Terms of Reference:

Consultancy for the production of ISCED-T coding for Teacher Training Programmes

UNESCO Institute for Statistics
May 2020

Closing date for applications: 12 June, 2020

1. BACKGROUND

The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) plays a critical role in the Education 2030 Agenda by producing cross-nationally-comparable education indicators and working with partners to develop new indicators, methodologies, statistical approaches and monitoring tools to better assess progress towards the international education targets. The UIS has been designated as the lead agency for producing the indicators needed to track global progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4), while sharing responsibility for some targets with other agencies.

The Technical Cooperation Group on the Indicators for SDG 4 - Education 2030 (TCG) serves as a platform to discuss and develop the indicators used for monitoring the Education 2030 targets in an open, inclusive and transparent manner. The UIS hosts the TCG Secretariat. The TCG held its sixth in-person meeting (TCG 6) from 28 to 30 August 2019 in Yerevan, Armenia. The meeting brought together key stakeholders in the field of education statistics to continue the development and implementation of the SDG 4 monitoring framework.

The UIS has collected data since 2015 for the global SDG indicator 4.c.1, "Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary education; (b) primary education; (c) lower secondary education; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex" according to national definitions. The UIS has commissioned consultants to develop a classification of teacher training programmes to ensure data comparability over time and across countries. The results of these consultancies and recommendations for measurement of indicator 4.c.1 were presented at the TCG meeting in August 2019. The TCG endorsed the proposal for development of a classification of teacher training programmes (TTP).

2. KEY TASKS

Under the overall authority of the Director of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, the direct supervision of the Head of the Education Standards and Methodology Section, and in close collaboration with staff in the Education Standards and Methodology Section and the Education Survey Section, the Consultant will perform the following tasks:

1. Make an inventory of national teacher training programmes (TTP) to complete the UIS database.

a. The inventory will be carried out following a pre-defined set of categories including: the name of the programme, the minimum duration of the programme, the minimum entrance requirements into the programme (completed ISCED level needed to enter the programme, additional entrance requirements, e.g. examination, grades, professional experience), target level at which teachers are expected to teach at the end of the programme (if the programme targets several levels, each level should be recorded separately).

b. A variables dictionary, UIS ISCED-T Project Document, and other relevant documents (e.g. OECD 2019 Education at a Glance, Annex 3, Table X3.D3.2) will be provided for guidance;

2. Document the inventory results with necessary information (country name, programme name, information source, link, etc) to facilitate UIS review, quality control and follow up with countries for review and validation.

3. Produce the ISCED-T coding for each of the TTP following a pre-defined coding structure, basically:
   a. Complete the UIS TTP database, including filling gaps in information on TTP collected in the UIS ISCED survey;
   b. Produce the coding for each of the TTP in the database;
   c. Code the variables on the minimum and most prevalent qualification required for entry into a given TTP;
   d. Ensure linkage between these codes (task 3.c.) and the code of the corresponding TTP (both codes and linkage will be useful to determine potential minimum standards required for entry into a given TTP – see task 4.e);

4. Carry out an analysis of the results to ascertain the following:
   a. Completeness and up to date information on existing TTP by country;
   b. Consistency between the following two variables: minimum qualification required for entry into a given TTP and most prevalent qualification at entry into the TTP;
   c. Level(s) of ISCED that a given TTP qualifies its graduates to teach at;
   d. Comparability across country of a few samples of TTP, each sample including TTP with similar characteristics (e.g. entrance requirements, duration, level(s) of ISCED at which graduates from the TTP are qualified to teach at);
   e. Possibility to define potential minimum standards required for entry into the samples of TTP (task 4.d);

5. Suggest an amended version of the UIS ISCED questionnaire in which an additional table (or row) will be added for TTP;

3. DELIVERABLES

The Consultant will submit the following outputs to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics:

- A file (e.g. in MS Excel) presenting the inventory of TTP that exist by country along with necessary information to enable UIS review and quality assurance;
- The TTP database with ISCED-T coding for each TTP according to the coding structure provided;
- A report (approximately 8000 words) addressing tasks 4 and 5;

The estimated duration of the consultancy is 30 working days. All payments under the consultancy will be made against deliverables, as shown below.

Deliverables	Time allocated	Payment
A draft inventory on a subset of countries with detailed information to allow UIS review and quality assurance	5 working days	10%
The complete inventory with detailed information for UIS review/ quality assurance and incorporating comments provided by the UIS	5 working days	20%
An intermediate TTP database with ISCED-T coding and a first draft of the report	7.5 working days	30%
The final TTP database with ISCED-T coding, and a second draft of the report with implementation of comments provided by the UIS	10 working days	30%
A final version of the report with implementation of additional comments provided by the UIS	2.5 working days	10%

4. TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS

The work will be carried out remotely. The Consultant will be in regular communication with UIS staff via email, Skype or telephone. The Consultant is responsible for the cost of any travel and other expenses in connection with the contract.

Two weeks following the final deliverable due date are added for the UIS to complete all the required revisions and administrative procedures, if needed.

5. QUALIFICATIONS

The consultancy requires the following skills and experience:

- Advanced degree in education, international development, social science, or a related field; or an advanced degree in statistics, mathematics, or a related area.
- At least 5 years professional experience in teacher education (pre- and in-service) in both developed and developing countries;
- Excellent knowledge of research institutions working on teachers education at national and regional levels;
- Advanced knowledge of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) and proven expertise using ISCED to classify and compare teacher education programmes;
- Expertise in statistical analysis, especially of education and teachers data;
- Ability to research specific information from various sources and synthetize them;
- Proficiency in MS Excel, SPSS, Stata or similar statistical software.
- Strong communication and writing skills in English.
- Ability to work effectively through email and other means of remote communications.
- Work experience with the UN is preferred.

6. APPLICATIONS

Candidates for the consultancy should submit their application to uis.procurement@unesco.org by 12 June 2020. Applications must include:

- Cover letter describing the candidate's interest and qualifications, availability, and proposed consulting fee for the project;
- Up-to-date CV;
- Two writing samples demonstrating the candidate's qualifications for the project.

REFERENCE

UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS). 2012. *International Standard Classification of Education, ISCED 2011.* http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/international-standard-classification-of-education-isced-2011-en.pdf.