

| **CALL FOR STUDY PROPOSAL on Child Protection in the Education Sector-Tonga** | |
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| Location: | Nuku`alofa, Tongatapu, Tonga  Desk-based and in-country research with a local partner |
| Application Deadline: | 18 December 2023 |
| Period of engagement: | 1st February 2024 to 15 April 2024 |
| Reports to: | Child Protection Lead – ANCP Project Tonga |
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| **Background**  Save the Children is an international organization working to uphold children’s rights and protection in different regions of the world, including the Pacific.  In 2022, the Government of Tonga drafted a National Child Protection Policy to strengthen child protection mechanisms and coordination in Tonga across governmental departments, civil society and other child-wellbeing stakeholders. This policy follows Tonga becoming a signatory to the UNCRC in 1995. The policy and accompanying Strategic Plan of Action are under the remit of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and pending release.  In early 2022, the Government of Tonga invited Save the Children Australia (SCA) to support the policy implementation process, recognizing SCA’s strong expertise in Child Protection in the Pacific Region. SCA is providing support under the ANCP funded project, Future Ready Children in Tonga.  The overall objective of this 3 year project (Aug 2022-July 2025) is to strengthen capacities and systems in place to protect children from violence with a focus on robust, inclusive and equitable mechanisms. The project is aligned with the objectives of the Government of Tonga’s draft National Child Protection Policy (NCPP) and strategic plan of action (SPA) detailed above.  In its first year (2022/23), the project has accompanied the work of the National Child protection Policy committee to guide the draft policy through a series of participatory consultations.  Support to the Government of Tonga in year 2 (Aug 2023-July 2024) aims to strengthen child protection systems as set out in the draft National Child Protection Policy/ Strategic Plan of Action This focus is on the education sector with the aim of (i) analysing gaps and priorities for child protection and child safeguarding in schools and; (ii) generating teacher training resources in child protection which align to key finding and recommendations from this analysis. These resources will include an online induction short course and other course materials for pre-service and in-service teachers.  This work will be undertaken in close partnership with the Ministry of Education and Training (MET). A Steering Group will be established to guide the study, review the findings and support incorporation of key findings into the planning and development of professional development resources for teachers.  The Study to be undertaken through this Consultancy will be guided by this Steering Group.  **Purpose of the Consultancy**  The specific purpose of the Child Protection and Safeguarding analysis in the education sector is to generate data and information that will support evidence on the status of child protection in the primary and secondary school context.  The data collection and analysis should be designed to:   1. Provide an overall understanding on the status of child protection and safeguarding concerns and priorities alongside proposed recommendations for consideration and further deliberations by the Ministry of Education. 2. Support further plans under the ‘Future Ready Children in Tonga’ for contextualised professional development materials for teachers which progress child protection and safeguarding priorities in schools.   The overall findings will support the Tongan Education sector to;   * Promote and enhance existing child protection mechanisms in place. * Consider alternative ways to resolve the problems of child related violence that occurs or may occur in education. * Generate an updated evidence base in order to develop appropriate professional development resources for teachers.   The target audience and key stakeholders for the study are:   * Ministry of Education and Training (MET) relevant policy and planning units, with representation through the Steering Group. * Teachers and school authorities, as key participants and respondents of the school based research and stakeholders as well users of subsequent professional development resources to support child protection and safeguarding objectives, linked to study findings. * Students and parents/caregivers who may be consulted during the school based research \* * Child protection and/or school safety practitioners, partners, stakeholders, and donors operating in relevant sectors to be consulted as Key Informants.   Guiding principles for stakeholder engagement are as follows:   * The research aims to respect and support the work carried out by teachers inside the classroom and their duty to ensure the safety and academic progress of our children in the primary and secondary school context. * To support teachers to participate in the research about matters affecting the well-being of children inside the classroom. * \* The teachers are the main subject of this research and if it is necessary to include the students it will be determined with collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Training. | |
