, migrant and refugee children.

The Contractor is expected to complete the following tasks:

- Inception phase # desk review and data analysis: Draft an Inception Report (1st deliverable): Apart from the listed document above, the desk review will include international standards (CRC, CRPD, CEDAW, UN Guidelines on the Alternative Care of Children etc.) and comparative experiences and good practice examples from other European countries, (10 days)
- Draft outline of the Strategy on Deinstitutionalization for the part related to children and youth (2nd deliverable); the outline for the Strategy needs to be produced with the description of key sections of the Strategy in a format that is prescribed in Montenegro; Once the Outline is accepted by the Ministry/WG and the inputs are received, it is expected that the key programmatic sections of the Strategy would be developed, including costing, inputs, outputs, outcomes and indicators; The comments/inputs received from the Ministry/WG need to be addressed and resolved (20 days in total);
· Draft DI action plan for 2023 (3rd deliverable) and provide it to the key stakeholders (Ministry / Working group/UNICEF); Draft of the Action Plan will be shared with the Working group for comments which need to addressed and resolved (7 days in total);
· Prepare a presentation in a PPT Format and present the final draft of the Strategy and its Action Plan to the relevant partners (4 days in total).
· Finalize DI Strategy and action plan based on the comments received (4th deliverable, 4 days in total).

4. Key deliverables, timelines, and payment schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Schedule of Payment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Inception report</td>
<td>By 15 July 2022</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Outline for the preparation of the Strategy</td>
<td>By October 2022</td>
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The deliverable should be informed by desk review of the relevant strategic, legislative and analytical documents, interviews with core team, and analytical comparison of earlier strategy and evaluation results with existing reform recommendations.

The document will compile main strategic reform direction proposals for the new strategy, serving as an input to the discussions of the Working Group and to inform the national dialogue about the strategic approach thus informing the content of the new strategy.

Relevant documentation will be provided by the UNICEF and MFSW, home-based

3. Draft Strategy and Action Plan for 2023 | By 20 December 2022 | 50% |

The consultancy will support the Working Group to prepare background documents for the working group meetings, draft parts of the strategy as required by the MFSW and the working group, present to the Working Group and address comments by the Working Group.
Support drafting of the costed action plan for 2023
4. Presentation of final drafts of Strategy and Action Plan (Deliverables 3 and 4) to the Working Group and relevant stakeholders, to enable the final decision on the adoption of the documents.

As the drafting of the strategic document is finalized, the consultancy will present the final draft text (to the extent developed by UNICEF consultancy) to the Government of Montenegro to facilitate the adoption of the strategic document.

The presentation will be made in person.

5. Travel

- Travel within the contract duration is required to Montenegro, three times for the purpose of meeting with the Working group working of the development of the DI strategy. Travel is to be confirmed by UNICEF. Other activities are expected to be conducted remotely # online.

- Important:
Travel costs will be calculated based on economy class travel, regardless of the length of travel. Costs for accommodation, meals and incidentals shall not exceed applicable daily subsistence allowance (DSA) rates, as promulgated by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC).

Recourse:

- UNICEF reserves the right to withhold all or a portion of payment if performance is unsatisfactory, if work/outputs is incomplete, not delivered or for failure to meet deadlines.

6. Management and Organisation

- Management: The consultancy will be supervised by UNICEF Montenegro Child Protection Officer.

- All deliverables need to be validated by UNICEF and the MFSW.

- Organization: International Institutional Consultancy is required, meeting the criteria described below.

- Schedule: The Contractor will be engaged over the period between 15 June and 20 December 2022 for in total 45 working days

7. Qualification Requirements

The structure of the project team:

a. Requirements from Leader of the Project team must possess:
Advanced university degree in social sciences/social policy, public administration, or a related field;
- At least 10 years of experience and expertise in the area of social and/or child protection A degree in law or social sciences, PhD degree will be considered as advantage;
- At least 7 years of experience in the preparation of analytical study papers, strategies, preferably in the area of social and protection, including financial planning and M & E;
- Good knowledge of social protection floor framework;
- Knowledge of the social and child protection reform processes in Montenegro;
- Excellent analytical and writing skills demonstrated by proven record of concise and clear publications and reports relating to analysis of social policy, strategy and plan development, etc. As a part of the technical evaluation, applicants are requested to provide a recent piece of work. Experience in working with policy makers and multiple government stakeholders for multisectoral approach is an advantage;
  - Excellent command of English and local language, both oral and written;
  - Familiarity with the local context in Montenegro is a distinct advantage;
  - Excellent command of English language, local language is an advantage (both spoken and written);
  - Strong communication and negotiation skills, participatory planning processes skills;
  - Previous work experience with an UN agencies will be considered as an advantage.

b. Requirements from International Child Protection Expert

- Advanced university degree in Law, social sciences/social policy, public administration or a related field
- At least 7 years of experience and expertise in the area of social and/or child protection;
- At least 5 years of experience in research, analysis and development of policy and strategic documents in child protection sphere;
- Demonstrated expertise on child protection and De-I, disability and gender issues in the context of social and child protection programmes;
- Excellent analytical and writing skills demonstrated by proven record of concise and clear publications and reports relating to analysis of social and/or protection sector, social protection policy, strategy and plan development, etc. As a part of the technical evaluation, applicants are requested to provide a recent piece of work. Experience in working with policy makers and multiple government stakeholders for multisectoral approach;
  - Familiarity with the local context in Montenegro in particular with respect to the child care system and De-I is a distinct advantage;
  - Excellent command of English language, local language is an advantage (both spoken and written);
  - Previous work experience with UNICEF and/or UN system will be considered as an advantage.

8. Application procedure

The potential contractors are expected to submit a proposal based on these Terms of Reference. The proposal should consist of:

i. Technical Proposal including:

a) Portfolio of the organisation/institution/agency with examples of previous work on similar projects and clients in the last 5 years, including recent piece of work similar to the one per the ToR;
b) Title/designation of each team member including their CVs;
c) Detailed description of the methodology and technical approach;
d) Tentative work plan with the number of days and timeframe in line with the above deadlines for deliverables;
e) Supplier Profile Form.
f) LRPS Form signed.
g) 3 Reference contacts from other clients.

ii. Financial Proposal (Budget) including:

Daily fee rate for each team member per deliverable as well as the total cost per professionals based on the number of working days included in the Technical Proposal as well as any other cost as applicable.

The financial proposal shall indicate budget estimated in EUR.

8. Evaluation

1) Technical component:

ITEM TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA MAX OBTAINABLE POINTS

1 Overall Response 10 points total

Overall Response - the understanding of the assignment by the proposer and the alignment of the proposal submitted with the ToR

1.1 Completeness of response 1.1-5 points
1.2 Overall concord between TOR requirements and proposal 1.2#5 points

2 Company and Key Personnel 40 points total

Range and depth of organizational experience with similar projects

2.1 Demonstrated capacity for research, analysis and development of policy and strategic documents in the area of social and child protection 2.1-14 points
2.2 Samples of previous work 2.2-5 points
2.3 Key personnel: relevant experience and qualifications of the proposed team for the assignment 2.3-14 points
2.4 Company policy on Child labor, Safeguarding and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (articulate policies for the protection & safeguarding of children and prevention of PSEA) 2.4-2 points
2.5 Gender component: At least 1 female in the 2.5-2 points
management structure or ownership of the company

2.6 Workplace policies on disabilities 2.6-3 points

3 Proposed Methodology and Approach 20 points total

3.1 Work plan 3.1-10 points

3.2 Methodology used - compatibility with UNICEF 3.2-6 points

3.3 Project management, monitoring and quality assurance process 3.3-4 points

TOTAL TECHNICAL SCORE 70

Minimum technical score: 70% of 70 points = 49 points

2) Financial component (total of 30 points) Financial offer will be reviewed only if Technical proposal meets minimum required quality standards.

