

Terms of Reference – Teachers Without Borders

DISTANCE POSITION / UKRAINE

Location	Distance support to Kyiv, Ukraine
Host Organization	Finn Church Aid (FCA) Ukraine Country Office (UKRCO)
Length of Posting	2–3 months
Time of Deployment	January–mid-April 2024
Number of Positions	1–3
Title of the Position	Education Adviser (TWB Distance Expert)

NOTE the realization of the positions is conditional to securing funding.

Background and Description of the Project/Projects

FCA mission in Ukraine started in 2022 after full scale invasion. From the beginning, the focus of the work has been on right to quality education within Education in Emergencies (EiE) context. In cooperation with local partners, rehabilitation of school facilities, distribution of relevant material support to facilitate remote learning, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services for learners and teachers have been initiated.

In 2023, FCA Ukraine has partnered with *the Global Teacher Prize Ukraine* (an annual national award for teachers – agents of educational change, held since 2017 in Ukraine). The award is designed to celebrate the teachers’ achievements not only in relation to their learners, but also in relation to the society, and to emphasize the importance of teachers and educators in the country. As a part of its education work, FCA aims at promoting the creative potential of the new generation of Ukrainian teachers and educators, strengthening their motivation, and raising the status of teaching profession not only in schools but also within the society – which is more critical than ever during the state of war.

In building the capacity and motivation of the teachers in Ukraine, UKRCO plans to offer a unique opportunity for them to participate in online in-service training workshops conducted by Finnish education colleagues via Teachers Without Borders (TWB) on topics selected by the local teachers. At the same time, the collaboration contributes to the ongoing *New Ukrainian School (NUS) reform* which was put in place in the secondary school level in early 2022. Since the war started in February 2022, the teachers of grades 5–9 could not receive

proper in-service training and instructions on the implementation of the reform. Focused support will be needed to fill the gaps and provide the Ukrainian teachers the needed additional professional development opportunities and capacity to implement the reform. The online workshops will be initially held with the teacher participants of the Global Teacher Prize but recorded and shared via FCA social media channels for broader educational audience.

On 7 October 2023, FCA Ukraine interviewed teacher-participants of the Global Teacher Prize Ukraine on the main areas where they identified the following support needs and topics of interest:

Top priority topics:

- Inclusive education in secondary education setting (supporting the needs of diverse learners in a mainstream classroom, learners with special needs);
- Psycho-social and emotional wellbeing in education (socioemotional learning, integration into the learning process, classroom and/or school community contexts);
- Creativity and art in education (utilizing art and creative teaching methods to increase learner motivation and wellbeing);
- Functional and interactive teaching methods, and development transversal competencies and skills.

Other topics of interest:

- “Education 4.0” (upcoming directions in digital education, including Artificial Intelligence, etc.);
- Social skills and emotional intelligence (development of “soft skills”: communication skills, self-reflection and understanding of emotions);
- Teaching and designing integrated interdisciplinary courses in secondary education.

TWB Distance Expert’s Main Tasks May Include

- Planning and conducting of a series of 1,5–2-hour online workshops on one or more of the top priority topics (primary focus) with related materials – the scale of the training content to be agreed separately in consultation with UKRCO;
- Providing follow up with the participants after the workshop (feedback to be collected additionally);
- Designing supportive materials with recommendations and best practices for the teachers as needed;
- **Note**, the scope of the collaboration may be updated and adapted during the implementation of the project but within the framework of the specified topics and as mutually agreed.

Position-Specific Qualifications and Competencies

- Master's Degree in Education *and/or* minimum of 2 years teaching experience from Finland (preferably in secondary school level), international teaching experience is an added advantage;
- Strong experience and interest in one or more of the training needs mentioned above;
- Demonstrated working experience in inclusive *and/or* special needs education in secondary school level is a notable asset;
- Experience and interest in teacher education (in-service training) *and/or* education material content development is a notable asset;
- Good command of online training, learning and communications tools;
- Innovativeness, self-initiative, and ability to work independently;
- Background in or familiarity with emergency/humanitarian context is an asset;
- **In addition, general qualifications, and competencies for all TWB volunteers defined in the TWB webpage.**

Supervision and Support

TWB receives support on task division, coordination of the contents, implementation of the activities as well as technical guidance and support from UKRCO Education Advisor, Program Manager and the project team in Kyiv, Ukraine. The Distance Expert(s) will work under the supervision of the Country Director.

The working language in FCA Ukraine is Ukrainian and English. The workshops will be held in English (with translation to Ukrainian). The related materials will be developed in English and translated into Ukrainian.