

TERMS OF REFERENCE

for Consulting Services (Individual Consultant)

UIED Expert in Textbook Development

Contract No. LEARN-IC-NIO-UIED-01

Lifting Education Access and Resilience in Times of Need in Ukraine Program

URTF Grant No. TF0C5794

I. BACKGROUND

Ukraine and World Bank have signed the agreements for the Program "Lifting Education Access and Resilience in times of Need in Ukraine Program" (hereinafter referred to as the LEARN or Operation).

The Operation total financing is US\$415 million using a combination of the World Bank's financial instruments: Program-for-Results (PforR) complemented by Investment Project Financing (IPF).

The Program-for-Results (PforR) is implemented through a US\$235 million credit provided by Bank resources, supported by credit enhancement from the Advancing Needed Credit Enhancement for Ukraine (ADVANCE Ukraine) Trust Fund, which is backed by the Government of Japan. This is formalized under the Financing Agreement between Ukraine and the International Development Association for the Program (CREDIT NUMBER 7626-UA). An additional US\$150 million is provided under the Special Program for Ukraine and Moldova Recovery (SPUR) of the International Development Association (IDA) Crisis Facility, as outlined in the Loan Agreement between Ukraine and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the Program (LOAN NUMBER 9721-UA).

Furthermore, US\$30 million in Investment Project Financing (IPF) is secured under the Grant Agreement between Ukraine and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association, acting as the administrator of the Ukraine Relief, Recovery, Reconstruction, and Reform Multi-Donor Trust Fund (URTF GRANT NUMBER TF0C5794).

Hereinafter, the portion of the Operation financed through the PforR will be referred to as the Program, and the portion financed through the IPF will be referred to as the Project.

LEARN was developed to address critical challenges and provide essential support to the education sector, aligning with the Ministry of Education and Science's (MoES) Strategic Action Plan.

The Operation will focus on supporting the Strategic Action Plan Priority 2: School education and the New Ukrainian School (NUS). The continuation of the NUS reform is a key priority of the MoES.

The objectives of the Operation are to (i) improve teaching and learning conditions; and (ii) strengthen management capacity of the education system.

For this program, "teaching and learning conditions" refer to three critical factors of education service delivery:

- i. safety, including shelters as a pre-condition for schools to open for in-person learning and free and inclusive school bus transportation for students living further distances from schools;
- ii. learning materials, especially updated textbooks and age-appropriate learning materials in line with the NUS model; and
- iii. teachers trained on NUS standards, principles, and the use of the updated learning materials.

Meanwhile, "management capacity of the education system" refers to institutional capabilities to plan, allocate, and monitor resources based on robust data at the student and school levels.

The NUS Implementation Office (NIO) will be established by the Ministry as an advisory and consultative body. The NIO's primary purpose is to support and implement the New Ukrainian School (NUS) reform by providing expert guidance, strategic oversight, and coordination of reform initiatives across Ukraine.

II. OBJECTIVE

The UIED Expert in Textbook Development will provide expert support in the development of evidence-based textbook and educational policy frameworks to strengthen Ukraine's capacity to deliver quality education during wartime and recovery. The role will focus on modernization of textbook development and related state policies, piloting and evaluation of textbook innovations, and coordination of related national initiatives under the NUS reform.

III. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Consultant shall provide the following services, including but not limited to:

- Provide expert input on the revision and modernization of textbook development policies in coordination with UIED, NIO, and MoES.
- Coordinate the conceptualization, content design, piloting, and evaluation of textbook and learning material prototypes.
- Ensure alignment of all materials with the updated State Standards, NUS principles, and inclusive and competency-based approaches.
- Support the transition to digital and hybrid textbook formats appropriate to the Ukrainian context.
- Engage with author teams, reviewers, and publishers to streamline workflows and assure quality.
- Contribute to the development of national education policies targeting: enhancement of in-person learning conditions (e.g., textbook accessibility), quality improvement of remote education, and mitigation of learning loss.
- Analyze international experiences and propose adapted policy solutions for Ukraine.

- Participate in development and piloting of new concepts (e.g., career guidance, educational pathways).
- Draft analytical and policy papers, conceptual briefs, and visual materials for consultations with stakeholders.
- Coordinate testing and piloting of content and policy solutions with target user groups and education institutions.
- Analyze implementation results and propose evidence-based adjustments.
- Participate in technical working groups and stakeholder coordination platforms.

IV. REPORTING

The UIED Expert in Textbook Development reports directly to the Project Coordinator, works under the supervision of the Head of the NUS Implementation Office, and in close coordination with the leadership of UIED. Provides monthly technical progress reports, status updates, and recommendations related to textbook development processes.

V. PROVIDED RESOURCES

MoES shall provide the Consultant with the information necessary to carry out his/her assignment in a timely manner. MoES shall provide the Consultant with a workplace, including necessary equipment to carry out his/her functions (e.g. PC, communications and office equipment).

VI. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum requirements (mandatory):

- At least 3 years of professional experience in textbook development, education policy, or projects involving educational content or publishing.
- Higher education degree in pedagogy, education, philology, political science, or a related field.
- Practical experience in drafting education policy proposals, conceptual frameworks, analytical documents, or regulatory/legal acts.
- Experience participating in inter-agency working groups or coordinating stakeholders in education initiatives.
- Experience in analyzing and processing qualitative and quantitative data in the field of education, preparing analytical conclusions, generalizations and texts for political or managerial decisions;
- Fluency in Ukrainian (written and spoken).

Desired Skills and Qualifications:

- Experience in drafting or evaluating regulatory and conceptual policy documents.
- Experience with textbook piloting, authoring or peer-review coordination.
- Experience working on digital educational products (EdTech);
- Experience communicating with national and international stakeholders.
- English language proficiency at B1 level or higher

VII. PERIOD AND LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT

The Consultant shall provide his/her services until June 1, 2026. The contract may be extended subject to satisfactory performance and mutual agreement between the Consultant and the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) during the Project financing period.

The Consultant shall provide his/her services on a full-time basis.

The incumbent will be based in Kyiv, Ukraine. The Consultant should be required and expected to take business trips to other regions of Ukraine to support implementation of the Project.

VIII. APPLICATION PACKAGE

Interested persons should submit their CVs in Ukrainian and English at the following email address: kateryna.kovtun@mon.gov.ua, Cc: serhiy.artemenko@uiherp.org and maryna.chubenko.piu@gmail.com indicating the email subject: "LEARN: Selection of UIED Expert in Textbook Development: [NAME]".

The deadline for submission of the documents is 11:00 am Kyiv time 06.06.2025.

If the Consultant fails to provide CVs in both languages, the Client reserves the right to reject the Consultant's application.