**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**SOP/PD/DRP-2018-005**

INTERNSHIP

UNICEF NYHQ, PD & DRP

Internship: Public Finance For Children

Reports to: Social Policy Specialist - Public Finance For Children

Dates: 1 July-31 December 2024

Section: Social Policy and Social Protection Programme Group

Funding

Location: Office based in NYHQ

**Is travel expected during this Internship?**

NO

**Purpose and Objective**:

The fundamental mission of UNICEF is to promote the rights of every child, everywhere, in everything the organization does — in programs, in advocacy and in operations. The equity strategy, emphasizing the most disadvantaged and excluded children and families, translates this commitment to children’s rights into action. For UNICEF, equity means that all children have an opportunity to survive, develop and reach their full potential, without discrimination, bias or favoritism. To the degree that any child has an unequal chance in life — in its social, political, economic, civic and cultural dimensions — her or his rights are violated. There is growing evidence that investing in the health, education and protection of a society’s most disadvantaged citizens — addressing inequity — not only will give all children the opportunity to fulfill their potential but also will lead to sustained growth and stability of countries. This is why the focus on equity is so vital. It accelerates progress towards realizing the human rights of all children, which is the universal mandate of UNICEF, as outlined by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, while also supporting the equitable development of nations.

The Public Finance for Children agenda is currently being implemented in 144 countries, where UNICEF is providing technical support to Ministries of Finance and Social Sector Ministries to advance child rights through public finance in all contexts, including in fragile and humanitarian contexts. In particular this agenda includies the following key pillars:

* Adequately mobilize and allocate resources for child-related policies and programs, leveraging public/private/domestic/int financing flows when necessary.
* Enhance spending efficiency and effectiveness, reduce leaks, through adoption of results-based budgeting and improving sector level PFM, including at sub-national level.
* Promote equitable resource distribution, through finance systems, including on the revenue/tax and expenditure side, with a focus on disadvantaged groups and areas.
* Empower citizens, CSO, including children and adolescents, to participate in finance systems, including through budget processes, fostering transparency and accountability in financing.

UNICEFs Public Finance and Local Governance team covers activities to key Financing for Development related processes (through the IATF on Financing for Development, the upcoming 4th International Conference on Financing for Development, as well as key UN processes aligned with Financing Architecture reforms, including the SDG stimulus, UN Tax Convention and G20 Sustainable Finance discussions).At regional and country level, the team works to provide financing solutions through public finance systems for the realization of the SDGs where Children’s rights are put at the core according to the convention of the rights of the Child, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) and the Paris agreement. The team collaborates closely with the broader UN System, as well as within UNICEF, across all sector level teams and units.

**Main duties and responsibilities**:

The Intern will work under the supervision and direct management of the Global Chief on Public Finance and Local Governance to suport the delivery of UNICEF’s global agenda on Public Finance, making public finance system work to enhance Children Rights imlementation. In particular this assignment will entail providing key support to global, regional and country level driven processes covering the portfolio of service offer on enhancing domestic revenue mobilization, working through public budgets and expenditure frameworks, covering support on the debt management and leveraging private finance for increased investment in Children needs and priorities. The work will include specific engagement through key UN and Development Partners initiatives where UNICEF is part such as the Integrated National Financing Frameworks initiative (INFF) and the Financing aspects linked with the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection with a strong focus on the Climate finance and the Fragile and Humanitarian financing agenda.

The main tasks will include:

1. **Technical Assistance and programme support to deliver UNICEF’s Public Finance for Children work**

* Support PF4C team to drive the Public Finance for Children agenda, including an expansion of the public expenditure work
* Assist with the INFFs related work in the areas and aspects where UNICEF’s, from the Public Finance and sector level perspective is contributing
* Support coordination with the Innovative Finance Hub and key partners such as UNDP, and UNCDF providing technical support for the creation of the enabling ecosystem for leveraging Private Investment for Children