- Technical proposal evaluation. Proposals passing the minimum technical pass score (49 points - 70% of the maximum points obtainable for technical proposal) will continue into the Financial proposal evaluation.
- Financial proposal evaluation. The lowest price proposal will be awarded the full score assigned to the commercial proposal.
- Recommendation. The recommendation for award of contract will be based on best combination of technical and financial score.
- Final award and contracts. Based on verified nominations and final scores, contract negotiations could be initiated with one or more successful Proposers.
- The UNICEF evaluation team will select the Proposal which is of high quality, clear and meets the stated requirements and offers the best combination of technical and financial score.

Remarks:

- UNICEF Montenegro Office holds copyrights for all reports. The documents (including raw materials, etc.) may not be reproduced, distributed or published without the written permission from UNICEF.
- All personal data should be accessible to team members, but no one else. The consultants need to set up secure systems (a) to ensure that other staff within their institutions cannot access their data via the shared staff drives, and (b) to ensure secure data transfer between institutions. Cloud based storage with limited sharing rights could be considered in this instance. Different personal data files need to be link-able, they need to be held separately so that they can only be linked purposely, by researchers who are authorised to do so. There is also a need to ensure that data cannot be removed from secure systems in ways that might compromise data security.
- UNICEF Montenegro Office will share with the selected consultants all the relevant materials it has and provide required expertise.
- UNICEF Montenegro Office will review and provide feedback on reports prepared by consultants.
- All information from produced reports cannot be shared with the media without the written approval of UNICEF
Montenegro Office.

- Payment schedule
  The payments will be made upon successful completion of the deliverables and submission of invoices, as follows:

  a. Inception report and Outline for the preparation of the Strategy provided: 40%
  b. Development of the draft Strategy on deinstitutionalization for the part related to children and action plan for 2023 - 50%.
  c. Development and presentation of the final draft of the draft Strategy and Action plan 2023 on deinstitutionalization in Montenegro-10%.

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SPECIAL NOTES

May 20, 2022
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
LRPS 2022-9175105
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND

Wishes to invite interested companies to provide International Institutional Consultancy for the provision of support to the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare in the process of development of the Strategy for Deinstitutionalization for the part related to children and youth

Terms of Reference for this assignment is incorporated in LRPS 2022- 9175105 and make integral part of it.

Potential contractors should submit password protected bidding documentation, consisting of technical (A) and financial proposal (B), to the following e-mail address: podgorica@unicef.org

Passwords for the protected bidding documentation should be sent in separate e-mail to the following e-mail address: mjankovic@unicef.org

The potential contractors are expected to submit a proposal based on Terms of Reference. The proposal will be evaluated against the following criteria:

A) Technical proposal - Maximum points: 70

(one separate e-mail; attachment; The reference "LRPS 2022 - 9175105 - technical proposal):

i. Technical Proposal including:

a) Portfolio of the organisation/institution/agency with examples of previous work on similar projects and clients in the last 5 years, including recent piece of work similar to the one per the ToR;
b) Title/designation of each team member including their CVs;
c) Detailed description of the methodology and technical approach;
d) Tentative work plan with the number of days and timeframe in line with the above deadlines for deliverables;
e) Supplier Profile Form which can be found here Annex 1 Supplier Profile Form_1.pdf (unicef.org) (https://www.unicef.org/montenegro/en/tenders);
f) LRPS 2022-9175105 filled out and signed.

B) Financial proposal - Maximum points: 30

(one separate e-mail; attachment password protected; The reference " LRPS 2022 9175105 - financial proposal):

ii. Financial Proposal (Budget) including

- Daily fee rate for each team member per deliverable as well as the total cost per professionals based on the number of working days included in the Technical Proposal as well as any other cost as applicable.
- The financial proposal shall indicate budget estimated in EUR.

IMPORTANT-ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Proposal form LRPS 2022 -9175105 must be used when replying to this invitation.
The reference "LRPS 2022-9175105" must be indicated in the subject of the e-mails as indicated above.

Proposals should be submitted in English language. Prices must be given in EUR and without tax as UN Agencies are tax exempt for the purchasing of goods and services.

Proposals must be received by 17:00hrs CET on Jun 3, 2022. Proposals received after the stipulated date and time will be invalidated.

UNICEF is part of the United Nations Global Market place (UNGM). Accordingly, all bidders are encouraged to become a UNICEF vendor by creating vendor profile in the UNGM website: www.ungm.org
Due to the nature of this LRPS, there will be no public opening of proposals.

It is important that you read all the provisions of the bid, to ensure that you understand UNICEF's requirements and can submit a proposal in compliance with them. Note that failure to provide compliant proposals may result in invalidation of your proposal.

In accordance with UNICEF Rules and Regulations the award and the reasons for making the award are UNICEF's internal decision and information about other bidders or their bids must not be divulged.

The invitation for submission of proposals does not obligate signing of the contract with bidders, nor does it assume the obligation to pay the costs of preparing the bids. UNICEF accepts no responsibility for undelivered proposals and will not accept proposals after the closing date and time.
INSTRUCTION TO PROPOSERS

1. MARKING AND RETURNING PROPOSALS

1.1 Proposals shall be submitted in the manner specified earlier in this solicitation document. Detailed submission guidance at paragraphs 1.7, 1.8 and/or 1.9 should then be followed accordingly.

1.2 The Bid Form/Request for Proposal for Services Form must be signed, and submitted together with the Proposal. The Bid Form/Request for Proposal for Services Form should be signed by the duly authorized representative of the submitting company.

1.3 Proposals must be clearly marked with the RFP(S) number and the name of the company submitting the Proposal.

1.4 Proposers should note that Proposals received in the following manner will be invalidated:

a) with incorrect (as applicable) postal address, email address or fax number;

b) received after the stipulated closing time and date;

c) failure to quote in the currency(ies) stated in the RFP(S);

d) in a different form than prescribed in the RFP(S).

1.5 Technical Proposal: The Technical Proposal should address the criteria and requirements outlined in this RFP(S), paying particular attention to its schedules/Terms of Reference/Statement of Work and its evaluation criteria. It is important to note that UNICEF actively welcomes innovative proposals and original solutions to the stated service/goods need.

NO PRICE INFORMATION SHOULD BE CONTAINED IN THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL.

1.6 Price Proposal: The Price Proposal should be prepared in accordance with the requirements contained in this RFP(S). Proposals not in this manner will be disqualified.

1.7 Sealed Proposals (as applicable)

1.7.1 See paragraph 1.1 above concerning applicability of this paragraph.

1.7.2 The Proposal must be sent for the attention of unit/team and address as specified in this RFP/RFPS. Proposals not sent in this manner will be disqualified.

