

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### SHORT TITLE OF ASSIGNMENT

Evaluation of Social Inclusion programme of UNICEF Egypt Country Programme partnership with Government of Egypt 2018 – 2022.

### BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

General situation in Egypt: Egypt is going through a period of rapid changes that are expected to continue over the next decades. A positive shift towards the centrality of children wellbeing and reduction of inequality is also expected to continue but it can be mitigated mostly by economic, demographic and political factors. With high rate of population growth of 2.6% per year, Egypt will face several challenges linked to the expansion of the provision of quality basic services, to reducing poverty and inequality, to its macroeconomic situation and its fragile political context.

At the beginning of 2019, about 39 million children (aged 0-17) were living in Egypt, around 40 per cent of the entire population<sup>1</sup>. The recent increase in fertility rates and the total number of births determined an acceleration of the child population growth which increased by around 10 million individuals between 2006 and 2017, the two population census years<sup>2</sup>.

Demographic expansion, with UN projection forecasting the population to reach 128 million by 2030, poses increasing challenges to the country's ambition to expand the provision of quality basic services and reduce poverty and inequality. It is estimated that by 2030, Egypt will face a 30 per cent increase in school-age population (aged 5-17), resulting in the need for approximately 8 million additional students to be accommodated in the education system. Without any adequate intervention, an additional 1 million children (aged 5-17), reflecting 32 per cent increase, may be out of school.

Egypt achieved important progress in child wellbeing and rights over the past two decades, including the reduction of child and maternal mortality (under-5 mortality reduced from 59 to 21 between 2000 and 2014; MMR reduced from 174 to 52 between 1993 and 2014), and achieving an almost universal access to basic education (net enrolment ratio at primary level reached 97% in 2018) and eliminating the gender gap (Gender Parity Index of 1 or more at all levels of education). Despite this important progress, the country has about 33% of its population below the national poverty line in monetary terms in 2018 and is witnessing a steady increase in poverty levels with a 16 percentage points increase since 2000<sup>3</sup>. Overall, around 14.4 million children (approximately 38% of the total number of children) were living in extreme monetary poverty in 2018, i.e. below the national lower poverty line<sup>4</sup>. An additional 11.7 million children were slightly above the lower poverty threshold and vulnerable to extreme poverty.

Child multidimensional poverty complements the evidence and offers a more suitable measure of simultaneous deprivations that children suffer, in 2014/15, approximately 30 per cent of children (10.1 million) are subject to multidimensional poverty, being deprived in two or more of wellbeing dimensions including health, nutrition, education, protection, water, sanitation, information, and housing.

<sup>1</sup> CAPMAS Egypt in figures 2019, Population

<sup>2</sup> CAPMAS Population Census 2006, 2017

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF Egypt (2017): Children in Egypt 2016 – A Statistical Digest (Table 14.02)

<sup>4</sup> CAPMAS - Poverty Data from the Household Income, Expenditure and Consumption Survey 2017/18.

In addition, in response to a protracted economic stagnation since 2011, the Government of Egypt started, in 2014 and more intensively during 2016, rolling out its reform program. On the economic front, the key pillars of the reform program are realizing and sustaining macro-economic stability and advancing structural reforms to sustain a solid economic recovery, while on the social front, the key pillar of the reform is enhancing social protection and human development<sup>5</sup>.

UNICEF CPD 2018-2022: In contribution to the fulfilment of UNICEF-Egypt's vision that every child has a fair chance and child multidimensional poverty and inequality is reduced, UNICEF-Egypt identified in consultation with its national counterparts the Social Inclusion component as a priority area within the CPD for 2018-2022. The overall outcome of the Social Inclusion component is to ensure that by 2022, poor and vulnerable children are better identified and increasingly benefit from child sensitive and integrated social protection systems and child responsive national policies and public spending.

Guided by the CRC, CEDAW, and CRPD, the social inclusion component strives to be aligned with Egypt Sustainable Development Strategy "Vision 2030" contributing to achieving the strategy's pillar on human development and social inclusion. Within the UNDAF (known in Egypt as United Nations Partnership Development Framework), the social inclusion component will contribute to the outcome on Social justice and Human development. Furthermore, the program component contributes directly to Egypt's efforts to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, with specific focus on Goals 1 (no poverty), and 10 (reduce inequality). The key stakeholders to this programme are the Ministries of Social Solidarity, which is responsible to cater to the social well-being of the poor and vulnerable population of the country including the children through different social benefit programmes. Ministry of Finance is responsible for allocation of funds and budget for the various schemes that benefit this poor class and address areas that affect multidimensional poverty of children. Ministry of Planning and CAPMAS, the National Statistics Office of Egypt, are also one of the key stakeholders who are mandated by the Government for generating and disseminating evidence (data) and as the repository of all data that are approved by the GoE. They play a key role in approval of all efforts to generating new evidence in the country.

The Outcome of the Social Inclusion Component is to ensure that ***by 2022, Poor and vulnerable children are better identified and increasingly benefit from inclusive, child-sensitive, integrated, well-resourced and shock-resilient social policies and programs.***

There are two Outputs that will contribute to the achievement of the Outcome, viz.,

**Output 1:** Social protection systems to provide appropriate responses to the needs of poor and vulnerable children are strengthened.

