Terms of reference (ToR) for National Individual Consultant.

Background

Within the framework of Global Partnership for Education (GPE) - Transforming Education in South Sudan (TESS), UNESCO is technically supporting the Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MoGEI) in the implementation of the System Capacity Grant for the 2025-2028 period.

Education sector data in South Sudan is currently collected through separate channels: government Education Management Information System (EMIS), partner databases, humanitarian cluster reporting and project reporting – each with different approaches, definitions and formats. Without a harmonized monitoring and reporting framework, the sector cannot see what has been implemented, what has been achieved, or where the largest gaps remain. Preliminary mapping under the General Education Sector Plan (GESP) monitoring exercise supported by UNESCO found that only 5 of 151 planned activities had any reported update on achievement.

Against this background, the consultant will contribute to two key outputs: supporting the development of the national education sector report for 2025/2026 and coordinating and documenting the General Education Annual Review (GEAR) 2026.

This assignment draws on the preliminary GESP mapping completed in August 2026 which covered 27 grants and the implementation status of 151 activities. The reporting template developed under this assignment should align with the GESP monitoring system currently under development, which will provide validated sector data from December 2026. Data gathering and consultations will cover both government reporting (through MoGEI directorates and State Ministries of Education) and partner reporting.

Key Functions

1. In collaboration with MoGEI GESP task team, scope the sector's reporting needs and requirements, design a national education sector reporting template and develop a roadmap for the report compilation.
2. Map and compile partner programme and project reports and other relevant data sources (e.g. census data) not captured by the GESP monitoring system, building on the August 2026 mapping of 151 activities and 27 grants.

3. Provide technical capacity development sessions to MoGEI GESP task team on methodology and techniques of writing the 2025/26 strategic analytical education sector report.
4. Engage and work jointly with the GESP task team to produce the national education sector report 2025/2026.
5. Conduct consultations with key education stakeholders, donors, international and national organizations on the national sector report.
6. Conduct and facilitate a validation workshop on the National Education Sector Report 2025/2026
7. Provide support to the organization of a consultation workshop in Juba to review and refine the draft report.
8. Finalize the national education sector report, incorporating stakeholder feedback.
9. Document the proceedings and outcomes of GEAR 2026.
10. Any other task assigned by the supervisor.

Key Deliverables

- Inception report with methodology, workplan and report outline
- Reporting template aligned with the GESP monitoring system, and roadmap for report compilation
- Inventory of mapped reports and data sources
- Capacity building sessions on sector report writing delivered to the MoGEI GESP task team, with task team members drafting selected sections of the national education sector report under the consultant's guidance
- Draft National Education Sector Report 2025/2026
- Develop a workshop validation report
- Final National Education Sector Report 2025/2026, fully proofread and formatted and ready for publication
- Support to GEAR 2026 preparation (concept note and agenda), proceedings report with clear action points, and GEAR communique drafted and submitted for signature in coordination with the government-designated focal point.

Reporting and Accountability

The consultant will report directly to the UNESCO National Technical Officer (System Strengthening) under the supervision of the Head of Education and the overall guidance of the Head of Office and Representative. The consultant will work closely with the MoGEI GESP task team throughout the assignment and the UNESCO international technical team (IIEP and HQ) as relevant.

Duration of the Assignment

This assignment is expected to commence in November 2026 for a period of 5 months, with an estimated 70 working days.

Required Qualifications

Education:

Advanced university degree (master's or equivalent) in Education, Education Policy and Planning, Economics, Statistics, Development Studies, or related field.

Experience, Knowledge and Skills:

Minimum of ten (10) years of progressively responsible professional experience in education policy development, global and regional education programmes and education sector monitoring and reporting.

Familiarity with SDG4 reporting requirements, Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) reporting requirements, GPE grant reporting and education system strengthening, and monitoring and evaluation.

Proven experience in strategic education sector engagements, coordination and capacity building of government officials in high-level portfolios.

High-level technical expertise in qualitative and quantitative secondary data review, synthesis, and analysis.

High-level presentation skills.

Experience working with MoGEI or state education authorities is an asset.

Excellent written and spoken English, with a proven record of drafting high-quality analytical reports.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit their CV, a motivation letter, their daily consultancy rate, a writing sample of a previous sector or policy report, and the contact details of two professional references electronically to juba.hr@unesco.org before 06 November 2026.

Please indicate in the email subject line: "Application National Consultant Education Sector Strengthening"