



JOINING FORCES
For All Children

JOINING FORCES CHILDREN’S PARTICIPATION CONSULTANT TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToRs)

OVERVIEW

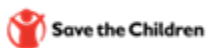
Title	Children’s Participation Consultant with Joining Forces (JF)
Consultant Reporting to	JF Lead
Location of Assignment	Home-based
Language(s) required	English is required. French and Spanish are an asset
Travel	None
Duration of Contract	Start date: 1.11.2022 - 31.10.2023
Workdays	About 2.5 - 3 days per week (exact working arrangement to be discussed)

ABOUT JOINING FORCES

In 2017, the six largest child-focused agencies – ChildFund Alliance; Plan International; Save the Children International; SOS Children’s Villages International; Terre des Hommes International Federation; and World Vision International – joined forces to use the collective power of our six agencies to accelerate change to secure children their rights and end violence against them, by piloting and scaling innovative and effective approaches worldwide that are driven by the voices and needs of children.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

We are looking for a Children’s Participation Consultant whose subject matter expertise matches their passion for children’s rights to be heard. As Joining Forces, our approach is to put children at the centre of what we do; we are committed to supporting children to raise their voices, to take action as agents of change and to hold us to account, ensuring children’s experiences and views shape the solutions for the problems they face. We have adopted a rights-based approach by placing the principles of participation and inclusion, non-discrimination and equality at the centre of our work to ensure that all children’s needs are addressed, and that no child is left behind.





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Joining Forces is active in child participation both at the global level - a Child Participation Working Group of experts representing all member agencies holding regular meetings, developing tools and guidelines and a conceptual framework and policy brief, etc. - and at the national level by directly engaging children in programme and advocacy activities- in the 23 countries where its members operate.

PURPOSE

Joining Forces is seeking a consultant who can support the implementation of its *Strategic Direction 1 – Child Participation and Rights Promotion* and contextualization of participation of children and young people across the 23 implementing countries.

The consultant will work under the supervision of the Joining Forces Lead and, as part of a cross-organisational team, co-lead the JF Child Participation Working Group. The implementation of this consultancy will start in November 2022, and the first stage will last until October 2023.

This position collaborates closely with all teams and levels to ensure children’s right to be heard is effectively mainstreamed and cross-cutting in what we do at Joining Forces. This will involve working across a diverse range of internal stakeholders, including national JF coalitions, children and young people themselves, as well as external stakeholders including the United Nations, global partnerships and other agencies.

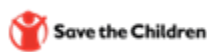
Specifically, the *Strategic Direction 1 - Child Participation and Rights Promotion* aims to *deepen our children and youth joint mobilisation/participation to elevate their voices for advocacy and duty bearers’ accountability purposes and the co-creation of ending violence solutions.*

Objective: Children and youth are participating proactively and are at the forefront of all Joining Forces initiatives to address the child rights issues affecting them.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Coordination

- Provide coordination and strategic direction for the Joining Forces’ child participation portfolio.
- Manage the day-to-day operations for the implementation of *Strategic Direction (SD) 1 – Child Participation and Rights Promotion*.
 - Deliverable: Develop an operational workplan for SD1 with specific milestones for 2023 and 2024.
- Coordinate and facilitate the global Child Participation Working Group.
 - Deliverable: Coordination of monthly Child Participation Meetings of the Child Participation Working Group and create linkages/ act as liaison with/ for the Technical Support Pool and other JF platforms where necessary (in relation to Child Participation).





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- Pursue linkages with the Research Agenda (and the aspirations around reinforcing child participatory methodologies) and the relevant indicators in the JF results framework.
 - Deliverable: Compiling a research list with regards to child participatory research and disseminate it.
- Support the development of child-friendly resources and facilitate logistics support to coordinate communications with children and young people.
 - Deliverable: Develop child-friendly materials/ tools for dissemination.
- Follow- up on the 20.11. event and participatory activities.

Capacity Building

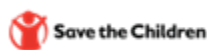
- Provide guidance and technical support for child participation technical staff across countries, in line with the JF Child Participation Position Paper and other JF Governance documents.
- Support might include capacity building of JF staff in child participation methodologies, staff orientation towards capacity-building such as free online e-learning, coaching etc..
 - Deliverable: Develop, pilot & continuously adapt (based on feedback) a Training Package/ e-learning on Child Participation (for new staff and particularly implementing staff i.e. under JOFA, GFFO, INTPA).
- Organise peer exchange sessions on child participation, good practices and methodologies across JF countries.
 - Deliverable: Organise regular peer exchanges/ Community of Practice.

Advocacy

- Support the implementation of the child participation component of the Call to Action.
 - Deliverable: Develop a standardised workplan for engaging children in holding duty bearers to account vis-à-vis their commitments (with the intent to guide on adaptation to local context).
- Guide the establishment of the Child Participation Working Groups in JF countries
 - Deliverable: Develop a standard ToR for Child Participation Working Groups at national level with the intent to guide on adaptation to local context.
- Support JF countries (where relevant establish) to engage with children and youth councils
 - Deliverable: Develop a methodology/ how-to-guide on how to set- up national children and youth councils.

In collaboration with the Child Participation Working Group, ensure the timely implementation of the SD1 targets as below:

- ❖ Child Participation Working Groups established and operative- in xx countries;
- ❖ Children and youth councils established and engaged with JF in xx countries;
- ❖ Concrete and agreed child participation actions in JF action plans in all countries.





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DUTY STATION

- Work from home.

OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the overall supervision of the JF Lead the consultant is expected to:

- Have frequent communications with the supervisor and team via e-mail, Zoom and MSTeams
- Work flexibly to match national office hours at some points
- Provide co-lead and facilitate the CP Working Group
- All document submissions will be made electronically.

KEY COMPETENCIES, TECHNICAL BACKGROUND, AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Education:

- BA or advanced degree in social sciences, children's rights, sociology, or related field.
- Training on the use of technologies.

Work Experience:

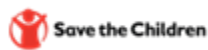
- Five years of practical experience in the area of children's rights and participation.
- Demonstrated cultural sensitivity and experience in working with children and young people.
- Demonstrated knowledge on the use of technologies with a particular focus on online activism and social media.
- Strong management skills, including establishing goals and outcomes, monitoring the implementation of the project and ensuring accurate and timely reports.

TIMEFRAME

- Applications to be received by: **15th September 2022**
- Shortlisting and interviews to be held week beginning: **26th September 2022**
- Start date: 1.11.2022 or earlier.
- End date: 31.10.2023 with possibility of extension.
- Send your CV and cover letter to info@joining.forces.org
- In the e-mail subject include: Application for JF Children's Participation Consultant

SAFEGUARDING

JF is committed to safeguarding all children and adults living where JF has presence. JF has zero tolerance for incidents of violence or abuse against children or adults, including sexual exploitation or abuse,





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committed either by employees or others affiliated with our work. Therefore, JF does not hire staff or contractors whose background is not suitable for working with children or vulnerable adults, even if their role does not interact directly with them. JF performs rigorous background checks which reflects our commitment to the protection of children and adults from any form of abuse, exploitation, harassment and harm. Each potential team member needs to understand the importance of these issues and is open to further training and guidance on our safeguarding policies and responsibilities.