**Output 2:** Increased availability of quality disaggregated data and analysis on children, for more inclusive and equitable decision-making.

#### **Strategy Notes broad TOC (see attached annex with TOC diagram)**

Achieving this vision requires major shifts and changes to occur in the country.

Reducing multidimensional poverty and inequality in Egypt requires the allocation of adequate resources for pro-poor interventions and on initiatives which have pro-poor impacts, expanding social protection interventions as well as increasing the evidence-based policy decision making.

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<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Finance - November 2016 - Presentation to Donor Partner Group Heads of Agencies Meeting "Egypt Economic Reform Program: from recovery to stabilization to inclusive growth"

Ensuring that the Government of Egypt increases the budget allocated to children or reorient public budget allocations around children needs requires primarily a strong political will as well as commitment to transparency and accountability. Secondly, it depends upon the resource available in the country as a result of the ability to strengthen the taxation system and generate more domestic resources and ultimately to the ability and possibility the government has to improve efficiency. Needless to say, that macroeconomic as well as political stability are important preconditions for boosting economic growth and domestically generated resources to be directed towards more pro poor investments.

Political will is central in ensuring that interventions that aims at tackling poverty are further expanded to reach families living in poverty or at risk of becoming poor. An understanding of all facets of poverty and its complexity by the Government and other stakeholders is central in forming political will but is not sufficient on its own. To ensure the expansion and improvement of pro-poor interventions, UNICEF is committed to support GoE in its efforts to allocate sufficient and efficient resources for the benefit of the most vulnerable children by increasing transparency and accountability, improving participation and also data management systems, which will result in improving governments technical capacity to promote inclusive and child sensitive growth .

The key strategies that UNICEF will make use to contribute to the Outcome and jointly achieve the outputs are:

Evidence generation on new opportunities for investments in the social sector (including social protection) and on poverty and inequality research.

Institution building of partner Ministries, such as the Ministry of Finance and MoSS on designing, implementing and planning for social protection interventions and coordination mechanisms.

Policy Dialogue to raise the issues of poverty and inequality and ensure these are appropriately considered in policymaking, to increase transparency at policy level of progress in development and on the role and impact of selected intervention.

Social inclusion in UNICEF ECO is implemented under three important components, viz., social protection, public finance for children and data for children.

Through these three components or streams of work, the social inclusion component of the Country Programme prioritizes work around evidence based advocacy, strengthening institutional capacities of national stakeholders, and supporting government, academia, and civil society organizations to - monitor the situation of children and better identify poor and vulnerable children, strengthen and support the expansion of the social protection system and enhance its integration with social services with focus on children, and achieve child responsive budgeting and strengthen policy engagement to reduce the transmission of poverty and inequity facing marginalized children.

### **Social Protection component**

Egypt has engaged in critical structural reforms since early 2015 that included increasing taxes, enacting new ones, and streamlining electricity and fuel subsidies in order to reduce the fiscal deficit. The government promised to direct fiscal savings from these reforms to improve its pro-poor investment to protect the poor through different measures such as the expansion of social safety nets, taking into account that about 33per cent of the overall population lives in monetary poverty (HIECS, 2017/18) while about

similar proportion of children under 18 live in multidimensional poverty (UNICEF, 2017). Within this context of major structural changes, the Government of Egypt launched the Takaful and Karama Program (TKP), a pair (“Takaful” and “Karama”) of targeted cash transfer schemes in March 2015. While Takaful (Solidarity) is a family income support scheme aiming at promoting “human capital accumulation” with cash transfers are conditioned on school attendance by children, and on conducting visits to the health clinics by mothers and children, Karama (Dignity) is an unconditional income support scheme targeted at the poor elderly and persons with severe disability, and orphans. Since its launch, though the program is primarily funded by the national budget, yet a World Bank loan in 2015 was an important step in the initial establishment and expansion of the programme. By March 2018, TKP had already managed to reach over 2.28 million families and expanded to all 27 governorates and districts nation-wide.

The overall result that the social protection component is aiming to achieve is to strengthen the social protection system to provide appropriate responses to the needs of poor and vulnerable children in Egypt.

UNICEF’s Support to TKP: UNICEF’s support began with a small-scale funding agreement in the initial implementation phase of the programme followed by more structured engagement over the years, focusing on direct technical support to the TKP, evidence generation and social protection policy framework. From 2017, UNICEF stepped up its support with the objective of strengthening the programme’s capacity to effectively reach the poorest families and their children. In addition to these, UNICEF supported a field ‘Assessment of the Readiness of Health and Education Services’ and several technical advisory notes to operationalize the key findings from the assessment study.

Other efforts on strengthening the social protection systems: To be better informed with analysis on child deprivations and poverty (including multidimensional poverty) and more inclusive of poor and vulnerable children, UNICEF apart from strengthening the child-focused M&E component of TKP and the capacities of MoSS to undertake that, has supported CAPMAS and MoSS to institutionalize the measurement of child poverty and to conduct policy-oriented research on child poverty and social protection. Apart from this, UNICEF supported MoSS to improve its communication channels, content, and engagement with communities and families to support the fulfilment of children rights and needs through enhanced family’s knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that would lead to physiological and cognitive development, better learning and increased participation among children and also to enhance the capacity of decision makers in the relevant ministries, including MoSS in the areas of social protection and children.

