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Position: Project Officer (Education) – UNFPA

Employing Agency (Employer): Inductus Limited

Duration of the contract: Till 31-Dec-2025

No. of Vacancy: 1 (ONE)

Duty Station: SCSTRTI, Bhubaneswar

Reporting Line:

1. Administrative Supervision- Inductus Limited
2. Director, SCSTRTI and State Head of Office (HoO), UNFPA

Last Date for Application: 18-Jan-2025 (Mid Night)

Terms of Reference

(1) Organisation Background

UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA's strategic plan focuses on three transformative results: to end preventable maternal deaths; end unmet need for family planning; and end gender-based violence and harmful practices.

To address problems faced by tribal adolescents, UNFPA—in partnership with the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Research Training Institute (SCSTRTI)—has been implementing a Life Skills Education (LSE) programme in Tribal Residential Schools across Odisha since 2015. The programme has, in the past few years, introduced a new youth-led discourse-oriented pedagogical approach to life skills education. The program was run as a pilot in 5 districts in the state, gaining insights on the needs and challenges of tribal adolescents towards achieving their potential.

UNFPA is seeking candidate that transform, inspire and deliver high impact and sustained results; we need person who is transparent, exceptional in how they manage the resources entrusted to them and who commit to deliver excellence in Programme results.

(2) Job Description/Responsibilities

Under the direct supervision of Director of SCSTRTI, GoO (and/or designated official), Program Manager-LSE and overall guidance of Head of Office of UNFPA as well, the Project Officer-Education shall provide high-quality technical assistance on framing learning objectives, innovative pedagogies to strengthen LSE in tribal residential hostels using the contemporary pedagogical theories and framework. The consultant, as part of the team shall provide critical technical, training and capacity building and coordination support from the perspective of education (learning objectives, pedagogies, content flow, training, system strengthening, sustainability, etc). More Specifically, the work will include

Support in designing of Life Skills Education curriculum framework:

- Understand the project strategies and support in the development of LSE course framework, including themes, sub-themes.
- Support in formulation of learning objectives and outcome for each theme and sub-theme
- Design measurable indicators aligned to each learning objectives and outcome
- Work with the team to ensure that the learning objectives are aligned and contextualised to the rights-based framework relevant to the tribal adolescents
- Integrate the innovative pedagogical approach of contextualised life skills, as an integral part of the hostel ecosystem strengthening strategy.

Support in design, testing and implementation of innovative pedagogy

- Explore theoretical framework on different pedagogical solutions and prepare a matrix on pedagogies and its application to themes and sub-themes of LSE within a hostel setting
- Innovate application of innovative pedagogical framework (Discourse oriented pedagogy based on critical thinking, pedagogy of the 'oppressed') to design pedagogical framework of the LSE curriculum in hostel
- Support in designing of pedagogical methodologies based on designed innovative framework and test its application in the hostel setting
- Work with LSE team to design and test the Discourse Oriented Pedagogy and critical pedagogy methodology on the developed LSE framework
- Support in effective implementation of developed curriculum with innovative pedagogy
- Stay up to date with technical and programme policies and guidelines relating to tribal education ecosystem. Assess implications of new policy developments and strategies on programme execution and ensure their application as relevant.
- Provide technical support to ensure that programmes are rights-based, gender-responsive and inclusive.

Training & Capacity Building:

- Undertake training and capacity building of the LSE team (State & Districts) on designing of learning objectives and outcomes as well as on pedagogical framework
- Work with members of TSU to design the training and capacity building strategies based on the developed LSE framework
- Work with members of TSU to take relevant training and capacity building sessions of trainers and peer leaders.

Programme Coordination:

- Contribute to the effective coordination at the Directorate on implementation of LSE Programme through review and follow up with districts, including identification of gaps and proposing practical solutions.
- Analysis of the LSE component as per need of the state and suggest appropriate actions to strengthen them further. Follow up to ensure that suggestions are satisfactorily addressed.
- Undertake all activities required including liaising and logistics management to ensure provision of quality technical support to the state governments, to ensure that the trainings/workshops are conducted according to the established quality parameters.
- Consult with internal and external stakeholders to assess current state and identify key drivers of change

Monitoring & Evaluation:

- Design frameworks on recording and reporting systems and/or evaluating progress
- Regularly visit field sites and monitor trainings and LSE sessions and prepare plan for refreshers based on the shortcomings noticed
- Support the TSU team in report writing and in Monitoring and evaluation activities.

Other activities:

Carry out any other program related activities as and when required and as advised by UNFPA/SCSTRTI.

(3) Qualification, Experience and Competencies

Qualification:

- Master's in Education (MEd) or Masters in Social Work (MSW) from a reputed university.
- Master's in other disciplines like MPH, social sciences etc may also be considered provided applicant can show experience in the education sector and in designing of pedagogies and the fields related to the scope of work.

Experience:

- Working experience & familiarity with UN Agency and government education system is desirable.
- Proven track record of designing learning modules with pedagogy development and experiences working with state government Education department
- 2-3 years of experience in leading and management of initiatives in school systems and school management strengthening with inter departmental coordination
- Good understanding of state government mechanisms, working arrangements, leadership
- Experience in managing and advising government department with large scale transformation

Skills & Competencies

- Ability and keenness to learn and innovate
- Ability to communicate (read, speak, and write) in English and Hindi.
- Effective interpersonal skills and ability to work in diverse teams.
- Ability to develop analytical reports and documentation skills.
- Good skills in operating computers and MS Office package
- Willingness and ability to travel extensively.

(4) Nature of Engagement:

The **Project Officer-Education** shall be hired on a consultancy contract through **Inductus Limited**, a reputed Consulting and Advisory Firm.

(5) Remuneration: The consultancy fees will be 65,000 per month and will commensurate with the salary history of candidates. In addition, laptop and communication allowances will also be provided to selected candidates.

(6) Duration: The selected candidate shall be issued an initial consultancy contract till December 31, 2025, extendable subject to satisfactory performance.