1.7.3 They must be clearly marked as follows:

* Outer sealed envelope:
  Name of company
  [RFP(S) NO.]
  [NAME OF UNIT & UNICEF OFFICE ADDRESS]

* Inner sealed envelope - Technical Proposal (1 original and 2 copies): Name of company, RFP(S) number - technical proposal

* Inner sealed envelope - Price Proposal (1 original and 2 copies): Name of company, RFP(S) number - price proposal

No price information should be provided in the Technical Proposal.

Proposals received in any other manner will be invalidated.

1.7.4 In case of any discrepancy between an original and a copy, the original will prevail.

1.7.5 Any delays encountered in the mail delivery will be at the risk of the Proposer.

1.8 Faxed Proposals (as applicable)

1.8.1 See paragraph 1.1 above concerning applicability of this paragraph.

1.8.2 Faxed Proposals must be returned to the ONLY ACCEPTABLE FAX NUMBER for Proposals as specified in this RFP(S) Document. Proposers should note that Proposals received at any other fax number will be invalidated.

No price information should be provided in the Technical Proposal.

1.9 E-mailed Proposals (as applicable)

1.9.1 See paragraph 1.1 above concerning applicability of this paragraph.

1.9.2 All e-mailed Proposals must be submitted to the ONLY ACCEPTABLE E-MAIL ADDRESS as specified in this solicitation document. No other recipient should be "Cc" or "Bcc" in the e-mail submission. Proposals not sent in this manner will be disqualified.

1.9.3 All Proposals submitted by e-mail must be submitted as email attachments. The Technical Proposal and Price Proposal must be sent as separate attachments and clearly indicated as such in the file name (e.g. Company ABC Technical Proposal, Company ABC Price Proposal). Email links (e.g. to documents to be downloaded from cloud based folders) are not acceptable unless otherwise specifically requested. Proposals submitted as a link or through a link will be invalidated.

2. OPENING OF PROPOSALS

2.1 Proposals received prior to the stated closing time and date will be kept unopened. UNICEF will open Proposals when the specified time has arrived and no Proposal received thereafter will be considered.

2.2 UNICEF will accept no responsibility for the premature opening of a Proposal which is not properly addressed or identified.

2.3 In case a Public Opening is held, the invited proposers, or their authorized representative, may attend the public Proposal opening at the time, date and location specified in the RFP(S) documents.

3. UNGM REGISTRATION
3.1 UNICEF is part of the United Nations Global Marketplace (UNGM). Accordingly, all proposers are encouraged to become a UNICEF vendor by creating a vendor profile in the UNGM website: www.ungm.org

4. AWARD NOTIFICATION

4.1 UNICEF reserves the right to make a public notification of the outcome on an RFP(S) advising product/service, awarded supplier and total value of award.
ANNEX A

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT (Services)

Definitions and UNICEF Supply Website

1.1 In these General Terms and Conditions (Services), the following terms have the following meaning:

“Affiliates” means, with respect to the Contractor, any of its corporate affiliates or associates, including parent entities, subsidiaries, and other entities in which it owns a substantial interest.

“Confidential Information” means information or data that is designated as confidential or the time of exchange between the Parties or promptly identified as confidential in writing furnished in intangible form or disclosed orally, and includes information, the confidential or proprietary nature of which, is or should be reasonably apparent from the inherent nature, quality or characteristics of such information.

“Contract” means the services contract that incorporates these General Terms and Conditions of Contract (Services). It includes contracts for services issued by UNICEF, whether or not they are issued under a long-term arrangement or similar contract.

“Contractor” means the contractor named in the Contract.

“Deliverables” means the work product and other output of the Services required to be delivered by Contractor as part of the Services, as specified in the relevant sections of the Contract.

“Disabling Code” means any virus, back door, timer or other limiting routine, instruction or design, or other malicious, illicit or similar unrequested code that may have the consequence (whether by design or unintentionally) of disrupting, disabling, harming, circumventing security controls or otherwise impeding in any manner the normal operation or performance of (i) any software or service or (ii) any UNICEF information system or network.

“End User” means, in the event that the Services or Deliverables involve the use of any information system, any and all UNICEF employees, consultants and other personnel and any other external users collaborating with UNICEF, in each case, authorized by UNICEF to access and use the Services and/or Deliverables.

“Fees” is defined in Article 3.1.

“Host Government” means a Government with which UNICEF has a programme of development cooperation, and includes a Government of a country in which UNICEF provides humanitarian cooperation.

Contractor’s “Key Personnel” are: (i) Personnel identified in the proposal as key individuals (as a minimum, principals, managers, seniors, auditors) to be assigned for participations in the performance of the Contract; (ii) Personnel whose resumes were submitted with the proposal; and (iii) individuals who are designated as key personnel by agreement of the Contractor and UNICEF during negotiations.

“Parties” mean the Contractor and UNICEF together and a “Party” means each of the Contractor and UNICEF.

Contractor’s “Personnel” means the Contractor’s officials, employees, agents, individual sub-contractors and other representatives.

“Security Incident” means, with respect to any information system, service or network used in the delivery of the Services or Deliverables, one or more events that (a) indicates that the security of such information system, service, or network may have been breached or compromised and (b) that such breach or compromise could very likely compromise the security of UNICEF’s Confidential Information or weaken or impair UNICEF’s operations. Security Incident includes any actual, threatened or reasonably suspected unauthorized access to, disclosure of, use of or acquisition of UNICEF Data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of the UNICEF Data, or the ability of UNICEF or End Users to access the UNICEF Data.

“Services” means the services specified in the relevant section of the Contract.

“UNICEF Data” means any and all information or data in digital form or processed or held in digital form that (a) are provided to the Contractor by, or on behalf of, UNICEF and/or End Users under the Contract or through UNICEF’s and/or End Users’ use of the Services or in connection with the Services, or (b) are collected by the Contractor in the performance of the Contract.

“UNICEF Supply Website” means UNICEF’s public access webpage available at http://www.unicef.org/supply/index procurement policies.html, as may be updated from time to time.

1.2 These General Terms and Conditions of Contract, UNICEF’s Policy Prohibiting and Combating Fraud and Corruption, the UNICEF’s Policy on Conduct Promoting the Protection and Safeguarding of Children, the UN Supplier Code of Conduct and UNICEF’s Information Disclosure Policy referred to in the Contract, as well as other policies applicable to the Contractor, are publicly available on the UNICEF Supply Website. The Contractor represents that it has reviewed all such policies as of the effective date of the Contract.

2. Provision of Services and Deliverables; Contractor’s Personnel; Sub-Contractors

2.1 The Contractor will provide the Services and deliver the Deliverables in accordance with the scope of work set out in the Contract, including, but not limited to, the time for delivery of the Services and Deliverables, and to UNICEF’s satisfaction. Except as expressly provided in the Contract, the Contractor will be responsible at its sole cost for providing all the necessary personnel, equipment, material and supplies and for making all arrangements necessary for the performance and completion of the Services and delivery of the Deliverables under the Contract.

2.2 The Contractor acknowledges that, other than as expressly set out in the Contract, UNICEF will have no obligation to provide any assistance to the Contractor and UNICEF makes no representations as to the availability of any facilities, equipment, materials, systems or licenses which may be helpful or useful for the fulfillment by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract. If UNICEF provides access to and use of UNICEF premises, facilities or systems (whether on site or remotely) to the Contractor for the purposes of the Contract, the Contractor will ensure that its Personnel or sub-contractors will, at all times (a) use such access exclusively for the specific purpose for which the access has been granted and (b) comply with UNICEF’s security and other regulations and instructions for such access and use, including, but not limited to, UNICEF’s information security policies. The Contractor will ensure that only those of its Personnel that have been authorized by the Contractor, and approved by UNICEF, have access to UNICEF’s premises, facilities or systems.

