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Global Education
Monitoring Report

REQUESTS FOR WRITTEN PROPOSALS

GEM REPORT Spotlight series 2022 Senior Advocacy and Partnership Specialist (Individual consultancy contract)

UNESCO is inviting written proposals from **Individuals** for the work assignment described in Annex A.

Your written proposal should comprise:

- a) A Technical Proposal consisting of:
 - an updated curriculum vitae
 - an approach and methodology for the assignment (1-3 pages)
 - The amount to be charged for the assignment, which should be quoted in US dollars, GBP or Euros only for the period: 17 January 2022 – 16 December 2022 **as a monthly fee.**

Please submit your supporting documents in English.

UNESCO places great emphasis on ensuring that the objectives of the work assignment, as described in the Terms of Reference, are met. Accordingly, in evaluating the proposals for the assignment, attention will focus first and foremost on the technical elements. From those proposals deemed suitable in relation to the criteria set forth in the Terms of Reference, UNESCO shall select the proposal that offers the Organization best value for money

Your proposal should be submitted in one single PDF file by e-mail no later than close of business (18:00) on 3rd January 2022. E-mail proposals should not exceed 5MB.

The e-mail should be addressed to Josephine Kiyenje: **j.kiyenje@unesco.org**

It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that his/her proposal is received by the deadline.

Thank you for your interest in this UNESCO assignment; and we look forward to receiving your proposal.

Josephine Kiyenje
Senior Project Officer (Spotlight)
Global Education Monitoring Report

Annex A

Terms of Reference – Senior Advocacy and Partnerships Specialist (Consultancy)

1. BACKGROUND

The Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report is an editorially independent, authoritative, and evidence-based annual report, hosted and published by UNESCO. It has the mandate, established in the Incheon Declaration of the World Education Forum in May 2015, to monitor progress (i) on education in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and (ii) on the implementation of national and international strategies to achieve the fourth goal on education (SDG 4). The Report is funded by a group of governments, multilateral agencies and foundations. It is an indispensable advocacy tool to support the achievement of SDG 4.

The Spotlight series is a new partnership between the GEM Report and the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). It will conduct new analysis on the current situation and on the steps taken towards universal basic education completion and foundational learning in Africa to ensure this issue is on top of national and continental policy makers' agendas. Over the next three years, the Spotlight series will cover a dozen countries per year: of these, four focus countries (one per region: West, Central, South and East) will be covered in-depth through country-specific research and a country report, while eight countries (two per region) will offer additional insights through short and targeted case studies. A continental synthesis report with an emphasis on cross-country and over-time comparisons, will drawing on the country reports and case studies, as well as on additional pieces of research and analysis.

The Spotlight series takes a system approach that acknowledges the complexity of advancing foundational learning by focusing on different levels, from the ministry to the learner and community, around seven factors. The key is a vision to improve learning for all children, which permeates all education leadership levels, from the ministry to local authorities to school personnel.

This vision is reflected and communicated via policy decisions on the what (curriculum) and the how (pedagogy) of teaching and learning (2), as well as through the necessary resources. It is also reflected and communicated through policy decisions on teacher preparation and management (3), with several decisions often delegated to lower tiers. Among them, school-level decisions are key. Head teachers lead on school management (4), supported in their work through local education authorities performing supervision and monitoring (5). Community and parental engagement (6), through observation or more active participation, is an additional piece of the monitoring and quality assurance structure. The collection of evidence on policy implementation results is necessary for the vision of equitable and inclusive education of good quality to be realized. The Spotlight country report will focus on a key monitoring aspect to foundational learning, which is learning assessment (7) and the steps taken to institute it and use the data it generates.

The Spotlight series has two goals:

- Synthesize, analyze and clearly present comparative knowledge on challenges and solutions to achieving universal basic education completion and foundational learning in Africa as a basis to support regional peer learning mechanisms and national, regional and global accountability mechanisms.
- Support national and regional coalitions to use this comparative knowledge to move national education systems, plans, policies and budgets – but also international support mechanisms – in the direction of achieving universal basic completion and foundational learning in Africa.

2. DUTIES

Under the overall authority of the GEM Report Director and immediate supervision of the Senior Project Officer for the Spotlight series, and in close collaboration with the Senior Communication and Advocacy Specialist, the Senior Advocacy and Partnership Consultant will be responsible for the following major activities:

1. Develop and execute advocacy strategies to inform and influence continental, regional, and national institutions and education development partners' policy dialogue, to ensure that foundational literacy and numeracy and basic education completion are prioritized.
2. Distill messages to reshape country research reports and support validation processes at country level.
3. Form country advocacy groups with civil society with the aim of working with them to use evidence from country reports to improve national education systems, plans, policies and budgets.
4. Develop continental, regional and national partner and stakeholder maps to inform positioning of the Spotlight.
5. Conceptualize, coordinate, and execute policy events and briefings in collaboration with the implementing partner.
6. Contribute towards communications and content for Spotlight documents including blogs, social media, donor and policy reports, fact sheets.

3. DELIVERABLES

The assignment is for a period of 11 months starting on 17th January 2022.

The specific timeline for each deliverable will be agreed with the consultant at the beginning stage of the assignment. The key deliverables include:

#	Tasks	Deliverables	Timeframe
1	Develop and execute advocacy strategies	Finalized high-level strategy and workplans, including conceptualization for policy events and briefings	16 February 2022
2	Distill messages to reshape country research reports and support	Easy to use country reports finalized (countries 1 and 2)	16 March 2022
3		Easy to use country reports (countries 3 and 4)	15 April 2022
4	Form country advocacy groups with civil society	Country advocacy groups established in four Spotlight cohort one focus countries	16 May 2022
		Workplans for country level advocacy finalized	16 June 2022
5	Develop continental, regional and national partner and stakeholder maps to inform positioning of the Spotlight	Finalized continental, regional and sub-regional maps and partnerships for cohort one countries	15 July 2022
6		One country-level map for each of the four focus countries for second Spotlight cohort (countries 1 and 2) plus supporting the positioning of the Spotlight through identification and dialogue with LEG and donor entry points	16 August 2022
7		One country-level map for each of the four focus countries for second Spotlight cohort (countries 3 and 4) plus supporting the positioning of the Spotlight through identification and dialogue with LEG and donor entry points	16 September 2022
8	Conceptualize, coordinate, and execute policy events	Event concept notes, presentations and talking points	17 October 2022
9	Contribute communications and content for Spotlight documents	Blogs, social media, donor and policy reports, fact sheets (Jan-Nov)	16 November 2022
10		Support Spotlight governance and reporting functions (Jan – Dec)	16 December 2022

4. REQUIREMENTS

Education

- Advanced university degree (Master or equivalent) in communications, development studies, public policy, business administration or other social science disciplines;

Work Experience

- At least 10 years of progressively responsible relevant work experience designing and implementing advocacy and partnership strategies on development issues;

Skills/competencies

- Strong expertise in developing and managing results-focused partnerships with a diverse range of partners;
- Demonstrable experience of strategy development and execution, with an ability to use feedback loops to learn and adapt;
- Advanced knowledge of social media, information channels and communication tool awareness with the ability to modify communication strategies to leverage existing GEM Report tools;
- Advanced content development and editing skills, in line with organizational standards;
- Ability to analyze and provide strategic advice on stakeholder engagement in order to further organizational goals and objectives
- Excellent organizational and project management skills, and demonstrated ability to participate as a team player;
- Ability to work independently and effectively, with sensitivity across barriers such as language, culture and distance.

Languages

- Excellent command of spoken and written English
- Knowledge of French desirable.