Developing a National Social Protection Strategy: To enhance the coordination and institutional framework, UNICEF has initiated in 2018 supporting the government plans in developing the strategy. The national strategy will help framing a long-term vision to reform of the social protection system and establish a model which links and integrates all social protection initiatives and relevant basic services. To support this process, UNICEF joined ILO’s Social protection floor initiative in Egypt and collaborated in the development of a social protection floor costing study.

**The following two components on Public Finance for Children and Data for Children aim to achieve the overall results on increasing availability of quality disaggregated data and analysis on children, for more inclusive and equitable decision-making in Egypt.**

#### **Public Finance for Children (PF4C) component**

In contribution to the fulfilment of UNICEF new global strategic plan vision stating that every child should have an equitable chance in life, it is recognized as essential for governments to secure and manage enough domestic financial resources; whether public or private to care for their children. Social policies are intrinsically linked to the sufficiency, efficiency and transparency of public budgets. The sufficiency of a budget allows to finance child-oriented policies that can guarantee the wellbeing of children in need with a mix of protective, promotive and preventative measures that help their families getting and staying out of poverty. This emerging understating is based on finding out that many obstacles to improve child outcomes can be traced back to public finance management and to the effects of governments allocations of public funds to realizing children’s rights and wellbeing. To achieve these goals, UNICEF Egypt is expanding its areas of intervention to include Public Finance under a new global strategic portfolio called “Public Finance for Children (PF4C)”. Working under a Work Plan with the Ministry of Finance (MoF), the first of its kind, the interventions aim at providing support in:

Budget planning and Budget analysis through a child lens, and in the “Citizen Budget” initiative to promote transparency and participation;

Developing M&E mandate for the Economic Justice Unit at the MoF.

Producing and supporting the production of costing, investment and budget in areas important to children, such as health and education. These interventions are aimed to bring about efficient, sufficient, equity and transparent budgets that make it possible to deliver quality services for children.

#### **Data for Children (D4C) component**

Child-focused and disaggregated social and economic statistics are of paramount importance to give visibility to children’s issues in national policy debate, to better identify poor and marginalized children, and to highlight positive trends and progress and help identify best policies and practices. UNICEF ECO work on data for children is based on a simple premise: smart demand, supply and use of data drives better results for children. When the right data are in the right hands at the right time, decisions can be better informed, more equitable, and more likely to protect children’s rights. Disaggregated data – which can reveal the children who are thriving and those being left behind – are an indispensable tool for realizing the rights of every child and intrinsic to Social Inclusion results. Therefore, the increased availability of quality disaggregated data and analysis on children, contribute significantly towards more inclusive and equitable decision-making.

For ECO, the work on Data for children evolves by following the principle of cycle of actions to promote Use of data based on Demand for and Supply of data.

1. Knowledge and evidence generation – aimed to going beyond primary data collection: can be generated from existing datasets, reports;

2. Accessibility and Format of the generated knowledge and evidence to reach different user audience to enhance its use and generate public debate;
3. Disseminating and sharing for the change that we are trying to bring, who we want to influence are important consideration to promote data use. Identify the right channel: social media; University students; Parliamentarians, etc.

The component of knowledge and evidence generation mainly focuses on primary data collection by integrating child-related modules in the survey tools and analysis as well as secondary data analysis to provide new estimates on SDG indicator levels and new analysis on issues relating to child development. During the last 2 years, in absence of new social sector survey at the national level, UNICEF has supported generation of new evidence through re-analysis of secondary data from population census, DHS and Consumption Expenditure surveys. Together with this a considerable amount of work has been done to improve and maintain the data quality of the National Statistics Office (CAPMAS) through system strengthening for data collection and management and capacity building of their staff to enable them to undertake analytical studies. These are done by supporting development and maintenance of updated databases on SDGs and on all other child-related indicators that have been used for improving monitoring of and accessibility to recent indicator levels through user-friendly dashboard and Mobile applications; and through training of CAPMAS researchers on basic and advanced statistical methods and tools to enable them to undertake rigorous analyses of available datasets. UNICEF also invested in supporting Government ministries and national institutions to produce periodic policy briefs on topics that need government attention mainly to advocate for children within national strategies, policies, and budgets. The evidence thus generated on child related issues, together with the national partners, makes it possible for their use to advocate for policies that are oriented towards the well-being of children. Data Snapshot series, an internal publication to UNICEF, on different priority programmatic issues have provided insights into the recent available data and a scope to share UNICEF’s point of view and its plan in the coming days to tackle these issues. The D4C work under Social Inclusion programme also provides technical support to UNICEF programme colleagues in generating new evidence, undertaking new research, interpreting results, sharing new evidence and interpreting complex data findings.