2.3 The Contractor will use its best efforts to accommodate reasonable requests for changes (if any) to the scope of work of the Services or time for provision of the Services or delivery of the Deliverables. If UNICEF requests any material change to the scope of work or time for delivery, UNICEF and the Contractor will negotiate any necessary changes to the Contract, including as to the Fee and the time schedule under the Contract. Any such agreed changes will become effective only when they are set out in a written amendment to the Contract signed by both UNICEF and the Contractor. Should the Parties fail to agree on any such changes within thirty (30) days, UNICEF will have the option to terminate the Contract without penalty notwithstanding any other provision of the Contract.

2.4 The Contractor will neither seek nor accept instructions from any entity other than UNICEF (or entities authorized by UNICEF to give instructions to the Contractor) in connection with the provision of the Services or development and delivery of the Deliverables.

2.5 Title to any equipment and supplies which may be provided to the Contractor by UNICEF, will remain with UNICEF. Such equipment and supplies will be returned to UNICEF at the conclusion of the Contract or when no longer needed by the Contractor in the same condition as when they were provided to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear. The Contractor will pay UNICEF the value of any loss of, damage to, or degradation of, the equipment and supplies beyond normal wear and tear.

3. Non-conforming Services and Consequences of Delay

3.1 If the Contractor determines it will be unable to provide the Services or deliver the Deliverables by the date stipulated in the Contract, the Contractor will (i) immediately contact with UNICEF to determine the most expeditious means for delivery of the Services and/or Deliverables, and (ii) take necessary action to expedite delivery of the Services and/or Deliverables, at the Contractor’s cost (unless the delay is due to force majeure as defined in Article 6.8 below), if reasonably so requested by UNICEF.

3.7 The Contractor acknowledges that UNICEF may monitor the Contractor’s performance under
ANNEX A
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

2.8 If the Services or Deliverables provided by the Contractor do not conform to the requirements of the Contract or are delivered late or incomplete, without prejudice to any of its other rights and remedies, UNICEF can, at its option:

(i) by written notice, require the Contractor, at the Contractor’s expense, to remedy its performance, including any deficiencies in the Deliverables, to UNICEF’s satisfaction within thirty (30) days after receipt of UNICEF’s notice (or within such shorter period as UNICEF may determine, in its sole discretion, as necessary in specified in the notice);

(ii) require the Contractor to refund all payments (if any) made by UNICEF in respect of such non-conforming or incomplete performance;

(iii) procure all or part of the Services and/or Deliverables from other sources, and require the Contractor to pay UNICEF for any additional cost beyond the balance of the Fee for such Services and Deliverables;

(iv) give written notice to terminate the Contract for breach, in accordance with Article 6.1 below, if the Contractor fails to remedy the breach within the cure period specified in Article 6.1 or if the breach is not capable of remedy;

(v) require the Contractor to pay liquidated damages as set out in the Contract.

2.9 Further to Article 11.5 below, the Contractor expressly acknowledges that if UNICEF takes delivery of Services or Deliverables that have been delivered late or otherwise not in full compliance with the requirements of the Contract, this does not constitute a waiver of UNICEF’s rights in respect of such laws or non-compliant performance.

Contractor’s Personnel and Sub-Contractors

2.10 The following provisions apply with regard to the Contractor’s Personnel:

(a) The provisions of Article 7 (Ethical Standards) will apply to the Contractor’s Personnel as expressly stated in Article 7.

(b) The Contractor will be responsible for the professional and technical competence of the Personnel it assigns to perform work under the Contract and will select professionally qualified, reliable and competent individuals who will be able to effectively perform the obligations under the Contract and who, while doing so, will respect the local laws and customs and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

(c) The qualifications of any Personnel whom the Contractor may assign or may propose to assign to perform any obligations under the Contract will be substantially the same as, or better than, the qualifications of any personnel originally proposed by the Contractor.

(d) At any time during the term of the Contract, UNICEF can make a written request that the Contractor replace one or more of the assigned Personnel. UNICEF will not be required to give an explanation or justification for this request. Within seven (7) working days of receiving UNICEF’s request for replacement the Contractor must replace the Personnel in question with Personnel acceptable to UNICEF. This provision also extends to Personnel of the Contractor who have “recent manager” or “relationship manager” type functions.

(e) If one or more of Contractor’s Key Personnel become unavailable, for any reason, for work under the Contract, the Contractor will (i) notify the UNICEF contracting authority at least fourteen (14) days in advance; and (ii) obtain the UNICEF contracting authority’s approval prior to making any substitution of Key Personnel. In notifying the UNICEF contracting authority, the Contractor will provide an explanation of the circumstances necessitating the proposed replacement(s) and submit justification and qualification of replacement Personnel in sufficient detail to permit evaluation of the impact on the engagement.

2.11 The Contractor will obtain the prior written approval and clearance of UNICEF for all international sub-contractors it proposes to use in connection with the Contract. The approval of UNICEF of a sub-contractor will not relieve the Contractor of any of its obligations under the Contract. The terms of any sub-contract will be subject to, and will be construed in a manner that is fully in accordance with, all of the terms and conditions of the Contract.

2.12 The Contractor confirms that it has read UNICEF’s Policy on Conduct Promoting the Protection and Safeguarding of Children. The Contractor will ensure that its Personnel understand the notification requirements expected of them and will establish and maintain appropriate measures to promote compliance with such requirements. The Contractor will further cooperate with UNICEF’s implementation of this policy.

2.13 The Contractor will supervise its Personnel and sub-contractors and will be fully responsible and liable for all Services performed by its Personnel and sub-contractors and for their compliance with the terms and conditions of the Contract.

2.14 The Contractor will comply with all applicable international standards and national labor laws, rules and regulations relating to the employment of national and international staff in connection with the Services, including, but not limited to, laws, rules and regulations associated with the payment of the employer’s portion of income tax, insurance, social security, health insurance, worker’s compensation, retirement funds, severance or other similar payments. Without limiting the provisions of this Article 2 or Article 4 below, the Contractor will be fully responsible and liable for, and UNICEF will not be liable for (a) all payments due to its Personnel and sub-contractors for their services in relation to the performance of the Contract; (b) any notice, notice, negligence or misconduct of the Contractor, its Personnel and sub-contractors; (c) any insurance coverage which may be necessary or desirable for the purpose of the Contract; (d) the security of the Contractor’s Personnel and sub-contractors’ premises; or (e) any costs, expenses, or claims associated with any illness, injury, death or disability of the Contractor’s Personnel and sub-contractors’ personnel, it being understood that UNICEF will have no liability or responsibility with regard to any of the events referred to in this Article 2.14.

