

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Bangkok, Thailand
Vacancy Announcement 2016/030

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Consultancy: Strengthening WASH JMP Monitoring in EAP through Monitoring Platforms

UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (UNICEF EAPRO) WASH unit, jointly with the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) is seeking an individual consultant to provide specialized technical support in the implementation of a DFAT grant for strengthening Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Monitoring in East Asia and Pacific, with special focus on the Pacific; the consultancy is to undertake i) an analysis of the national (and regional) WASH monitoring systems and exchange platforms vis-à-vis the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets and indicators, and ii) an in-depth review of the in-country national WASH monitoring system capacity in selected countries (PNG, Solomon/ Vanuatu, Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao PDR); iii) based on the analysis, propose approaches for strengthening national WASH monitoring platforms.

Background:

Several countries in East Asia and Pacific region have achieved middle income status, with commendable progress over past decades in improving water and sanitation access; however, sanitation and hygiene remains one of the main contributing factors to high child mortality and under-nutrition (stunting and anemia) rates. Still, 9 countries have > 30% stunting prevalence rates (SOWC, 2012), around 659 million people are without access to improved sanitation, disparities in communities and schools are stark and open defecation poses a serious threat to child health. Across the region, the JMP continued to compile data showing significant disparities in access to drinking water and sanitation. In addition to long-standing disparities between rich and poor, and between urban and rural populations, more recent data reveals disparities based on ethnicity and geographic regions. Effective decision-making on targeting resources, accountability for facilitating equitable access, and monitoring progress towards national targets require a robust monitoring systems that makes optimal use of the different data and information streams by different stakeholders, including civil society as recipients of services.

The recently agreed SDG goals, the WASH targets and indicators provides a benchmark for the quality and level of ambitions in providing safe water supply and adequate sanitation for all (communities and institutions). A strong WASH sector monitoring framework aligned with the SDG targets and indicators can greatly contribute to accelerating progress towards universal access to drinking water and sanitation through better informed planning and, prioritization of efforts and a strong and transparent accountability mechanisms for delivering sustainable services; in view of the SDG targets and (nearly) final set of indicators, this consultancy will also looking at ways for strengthening the national water quality monitoring system as an integral part of strengthening WASH Monitoring systems that will be able to report on the new demands of the SDG goals.

Work Assignment:

A summary of the proposed tasks and deliverables against a timeline is provided below:

<i>Main Tasks</i>	<i>Task Details</i>	<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>When</i>
1. Inception - Document Review and Work planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Inception Report with detailed workplan, methodology for mapping of national monitoring systems Undertake a thorough review of latest (global/regional) documents on Sector Monitoring, monitoring platforms and develop a consolidated overview report 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Inception Report</i>¹ <i>Overview paper (and presentations) on current monitoring systems and potential best practices in monitoring platforms</i> 	10 days, end August 2016
2. Validation & Country consultations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake an in-depth mapping of national WASH monitoring systems in EAP countries (based on pre-prepared template) Undertake in-country consultations with key partners at national / local levels in selected countries (PNG, Solomon/ Vanuatu, Indonesia, and Bangkok Regional Office) and develop roadmap for strengthening WASH platforms with SDG focus. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Country Profiles of existing national WASH monitoring Systems from EAP countries</i> <i>Country Mission reports</i> <i>Roadmap for improving country specific Monitoring Platforms (selected countries).</i> 	25 days, till mid-October 2016
3. Analysis & consolidation findings / Refinement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidate desk review, and findings from country mapping and in-country consultation into an analytical Regional WASH Monitoring Synthesis report 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Report Regional WASH Monitoring Systems, including power point and summary policy/advocacy brief</i> 	15 days, till end October 2016
4. Regional/multi-country exchanges	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support Regional Office and JMP/HQ in organize multi-country WASH monitoring exchange meetings (by remote or Bangkok) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Network / Exchange reports</i> 	Dates and venue to be confirmed, till mid-November.
5. Presentation & Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidate feedback into final Regional WASH Monitoring Synthesis report Develop a powerpoint presentation plus draft a max 12 pages <i>Field Note</i> for advocacy and publication. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Final Regional WASH Monitoring Synthesis report (around 40 pages max)</i> <i>Powerpoint presentation plus Field Note (max 12 pages) for wider publication</i> 	10 days, end November 2016

¹ Inception report to detail workplan, methodology, list of references (initial) for mapping and analysis of regional WASH monitoring systems

End Product(s) (Deliverables):

A complete set of deliverables at the end of this assignment to include:

- Country overviews of existing WASH monitoring mechanisms, initiatives and opportunities – based on mapping for EAP countries, including a set of guidance for improvements and measures needed to move towards SDG compliance
- Completion of country visits to selected countries - Indonesia, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands, and possible Cambodia and Lao PDR
- Road map for National WASH Monitoring Platforms in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands available;
- Regional Analysis Report of national WASH Monitoring systems – with clear (policy guidance) recommendations for strengthening national systems for equity, SDG alignment, reporting and data,
- Draft Field Note (max 12 page) –a summary of the regional synthesis report for wide dissemination

Estimated Duration of Contract: 60 working days between July and December 2016, of which roughly 40-50% expected be spent in the region

Official Travel: Consultant will work from remote, with official travels to the selected focus countries (PNG, Solomon or Vanuatu, Indonesia and Bangkok Regional Office, and possibly Cambodia and Lao PDR)

Qualifications or Specialized Knowledge/Experience Required:

This consultancy requires the following specific qualifications:

- Master in Public Health, Public Administration, Water and Sanitation Engineering, Civil Engineering or Development Studies
- At least 10 years of work experience relevant to the assignment
- Specialist knowledge of WASH sector monitoring and indicators, and statistical analysis; data sources available at national, regional and global levels for monitoring the progressive reduction of inequalities.
- Experience in WASH strategy design and programme management, as well as knowledge of WASH related technical guidelines, standards and performance management frameworks
- Experience of working with UN, UNICEF and other donor environment; prior working experience with UNICEF and familiarity with UNICEF's quality standards
- Good knowledge of the political, economic and social contexts of the Pacific Island countries, particularly Solomon Islands and PNG would be an asset
- Good verbal and written communication abilities and editorial skills in English
- Ability in working independently and experience in being directly accountable to senior level decision-makers

Interested candidates are requested to submit a Technical and Financial Proposal separately, together with copy of latest CV or Personal History P-11 form, full contact information of minimum 2 references, a relevant work sample, with indication of availability, proposed daily professional fee and all-inclusive travel cost to Bangkok in USD by **9 June 2016** to <hrbangkok@unicef.org>. Please note the air tickets under UNICEF contract shall be re-routable, refundable type (economy class and most direct route). The consultant will be responsible for own travel insurance, visa fee and terminal expenses.

----- Only short listed candidates will be notified. -----