## **RATIONALE AND PURPOSE**

### **Rationale**

The evaluation will assess the extent to which UNICEF Egypt’s Social Inclusion Component of the Country Programme is on track in contributing in addressing major child rights and human rights issues on social inclusion and protection, reducing equity gaps, national budgetary provisions to address these issues and reduce equity gaps, and the demand for, accessibility to data and use of evidence to address these issues in the past year and half. It will also assess how this component can be strengthened in the current Country Programme Cycle and beyond. It will explore and document the strategic lessons learned to inform future programming. And the extent of synergies among these components to constitute a meaningful overall programme. The evaluation should produce evidence, conclusions and key lessons and recommendations concerning the Social Inclusion programme of UNICEF Egypt, considering all three components – support to Social Protection Programmes, PF4C and D4C.

The main users of the evaluation are UNICEF Management and Programme staff of UNICEF Egypt. Results will also be useful for the relevant ministries of social solidarity, planning, finance and the national statistical office. The secondary users will include other UNICEF country offices, regional and headquarter offices, major donors and partners. For the Government and other stakeholders, the evaluation will bring clarity on the role of UNICEF and its intended support in achieving their results.

The evaluation is timely since it is being undertaken almost at the middle of the UNICEF supported programme for 2018-2022, signed with the Government of Egypt. Given the context and the programme intended outcomes and planned outputs, and hence will fulfil its formative purpose. **The knowledge generated by the evaluation will be used** by the Government, the different stakeholders as mapped and UNICEF to be better informed about the present state of social protection and social inclusion in the country, implementation of the Social Inclusion programme by UNICEF in the present cycle of 2018-2022, with leads on course correction, that will help shaping 2023-2027 programme cooperation with regard to country office strategy on social policy, through its different components of social protection, public finance for children and data and evidence for children.

The Social Inclusion programme in the current cycle 2018-2022 started in January 2018 and is being evaluated during its formative stage between January 2018 and December 2019. The evaluation will therefore not intend to assess the impact of the implementation of the programme, it being a very new component in the country programme.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the progress achieved and strategic approaches used by the component of Social Inclusion under the CPD to UNICEF and the stakeholders, which can be used to inform policy advocacy work and the design, management and implementation of its future programme. The evaluation will aim to assess the results of the UNICEF support in the social inclusion sector, and the targeted social sectors health, protection and education. It will also measure the extent to which UNICEF supported programme interventions addressed major child rights and human rights issues on social inclusion and protection, reducing equity gaps, national budgetary provisions for the purpose and demand for and use of evidence to address these issues. In addition to awareness of UNICEF's support in this Programme area among various stakeholders (govt, donors). Further, the evaluation is expected to inform the Mid Term Review of the GoE-Egypt Country Programme as well as that of the UNPDF of Egypt, scheduled this year, with regard to its alignment to and contributions made in strengthening the social inclusion programme of Egypt. Specifically the Evaluation aims to inform the research question for the MTR of the UNPDF and the UNICEF Program and the revision of the resource mobilization approach/plan.

To the extent possible and given that the ongoing nature of the programme and that they are embedded within a broader context with multiple players, the evaluation will seek to establish contribution of the Social Inclusion programme to improve national strategies and their implementation. It will draw strategic lessons learned from the design and implementation of the programme, and based on findings, will identify the lessons learned and provide practical recommendations for future programming.

#### **OBJECTIVE OF THE EVALUATION**

The evaluation of the Social Inclusion component of the Country Programme will focus on the key programme components included and reviewed with respect to the components of social protection, public finance for children and data for children and will have the following specific objectives.

The key objectives of the evaluation are:

- Assess the extent to which the strategies and interventions implemented by the Social Inclusion programme during January 2018 to December 2019, have achieved expected and unexpected results in terms of the yearly targets/milestones; advise on how the programme can achieve the overall outcomes and outputs planned for the 5-year programme period; identify indicative causes and analyse key dynamics that contributed to the achievement;
- Assess the alignment of the programme with UNICEF Strategic Framework and GoE framework on social inclusion (social protection strategy); the appropriateness of the processes put in place for its implementation during this time frame; and the alignment between the three different components of the programme viz., social protection, public finance for children and data for children;
- Assess synergies, and the inter-sectoral cooperation with other UNICEF Programmes, especially the Health, Education, Child Protection, External Communication and Communication for Development programmes and between the UN agencies (inter-agency) and identify potential synergies that remain unrealized;
- Suggest ways in fundraising and financing the work of Social Policy, both from the external donors/partners as well as through internal arrangements of support from other programme sections on policy advocacy and evidence generation and reviews and
- Review and advise on the HR structure supporting the programme with regards to its adequacy, appropriateness and alignment to delivering the desired goals and outcomes.

#### **EVALUATION CRITERIA AND QUESTIONS**

The evaluation will seek to answer the following MAIN questions:

1. To what extent the strategies and interventions implemented by the programme have contributed and are expected to contribute to the expected and unexpected results?
2. To what extent the synergies and the inter-sectoral cooperation, both with other UNICEF Programmes as well as between the UN agencies (inter-agency) for strengthening UNICEF's programmatic work in Social Inclusion are been realized?
3. How can the work of Social Inclusion attract additional funds, both from the external donors/partners as well as through internal arrangements of support from other programme sections on policy advocacy and evidence generation and reviews, and what structure (HR) will be most appropriate to deliver the desired results in the present funding scenario?