3. Fee; Invoicing; Tax Exemption; Payment Terms

3.1 The fee for the Services is the amount in the currency specified in the fee section of the Contract (the "Fee"), it being understood that such amount is specified in United States dollars unless otherwise expressly provided for in the fee section of the Contract. Unless expressly stated otherwise in the Contract, the Fee is inclusive of all costs, expenses, charges or fees that the Contractor may incur in connection with the performance of its obligations under the Contract; provided that, without prejudice to or limiting the provisions of Article 3.3 below, all duties and other taxes imposed by any authority or entity must be separately identified. It is understood and agreed that the Contractor will not request any change to the Fee after the Services or Deliverables have been provided and that the Fee cannot be changed except by written agreement between the Parties before the relevant Services or Deliverables is provided. UNICEF will not agree to changes to the Fee for modifications or interpretations of the scope of work if those modifications or interpretations of the scope of work have already been initiated by the Contractor. UNICEF will not be liable to pay for any work conducted or materials provided by the Contractor that are outside the scope of work or were not authorized in advance by UNICEF.

3.2 The Contractor will issue invoices to UNICEF only after the Contractor has provided the Services (or components of the Services) and delivered the Deliverables (or installments of the Deliverables) in accordance with the Contract and to UNICEF’s satisfaction. The Contractor will issue (a) one (1) invoice in respect of the payment being sought, in the currency specified in the Contract and in English, indicating the Contract identification number listed on the first page of the Contract; and (b) provide a clear and specific description of the Services provided and Deliverables delivered, as well as supporting documentation for reimbursable expenses if any, in sufficient detail to permit UNICEF to verify the amounts stated in the invoice.

3.3 The Contractor authorizes UNICEF to deduct from the Contractor’s invoices any amount
ANNEX A
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

representing direct taxes (except charges for utilities services) and customs restrictions, duties and charges of a similar nature to respect of articles imported or exported for UNICEF’s official use in accordance with the exemption from tax in Article II, Section 7 of the Convention of the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, 1946. In the event any governmental authority refuses to recognize this exemption from taxes, restrictions, duties or charges, the Contractor will immediately consult with UNICEF to determine mutually acceptable procedure. The Contractor will provide full cooperation to UNICEF with regard to securing UNICEF’s exemption from, or refund of amounts paid as, value-added taxes or taxes of a similar nature.

3.4 UNICEF will notify the Contractor of any dispute or discrepancy in the context or form of any invoice. With respect to disputes regarding only a portion of such invoice, UNICEF will pay the Contractor the amount of the undisputed portion in accordance with Article 3.5 below. UNICEF and the Contractor will consult in good faith to promptly resolve any dispute with respect to any invoice. Upon resolution of such dispute, any amounts that have not been charged in accordance with the Contract will be deducted from the invoice(s) to which they apply and UNICEF will pay any agreed remaining terms in the invoice(s) in accordance with Article 3.5 within thirty (30) days after the final resolution of such dispute.

3.5 UNICEF will pay the uncontested amount of the Contractor’s invoice within thirty (30) days of receiving both the invoice and the required supporting documents, as referred to in Article 3.2 above. The amount paid will reflect any discounts shown under the payment terms of the Contract. The Contractor will not be entitled to interest on any late payment or any sums payable under the Contract nor any accrued interest on payments withheld by UNICEF in connection with a dispute. Payment will not relieve the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract and will not be deemed to be acceptance by UNICEF of, or waiver of any of UNICEF’s rights with regard to, the Contractor’s performance.

3.6 Each invoice will confirm the Contractor’s bank account details provided to UNICEF as part of the Contractor’s registration process with UNICEF. All payments due to the Contractor under the Contract will be made by electronic funds transfer to that bank account. It is the Contractor’s responsibility to ensure that the bank details supplied by it to UNICEF are up-to-date and accurate and notify UNICEF in writing by an authorized representative of the Contractor of any changes in bank details together with supporting documentation satisfactory to UNICEF.

3.7 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that UNICEF may withhold payment in respect of any invoice if, in UNICEF’s opinion, the Contractor has not performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, or if the Contractor has not provided sufficient documentation in support of the invoice.

3.8 UNICEF will have the right to set off, against any amount or amounts due and payable by UNICEF to the Contractor under the Contract, any payments, indebtedness or other claim (including, without limitation, any overpayment made by UNICEF to the Contractor) owing by the Contractor to UNICEF under the Contract or under any other contract or agreement between the Parties. UNICEF will not be required to give the Contractor prior notice before exercising this right of set-off; such notice being waived by the Contractor. UNICEF will promptly notify the Contractor after it has exercised such right of set-off, explaining the reasons for such set-off, provided, however, that the failure to give such notification will not affect the validity of such set-off.

3.9 Each of the invoices paid by UNICEF may be subject to a post-payment audit by UNICEF’s external and internal auditors or by other authorized agents of UNICEF, at any time during the term of the Contract and for three (3) years after the Contract terminates. UNICEF will be entitled to a refund from the Contractor of amounts such audit or audits determine were not in accordance with the Contract regardless of the reasons for such payments (including but not limited to the actions or inactions of UNICEF staff and other personnel).

4. Representations and Warranties; Indemnification; Insurance

Representations and Warranties

4.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that as of the effective date and throughout the term of the Contract: (a) the Contractor has the full authority and power to enter into the Contract and to perform its obligations under the Contract and the Contract is a legal, valid and binding obligation, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms; (b) all of the information it has previously provided to UNICEF, or that it provides to UNICEF during the term of the Contract, concerning the Contractor and the provision of the Services and the delivery of the Deliverables is true, correct, accurate and not misleading; (c) it is financially solvent and is able to provide the Services to UNICEF in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract; (d) it has, and will maintain throughout the term of the Contract, all rights, licenses, authority and resources necessary, as applicable, to provide the Services and deliver the Deliverables to UNICEF’s satisfaction and to perform its obligations under the Contract; (e) the work product is and will be original to the Contractor and does not and will not infringe any copyright, trademark, patent or other proprietary right of any third party; and (f) except as otherwise expressly stated in the Contract, it has not and will not enter into any agreement or arrangement that restrains or restricts any person’s rights to use, sell, dispose of or otherwise deal with any Deliverable or other work resulting from the Services. The Contractor will fulfill its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of UNICEF and will refrain from any action which may adversely affect UNICEF or the United Nations.

4.2 The Contractor further represents and warrants, as of the effective date and throughout the term of the Contract, that it and its Personnel and sub-contractors will perform the Contract and provide the Services and Deliverables (a) in a professional and workmanlike manner; (b) with reasonable care and skill and in accordance with the highest professional standards accepted to professionals providing the same or substantially similar services in a same industry; (c) with priority equal to that given to the same or similar services for the Contractor’s other clients; and (d) in all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the Contract and the provision of the Services and Deliverables.

4.3 The representations and warranties made by the Contractor in Articles 4.1 and 4.2 above are made to and are for the benefit of (a) each entity (if any) that makes a direct financial contribution to UNICEF to procure the Services and Deliverables; and (b) each Government or other entity (if any) that receives the direct benefit of the Services and Deliverables.

Indemnification

4.4 The Contractor will indemnify, hold and save harmless and defend, at its own expense, UNICEF, its officials, employees, consultants and agents, each entity that makes a direct financial contribution to UNICEF to procure the Services and Deliverables and each Government or other entity that makes a direct financial contribution to UNICEF to procure the Services and Deliverables from any losses, claims, demands, losses and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, by any third party and arising out of the acts or omissions of the Contractor or its Personnel or sub-contractors in the performance of the Contract. This provision will extend to but not be limited to (a) claims and liability in the nature of workers’ compensation, (b) product liability, and (c) any actions or claims pertaining to the alleged infringement of a copyright or other intellectual property rights or licenses, patent, design, trade-name or trade-mark arising in connection with the Deliverables or other liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property provided or licensed to UNICEF under the terms of the Contract or used by the Contractor, its Personnel or sub-contractors in the performance of the Contract.

