



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Scoping Study for a Global Data Collection to Support the Production of Global Data and Indicators in the areas of Freedom of Expression, Media and Information and Internet.

Reference: CI/UIS-WTR-IUI-CI 2/2018

Date: 21 November 2018

Call for consultancy for a work assignment with UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS).

UIS is calling for interests from individual consultants for the work assignment described in Annex 1.

All supporting documents must be in English and presented in a single pdf file.

Please read thoroughly the submission procedures in Annex 1.

UIS places great emphasis on ensuring that the objectives of the work assignment, as described in the Terms of Reference, are met. Accordingly, in evaluating the candidates for the assignment, attention will focus primarily on the technical elements.

From those applications deemed suitable in terms of the criteria in the Terms of Reference, UIS shall select the proposal that offers the Organisation best value for money. UIS will evaluate the proposed fee against its standard international consultant rates for similar assignments.

Your application should be submitted by e-mail **no later than 12 December 2018** at the following email address ONLY: uis.procurement@unesco.org

Email proposals should not exceed 10MB.

To ease the email tracing and facilitate quick processing, kindly use the following in the subject line: **“your NAME and CI 2 Consultancy”**.

It is the individual’s responsibility to ensure that his/her candidature is received by the deadline.

Submissions will be acknowledged by email upon receipt but ONLY selected expert will receive further notification and correspondences.

Thank you for your eventual interest in this UIS assignment. We look forward to receiving your application.

Call for Consultancy (CI 2)

Scoping Study for a Global Data Collection to Support the Production of Global Data and Indicators in the areas of Freedom of Expression, Media and Information and Internet.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

General background:

The advancement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has provided a platform to bring forth issues of global concern. First, the status of press freedom, independence and pluralism of media and safety of journalists, which is also tracked through Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 16.10.1, and secondly, the issue of universal access to the Internet.

The Communication and Information (CI) Sector of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is mandated to monitor press freedom, including its various dimensions, through international/national monitoring mechanisms. Thus, monitoring is in line with the international framework set out by the 1991 Windhoek Declaration and subsequent declarations on Promoting Independent and Pluralistic Media adopted in Almaty, Santiago, Sana'a and Sofia. Complimentary to the Windhoek Declaration, the Paris Declaration of 2005 also outlines the importance of assessing and measuring the impact of media development. To that effect, UNESCO's CI World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development Report (WTR) monitors and reports on global current trends data and issues concerning press freedom and the safety of journalists. The WTR is informed by comprehensive national assessments enabled by the UNESCO framework on Media Development Indicators (MDI), which is a framework for assessing the state of media development at the national level. To this date, the MDI has been implemented in about 30 countries over a period of six years.

On the other hand, advocating for universal access to the Internet is a UNESCO-CI ongoing initiative that intends to monitor and measure Internet access through similar data collection frameworks, such as the MDI. The Internet Universality Indicators (IUI) Framework provides a set of qualitative and quantitative indicators that countries can adopt and monitor based on national priorities. The concept of Internet Universality embraces four principles, which are fundamental to the development of the Internet and to the monitoring of the SDGs. These principles, known as the ROAM principles, are: R; states that the Internet is based on human Rights; O; stands for Open; A; states that Internet should be Accessible to all; and M; states that the Internet is nurtured by Multi-stakeholder participation.

To enhance the global monitoring on FOE, media development, Internet universality, and particularly, to provide further context to SDG indicator 16.10.1 as reported on the WTR and in parallel to the IUI framework, there is a need for broader and detailed information on the components of current indicators and related CI areas. In light of this, the UIS is commissioning a scoping study to determine the breadth and depth of data availability to strengthen and add value to the various areas covered by the WTR and IUI framework with a view to defining new [measurable] quantifiable and feasible to collect indicators that will improve the analysis and dissemination of that information globally.

Work assignment:

Working under the guidance of the UIS Head of Culture and Communication (CC) Statistics, the consultant will produce a high quality report on the scope and feasibility of a global data collection and statistical measurement of FOE, media development and IU for the production of harmonized cross-country comparable data and indicators. It is expected that proposed indicators to be collected will heighten and further support the methodology and quality of indicators presented in the WTR report and IUI Framework. Thus, supporting the overall monitoring and reporting on SDG indicator 16.10.

The scoping study report presented by the expert shall take into account:

1. An overview of current trends on FOE, media development, IU and related policy issues with a focus at the international level;
2. Focus on identifying/mapping policy priority areas and reliable quantitative indicators in parallel to the MDI and IUI;
3. A critical analysis of the evidence presented in the WTR and proposed IUI Framework, including the recommendations to maximize its usefulness to countries for international and national level monitoring;
4. Identifying areas of data/indicators in the WTR and IUI Framework that could be feasibly developed into national data collection efforts;
5. Defining a refined list of internationally (quantifiable) relevant/comparable indicators or proxies to enhance and strengthen the WTR and IUI;
6. Identifying a sample of National Statistical Offices and/or relevant line Ministries where further pilot work could be undertaken;
7. A critical evaluation of past UIS-CI global data collection instruments in order to identify and map policy priority indicator gaps;
8. A discussion of the issues surrounding the feasible collection of applicable CI statistics including, but not limited to, indicator definitions, classification, international comparability, collection instruments (survey and national official e data sources), coverage, data gaps, methodology, and country needs (i.e., highly constrained budgets for data collection);;
9. Conduct consultations with selected stakeholders. The consultations can be in the form of telephone interviews and/or using an electronic questionnaire; and
10. Recommendations to support countries to improve the ability of their statistical system to produce data and indicators for the monitoring of FOE, media development and IUI.

Deliverables and timetable (tentative):

- Submission of partial draft report **(January 7, 2019)**
- Submission of first draft report **(February 4, 2019)**
- Submission of final report and recommendations **(March 1, 2019)**

Qualifications and experience required:

Advanced university degree in quantitative disciplines (e.g. statistics, economics, social sciences, communication and information), coupled with outstanding experience in communication and/or media statistics.

At least 7-10 years working experience in communication and information or related research. 3-5 years professional experience in media research, also in international data collection or in the use of standardized statistics/indicators to prepare high-level analytical reports with actionable recommendations.

Excellent writing skills in English. Knowledge of French and/or Spanish would be an asset.

Submission:

Please submit your application, in English, electronically to the email address uis.procurement@unesco.org including the following:

- Curriculum vitae
- A statement indicating how your qualifications and experience make you suitable for this assignment
- Examples of past experience in this area of work
- Proposal (500-750 words)
- The amount to be charged for the assignment, which should be quoted in US dollars and expressed as an overall lump sum

Please indicate your name and “CI 2 consultancy” in the subject line.

Selection process:

Selection will be based on eligibility criteria and fee proposal as follows:

1. Eligibility criteria (70%)
 - a. The relevance of academic credentials, professional experience of the consultant, past similar assignments and sound knowledge of policy issues of the communication and information sector.
 - b. Proposal (in English): The submission of a 500-750 word outline of a methodological framework for conducting a scoping study.
2. Fee proposal (30%)

For any questions, please contact:

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