TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)
FOR
TECHNICAL AND MONITORING EVALUATION ADVISOR

1. About GDN

The Global Development Network (GDN) is a public international organization that supports high quality, policy-oriented, social science research in developing and transition countries to promote better lives. It supports researchers with financial resources, global networking, as well as access to information, training, peer review and mentoring. GDN acts on the premise that better research leads to more informed policies and better, more inclusive development. Through its global platform, GDN connects social science researchers with policymakers and development stakeholders across the world. Founded in 1999, GDN is currently headquartered in New Delhi. For more information, visit: www.gdn.int

2. Background

The Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project is a competitive grant program under the umbrella of the Global Development Awards Competition, administered by GDN, funded under the Policy and Human Resources Development Fund (PHRD) trust fund managed by the World Bank, and generously supported by the Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan. The award program invites non-profit NGOs and CSOs to submit project proposals supporting (in particular) improved service delivery, and innovative approaches that may be scaled-up through a grant. The Award targets projects currently at the stage of implementation, and which have a high potential for impact targeting exceptionally marginalized and disadvantaged groups located in developing countries - per the World Bank's recognition as low and middle income countries.

The two first prize winners compete for the **Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) award** after a minimum of 12 months implementation of their MIDP grant for a much larger grant of **up to US$ 200,000** within the framework of the World Bank-administered Japan Social Development Fund.

The **JSDF award focuses on piloting socially innovative development projects that have been identified as having the potential for development impact and replicability through the MIDP Award**. The objective of JSDF Award is to support community-driven development and poverty reduction programs that serve to enhance productivity, increase access to social and community services and infrastructure, and improve the living conditions of poor and vulnerable groups in eligible countries.

3. Objective and scope of work

Under GDN's Global Development Awards Competition, your assignment is to serve as a Mentor/ Technical Advisor to the development project titled, "**Dream Accelerator**" being implemented by the NGO **Save the Children India** from **India**.

This NGO was initially awarded the 1st prize under the Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP) category of the [2021 edition of the Global Development Awards Competition (GDAC)](#).

After 12 months of implementation, through closed competition between MIDP 1st prize winners, the NGO was awarded the JSDF Award for a scale-up of their MIDP project with a **US$ 200,000 grant.**

In close consultation and coordination with the Awardee and GDN, the main task of this consultancy is to provide technical guidance for the effective implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the project. This shall include but not be limited to:

- Provide technical support to the project team in the implementation and suggest changes to optimize the project proposal, thereby supporting the grantee achieve the project's objectives while addressing potential issues regarding quality, sustainability, and potential scalability.
- Guide (externally) the team in defining indicators and identifying relevant data sources to track the development of the project, considering the team's own objectives. The Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) framework that results from this exercise must be directly useful to the team to talk about the project with key stakeholders.
- Accompanying the project team during its visits to the target sites and beneficiaries for monitoring purposes, if possible.
- Review progress reports produced by the project team and providing on them comments to help identify and address any gaps. Ensure that the reports include the information collected on the indicators included in the M&E framework.
- Monitoring, assessing, and analyzing project's progress and achievements against its stated indicators as well as objectives, and documenting them within the reporting to GDN. The objective of this reporting is to guide GDN in understanding the state of implementation, and identifying additional support needed (if any) in support of the project's objectives.

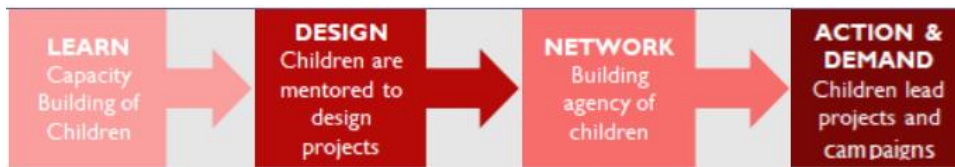## 4. About the Project

<u>What is the problem the project intends to address?</u>
Though progress has been made in India regarding child well-being, millions still don't have equal access to fulfil their potential. These inequalities include insufficient and inequitable public spending, ineffective service delivery in reaching last-mile children, and unheard voices of underprivileged children and youth among government institutions and civil society spaces.

What is the proposed solution?

Meaningful participation is a critical aspect of sustainable development and good governance. SDG target 16.7 ensures responsive, exclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making. The 'Dream Accelerator' empowers changemakers to magnify impact. It furthers community driven engagement and keeps children's voices in consideration during discourse on community development- social or infrastructural..

Brief description of the main activities

1. Participatory training that focuses on child rights, legislative and policy frameworks, governance mechanisms, gender equality
2. Building micro-projects with children and youth which involves implementing Structured Project Management.
3. Formation of Children's Councils, a network of children to influence decisions that impact their wellbeing with stakeholders using democratic means.

Main key expected results and outcomes

- Children and youth are empowered to influence duty bearers on issues concerning the needs of children, specially girls, in the target geographies and contribute towards furthering child rights
- Child and youth have improved capabilities on child rights issues
- Recognition on platforms for the child and youth led micro-projects.