Specific Evaluation Questions as formulated below are sub questions for the above broad questions and are indicative. Based on these and following initial consultations and document analysis, the evaluation team upon discussion with the Evaluation Manager<sup>1</sup> will propose a complete and finalized set of Evaluation

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<sup>1</sup> The Evaluation Manager is the staff of the Contracting Authority managing the evaluation contract. In most cases this person will be the Operational manager of the Action(s) under evaluation.

Questions with indication of specific Judgement Criteria and Indicators, as well as the relevant data collection sources and tools in terms of an evaluation matrix, in their Inception Report.

#### **Relevance:**

- Is UNICEF's focus in this area viewed as being relevant by govt and development partners and why?
- To what extent has the programme remained aligned to governments and partners' priorities/policies/reform Social Protection and Inclusion agendas in an evolving reform context? To what extent is the programme tackling the limitations and policy challenges by the government partners? Are there any specific priorities by the government partners that the program could address further or strengthen their support to?
- To what extent has it helped the government to move its programmes on social inclusion to move forward?
- What have been the role and major contributions of the Social Inclusion components to the intermediate results set out in the UNICEF Programme of Cooperation for 2018-2022?
- To what extent are three components of the Social Inclusion – social protection, PF4C and D4C complementing each in providing support to the Government's agenda on social policy?
- To what extent are programming and strategies - approaches and methods - relevant and responsive to the country settings, population, circumstances and challenges?

#### **Efficiency**

- To what extent is the programme using the appropriate methods and implementing strategies for achieving the results (in terms of annual milestones and targets keeping in view of the results at the end of the programme cycle) and to what extent has UNICEF made right choices with influencing the government?
- **To what extent has the programme been informing the equity and inclusion agenda of the government?**
- What challenges and limitations has the program faced?
- To what extent have synergies between UN agencies (inter-agency) and the cooperation with the government for further strengthening of UNICEF's programmatic upstream work in Social Inclusion been realized?
- Do the programme results justify the investments (financial and human resources) made? Is the HR structure supporting the programme adequate, appropriate and aligned for delivering the desired goals and outcomes?
- To what extent is the programme resource mobilization efforts and strategy have been apt- what funding opportunities were missed? how can the Programme capitalise on further funding opportunities?

#### **Effectiveness**

- To what extent has the programme (with its different components social protection, data and PF4C) affected or influenced the decision-making process relating to social inclusion in Egypt?
- To what extent have the planned results of the programme been achieved? How the different components have contributed or are contributing in achieving the planned results?
- What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the results? What have been the key successes and failures in implementation of the programme?

- To what extent the unintended effects of the programme affecting the poor and vulnerable children in enjoying the benefits of inclusive, sensitive and integrated policies and programmes?

#### **Coherence**

- To what extent the different interventions of the programme and inter-sectoral cooperation with other UNICEF Programmes (relating to health, education, protection and communication) have brought synergies in achieving the desired results?
- To what extent are three components of the Social Inclusion – social protection, PF4C and D4C complementing each in providing support to the Government’s agenda on social policy?
- To what extent is the UNICEF Programme harmonised and coordinated with other actors and adding value to the social policy agenda relative to its comparative advantage?

#### **Gender**

- To what extent have the cross-cutting issues of gender and equity been mainstreamed into the programme?
- To what extent is the program using data and evidence that are gender disaggregated and disaggregated by the stratifies of age-group, wealth level, rural/urban location and sub-national geography,
- To what extent has the Programme use policies that are gender sensitive and fully sensitized about the aspect of gender in their implementation.

#### **Sustainability**

- To what extent has the programme contributed in institutionalizing national/sub- national policies and strategies in Social Inclusion to ensure sustainability of the existing strategies and approaches?
- To what extent are the components of ‘Social Protection’, ‘Public finance for children’ and ‘Data for children’ aligned with each other and with the overall social inclusion programme and are contributing to achieve sustainability of the programme in its current shape.
- How can the programme have adequate funding both by fundraising/financing from the external partners/donors or through internal arrangements of support from other programmes in ECO in lieu of the support on preparation of advocacy documents and evidence generation and reviews?

### **METHODOLOGY**

The overall methodological approach required for this exercise is underpinned by the principles of objectivity, rigor, quality, ethics and inclusiveness. Throughout the evaluation exercise the engagement and participation of key stakeholders, including UNICEF staff, donors, and partners will be sought. The evaluation will follow a non-experimental approach.

A combination of qualitative data collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data gathered through desk review of programme documents is envisioned to ensure that the evaluation will be comprehensive and balanced. The desk review of key documents will cover any relevant past evaluation of the UNICEF’s Social Inclusion Programme, projects and relevant studies, the Theory of Change provided and Strategy Note for Social Inclusion as developed for the Country Programme Document (CPD) of the Egypt Country Office (ECO), Annual and Mid-term review reports, all documents produced under the different components of the Social Inclusion as mentioned before, all Annual Work Plans with different government entities and Partnership documents with NGOs. Furthermore, the evaluation will also use the data collected during the Stakeholder interviews, and one-on-one interviews with UNICEF Key Informants and government

counterparts in addition to donors and other development partners that will investigate their perspective on the programme and how it has affected them. The secondary data or information will come from all the referred documents that will be provided while the primary information will come from the interviews of the Key informants and government counterparts that are the main stakeholders of this programme. Analysis of the collected information will include triangulation of all findings from the document review and the interviews. The evaluation agency will prepare an evaluation matrix to demonstrate the most appropriate and feasible methods of collection of information to answer the evaluation questions. Given that the data will be qualitative in nature, its interpretation will be critically dependent on the evaluators judgement to inform the analysis of the issue.

