UNESCO Terms of Reference:
Consultancy for the
Production of Supplementary Educational Materials

Summary

UNESCO seeks the services of a team of consultants to produce educational materials for use in schools on menstrual hygiene management (MHM), early, child and forced marriage (ECFM) and school-related gender-based violence (SRGBV). The team of consultants will work with UNESCO and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) to develop, design and layout age- and culturally appropriate materials for primary and secondary schools.

Background

In March 2018, UNESCO Regional Office of Southern Africa launched a project titled ‘Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future’ which seeks to improve sexual and reproductive health (SRH), gender and education outcomes for adolescents and young people in the Sub-Saharan Africa region through sustained reductions in new HIV/STI infections, early and unintended pregnancy and gender-based violence. The project supports delivery of good quality comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) that empowers adolescents and young people, and builds agency while developing the skills, knowledge, attitudes and competencies required for preventing HIV, reducing early and unintended pregnancies and eliminating gender based violence. The project has four main objectives designed to contribute to the effective strengthening of sexuality education programmes:

a) Secure and sustain strong political commitment and support for adolescents and young people’s access to comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services across Sub-Saharan Africa.

b) Support the delivery of accurate, rights-based and good quality comprehensive sexuality education programmes that provide knowledge, values and skills essential for safer behaviours, reduced adolescent pregnancy, and gender equality

c) Ensure that schools and community environments are safer, healthier and inclusive for all young people

d) Strengthen the evidence base on CSE and safer school environments

The programme follows a 3-tier system with programme acceleration countries at the top followed by focus countries and then networking countries. This 3-tier system will allow countries to learn from each other as they work towards national coverage. Institutionalizing the CSE programs will ensure governments provide domestic funding and contribute to fully scaled-up CSE interventions. Malawi became a programme acceleration country in 2019.

UNESCO is currently supporting Malawi’s MoEST to implement the Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future (O3) Programme with support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and Norway. The programme is aimed at reaching 3.7 million learners in primary and secondary schools.
Studies show that issues around MHM, EFCM and SRGBV in schools in Malawi need to be addressed. The WASH study by MoEST and UNICEF shows that 23% of primary schools have quality sanitation while 81% are lacking hand-washing facilities, which affects menstrual hygiene management for girls.¹ Menstruation is considered a taboo topic and many school girls as well as community members, lack adequate information about menstrual issues.² The adolescent birth rate is 136 per 1,000 girls aged 15-19, and child marriage (below 18 years) is alarmingly high, at 42%.³ This highlights the prevalence in early, forced and child marriage in Malawi.

School-related gender-based violence (SRGBV) is a common experience for both girls and boys in Malawi, and they are equally likely to experience school violence. Sexual violence in school was linked to declining education outcomes.⁴ The impact of gender-based violence (GBV) can cause immediate and long-term physical and mental health consequences for college student survivors of GBV, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, risk of re-victimization, depression, and substance abuse.⁵

To address these issues with in-school young people, UNESCO would like to develop and produce materials on MHM, EFCM and SRGBV, which will supplement the LSE curriculum being implemented in primary and secondary schools in Malawi. These materials will be in a format which is appealing to learners and which they can use for personal reference. In addition, UNESCO will also produce visual materials which can be used in the schools on said topics.

1. Production of supplementary materials

UNESCO seeks the services of a team of consultants to produce educational materials for in-school use. The materials will be in English and cover three topics: menstrual hygiene management (MHM), early, forced and child marriage (EFCM) and school-related gender-based violence (SRGBV). The team of consultants will ensure that materials are differentiated for primary (ages 9-13) and secondary school learners (ages 14-19) and that they are gender-sensitive and evidence-based.

The team of consultants will work with UNESCO to identify the content that will be used to develop the materials which will be designed to allow individual use by learners (such as a booklet or brochure) to ensure privacy and reduce stigma, as well as a visual aid (such as a poster) to raise attention for the topic in school. The format of the materials shall be agreed upon with UNESCO and MoEST.

All developed materials shall be approved by MoEST before the final print and distribution.

2. Scope of Work

UNESCO seeks the services of a team of consultants to do the following:

1. Conduct a desk review of existing materials and select relevant content which can be used for the development of materials on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM); Early, Forced and Child Marriage (EFCM) and School-related gender-based violence (SRGBV). This will be done together with UNESCO.
2. Draft and edit content on MHM; EFCM and SRGBV that can be used for materials for primary and secondary learners.
3. Draft two booklets: One for primary learners and the other for secondary learners for each of the three topics: MHM; EFCM and SRGBV to be submitted to MoEST for approval.
4. Draft three posters: one for each of the three topics: MHM; EFCM and SRGBV to be submitted to MoEST for approval.
5. Design and layout all the six booklets based on approval from MoEST.
6. Design and layout three posters – one for each of the three topics: MHM; EFCM and SRGBV based on approval from MoEST.
7. Provide the print-ready versions of all materials.

3. Deliverables

The deliverables for this consultancy shall be the following:

1. Inception report
2. A report on the content selected from the desk review.
3. Draft of edited content on MHM; EFCM and SRGBV to be used in the development of booklets and posters.
4. Draft booklets – one for primary learners and one for secondary learners on each of the three topics: MHM; EFCM and SRGBV.
5. Draft posters – one for each of the three topics: MHM; EFCM and SRGBV
6. Print-ready versions of booklets on MHM; EFCM and SRGBV.
7. Print-ready versions of posters on MHM; EFCM

4. Timeline and duration

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<th>July</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Inception report</td>
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<td>2. Draft of edited content on MHM; EFCM and SRGBV</td>
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<td>3. Draft Booklets and posters</td>
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<td>4. Approval from MoEST</td>
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<td>5. Print-ready versions of booklets and posters</td>
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5. Profile of candidates

The team of consultants should comprise of the following:

Mandatory Requirements:

Team Leader:
- A Master’s degree in Education, Public Health, Social Sciences, or related fields.
- At least 5 years’ experience in implementing comprehensive sexuality programmes related to MHM, Early, forced and child marriage and SRGBV.
- Fluency in English.

Team member(s):
- A minimum of a Diploma in Graphic Design
- Experience designing educational materials for in-school youth;
- Knowledge of MHM, Early, forced and child marriage, and SRGBV
- Fluency in English.

6. Reporting

The contract will be managed by the UNESCO Malawi Office in Lilongwe, Malawi and the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa in Harare, Zimbabwe.

7. Proposal Submission

Interested teams should submit a proposal indicating approach for the assignment, a budget as well as CVs for each team member. Please submit to vacancies.harare@unesco.org no later than 27 July 2020.