**2. Analysis and Support to global policy dialogue proceses on Financing for Development**

* Support the research and analysis on key trends and challenges related to UNICEF’s role and added value, as well as Public Finance for Children agenda as it contributes to the Financing for Development priorities.
* Collaborate internally with different teams in UNICEF to assist in the provison of quality assurance on key tools and proccesses of the Public finance for Children agenda, including through supporting the drafting of budget briefs, expenditure reviews, cost-effectiveness analysis, tax incidence analysis, financing options papers, etc.
* Facilitate programme country participation in global and regional policy dialogue on Financing for Development and G20/SDG financing fora, with the particular focus on UNICEF’s contribution from the Public Finance for Children agenda, including through the promotion of South-South and Triangular cooperation knowledge exchanges.
* Provide analytical support in the assessment of key regional and sub-regional trends and challenges in the different areas of the team’s service offer and flagships, including through the INFF, joint UNDP/UNICEF and DRM related initiatives.

**3. Positioning and representation**

* Facilitate the collaboration with key stakeholders, including governments, NGOs, and donors, to support UNICEF's positioning as a vital partner in child-focused public finance initiatives
* Contribute to advocacy efforts by preparing advocacy materials, participating in awareness campaigns, and representing UNICEF at relevant events, as well as supporting communication initiatives to disseminate research findings and policy recommendations related to children's rights and public finance.
* Coordinate program activities, monitor progress, and ensure timely reporting on key initiatives related to child-focused public finance.
* Support the Programme Manager in day-to-day operations and program implementation tasks

**4. Knowledge management**

* Collect and organize data, reports, and documents related to public finance for children, maintaining a structured knowledge repository for easy access by team members across teams, regions and COs, as well as key external parnters and stakeholders.
* Support the mangement of centralized repository for project documents, research, and publications of COs and ROs to support the scaling up of good practices, the dos and the donts of our work, ensuring accurate documentation of lessons learned and the overal Public Finance for Children related milestones.
* Facilitate knowledge sharing through webinars, brownbag sessions, and communication materials, while create and distribute briefs and updates to keep COs and the PF4C network informed.

**Benefits to Intern:**

This internship will complement formal academic training by providing an opportunity to graduate students to work in a multi-lateral institution on several programme management duties which are critical to UNICEF’s global work on reduction of child poverty and expansion of inclusive social protection programmes including at decentralized level.

The internship will provide an opportunity to expand planning and monitoring skills, gain hands-on experience organizing high-level events, and apply newly acquired communications skills for the development of key knowledge management content and assets.

The internship will avail insight into the operations of UNICEF, the UN architecture, and how international cooperation achieves its SDG objectives and other goals

**Duration:**

Duration of 6 months

**Salary/Payment:**

**Insurance:**

UNICEF will not be responsible for costs arising from accidents and/or illness incurred during the intern’s service, whether on or off UNICEF premises. Therefore, the selected candidate must provide proof of enrolment in a health/accident plan prior to start the internship with the SPSP Section

**Living Conditions and Working Environment:**

The intern will be remote based and work from home. The intern will work with the SPSP Section and report to the supervisor of this internship. The intern is not expected to travel during the assignment. The intern may be expected to participate in some section meetings, as well as other UNICEF meetings of interest to the intern, including the seminar series for UNICEF interns. Guidance will be provided on a regular basis.

**Minimum Requirements:**

* An entry point level expert with some working experience on project management, research and analysis, data management
* Demonstrated skills in administrative and organizational work, planning and oversight
* Demonstration of excellent writing skills (2 examples of effective data collection, analysis, organization and presentation of information)
* Flexible and independence with good interpersonal skills
* Ability to work under tight deadlines
* Any working experience with UNICEF/UN is an asset

**Qualifications:**

Education:

* Currently enrolled or recently graduated (in the last 2 years) with (Master’s) or undergraduate (Bachelor’s) degree in the areas of Economics, Political Science, Social Sciences, International Relations, Public Administration, Business Administration and Sustainability, Public Policy, Social Policy, Social Development
* Excellent academic performance, as demonstrated by academic record
* Coursework or experience related to child poverty and/or social protection programming is an asset

**Language Requirements:**

* Fluency in English is required
* Knowledge of another official UN language (French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic or Chinese), or a local language, is an asset.

**Modality of hiring the Intern (please specify):**

* Vacancy Announcement (competitive selection)

Requesting Officer Programme Director

Orria Goni \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Natalia Winder-Rossi \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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