Limitations of the research will be developed further by the contracted institution in collaboration with UNICEF in the inception phase, but some access issues related to some beneficiaries such as un-accompanied minors and potential on delays in getting permits to do field work.

#### **KEY STAKEHOLDERS**

Key stakeholders will be engaged throughout the evaluation exercise. An internal office-based Steering Committee chaired by the Deputy Representative, PME as the Chair and composed of primary stakeholders will be developed to provide technical guidance and clearance of deliverables- minutes will be documented in a matrix and shared for strengthening the process. The committee will review deliverables mainly the inception and the draft report and provide advice on delays and processes. The TOR will also be approved by the committee. Primary stakeholders will be directly involved in all stages of the evaluations including the planning and design.

Based on a stakeholder’s analysis depicting the level of interest and impact on the evaluation and use for this evaluation the primary stakeholders include the UNICEF management and SPM&E team and UNICEF section heads. The Secondary stakeholders include Implementing partners and government bodies with a medium stake as results may affect partnership with UNICEF and future funding - including the strategic stakeholders of the Social Inclusion Programme in the government like Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform (MoPMAR), Ministry of Finance (MoF), University of Cairo, American University in Cairo, many of whom are also working as partners for different projects. In addition to them will be the international agencies such as UNHCR, ILO and others. Furthermore, given the multi-sectorial nature of social inclusion programming, all relevant government line ministries (such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health) and the national committee for the SDGs that are engaged to strengthen their policy, programme and budget frameworks in favour of marginalized children and their families will also form a part of the stakeholder group.

#### **SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION**

The evaluation will focus on the Social Inclusion component of the UNICEF supported programme with the Government of Egypt for 2018-2022 and it will look at the period from January 2018 to December 2019. The geographical coverage will include both national and sub-national levels. The Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA), equity and mainstreaming gender equality will be assessed for the programme

components. The programme has a strong component focusing on capacity building of the partners and the evaluation should pay particular attention to this component.

Noteworthy to mention is that the evaluation is expected to take about 18 weeks' time starting from awarding of the contract to the evaluators to the submission of the final report. The time frame for undertaking the evaluation will be from April to August 2020. This overall duration includes work period, periods foreseen for comments, for review of draft versions and debriefing sessions.

**Participation:** The evaluation will seek response to the evaluation questions under the different criteria from the implementing partners and the stakeholders of the programme including Government officials and UNICEF programme colleagues under the guidance of a management structure of the evaluation, as detailed later.

**Location:** The assignment will take place in Cairo and would include local visits to Government Ministries and Departments and other Stakeholders.

#### **EVALUABILITY**

The evaluation will be based on the secondary information available from the various documents relevant to the programme that are made available. The exercise will need to be carried out with the set of documents that are available viz., Country Programme Document of UNICEF Egypt Country Office and the Government of Egypt 2018-2022; the United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) for Egypt 2018-2022; Programme Strategy Note for Social Inclusion in UNICEF Egypt and all the Annual Work Plans, Results frameworks, Strategy Notes, advocacy documents, programme monitoring reports and other office documents as relevant, national and international reports with data and evidence for Egypt (e.g., Egypt DHS, MIS base Annual Year Books from Ministry of Education and Health).

It needs to be noted that the programme is supported by the a basic 'Theory of Change' (ToC) in the Social Inclusion Strategic Note (included as an Annexure). The TOC synergies between different Programme components is implicit. No specific indicators exist to measure the complementarity of the Programme components.

Also, to be noted is the fact that since the programme does not implement any intervention in the field and its activities are mainly limited to upstream policy advocacy, the field monitoring reports are limited to stipulated Programme Monitoring Visits (PMV) as are required to be undertaken for each of the partners engaged in the programme implementation. Similarly, there will not be any baseline information for the programme as Social Inclusion is a new programme added to the CPD.

#### **GENDER AND EQUITY**

The evaluation will look into the aspect of whether the programme is using data and evidence that are gender disaggregated and disaggregated by the stratifiers of age-group, wealth level, rural/urban location and sub-national geography, and uses policies that are gender sensitive and fully sensitized about the aspect of gender in their implementation.

The evaluation will highlight how aspects of child rights, human rights, gender equality and equity are integrated into the Social Inclusion programme. The evaluation team should have basic knowledge of the Convention of

the Rights of the Child (CRC), different human rights legislation, Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), as well as local relevant legislation and policies.

#### **GOVERNANCE OF THE EVALUATION AND OVERSIGHT**

The contracted consulting agency will report to the office of the Deputy Representative, aided by the M&E Specialist under the Deputy Representative's office, who will be responsible for Managing the evaluation for independence and impartiality in line with UNICEF/UNEG norms and standards. The SPME Section will work with the Deputy Representative's office to facilitate access to the documents and for interaction with partners and will provide all administrative and logistic support to the consulting agency and implement actions to close all actions included in the Management Response in the UNICEF Global Evaluation Review and Oversight System (GEROS).