| **Scope of Consultancy**  The consultant is expected to undertake the following main tasks:   * In consultation with the ANCP Project Team – Child Protection Lead, develop a detailed research plan including methodology, specific research study questions, analytical framework, and timeline, and budget/costing, in compliance with the requirements and purpose of consultancy;  (to be set out in Inception Plan) * Implement the approved research plan relevant to the research topic and the approved research questions with data collection, including school based consultations and key informant interviews. * Analyse data and conduct initial validation session, with the Steering Group, on the key findings against the approved research questions * Prepare a full report outlining the results of the study, including at a minimum, evidence-based findings on:   + Context setting (literature review, primary data collection, research questions etc)   + Methodology   + Results and discussion   + Conclusion and recommendations to improve child protection within the Tonga education system   + Annexes, including all data collection tools * Submit a draft of the study to be presented and validated by the ANCP Child Protection project team and MET through the Steering Group * Submit the final version of the research output * Prepare a summary briefing paper drawing from broader findings of the Sector Study and structured to inform the content and structure of specific teacher training resources in Child Protection and Child Safeguarding. | |
| **Deliverables**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Key Deliverable** | **Estimated # of days** | | 1. A detailed research plan (with literature review, research questions, methodology, analytical framework, and timeline) | 10-15 | | 1. Data collection completed in line with methodology | 15-20 | | 1. Raw data cleaned and prepared for analysis | 5-10 | | 1. Submit and present a draft of the study to the ANCP Child Protection project team and MoET for feedback/validation. | 10-15 | | 1. Submit the final version of the research output | 5 | | 1. Prepare summary briefing paper to inform planning and content of teacher professional development resources | 5-10 | | |
| **Timeframe**  The consultant is required to accomplish all the expected deliverables within 75 days from  1st February – 15th April 2024. | |
| **Roles and Responsibilities**   1. Consultant(s) will:  * Regularly consult and report to the ANCP Child Protection Project Team and Steering Group on the development or progress of the research * Adhere to the timeframe agreed  1. ANCP Child Protection Project Team and the Ministry of Education and Training   through the Steering Group will:   * Provide inputs to the consultant(s) in the process of developing/implementing the research, including providing feedback to the draft output * Support the data collection for the research study and help link the consultant(s) to national and provincial agencies, or school level focal points that are relevant for the research. * Support planning and guidance for the summary briefing paper to inform professional development resources for teachers in child protection and child safeguarding.  1. Save the Children Project Management Unit (Tonga) will:  * Provide contract to the Service Provider * Pay for the services rendered within 30 days of satisfactory completion of the work * Support in the recruitment of local research assistants or enumerators for the consultant, if necessary | |
| **Payment Structure and Terms**  Payments will be made on successful and timely submission of milestones according to the table below:   1. 20% upon signing of contract. 2. 30% upon completion of Outputs 1-4 3. 50% upon completion of Outputs 5-6   The Consultant is responsible for providing professional liability and medical/emergency evacuation insurance. The Consultant must adhere to Save the Children’s Child Safeguarding and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Harassment (PSEAH) policy at all times throughout the consultancy.  The consultant is responsible for paying any taxes required by their domicile country. The budget should specify any VAT requirements additional to the consulting fee.  Save the Children Project Management Unit (Tonga) will be responsible for:   * Cover travel cost of the consultant outside his/her home country or province where critical data gathering for the research will be conducted | |
| **Experience and Skills Requirement:**  (Combining Expertise of both international and local study partnership)   * Advance educational background in development, education, child rights/human rights, research, or other related fields * Experience demonstrating strong understanding of children’s rights, child protection, child safeguarding or education and school safety management * Familiarity with global (or regional) frameworks or standards on child protection and other related development concerns * Experienced in conducting qualitative and quantitative research related to development, child protection, or school safety * Demonstrated ability for critical thinking, analysis and problem solving * Having the trust and/or acceptability to work with key partners of Save the Children and the Ministry of Education and Training in Tonga * Excellent report writing and oral skills in English. * Demonstrated ability to deliver project outputs on time | |
| **Returning of bids**  To respond to this EOI, please submit:   * A letter expressing interest, outlining the experience and expertise of the individual consultant or consulting agency relevant for the work. * A copy of CV(s) or details of expertise in your research institution, or consultancy firm/agency, if applicable * Sample of previous research work/s, relevant to this consultancy * Contact details of at least two references * An operational plan detailing how the work will be done and how the objectives above will be met (max. 2 pages) * A financial proposal or costing for items/activities required for the fulfillment of the expected deliverables of the consultancy work.   Application Close Date: 18 December 2023 to add also-contact Details | |