Extended objectives of the project

OVERALL OUTCOME

Children and youth are empowered to influence duty bearers (local (panchayat and district), state and /or national governance) on issues concerning the needs of children, especially girls, in the target geographies and contribute towards furthering child rights (survival, learning and protection).

Specific Objective 1

Augmenting capacities *of Potential Child and Youth Champions on issues related to child and human rights*

- Training imparted on child rights, legislative and policy frameworks, governance mechanisms, gender equality.
- Training is participatory in nature and involves the use of various audio-visual aids and interactive role-plays. The participatory Child Champion training module is suitable for digital use.
- Training follows a robust twelve-step approach (modules); each module contributes towards learning to create and run independent projects and campaigns.

Specific Objective 2

To ensure implementation of Child/ Youth led planning and implementation of *Micro-projects on pertinent social issues that affect them*

- Child/Youth led Innovative Micro-Projects (related to participatory research, policy influencing, mobilizing public action, Child Rights Reporting, etc.) are implemented successfully on identified child rights issues (education, health & nutrition, child protection and climate crisis) by Child/youth and or groups.
- Child/Youths or groups are selected based on the leadership capacity, interest, and time to catalyse change within the local communities instead of promoting child rights.
- Their training involves a- Structured Project Management primarily planning, monitoring and evaluation, life skills, accountability mechanisms and processes, policy influencing campaigns and research.

Specific Objective 3

To strengthen children's agency through formation of local level Children's Councils

- Children promote and hold duty bearers and other stakeholders accountable to protect the rights of children.
- Children learn active citizenship and democratic values and negotiation skills.
- Getting feedback from children on policies and matters that affect them, learning what children want their world to be- help in devising child-friendly policies and programmes.

The project is planned to last for 24 months from January 2024 to December 2025.

5. Location and Experience

The Consultant should be based anywhere though preference will be given to applicants based in India. Any prior relevant work experience in the targeted area or in the intervention type of the project will be an added advantage.

6. Basis of appointment

The appointment will be on a part-time basis requiring around 30 days of involvement spreading over the whole duration of the project. The Consultant/Advisor shall be able to make herself/himself available either in-person or remotely for GDN and the Awardee. The Consultant/Advisor will keep GDN copied on all the email communications with the Awardee.

7. Budget:

The candidate is expected to provide a detailed budget in his/her application.

The maximum budget (including the cost of travel to the project location, lodging, and subsistence etc.) should not exceed **USD 15,000**. Applications from teams of more than one person are welcome.

8. Schedule of deliverables and payments

Indicative timeline	Tasks
Upon signing of Contract	-
1 month after signature	• Undertake initial review of the project related documents and hold discussion(s) with the team regarding their work plan and overall implementation. • Guide (externally) the team in defining indicators and creating an overall M&E framework • Note: The responsibility of developing the M&E framework is of the Awardee. The role of the Advisor is to provide input, guidance and final validation/approval while ensuring it is kept up to date
8 months after signature	• Continue providing technical support to the project team in implementation of project's activities, with a close eye to issues of quality, sustainability, and potential scalability. • Review the progress report (for the period) produced by the project team and provide comments to help identify and address any gaps.
16 months after signature	• Continue providing technical support to the project team in implementation of project's activities, with a close eye to issues of quality, sustainability, and potential scalability. • Review the progress report (for the period) produced by the project team and provide comments to help identify and address any gaps.
Upon closure of project	• Continue providing support to the project team in M&E based supervision of the project, with a close eye to issues of quality, sustainability, and potential scalability. • Review Final Report produced by the project team and provide comments to help identify and address any gaps.

A report shall be sent to GDN before the release of the following disbursement addressing:

- Summary of interactions with the Awardee including decisions or issues that might have arisen including but not limited to any methods/techniques that might have been suggested for improvement in project implementation
- Your assessment of the project's progress during the period
- Any problem areas or challenges that the project team faced or those that you might have identified, and the feasible solutions recommended to address them
- An update on the filled-in M&E framework, and any revision to the framework that might have been necessary
    - Note: The responsibility of developing and updating the M&E framework is of the Awardee. The role of the Advisor is to provide input, guidance and final validation/approval while ensuring it is kept up to date

9. Reporting
The consultant will report directly to **João Costa**, Senior Program Manager at GDN.

10. How to apply

The complete application must be submitted by email to João Costa, Senior Program Manager, at jcosta@gdn.int with a copy to awards@gdn.int on or before **January 7th 2024**. Please indicate **"JSDF - Technical-cum-Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor"** in the subject line of your email message with the following items:

- Up-to-date CV with full contact details
- Up to 2-page motivation letter detailing how your profile and experience match the requirements listed in the ToR
- Budget for the 2-year exercise and
- 2 references from relevant projects.

There will be a virtual interview with the shortlisted applicants only.

Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered.

11. Materials to be provided by GDN to the selected consultant

- Original MIDP application
- Reports from the implementation of the MIDP-funded project
- JSDF Application
- Auditors' assessment of the NGO