The M&E Specialist at the PME section will be the Evaluation Manager and will exercise oversight and approval of deliverables to observe impartiality. The Regional MENA Evaluation Advisor will be assuming the quality assurance and guidance role for this exercise. He/she would provide technical inputs to enhance the quality of the evaluation specifically by reviewing the Inception Report, Evaluation Tools and the draft report for compliance with UNICEF and UNEG evaluation standards.

The evaluation will be guided by a Steering committee formed of primary stakeholders will be responsible for endorsing the evaluation TOR and inception report, and resolving any unforeseen issue related to the evaluation that requires guidance and / or deliberation and provide guidance on any unforeseen delays. The Steering Committee will strive to reach consensus on issues discussed. The committee is to be chaired by the Deputy Representative with the Evaluation Manager (PME) as the Secretary. The committee will have at least two meetings and would review and provide feedback on the TOR and Inception report. MENA Evaluation Advisor will be a part of the committee.

#### **ACTIVITIES, DELIVERABLES AND TIMELINES, PLUS BUDGET PER DELIVERABLE**

<b>N</b>	<b>DELIVERABLES / TASKS</b>	<b>End Product / Deliverables</b>	<b>Estimated Duration to Complete (weeks) – to be undertaken simultaneously (counting feedback from UNICEF)</b>	<b>Payment (EGP) On acceptance of Final product</b>
1	Review of key documents; submission of Inception Report including evaluation tools, evaluation matrix, timelines and methodology	Inception Report submitted	5	20%
2	Collection of information from the available documents (desk review of all documents) and one-to-one interviews with key informants, stakeholders	Internal Report on completion of Evidence collection	8	-
3	Preparation of draft Evaluation Report including recommendations	Draft Evaluation Report	5	35%
4	Presentation of draft Evaluation with UNICEF, partners and stakeholders	Presentation of the draft Evaluation Report	2	45%
5	Final Evaluation Report including recommendations submitted to UNICEF incorporating all comments	Final Evaluation Report	5	
<b>Total</b>			<b>25</b>	

#### **PRODUCTS TO BE DELIVERED**

The evaluation report to be produced must be compliant with the UNICEF Evaluation report standards [http://intranet.unicef.org/epp/evalsite.nsf/0/2BDF97BB3F789849852577E500680BF6/\\$FILE/UNEG\\_UNICEF%20Evaluation%20Report%20Standards.pdf](http://intranet.unicef.org/epp/evalsite.nsf/0/2BDF97BB3F789849852577E500680BF6/$FILE/UNEG_UNICEF%20Evaluation%20Report%20Standards.pdf) and the Geros Quality Assessment System.

The deliverables will include:

- a) The Inception Report
- b) The Evaluation Report (Draft and Final) and Presentation.

Following is the proposed structure for the inception and evaluation report.

#### **Structure of the Inception Report**

Response to the TOR Evaluation  
Framework  
Methodology

Evaluation matrix

Potential limitations of the evaluation according to data availability and reliability

### **Structure of the Evaluation Report (Tentative)**

The report shall be structured as per the UNICEF-Adapted UNEG Evaluation Reports Standards:

1. Executive summary
2. Object of evaluation
3. Evaluation purpose, objectives and scope
4. Evaluation methodology
5. Findings
6. Conclusions and lessons learned
7. Recommendations

More detailed information of the UNICEF-Adapted UNEG Evaluation Reports standard is provided in the UNICEF Global Evaluation Report Oversight System (GEROS) Review Template, which will be shared at the start of the consultancy.

The ownership of the final report will be with UNICEF and the report will be made public.

### **REFERENCE AND RESOURCE MATERIALS TO BE PROVIDED**

The consultants will be provided with reference documents relating to Egypt Country Office in general and Social Inclusion in particular, which will be, but not limited to, the following:

The Country Programme Document of UNICEF Egypt Country Office and the Government of Egypt 2018-2022

The United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) for Egypt 2018-2022

Programme Strategy Note for Social Inclusion in UNICEF Egypt

Annual Work Plans, Results frameworks, Strategy Notes, advocacy documents, programme monitoring reports and other documents as relevant.

The evaluation process will follow the UNEG Norms and Standards of Evaluation (2016), the Revised Evaluation Policy of UNICEF (2018), the global policies of human rights (Universal declaration of human rights), convention on child rights (CRC) and gender equality (UNICEF gender action plan 2018-2021).

### **QUALIFICATIONS, SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE AND ADDITIONAL COMPETENCIES**

#### **Institutional Consultancy:**

A credible firm with proven experience in conducting evaluations in developing countries with Social Inclusion programmes are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given the firms that have a combination of national and international experts and/or consortium of national and international firms.

