Terms of Reference – Individual Contractor
Temporary support to the Office of the SRSG for Children and Armed Conflict

Children and armed conflict, livelihoods and SDGs

A. Background

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG CAAC) serves as the leading UN advocate for the protection and well-being of children affected by armed conflict.

The mandate of the SRSG CAAC was created by General Assembly Resolution A/RES/51/77 following the publication, in 1996, of the report by Graça Machel on the impact of armed conflict on children.

Since 1999, the systematic engagement of the UN Security Council has placed the protection of children affected by armed conflict at the heart of its international peace and security agenda. In 2005, the Security Council adopted resolution 1612 which established the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on six grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict, including:

1. recruitment and use of children
2. killing or maiming of children
3. rape or other forms of sexual violence against children
4. attacks against schools and hospitals
5. abduction of children
6. denial of humanitarian access for children.

The SRSG CAAC regularly reports to United Nations bodies (Security Council, General Assembly and Human Rights Council) on the situation of children in armed conflict. In addition to the Annual Report of the Secretary General on children and armed conflict presented to the Security Council that covers all country situations on the CAAC agenda, country-specific reports are also regularly submitted to the Security Council Working Group (SCWG) on CAAC.

B. Project description and objective

Armed conflicts have long-term devastating effects on children and their communities. The impact of grave violations against children on livelihoods and sustainable development needs to be analyzed more in depth in order to identify new and concrete ways to advocate with parties to conflict to end and prevent violations, and to support communities to be actively engaged in lasting peace.
The OSRSG CAAC is looking for an Individual Contractor to develop an analytical paper on the link between grave violations against children, livelihoods, and the achievement of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

C. Responsibilities

Under the supervision the Political Affairs Officer, the Individual Contractor will:

- Conduct desk review and interviews with relevant UN and non-UN actors to develop a research on the impact of armed conflict on livelihoods and in achieving the relevant SDGs;
- Develop one analytical paper on the link between grave violations and the SDGs to inform OSRSG CAAC advocacy and plan further researches and analysis to inform the development of relevant project on the ground;
- Develop visual data analysis through research on the impact of grave violations on livelihoods and sustainable development.

D. Expected outcomes

- One analytical paper of 8,000 words on the link between grave violations and the SDGs, specifically on how grave violations affect livelihoods and sustainable development.
- Visual data analysis on the impact of grave violations on livelihoods and sustainable development

E. Location

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, the individual contractor is expected to work remotely.

F. Duration of Work

2 months full-time or 4 month part-time to be completed by 15 March 2021.
G. Qualifications

Functional competencies

- Proven ability to conduct complex research, including expertise in data collection, monitoring and reporting human rights violations, solid understanding of child protection concerns;
- Excellent writing, communication and analytical skills;
- Familiarity with the UN system and good knowledge of the children and armed conflict mandate is desirable.

Education

- Advanced degree (Master’s or equivalent) in law, political sciences, international relations or other disciplines related to human rights and international law. A combination of relevant academic qualifications and three years additional work experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Experience

- Minimum four years of progressively responsible experience working on human rights monitoring and reporting and/or child protection, including two years in the field. Experience working in or on conflict situations is an asset.

Languages

- Fluency in English is required; knowledge of French or another UN language is desirable.

Applications

The following documents must be submitted with all applications (incomplete applications will not be accepted) to Silvia Schwarz at schwarzs@un.org. Please refer to “Individual Contactor Livelihoods and SDGs” in the subject of your email.

1. Cover letter
2. Personal CV, including past experience in similar projects and at least 3 references
3. One writing sample

***The deadline to apply is 30 October 2020. ***