4.5 UNICEF will report any such suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses or liability to the Contractor within a reasonable period of time after having received actual notice. The Contractor will have sole control of the defense, settlement and compromise of any such suit, proceeding, claim or demand, except with respect to the assertion or defense of the privileges and immunities of UNICEF or any matter relating to UNICEF’s privileges and immunities (including matters relating to UNICEF’s relations with Host Governments), which as between the Contractor and UNICEF only UNICEF itself (or relevant Governmental entities) will assert and maintain. UNICEF will have the right, at its own expense, to be represented in any such suit, proceeding, claim or demand by independent counsel of its own choosing.

Insurance

4.6 The Contractor will comply with the following insurance requirements:

(i) The Contractor will have and maintain in effect with reputable insurers and in sufficient amounts, insurance against all of the Contractor’s risks under the Contract (including, but not limited to, the risk of claims arising out of or related to the Contractor’s performance of the Contract), including the following:

(a) insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the performance of the Contract;

(b) general liability insurance against all risks in respect of the Contractor and claims arising out of the Contractor in an adequate amount to cover all claims arising from or in connection with the Contractor’s performance under the Contract;

Page 20 of 24
ANNEX A
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(iii) All appropriate workers' compensation and employer's liability insurance, or its equivalent, with respect to its Personnel and sub-contractors to cover claims for death, bodily injury or damage to property arising from the performance of the Contract; and

(iv) Such other insurance as may be agreed upon in writing between UNICEF and the Contractor.

(b) The Contractor will maintain the coverage referred to in Article 4.6(a) above during the term of the Contract and for a period after the Contract terminates extending to the end of any applicable limitations period with regard to claims against which the insurance is obtained.

(c) The Contractor will be responsible to fund all amounts within any policy deductible or retention.

(d) Except with regard to the insurance referred to in paragraph (a)(iii) above, the insurance policies for the Contractor's insurance required under this Article 4.6 will (i) name UNICEF as an additional insured; (ii) include a waiver by the insurer of any subrogation rights against UNICEF; and (iii) provide that UNICEF will receive thirty (30) days' written notice from the insurer prior to any cancellations or changes of coverage.

(e) The Contractor will, upon request, provide UNICEF with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this Article 4.6.

(f) Compliance with the insurance requirements of the Contract will not limit the Contractor's liability under the Contract or otherwise.

Liability

4.7 The Contractor will pay UNICEF promptly for all loss, destruction or damage to UNICEF's property caused by the Contractor's Personnel or sub-contractors in the performance of the Contract.

5. Intellectual Property and Other Proprietary Rights; Data Protection; Confidentiality

5.1 Unless otherwise expressly provided for in the Contract:

(a) Subject to paragraph (b) of this Article 5.1, UNICEF will be entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights included but not limited to patents, copyrights and trademarks, with regard to products, processes, inventions, ideas, know-how, documents, data and other materials ("Contract Materials") that (i) the Contractor develops for UNICEF under the Contract and which bear a direct relation to the Contract or (ii) are produced, prepared or collected in consequence of, or during the course of, the performance of the Contract. The term "Contract Materials" includes, but is not limited to, all maps, drawings, photographs, plans, reports, recommendations, estimates, documents developed or received by, and all other data compiled by or received by, the Contractor under the Contract. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that Contract Materials constitute works made for hire for UNICEF. Contract Materials will be treated as UNICEF's Confidential Information and will be delivered only to authorized UNICEF officials on expiry or termination of the Contract.

(b) UNICEF will not be entitled to, and will not claim ownership interest in, any intellectual property or other proprietary rights of the Contractor that pre-existed the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract, or that the Contractor may develop or acquire, or may have developed or acquired, independently of the performance of its obligations under the Contract. The Contractor grants to UNICEF a perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary rights solely for the purposes of and in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.

(c) At UNICEF's request, the Contractor will take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring them to, in the case, intellectual property referred to in paragraph (b) above, (leasing) them to UNICEF in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law and of the Contract.

Confidentiality

5.2 Confidential Information that is considered proprietary by either Party or that is delivered or disclosed by one Party ("Discloser") to the other Party ("Recipient") during the course of performance of the Contract or in connection with the subject matter of the Contract will be held in confidence by the Recipient. The Recipient will use the same care and discretion to avoid disclosure of the Recipient's Confidential Information as the Recipient uses for its own Confidential Information and will use the Discloser's Confidential Information solely for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the Recipient. The Recipient will not disclose the Discloser's Confidential Information to any other party:

(a) except to those of its Affiliates, employees, officials, representatives, agents and sub-contractors who have a need to know such Confidential Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract; or

(b) unless the Confidential Information (i) is obtained by the Recipient from a third party without restriction; (ii) is disclosed to the Recipient by a third party without any obligation of confidentiality; (iii) is known by the Recipient prior to disclosure by the Discloser; or (iv) at any time is developed by the Recipient completely independently of any disclosures under the Contract.

5.3 If the Contractor receives a request for disclosure of UNICEF's Confidential Information pursuant to any judicial or law enforcement process, before any such disclosure is made, the Contractor (a) will give UNICEF sufficient notice of such request in order to allow UNICEF to have a reasonable opportunity to secure the intervention of the relevant national government to establish protective measures or take such other action as may be appropriate and (b) will so advise the relevant authority that requested disclosure. UNICEF may disclose the Contractor's Confidential Information to the extent required pursuant to regulations or requirements of its governing bodies.

5.4 The Contractor may not communicate at any time to any other person, Government or any authority external to UNICEF, any information known to it by reason of its association with UNICEF that has not been made public, except with the prior written authorization of UNICEF; nor will the Contractor at any time use such information to private advantage.

Data Protection and Security

5.5 The Parties agree that, as between them, all UNICEF Data, together with all rights (including intellectual property and proprietary rights), title and interest to such UNICEF Data, will be the exclusive property of UNICEF, and the Contractor has a limited, non-exclusive license to access and use the UNICEF Data as provided in the Contract solely for the purpose of performing its obligations under the Contract. Except for the foregoing license, the Contractor will have no other rights, whether express or implied, in or to any UNICEF Data or its content.

5.6 The Contractor confirms that it has a data protection policy in place that meets all applicable data protection standards and legal requirements and that it will apply such policy in the collection, storage, use, processing, retention and destruction of UNICEF Data. The Contractor will comply with any guidance or conditions on access and disclosures notified by UNICEF to Contractor in respect of UNICEF Data.

5.7 The Contractor will use its reasonable efforts to ensure the logical segregation of UNICEF Data from other information to the fullest extent possible. The Contractor will use safeguards and controls (such as administrative, technical, physical and security infrastructures, facilities, tools, technologies, practices and other protective measures) that are necessary and sufficient to meet the Contractor's confidentiality obligations in this Article 5 as they apply to UNICEF Data. At UNICEF's request, the Contractor will provide UNICEF with copies of the applicable policies and a description of the safeguards and controls that the Contractor uses to fulfill its obligations under this Article 5: provided that any such policies and description provided by the Contractor will be treated as the Contractor's Confidential Information under the Contract. UNICEF may assess the effectiveness of these safeguards and controls and that the Contractor uses to fulfill its obligations under this Article 5: provided that any such policies and description provided by the Contractor will be treated as the Contractor's Confidential Information under the Contract. UNICEF may assess the effectiveness of these safeguards and controls and notify the Contractor that its performance of its obligations under this Article 5: provided that any such policies and description provided by the Contractor will be treated as the Contractor's Confidential Information under the Contract.

