Cost-Benefit Analysis on Social and Financial Education
Terms of Reference

Title: Education Costing and Finance Consultant
Organisation: Aflatoun International, Amsterdam
Consultancy Period: August 2023 – December 2023

Background

Aflatoun International is an NGO based in the Netherlands offering social and financial education to children and young people worldwide. Aflatoun’s overall goal is to socially and economically empower children and young people to act as agents of change in their lives for a more equitable world and to provide children and young people with the skills, knowledge, and tools necessary to participate and thrive in their communities.

Aflatoun delivers its programmes through a social franchise model, transferring ownership of programmes to local partners. The dynamic, bottom-up network of interlinked partner organisations is based on reciprocal empowerment. It is a flexible, low-cost, high-impact model with strong south-south cooperation. Headed by a Secretariat of more than 40 staff members in Amsterdam, Aflatoun International and its network have become a global movement with its programmes spread worldwide, reaching millions of children.

Description of the Assignment

There is limited evidence on investments in promoting social and financial education (SFE) in formal and non-formal settings and the cost-benefit of SFE programmes related to their impact on academic outcomes of students, their growth and well-being, and on monetary return in the long term, including in emergency settings. Aflatoun International aims to bridge this information gap as a global thought leader in social, financial, and life skills education.

The proposed study will generate data and evidence to show the cost-benefit of integrating SFE in formal and non-formal settings and how it can generate a return to students and society, including mitigating the negative impact of humanitarian crises. The evidence generated will provide governments, donors, and stakeholders with valuable information to make sound decisions, estimate the resources required, and invest in SFE interventions. At the global level, this initiative would contribute to the rollout of global advocacy around SFE, raising awareness of its need and identifying potential mechanisms to increase investments in this area, potentially leading to the inclusion of social and financial education in the post-SDGs agenda.

The selected consultant/institution will conduct a scoping exercise of existing policies, laws, strategies, and practices around SFE in the sampled countries, including two countries affected by humanitarian situations. Additionally, the selected consultant/institution will conduct a global cost-benefit analysis on SFE followed by a country-specific cost-benefit analysis on delivering the SFE curriculum and services in schools and non-formal learning environments. The study results will be disseminated and launched globally and nationally in close collaboration with governments and partners.
Objectives of the Assignment

The main objective of this study is to build cost-benefit evidence to inform policies, national integration, budget allocation, and service delivery focusing on social and financial education. The study will also deep dive into eight countries (one country per six regions and two humanitarian cases) to conduct a more focused cost-benefit analysis to understand the regional variations and view the impact in humanitarian contexts.

Proposed Methodology

The cost-benefit analysis typically examines the monetary gain linked to education results/outcomes from different types of interventions. The selected consultant/institution will calculate future monetary returns for both the individual and society at the global level and for the eight deep-dive countries. Data collection and analysis methods include a desk review of secondary data, policy document review, and quantitative and qualitative data analysis based on the available statistics and reports. Periodic technical consultations will also be arranged with the Aflatoun team to triangulate data and information.

Deliverables

The main deliverables, level of effort, and timelines for the consultant/institution include the following:

- Draft inception report, including the methodology and tools.
- Development of a draft report for global and deep-dive countries (including data collection and analysis).
- Validation workshop report.
- Final report.
- Development of a PowerPoint presentation and a policy brief based on the study's findings.
- Presentation of the findings to the Aflatoun team, governments, and relevant partners and discuss recommendations based on the study findings.

Requirements

- Graduate/Postgraduate in a relevant field (development studies, education, finance, etc.)
- 8+ years of relevant experience in education costing and financing.
- Expert knowledge and understanding of conducting cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analysis.
- Contextual understanding of and experience working in developing countries context preferred.
- Strong oral and written communication skills in English.
- Having undertaken similar studies in the past.

Submission and Questions

If you are interested, please send your CV/proposals by 15 August 2023 to the following link: https://aflatoun.bamboohr.com/careers/198.
If you have any questions, please send them by email to the Director of Education abdullah@aflatoun.org.