

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Section:	Education	Date:	14 September 2021
Title:	Education Economist Consultancy (Costed Models and Scenarios for Education)	Duty station:	Remote
Reporting to:	Chief of Education	Contract type:	Institutional Contract
Duration:	15 working days	Start date:	20 September 2021

Section	Content								
Purpose	The purpose of the assignment to provide technical support on costed models and scenarios for education in three areas: school-based bridging programme, Non-Formal Education, and teacher salaries and incentives.								
Background	<p>As schools gradually re-open, and given the aggravating economic crisis, children in Lebanon are facing multiple financial and learning barriers in returning to school. As a result, a growing number of children are at risk of dropping out of school, adding to the already very high number of out of school refugee children in Lebanon. For the most vulnerable Lebanese and non-Lebanese children, education risks becoming less relevant as families struggle to meet basic needs. Amidst the unfolding crisis, the Lebanese Pound lost 90% of its value with poverty and vulnerability levels amongst refugee populations and Lebanese sharply on the rise. Currently 91% of Syrian families are living below the poverty line on less than USD 3.84 a day. An estimated 55% of Lebanese also live below the poverty line throughout the country and three-quarters are income vulnerable. Given the situation in Lebanon with the ongoing political crisis coupled with the yet unresolved COVID-19 crisis, the status of the school year 2021-22 is still difficult to predict in terms of hybrid, distance learning or fully in person learning modality.</p> <p>Launched in August 2021, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) 5 Year Education Plan provides a holistic framework to radically improve access to inclusive and quality education for every child, and with a focus on starting now through an effective Back to School initiative.</p> <p>Against this background, UNICEF is collaborating with the MEHE to develop innovative strategies in using private schools to support enrolment and learning of out of school children through a pilot programme. Under the supervision of the Chief of Education, the contractor will provide technical support on costed options of models and scenarios.</p>								
Scope of work	The assignment will be conducted remotely. The consultancy will use available data for the costing exercises. Additionally, the consultancy will work closely with the Chief of Education/Education Team and MEHE.								
Stakeholders	The relevant stakeholders are identified as the below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF staff in Beirut and Field - MEHE 								
Deliverables and Schedules	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>#</th> <th>Deliverables</th> <th>Working Days</th> <th>Payment %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	#	Deliverables	Working Days	Payment %				
#	Deliverables	Working Days	Payment %						

	1	<p>Launch of the School-Based Bridging Programme Pilot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and submit a scoping paper on a costed model for a pilot School-Based Bridging Programme (using private schools), including low/medium/high scenarios outlined. Based on available data, explore the possibility to include a geo spatial analysis in the paper on where most of the out of school children are likely to be to achieve the lowest costing possible. 	2.5	25%
	2	<p>Ensure Non-Formal Education (NFE) programmes are aligned with other pathways of education provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and submit a proposed methodology on reviewing the costing structure of the NFE programmes to ensure alignment with other pathway of education provision (both private and public). 	2.5	25%
	3	<p>Provide competitive teacher salaries and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct desk review of teacher incentives in other countries, including applicable cases for the Lebanon context. Based on the desk review and any target on teaching staff, develop and submit a recommendation paper on teacher incentives for School Year 2021-2022. 	10	50%
	Total		15	100%
<p>Payment tranches: 25% upon the submission of the final scoping paper. 25 % upon the submission of the final proposed methodology. 50% upon the submission of the final recommendation paper.</p>				
Timing	<p>Duration of assignment: 15 working days.</p> <p>Start date: 20 September 2021</p>			
Reporting Requirements	<p>The Contractor will report directly to UNICEF Chief of Education.</p> <p>The Contractor will make reasonable time at the beginning, during and at the end of the assignment to meet and discuss the assignment (e.g. outcome, methodology and findings) with UNICEF team and representatives from municipalities and other relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>These lines of communication and liaison will remain open for regular contact throughout the assignment, and UNICEF staff will remain available to assist and participate in the assignment as</p>			

	necessary or appropriate. Ultimately however, the institution is expected to have the self-sufficiency to work independently.
Profile Requirements	Relevant work experience in particular of costing models and scenarios for the education sector in different contexts. Experience working in the UN system agency or organization is an asset.
Evaluation Process and Method	The contractor will be requested to submit a brief proposal describing the process of conducting the required tasks.
Administrative Issues	The contractor will commit to provide revisions based on provided feedback from UNICEF and MEHE. Reports and presentation to be submitted in English.