Exceptions

5.8 Except as otherwise expressly stated in the Contract or with UNICEF's express prior written consent, the Contractor will not install any applications or other software on any UNICEF device, network or system. The Contractor represents and warrants to UNICEF that the Services and Deliverables provided under the Contract will not contain any Disabling Code, and that UNICEF will not otherwise receive from the Contractor any Disabling Code in the performance of the Contract. Without prejudice to UNICEF's other rights and remedies, if a Disabling Code is identified, the Contractor, at its sole cost and expense, will take all steps necessary to: (a) remove and re-implement the Services.
5.9 In the event of any Security Incident, the Contractor will, as soon as possible following the Contractor's discovery of such Security Incident and at its sole cost and expense: (a) notify UNICEF of such Security Incident and of the Contractor's proposed remedial actions; (b) implement any and all necessary damage mitigation and remedial actions; and (c) as relevant, restore UNICEF's and, as directed by UNICEF, End Users' access to the Services. The Contractor will keep UNICEF reasonably informed of the progress of the Contractor's implementation of such damage mitigation and remedial actions. The Contractor, at its sole cost and expense, will cooperate fully with UNICEF's investigation of, remediation of, and/or response to any Security Incident. If the Contractor fails to resolve, to UNICEF's reasonable satisfaction, any such Security Incident, UNICEF can terminate the Contract with immediate effect.

Service Providers and Sub-Contractors

5.10 The Contractor will impose the same requirements relating to data protection and non-disclosure of Confidential Information, as imposed upon the Contractor itself by this Article 5 of the Contract, on its service providers, subcontractors and other third parties and will remain responsible for compliance with such requirements by its service providers, subcontractors and other third parties.

End of Contract

5.11 Upon the expiry or earlier termination of the Contract, the Contractor will:

(a) return to UNICEF all of UNICEF's Confidential Information, including, but not limited to, UNICEF's Data. Data, or, at UNICEF's option, destroy all copies of such information held by the Contractor or its subcontractors and confirm such destruction to UNICEF in writing; and

(b) will transfer to UNICEF all intellectual and other proprietary information in accordance with Article 5.9(a).

6. Termination; Force Majeure

Termination by Either Party for Material Breach

6.1 If one Party is in material breach of any of its obligations under the Contract, the other Party can give it written notice that within thirty (30) days of receiving such notice the breach must be remedied (if such breach is capable of remedy). If the breaching Party does not remedy the breach within thirty (30) days of the notice, the non-breaching Party can terminate the Contract. The termination will be effective thirty (30) days after the non-breaching Party gives the breaching party written notice of termination. The intention of conciliation or arbitration proceedings in accordance with Article 9 (Privileges and Immunities; Settlement of Disputes) below will not be grounds for termination of the Contract.

Additional Termination Rights of UNICEF

6.2 In addition to the termination rights under Article 6.1 above, UNICEF can terminate the Contract with immediate effect upon delivery of a written notice of termination, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind:

(a) in the circumstances described in, and in accordance with, Articles 7 (Ethical Standards); or

(b) if the Contractor breaches any of the provisions of Articles 5.2.3.11 (Confidentiality; Data Protection and Security); or

(c) if the Contractor (i) is adjudged bankrupt, or is liquidated, or becomes insolvent, or applies for a moratorium or stays on any payment or repays obligations, or applies to be declared insolvent, (ii) is granted a moratorium or a stay, or is declared insolvent, (iii) makes an assignment for the benefit of one or more of its creditors, (iv) has a receiver appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, (v) offers a settlement in lieu of bankruptcy or receivership, or (vi) has become, in UNICEF's reasonable judgment, subject to a materially adverse change in its financial condition that threatens to substantially affect the ability of the Contractor to perform any of its obligations under the Contract.

6.3 In addition to the termination rights under Article 6.1 and Article 6.2 above, UNICEF can terminate the Contract at any time by providing written notice to the Contractor in any case in which UNICEF's mandate applicable to the performance of the Contract or UNICEF's funding applicable to the Contract is curtailed or terminated, whether in whole or in part. UNICEF can also terminate the Contract on sixty (60) day's written notice to the Contractor without having to provide any justification.

6.4 As soon as it receives a notice of termination from UNICEF, the Contractor will take immediate steps to bring the performance of any obligations under the Contract to a close in a prompt and orderly manner, and in doing so, reduce expenses to a minimum, and will not undertake any further or additional commitments as of and following the date it receives the termination notice. In addition, the Contractor will take any other action that may be necessary, or that UNICEF may direct in writing, in order to minimize losses or protect and preserve any property, whether tangible or intangible, related to the Contract that is in the possession of the Contractor and in which UNICEF has or may be reasonably expected to acquire an interest.

6.5 If the Contract is terminated by either Party, the Contractor will immediately deliver to UNICEF any finished work which has not been delivered and accepted prior to the receipt of a notice of termination, together with any data, materials or work-in-process related specifically to the Contract. If UNICEF obtains the assistance of another party to continue the Services or complete any unfinished work, the Contractor will provide its reasonable cooperation to UNICEF and such party in the orderly migration of Services and transfer of any Contractor-related data, materials and work-in-progress. The Contractor will at the same time return to UNICEF all of UNICEF's Confidential Information and will transfer to UNICEF all intellectual and other proprietary information in accordance with Article 5.9(a).

6.6 If the Contract is terminated by either Party no payment will be due from UNICEF to the Contractor except for Services and Deliverables provided to UNICEF's satisfaction in accordance with the Contract, but only if such Services and Deliverables were required or requested before the Contractor's receipt of the notice of termination or, in the case of termination by the Contractor, the effective date of such termination. The Contractor will have no claim for any further payment beyond payments in accordance with this Article 6.6, but will remain liable to UNICEF for all loss or damages which may be suffered by UNICEF by reason of the Contractor's default (including but not limited to costs of the purchase and delivery of replacement or substitute Services or Deliverables).

6.7 The termination rights in this Article 6 are in addition to all other rights and remedies of UNICEF under the Contract.

Force Majeure

6.8 If one Party is rendered permanently unable, wholly, or in part, by reason of force majeure to perform its obligations under the Contract, the other Party may terminate the Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 6.1 above, except that the period of notice will be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days. "Force majeure" means any unforeseeable and irresistible events arising from causes beyond the control of the Parties, including acts of nature, any act of war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, terrorism or other acts of a similar nature or force. "Force majeure" does not include (a) any event which is caused by the negligence or intentional action of a Party; (b) any event which a diligent party could reasonably have been expected to take into account and plan for at the time the Contract was entered into; (c) the insufficiency of funds, inability to make any payment required under the Contract, or any economic conditions, including but not limited to inflation, price escalations, or labour availability; or (d) any event resulting from hard conditions or logistical challenges for the Contractor (excluding civil unrest) associated with locations at which UNICEF is operating or is about to operate or is withdrawing from, or any event resulting from UNICEF's humanitarian, emergency, or similar response operations.

