Research consultant for scoping the childcare landscape in Tanzania

Impact at Scale Labs – Early Years in East Africa

About Global Schools Forum

Global Schools Forum (GSF) is a catalytic community of non-state organisations working to systemically improve education for underserved children in low- and middle-income countries. Our vision is that all children can realise their potential through safe access to quality education.

Since our establishment in 2017, we've grown our community to **120 organisations** spanning **60 countries**, collectively **running or supporting over 250,000 schools and centres** and providing education to well over **22.4 million children**. Our members are standalone schools; a diverse set of school networks working within or across countries; or organisations providing core support services to non-state schools.

Our work currently covers three core areas:
Growing a global, interconnected learning community. We are continuously expanding our community of mission-aligned, non-state organisations across Asia, Africa, and South America. We provide opportunities for our community of leaders to collaborate and learn from each other, as they confront shared operational and pedagogical challenges. Based on the needs and challenges of the community, we curate an annual programme of events and communities of practice.

Testing promising approaches and diffusing evidence. We fund and support education entrepreneurs to develop, test and scale promising education approaches. We generate and share evidence on 'what works' in education and what makes organisations more effective.

Partnering strategically to shape policy and scale solutions. We enable our community to engage in the strengthening of education systems by engaging in global policy processes, and with support in forging partnerships with other organisations, funders, and policymakers.

About the Impact at Scale Labs

GSF launched the Impact at Scale Labs programme in 2021, through which we have supported 7 organisations to date.

[The second cohort of our Impact at Scale Labs](#) was launched in late 2023 and focuses on supporting **childcare and early childhood education and development (ECED) providers in Kenya.** Our support includes funding up to GBP 75,000 each for selected organisations and tailor-made support to strengthen their MEL and evidence building processes and scale strategies and build connections with scaling partners including the government. In this cohort we are working with four organisations - EERUi, Jackfruit Finance, LRDP and Toto Care-

- **Education Empowerment for Rural and Urban Slums Initiative (EERUI)** empowers parents and teachers in low-income communities in Uasin Gishu County with the necessary tools and support to enhance the cognitive and socio-emotional development of children aged 0-6.
- **Jackfruit Finance** provides education funding in Kenya, distributing over $2.65 million in loans to schools, significantly improving infrastructure and educational outcomes.
- **Lake Region Development Program (LRDP)** enhances early childhood well-being in Kenya by improving nutrition, disease prevention, and caregiver education, children and caregivers through community health programs, educational support, and teacher training.
- **Totocare**, a program under the Nawirika Foundation, equips women in underserved communities with technical and business skills related to childcare and micro-enterprise development.

We are 8-months into programme delivery and have gathered some evidence around childcare models, MEL and outcome measurement, and scaling with partners including state and non-state actors in the childcare and ECED sector in Kenya.

We are now looking to extend our technical offer of support to 5-7 additional childcare organisations in Tanzania and further build on our evidence for the sector in East Africa. Participating organisations in Tanzania will achieve the following:
- An increased understanding of strengths and weaknesses of their organisation with respect to achieving impact at scale
- Increased understanding of the ecosystem and partners that can support scale
- A set of learning resources and mentors to accelerate their journey towards scale

Objectives of the work

We are looking to partner with a local consultant to scope the landscape of the childcare ecosystem in Tanzania as a first step to the launch of our programme in country. We expect that the landscape mapping will be conducted through in-depth consultations with key stakeholders in addition to reviewing existing literature, evidence studies, and policies for the childcare sector in Tanzania. The objectives of this scoping study include, but are not limited to:

1. Mapping the landscape of the childcare and ECED ecosystem in Tanzania and identifying key stakeholders such as policymakers, funders, childcare providers, networks, partners, and sector experts in country
2. Mapping the challenges and needs of the non-state sector in scaling childcare programmes
3. Identifying enabling policies and opportunities for partnership with the government to expand childcare provisioning in the country
4. Building a longlist of childcare organisations in Tanzania who will benefit from the technical support of the Impact at Scale Labs
5. Organising 1-2 workshops with childcare providers and other key stakeholders to triangulate findings and gather inputs around their challenges, needs, and the Labs' offer of support
6. In addition to the landscape mapping, providing recommendations on:
   a. Selection criteria and outreach to childcare organisations to participate in the Labs
   b. Refining the Labs' technical offer of support to address identified needs
   c. Other opportunities to support childcare and ECED in Tanzania

Deliverables

- Finalised research plan including objectives and methodology – 15th October 2024
- Draft landscape report including findings from consultations, workshops, and desk review- 20th November 2024
- Final landscape report including recommendations – 5th December 2024

Consultant or Team Specification

Knowledge and experience
- Strong understanding of early-childhood education and development
- Experience of working with education stakeholders and partners including government, networks, and non-state organisations
- Strong qualitative research and analytical skills
- Ability to organise data and analyse it to produce actionable insights and inform programme design

Personal characteristics
- Excellent organisational and communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to build and maintain strong relationships
- Ability to work with a diverse range of people across multiple time zones
- Commitment to global education and shared belief in GSF's vision

How to Apply

Interested individuals or teams should submit a response to this scope of work in one PDF attachment including:

- Your understanding of the objectives of the consultancy

Collaborate. Innovate. Educate.

- Proposed approach to meeting these deliverables and objectives
- Examples of relevant previous experience
- CVs of proposed team members
- Budget/day rate and number of days per deliverable

Application deadline: 30 September 2024; 23:59 EST

Please email your proposal to **labs@globalschoolsforum.org** with the subject line "Labs - Tanzania Consultant".

Application process:

Shortlisted consultants/organisations will be contacted by 4 October 2024. We may invite shortlisted consultants/organisations for a video call to answer specific questions if necessary. We plan to finalise selection and contract the successful consultant/organisation by 10 October 2024.