



Terms of Reference for Conducting Operational Research on a Sexuality and Lifeskills Education Pilot Project

TERMS OF REFERENCE	
Hiring Office:	The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) China Office
Purpose of consultancy:	<p>I. Background</p> <p>Sexuality Education and Life Skills is a fundamental component of holistic education, ensuring young people's well-being, safety, and informed decision-making of their bodies and lives.</p> <p>In China, there has been an increasing commitment to the provision of age-appropriate, nationally-contextualised sexuality education. Providing sex education to adolescents and youth (A&Y) has been addressed in national laws and policies. For example, Article 40 of the Law of the People’s Republic of China on the Protection of Minors (revised in 2020), which was enacted on June 1, 2021, states: “Schools and kindergartens shall provide age-appropriate sexuality education to minors.” Article 42 of the Regulations on the Protection of Minors in Schools issued by the Ministry of Education effective on September 1, 2021, states that “puberty education and sexuality education should be carried out in a targeted manner so that students can increase their knowledge of physiological health and improve their self-protection awareness and ability to prevent sexual abuse and sexual harassment.”</p> <p>Efforts are needed to enforce the Law, especially in rural and less developed areas. Research shows that in China, most young people have never taken sexuality courses in their schools. It has never been set up as a stand-alone course but relies on career subjects such as physical education and health, and is integrated into other subjects such as science, biology, ethics and wellness.</p> <p>UNFPA is the UN’s sexual and reproductive health (SRH) agency. UNFPA works with partners all over the world to create a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA's vision is to end preventable maternal deaths, unmet family planning needs, and gender-based violence by 2030, thereby contributing to the achievement of the SDGs.</p> <p>Supporting the development of high-quality sexuality and life skills education is one component of the 9th Cycle of UNFPA/China programme between 2021-2025. In 2024-2025, UNFPA wishes to contract a local institution to deliver a piece of operational research at sub regional level that will implement and assess the roll out of a sexuality education/life skills project with middle school students. The project will include the delivery of a ToT to local teachers, research to collect evidence-based results for experience sharing and the documentation of the effectiveness of the pilot intervention to be used for advocacy and learning.</p>



	<p>II. Objectives: To furnish policymakers with evidence-based technical support for the development and implementation of sexuality education and life skills in China (informed by content of the ‘International Comprehensive CSE Guidelines’ and national policy guidance)</p> <p>III. Expected Project outcome: Improve young people’s Sexual and Reproductive Health and Knowledge in the local setting and generate evidence-based results for policy advocacy regarding implementation of age-appropriate sexuality education and life skills in the context of China .</p> <p>IV. Expected Deliverables:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short term milestones as agreed in the detailed workplan 2. Delivery of age-appropriate sexuality education and life skills to students at schools in urban setting and remote rural areas, with a focus on the vulnerable groups and gender equality, and in close coordination with local partners 3. Delivery of Training of Trainers course to build capacity of local teachers in providing sexuality education and life skills in school 4. Evidence-based documentation the results of the project to be used for learning and advocacy 5. Final report
<p>Scope of work:</p> <p><i>(Description of services, activities, or outputs)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A project proposal finalised in discussion with the UNFPA team and local partners ● Lead the design and implementing of the project ● Coordinate the participating schools, health institutions providing technical support on adolescent reproductive health, and local governments ● Prepare a study on results of sexuality education and life skills conducted at the schools ● Regular report in Chinese/English with the UNFPA China Office on the project progress ● Final report of the project including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good practice - Documentation of results
<p>Duration and working schedule:</p>	<p>May 2024 to December 2024</p>
<p>Place where services are to be delivered:</p>	<p>Outside UNFPA</p>
<p>Payment schedule:</p>	<p>UNFPA will make 80 percent advance payment when the project proposal is approved and 20 percent when each of the output is completed</p>



Delivery schedule, monitoring & progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline:	Will be defined as per submitted proposal.
Supervisory arrangements:	The project will be managed by the UNFPA Youth Officer and guided by the Assistant Representative and overseen by the Deputy Representative. Programme Associate (UNV) for South-South Collaboration projects will assist and monitor the assignment's preparation and completion.
Expected travel:	Travel to Beijing and inner-province travel
Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:	<p>Qualifications of institution in China:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A team with expertise in sexuality education and life skills and experience in conducting sexuality education training and research - Network with local government, schools and local health institutions - Good knowledge of the <u>International Comprehensive Sexuality Education Guideline</u> - Understanding of UNFPA mandate and the undertakings of UNFPA China in youth development
Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA:	UNFPA will ensure access to its personnel and documentation for background study, needs assessment, information collection, feedback collection, etc.
Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:	<p>Please refer to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFPA China CP9 program document