

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Nigeria MICS Data Analysis Consultancy – thematic Longitudinal Child Well-being and Urban Analysis

CONTRACT MODALITY	Individual Consultancy
DUTY STATION	Abuja, Nigeria (remote)
DURATION OF CONTRACT	9 months

Purpose of Assignment

To provide high-quality statistical, geospatial, and policy-oriented analyses of Nigeria MICS7 data—and when relevant, integrate MICS7 with other national datasets—to generate actionable insights and high-quality knowledge products across specified thematic areas.

Background and context

The Nigeria Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey – Round 7 (MICS7) provides one of the most comprehensive and nationally representative datasets on the situation of women and children in Nigeria. The survey captures critical indicators across sectors including health, education, water and sanitation, social protection, and child protection, offering valuable insights into progress toward national development priorities and global commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Despite the richness and breadth of the MICS7 dataset, its full potential has not been optimally leveraged to inform evidence-based policymaking and programming. To date, the use of the dataset has been largely limited to standard reporting outputs, with insufficient in-depth thematic analysis to generate actionable insights for sectoral policies and interventions. This gap has constrained the ability of government and stakeholders to fully utilize the data in addressing disparities and designing targeted responses.

There is therefore a critical need to conduct further, in-depth analyses of the MICS7 data to maximize its utility. Such analyses will focus on key thematic areas, including health, education, social protection, and child protection. By applying advanced statistical techniques, the analyses will examine regional disparities, identify trends over time, and explore relationships between socio-demographic characteristics and development outcomes. This deeper understanding will support more nuanced and context-specific policy and program decisions.

This effort forms part of the broader MICS “deep dive” analysis agenda, which seeks to optimize the use of survey data for advocacy, planning, and programming for children across sectors in Nigeria. The initiative will involve close collaboration between UNICEF, relevant government institutions, and other key stakeholders to ensure alignment with national priorities and to strengthen ownership of findings.

In addition to generating evidence, the process will contribute to building the capacity of both internal and external stakeholders to conduct advanced data analysis and interpretation. The outputs of this work will include a series of thematic analytical reports and concise policy briefs, highlighting key findings, gaps, and opportunities for targeted interventions. These policy briefs will serve as practical advocacy tools to inform decision-makers and drive investments toward improving outcomes for children and vulnerable populations in Nigeria.

Scope of Work

The consultant will work on two thematic analyses of MICS data: (1) Longitudinal and Trend Analysis on Child Well-being in Nigeria; and (2) Urban and Inequality Analysis. See below a summary of the tasks that this may include but is not limited to:

1. Longitudinal and Trend Analysis on Child Well-being

- Conduct a comprehensive longitudinal and trend analysis of MICS datasets from MICS3 to MICS7 with a focus on child survival (including 1,000 days indicators), and learning. Identify key trends, disparities, and drivers of outcomes.
- Develop a proposed methodology in consultation with UNICEF colleagues and NBS
 - Design relevant conceptual framework based on desk review and consultation
 - Detailed plan for analysis, including use and summarize existing analysis from inter-agency groups; and micro-data analysis.
- Consult and build capacity of partners in conducting the longitudinal analysis through virtual online workshops. Consultations will be, but are not limited to, the proposed methodology and scope, draft findings, and final validation.
- Contribute to the development of evidence-based policy recommendations emerging from the analyses
- Three reporting products expected: a summary PowerPoint presentation, technical report, and a summary brief.

2. Urban and Inequality Analysis

- Conduct a comprehensive child-focused urban and inequality analysis based on MICS data examining intra-urban inequalities in four selected urban areas.
- Develop a proposed methodology in consultation with UNICEF and relevant government stakeholders.
 - Design relevant conceptual framework based on desk review and consultation
- Consult and build capacity of partners in conducting urban analysis through virtual online workshops. Consultations will be, but are not limited to, the proposed methodology and scope, draft findings, and final validation.
- Produce a detailed analytical report of urban inequalities within selected urban areas, highlighting disparities across socio-economic and geographic groups within urban areas. Highlight critical gaps and opportunities for targeted interventions.
- Contribute to the development of evidence-based policy recommendations emerging from the analyses
- Three reporting products expected: a summary PowerPoint presentation, technical report, and a summary brief.