An evaluation team will be proposed which should be multi-disciplinary and should at a minimum include:

- Evaluation specialist (team leader) responsible for overall management of the evaluation --coordinating the work of the team, designing of the research plan and tools, analysis of primary data, in addition to preparing the overall evaluation report.
- Thematic expert on strategic planning and coordination in the Social Inclusion and/or social protection sector mainly responsible for relevant primary and secondary data collection on themes relevant to program design planning and governance. He/she will be primarily responsibility for providing actionable recommendations to improve program design, governance, efficiency, synergies and intervention strategy for more effective results and contributing to report writing.
- The team could compose of International and/or national experts with proven knowledge relevant to the set of skills and minimum qualifications below:

Team composition	Role	Skills	Evaluation total points	Minimum to qualify
Team leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management and oversight of all evaluation activities</li> <li>- Developing the inception evaluation and the evaluation matrix, revised methodology, scope workplan, timeline</li> <li>- Designing of the research plan and tools and data analysis plan</li> <li>- A focal point for UNICEF on planning, design, findings and implementation briefs</li> <li>-Evaluation report preparation and writing</li> </ul>	Proven years of experience working in undertaking evaluations on Social Inclusion / Social Protection issues	5 (1 point for each 5 years)	3
		Leading major, multi-disciplinary evaluations; leadership experience	8 (1 point for each evaluation lead)	4
		Proven experience of conducting stakeholders' consultations and analysis	5 points (1 point for each years of experience)	3
		Familiarity with the UN and UNICEF's evaluation requirements, human rights and CRC	5 points (1 point for each year of experience working with the UN)	3
		Proven experience in qualitative data analysis and report writing	7 points (1 point for each year of relevant experience)	5
Thematic expert on Programme Design, Strategic Planning and Coordination	- Relevant primary and secondary data collection and analysis on themes relevant to program design planning and governance	Technical expertise in and developing in writing and managing Programme design, Strategic Planning and Coordination in issues relating to Social Inclusion / social protection	10 (0.5 point for each relevant year of experience)	6

on Social Inclusion / social protection sector	- Provision of actionable recommendations to improve program design, TOC, governance, efficiency, synergies and intervention strategy for more effective results - Contribution to inception report, and evaluation report writing	Proven strong knowledge and practical experience in conducting evaluation and application of evaluation qualitative methodologies and analysis	5 (0.5 point for each relevant year of experience)	3
		Proven experience in qualitative data analysis and report writing	5 points (1 point for each year of relevant experience)	3
		<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>30</b>

#### CONDITIONS OF WORK

The Assignment will be an external output-based Consultancy and the agency should carry out in direct collaboration with The UNICEF Country Office of Egypt. The assignment will not require continuous presence in the UNICEF Country Office premises but will entail continuous contact with the Supervisor of the contract. The evaluation team will require access to some of the UNICEF internal databases and documents. The Contractor will sign a non-disclosure clause in the contract for any materials or documents or data provided by UNICEF. The contractor will work on its own computer(s) and use its own office resources and materials in the execution of this assignment. The contractor's fee shall therefore be inclusive of all office administrative costs.

The Contracted firm will be responsible for getting permits for the primary data collection.

#### Proposal requirements

Interested institutions should prepare their proposal in accordance with the below evaluation requirements. Please note that the (budget) proposals need to be submitted separately.

- The Team leader is expected to provide samples of work

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
Introduction and Background	A brief orientation to the context and an overview of the organization of the plan. The stakeholders and partners in the project are identified, including the evaluation firm. The reader can understand the nature of the evaluation and its context from the introduction.
Purposes	The purposes of the evaluation to be delineated clearly.
Audiences	Relevant primary and secondary audiences for the evaluation should be identified.

Decisions and Questions	The decisions that may be influenced by the evaluation as well as the specific questions addressed by the evaluation should be identified. The articulation between decisions and questions should be sound.
Methodology	The methods to be used in the evaluation are expected to be thoroughly described. Methods should be appropriate within the potential constraints such as resources (time, budget, and personnel).
Instrumentation	The evaluation instruments and tools to be used are described and a rationale for their use is provided. Reliability and validity are addressed. Draft instruments are provided in appendices.
Limitations	Limitations to the interpretation and generalization of the evaluation as well as potential threats to the reliability and validity of design & instrumentation.
Responsibilities and division of tasks	The parties responsible for various aspects of data collection, analysis, and reporting are clarified. C.Vs are expected to be included.
Logistics	Additional information about how the evaluation will be conducted should be included if it is necessary to communicating a clear plan.
Timeline and schedule of tasks	Timeline should be clearly identified for the start and end of the evaluation including different steps. A reasonable schedule for implementation of the report is planned.
Budget	Budget allocated for this study include Daily fees of consultants travel and transportation, administrative cost, field expenses, and any other related expenses till the complete work is finalized.

### CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

Technical evaluation criteria <i>(for Institution)</i>	Score <i>(the total should add up to 100)</i>
<b>Technical Assessment</b>	
Profile of company and experience on similar projects, scale of projects, number of staff per project	10
Key personnel that will work on the assignment (should include their CV's) and details or relevant experience and qualifications with similar projects Client references / previous UNICEF or other UN contracts and duration; Experience of conducting qualitative research; Proven experience of qualitative data analyses and report writing skills  (As per details mentioned in the above table under Institutional consultancy)	50
Firms with a combination of national and international experts and/or consortium of national and international firms.	5

Project management, coordination, monitoring and quality assurance process	5
<b>Technical Assessment (total)</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Financial assessment (based on daily rate)</b>	<b>30</b>
Total	100

## Theory of Change (ToC) for Social Inclusion Programme (Ref. Strategy Note, Social Inclusion, Egypt CPD 2018-2022)

