



WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE OF CANADA Consultancy Opportunity

Position Title: Psychosocial Support Consultant

Assignment Location: Maridi, South Sudan

Reports to: WUSC GESI Advisor

Supervises: None

Contract term: Consultancy

Duration: 14 working days

Start Date: September 18, 2023

About WUSC

World University Service of Canada (WUSC) is a Canadian non-profit organization working to create a better world for all young people. We bring together a diverse network of students, volunteers, schools, governments, and businesses who share this vision. Together, we develop solutions in education, economic opportunities, and empowerment to overcome inequality and exclusion for youth around the world, particularly young women and young refugees. WUSC currently works in 25 countries across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America, with an annual budget of approximately CAD \$40 million.

WUSC in South Sudan

WUSC is currently implementing the Adolescent Girls' Education in Crisis Initiative (AGENCI), a four-year project (2020-2024) funded by Global Affairs Canada to enhance the empowerment of Adolescent Girls and Female Youth (AGFY) pursuing educational pathways in South Sudan, Uganda, and Syria. In South Sudan, our focus is to create a generation of women who are confident, independent thinkers and protected

against negative cultural practices that undermine their rights and dignity, including gender-based violence. The project objectives are to: a) reduce social, cultural, and economic barriers, including barriers such as sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) that are exacerbated in crises to accessing safe, secure, gender-equitable, and quality education, and b) improve the equitable and coordinated provision of quality, gender-responsive, innovative and inclusive formal educational opportunities that promote AGFY empowerment. AGENCI will accelerate improvements in educational outcomes for and empowerment of over 21,000 AGFY across Western Equatoria State and Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. WUSC leads the project in partnership with Windle Trust International and in collaboration with the Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MoGEI).

The Purpose of Consultancy

As part of AGENCI, the project supports 119 adolescent girls to access secondary school by providing scholarships to cover school fees, boarding, and living costs. Through this component, 69 girls within Northern Bahr el Ghazal State are currently attending Alel Chok Complex in Wau, and 50 girls within Western Equatoria State are attending Maridi Girls Boarding Secondary School for Science (MGBSSS). In June 2023, an incident in MGBSSS involving 147 students resulted in the need for additional psychosocial support. The purpose of this consultancy is to design and deliver targeted counselling and psychosocial support for students at Maridi Girls Boarding Secondary School for Science. The consultant is expected to provide trauma-informed, gender-sensitive psychosocial support, and counselling to provide critical support to enhance girls' mental health and psychosocial wellbeing.

Roles and Responsibility

1. Study the Maridi incident report to gain a full understanding of the matter;
2. Develop a draft plan for group counselling sessions targeting the entire school population of 147 students;
3. Deliver counselling sessions to 147 students to address main stressors;
4. Provide a debrief and any necessary technical support/guidance to MGBSSS leadership and staff on the counselling services and any follow-up action that is required to ensure there is continued support for students' mental health and psychosocial wellbeing;
5. Submit a report outlining critical issues and recommendations that WUSC should take forward to ensure the wellbeing of students is protected;
6. Perform any other relevant duty as may be deemed necessary.

Key deliverables

The Consultant will be responsible and accountable for producing the following deliverables in coordination with the AGENCI team:

1. A detailed and approved group counseling plan that responds to the specific needs of students in MGBSSS
2. Trauma-informed, gender-sensitive counselling sessions provided for 147 students within MGBSSS

3. A full and detailed counselling and psychosocial support service report with key recommendations and actions which need to be taken in the short and medium terms

WUSC's Responsibilities

1. Brief the consultant on WUSC in general and AGENCI in particular for the consultant to gain a full understanding of the project
2. Provide access to the MGBSS incident report
3. Prepare all logistics, including air travel, accommodation, transport, and stationery, among others
4. Introduce the consultant to MGBSSS before the consultant arrives
5. Designate staff to supervise and support the consultant throughout their work
6. Pay consultancy fee as per the agreed daily consultancy rate

Person's Specifications

1. Demonstrating empathy and understanding towards students, recognizing and validating their emotions, experiences, and challenges.
2. Effective listening as they should attentively listen to students and educators to fully understand their concerns and perspectives and to gather relevant information for assessments and interventions.
3. Effective communication to convey complex concepts and assessment results clearly and understandably to students, parents, and educators.
4. Being able to adapt their approaches and strategies to meet the individual needs of students.
5. Strong interpersonal and technical skills in psychosocial support and counseling
6. Must have cultural sensitivity and the ability to work in a multicultural team;
7. Proven ability to work independently;
8. Ability to demonstrate professionalism with confidence;
9. Ability to resolve disputes and conflict

Requirements

1. Masters or postgraduate diploma in Educational Psychology or Counselling Psychology
2. At least three years of relevant work experience in providing psychosocial support services to young people.
3. An excellent understanding of safeguarding principles and practices.
4. A satisfactory reference from a previous/current client/employer
5. Strong command of English. Knowledge of Juba Arabic is a plus.

How to apply

Send a copy of your CV (no more than four pages) and a motivation letter outlining why you are interested in this assignment and how you meet the requirements listed above, including your daily consultancy fee, covering meals, accommodation, and local transport in town to southsudan@wusc.ca. Alternatively, drop your application during working hours at the WUSC South Sudan Country Office located at Scandic Building, next to Crown Hotel, on Airport Road, Juba.

The deadline for submission of the application is September 8, 2023. Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis.

Only shortlisted consultants will be contacted.

The received application will not be returned, so do not submit original copies of your certificates.