7. Ethical Standards

7.1 Without limiting the generality of Article 2 above, the Contractor will be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its Personnel including its employees and will select, for work under the Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of the Contract, respect the local laws and customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

7.2 (a) The Contractor represents and warrants that no official of UNICEF or of any United Nations System organization has received from or on behalf of the Contractor, or will be offered by or on behalf of the Contractor, any direct or indirect benefit in connection with the Contract, including the award of the Contract to the Contractor. Such direct or indirect benefit includes, but is not limited to, any gifts, favours or hospitality.

(b) The Contractor represents and warrants that the following requirements with regard to former
ANNEX A
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

UNICEF officials have been consulted with and will be consulted with:

(i) During the one (1) year period after an official has separated from UNICEF, the Contractor may not make a direct or indirect offer of employment to that former UNICEF official if that former UNICEF official was, during the three years prior to separating from UNICEF, involved in any aspect of a UNICEF procurement process in which the Contractor has participated.

(ii) During the two (2) year period after an official has separated from UNICEF, that former official may not, directly or indirectly, on behalf of the Contractor, negotiate with UNICEF, or present to UNICEF, about any matters that were within such former official’s responsibilities while at UNICEF.

(c) The Contractor further represents that, in respect of all aspects of the Contract (including the award of the Contract by UNICEF to the Contractor and the selection and awarding of sub-contracts by the Contractor), it has disclosed to UNICEF any situation that may constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest or could reasonably be perceived as a conflict of interest.

7.3 The Contractor further represents and warrants that neither it nor any of its Affiliates, Personnel or directors, is subject to any sanction or temporary suspension imposed by any United Nations System organization or other international inter-governmental organization. The Contractor will immediately disclose to UNICEF if it or any of its Affiliates or Personnel or directors, becomes subject to any such sanction or temporary suspension during the term of the Contract.

7.4 The Contractor will (a) observe the highest standards of ethics; (b) use its best efforts to protect UNICEF against fraud, in the performance of the Contract; and (c) comply with the applicable provisions of UNICEF’s Policy Prohibiting and Combating Fraud and Corruption. In particular, the Contractor will not engage, and will ensure that its Personnel, agents and sub-contractors do not engage, in any corrupt, fraudulent, coercive, collusive or obstructive conduct as such terms are defined in UNICEF’s Policy Prohibiting and Combating Fraud and Corruption.

7.5 The Contractor will, during the term of the Contract, comply with (a) all laws, ordinances, rules and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the Contract; and (b) the standards of conduct required under the UN Supplier Code of Conduct (available at the United Nations Global Marketplace website - www.unsg.org).

7.6 The Contractor further represents and warrants that neither it nor any of its Affiliates is engaged, directly or indirectly, in (a) any practice inconsistent with the rights set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including Article 32, or the International Labour Organization’s Convention Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, No. 182 (1999); or (b) in the manufacture, sale, distribution, or use of anti-personnel mines or components utilized in the manufacture of anti-personnel mines.

7.7 The Contractor represents and warrants that it has taken and will take all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse of anyone by its Personnel including its employees or any persons engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract. For these purposes, sexual activity with any person less than eighteen years of age, regardless of any laws relating to consent, will constitute the sexual exploitation and abuse of such person. In addition, the Contractor represents and warrants that it has taken and will take all appropriate measures to prohibit its Personnel including its employees or other persons engaged by the Contractor, from exchanging any money, goods, services, or other things of value, for sexual favours or activities or from engaging in any sexual activities that are exploitative or degrading to any person. This provision constitutes an essential term of the Contract and any breach of this representation and warranty will entitle UNICEF to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind.

7.8 The Contractor will indemnify UNICEF as soon as it becomes aware of any incident or report that is inconsistent with the understandings and confirmations provided in this Article 7.

7.9 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that each of the provisions in this Article 7 constitutes an essential term of the Contract.

10. Notice

10.1 Any notice, request, or consent required or permitted to be given or made pursuant to the Contract will be in writing, and addressed to the persons listed in the Contract for the delivery of notices, requests or consents. Notices, requests or consents will be delivered in person, by registered mail, or by confirmed email transmission. Notices, requests or consents will be deemed received upon delivery (if delivered in person), upon signature of receipt (if delivered by registered mail) or twenty-four (24) hours after confirmation of receipt is sent from the addressee’s email address (if delivered by confirmed email transmission).

10.2 Any notice, document or receipt issued in connection with the Contract must be consistent with the terms and conditions of the Contract and, in case of any ambiguity, discrepency or inconsistency, the terms and conditions of the Contract will prevail.
ANNEX A
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

10.3 All documents that comprise the Contract, and all documents, notices and receipts issued or provided pursuant to or in connection with the Contract, will be deemed to include, and will be interpreted and applied consistently with, the provisions of Article 9 (Privileges and Immunities; Settlement of Disputes).

11. Other Provisions

11.1 The Contractor acknowledges UNICEF’s commitment to transparency as outlined in UNICEF’s Information Disclosure Policy and confirms that it consents to UNICEF’s public disclosure of the terms of the Contract should UNICEF so determine and by whatever means UNICEF determines.

11.2 The failure of one Party to object to or take affirmative action with respect to any conduct of the other Party which is in violation of the terms of the Contract will not constitute and will not be construed to be a waiver of the violation or breach, or of any future violation, breach or wrongful conduct.

11.2 The Contractor will be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor as regards UNICEF. Nothing contained in the Contract will be construed as making the Parties principal and agent or joint venturers.

11.4 The Contractor will not, without the prior written consent of UNICEF, assign, transfer, pledge or make other disposition of the Contract, or of any part of the Contract, or of any of the Contractor’s rights or obligations under the Contract.

11.5 No grant of time to the Contractor to cure a default under the Contract, nor any delay or failure by UNICEF to exercise any other right or remedy available to UNICEF under the Contract, will be deemed to prejudice any rights or remedies available to UNICEF under the Contract or constitute a waiver of any rights or remedies available to UNICEF under the Contract.

11.6 The Contractor will not seek or file any lien, attachment or other encumbrance against any monies due or to become due under the Contract, and will not permit any other person to do so. It will immediately remove or obtain the removal of any lien, attachment or other encumbrance that is secured against any monies due or to become due under the Contract.

11.7 The Contractor will not advertise or otherwise make public for purposes of commercial advantage or goodwill that it has a contractual relationship with UNICEF or the United Nations. Except as regards references to the name of UNICEF for the purposes of annual reports or communication between the Parties and between the Contractor and its Personnel and sub-contractors, the Contractor will not, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of UNICEF or the United Nations, or any abbreviation of the name of the United Nations, in connection with its business or otherwise without the prior written permission of UNICEF.

11.8 The Contract may be translated into languages other than English. The translated version of the Contract is for convenience only, and the English language version will govern in all circumstances.

11.9 No modification or change in the Contract, and no waiver of any of its provisions, nor any additional contractual relationship of any kind with the Contractor will be valid and enforceable against UNICEF unless set out in a written amendment to the Contract signed by an authorized official of UNICEF.

11.10 The provisions of Articles 2.14, 3.8, 3.9, 4.5, 7.8, 9, 11.1, 11.2 and 11.7 will survive provision of the Services and delivery of the Deliverables and the expiry or earlier termination of the Contract.