

Call for Proposals

Title: Teacher Training and Faith-based Community Engagement to Deliver Quality Comprehensive Sexuality Education

The UNESCO Juba office is committed to supporting initiatives that advance Education for Health and Wellbeing (EHW) programmes in South Sudan. We seek a strategic education partner with programmes in Maridi, Western Equatoria, to support this effort. The prospective partner will facilitate the teacher force and faith-based organisations to increase comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) for adolescents and young people (AYP), including those most vulnerable, to improve levels of knowledge, attitudes and practice safe lifestyles.

1. Background and context

By 2014, the Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MOGEI) reviewed the Life Skills and Peacebuilding Education (LSPBE) curriculum to be more effective at transforming behaviour, strengthening resilience, social cohesion, and human security in South Sudan. Teaching and learning materials developed by MOGEI were distributed to schools.

Since 2015, South Sudan education and health ministries committed to increasing access to CSE and providing youth-friendly SRH services. MOGEI integrated CSE into the curriculum, demonstrating commitment as outlined in policies. The major challenge has been the delivery in all the schools due to a large number of teachers yet to be trained. Supporting education structures and innovative programmes to reach communities, especially parents and schools, is needed to reach all young people. To better increase the scope, training of teachers and teacher educators will ensure that they also engage with the communities to reduce the limitations related to access to information and services. Ever since, UNESCO collaborates with education partners to train teachers and teacher educators in various states and schools.

In 2024, UNESCO facilitated MOGEI and partners to capacitate over 450 teachers in Maridi on delivering age-appropriate and culturally relevant CSE. To bolster the benefits of the education sector, the community, including parents/guardians and faith-based leaders, require information and skills to reach young reach. Parents or caregivers are primary educators, and faith-based organisations are vital and respected stakeholders who have greater access to the community. Since faith-based organisations also manage education and health programs in the country, religious leaders will be encouraged to advocate for improved mental health and sexual and reproductive health programming.

2. Project Objectives

The activities, which are based on the UNESCO Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future (O3) regional programme, intend to achieve objectives which focus on:

1. Scale up and strengthen the delivery of accurate, rights-based, and good quality teaching and learning on EHW
2. Promote the creation of safer, healthier, and inclusive schools and community environments

Through the teachers, parents, religious leaders and young people, the expected joint results such as;

- ✓ Capacitating teacher educators, pre-service and in-service teachers to deliver comprehensive sexuality education that responds to the specific needs of adolescents and young people;
- ✓ Adolescents and young people benefit from quality comprehensive sexuality education programmes that integrate content on mental health, pregnancy, HIV, and gender-based violence and child marriage;
- ✓ Parents, guardians, traditional and religious leaders have a better understanding and provide support for CSE among adolescents and young people;
- ✓ Creation of safe and inclusive school environments that are free from bullying, discrimination and gender-based violence.

2. Expected Project Activities

Through engagement with strategic partners, the project activities are as follows;

- i. Facilitate online and in-person CSE training for 30 teacher educators, 200 pre-service teachers, and secondary in-service teachers.
- ii. Mobilise, orient and train 30 religious leaders, including Islamic and Christian-based organisations, to train and implement CSE programmes for 3000 parents and guardians using a standardised module on family health and CSE.
- iii. Roll out inclusive community, 7 PTAs, school governing bodies and school programmes that increase dialogue on SRHR, GBV and HIV in Maridi.

Five months from April to September 2025 is sufficient for this activity.

3. Strategy

The partner shall convene meetings with the state and county departments to mobilise their support for the activities. The partner will facilitate MOGEI representatives and facilitators to implement the training of the tutors and teachers and community engagement. Every teacher in the participating seven secondary schools shall receive quality comprehensive training. The partner will outsource services for successful training, including conferencing services as required.

4. Criteria of the contractor

The following are the required qualifications of the prospective organisation:

1. Must be legally registered and authorised to operate in South Sudan;
2. Must have experience working with youth, persons with disabilities, community development and faith-based organisations.
3. Should have vast experience in delivering edutainment on HIV, SRHR, GBV, and community engagement with communities, particularly in the targeted area.
4. Established operations in Maridi with at least 3 years of experience delivering similar projects.

Apply by 20th March 2025

Email proposals.juba-ED@unesco.org, copy c.lado@unesco.org, and attach a proposal with a budget and organisational profile.