Methodology for the consultancy includes the following core responsibilities:

a. Data Management

- Review and compare MICS7 data with other national datasets (DHS, SDG databases, administrative datasets). i.e. Mortality data
- Create reproducible data set.

b. Advanced Statistical Analyses

Depending on thematic focus:

- Descriptive statistics, inequality and trend analysis (wealth, geography, sex, disability).
- Child survival and out of school and their determinant factors Analysis
- Quality assurance on analysis

c. Geospatial Analysis (Advisory role, result interpretation and Policy brief)

- Use MICS GIS datasets for hotspot mapping and inequity visualization and overlapping covariates
- Produce sub-national comparison maps in collaboration with UNICEF MICS Geospatial expert.
- Analysis of urban inequities for 4 selected urban areas in Nigeria.

d. Capacity Building

- Facilitate online training sessions and work with UNICEF staff and national MICS consultant to provide remote support for in-person capacity development sessions with stakeholders.

e. Report writing

- Produce high quality written output (in English), including clear and analytical interpretation of the data, and relevant conclusions and implications for policy making.
- Produce clear charts, that can be easily interpreted by a wide audience

Work Assignments Overview	Deliverables/Outputs	Delivery deadline to complete the deliverable
Inception Report	Inception Report, including defining scope of the analysis, methodology, conceptual framework and workplan.	30 September 2026
Longitudinal Child Well-being Analysis	Draft technical report based on a comprehensive longitudinal and trend analysis of MICS datasets from MICS3 to MICS7 with a focus on child survival (including 1,000 days indicators), and learning. Minimum of 3 consultations / capacity development virtual workshops with partners	18 Dec 2026
	Final technical report, PowerPoint presentation and summary report	15 Jan 2027
Urban inequality analysis	Draft technical report based on a comprehensive child-focused urban and inequality analysis of MICS data examining intra-urban inequalities in four selected urban areas. Minimum of 3 consultations / capacity development virtual workshops with partners	31 March 2027

	Final technical report, PowerPoint presentation and summary report	1 June 2027
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Payment Schedule:

Payment will be made on submission and acceptance of deliverables. UNICEF reserves the right to withhold payment in case the deliverables submitted are not up to the required standard or in case of delays in submitting the deliverables on the part of the consultant.

Important Notes

- Individuals engaged under a consultancy or individual contract will not be considered “staff members” under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and UNICEF’s policies and procedures and will not be entitled to benefits provided therein (such as leave entitlements and medical insurance coverage). Their conditions of service will be governed by their contract and the General Conditions of Contracts for the Services of Consultants and Individual Contractors. Consultants and individual contractors are responsible for determining their tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local or other applicable laws.
- The selected candidate is solely responsible for ensuring that the health insurance (and visa if applicable) required to perform the duties of the contract are valid for the entire period of the contract. Selected candidates are subject to confirmation of fully-vaccinated status against SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) with a World Health Organization (WHO)-endorsed vaccine, which must be met prior to taking up the assignment. It does not apply to consultants who will work remotely and are not expected to work on or visit UNICEF premises, programme delivery locations or directly interact with communities UNICEF works with, nor to travel to perform functions for UNICEF for the duration of their consultancy contracts.
- UNICEF offers reasonable accommodation for consultants with disabilities. This may include, for example, accessible software, travel assistance for missions or personal attendants. We encourage you to disclose your disability during your application in case you need reasonable accommodation during the selection process and afterwards in your assignment.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE / EXPERIENCE/ COMPETENCIES (CORE/TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL) / LANGUAGE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

Education:

- MA - Demography, Statistics, Public Health, Data Science or related field

Work Experience:

- Minimum 8 years (Master’s) or 5 years (PhD) of progressive experience in survey data analysis

Language Requirements:

- English

Knowledge/Expertise/Skills:

- Demonstrated expertise in analysis of large MICS and/or DHS datasets.
- Experience conducting national-level or sectoral analytical studies, including longitudinal analysis and

child-wellbeing and inequality analysis.

- Strong background in regression modelling, geospatial analysis, and SDG indicator computation.
- Strong experience in writing high quality analytical reports based on statistical analysis.
- Prior experience with UNICEF, UN agencies or similar organizations is an asset.

Desirables:

- Solid experience on MICS and MICS data analytics