

UNHCR – ProFuturo External Evaluation (Rwanda 2026-27)

Requests for Information: Consolidated Responses

A. Evaluation scope, criteria and overall methodological expectations

A1. OECD/DAC criteria guiding the evaluation framework

As outlined in the Terms of Reference (ToRs), the **core focus of the evaluation is on programme results and impact**, particularly in relation to learning outcomes, school participation, and other observable effects associated with the UNHCR–ProFuturo intervention in refugee-hosting settings.

Other OECD/DAC criteria are expected to be addressed **implicitly and in a cross-cutting manner**, insofar as they are relevant for interpreting results and impact, including:

- **Relevance and coherence**, through analysis of alignment with national education priorities, refugee education policies, and humanitarian programming frameworks in Rwanda;
- **Efficiency**, through examination of implementation processes, use of resources, and enabling or constraining contextual factors;
- **Equity, inclusion and social cohesion**, which constitute central analytical lenses throughout the evaluation, in line with UNHCR's Age, Gender and Diversity Policy.

Sustainability is not defined as a standalone or priority evaluation criterion, but may be discussed contextually where supported by the evidence.

A2. Expected level of causal inference

The ToRs do not anticipate experimental counterfactuals or strict causal attribution. The expected standard is **contribution-focused causal inference**, under **quasi-experimental and mixed-methods approaches**, appropriate to:

- data availability and reliability;
- feasibility in refugee-hosting and comparison school contexts;
- ethical, security and operational constraints.

Consultants are expected to clearly articulate the **strengths, limitations, and inferential scope** of their proposed designs.

B. Learning assessments and instruments

B1. Core learning domains and additional disciplines

As already clarified to EdTech Hub and applicable to all bidders:

- The core learning assessments foreseen are **mathematics and digital skills**, using **existing national or regional standardized assessments currently applied in Rwanda**, where feasible.
- The reference to “other disciplines may be added” (e.g. sciences/STEM or languages) is **indicative, not mandatory**.

Bidders are requested to:

- cost, at a minimum, assessments in mathematics and digital skills;
- clearly describe and cost separately any optional extensions to additional disciplines, including methodological justification and feasibility assumptions.

No bespoke test development is expected unless clearly justified in the proposal.

B2. Availability and adaptation of assessment tools

Standardized learning assessment tools are not pre-provided. Consultants are expected to:

- identify suitable existing instruments used in Rwanda;
- adapt, contextualise, shorten or digitise them as required;
- pilot and validate tools in line with ethical and operational standards.

B3. Teacher digital competencies tool

Yes. **ProFuturo’s Self-Assessment Tool for Digital Competencies for Teachers** is available and will be used as a core instrument. Technical details are accessible through ProFuturo’s official platforms.

B4. Language of assessment and data collection

- Data collection is expected to be conducted primarily in **Kinyarwanda**.
- Reporting and deliverables will be produced in **English**.

C. Data availability, baselines, and historical information

C1. Previous baselines or quasi-experimental evaluations

No baseline or midline evaluation using a quasi-experimental design has previously been conducted for the UNHCR–ProFuturo intervention in Rwanda.

Quasi-experimental designs are being explored in other ProFuturo geographies (e.g. Latin America), but these remain at the **design stage** and do not constitute an existing baseline for this evaluation.

C2. Availability of administrative and academic data

The availability, completeness and disaggregation of administrative and academic data (e.g. exam results, enrolment, attendance, dropout, sex-disaggregated data) is **to be confirmed by relevant authorities (REB, NESAs)**, following the request for information submitted by UNHCR in June. As the request for information must include names and details of requesting parties who will use the data, it is set to be submitted in June, once the consultant has been selected for the project. The expected response time is one week.

A preliminary feasibility and data-quality assessment is explicitly foreseen, particularly for Project A, to determine:

- whether longitudinal or pre-programme data are usable;
- whether DiD or cross-sectional designs are feasible;
- limitations in continuity, coverage or disaggregation.

D. Sampling, comparison groups and sites

D1. Universe and sampling approach

The universe includes all **15 ProFuturo-supported schools** in refugee-hosting settings. Sampling will focus on:

- **Mahama Camp**, and
- **one or two additional camps.**

No minimum sample size is imposed ex-ante. Consultants are expected to:

- justify sample sizes analytically (power, feasibility, robustness);
- propose inclusion and exclusion criteria;
- submit recommendations for validation by UNHCR and the Review Board.

D2. Identification of comparison schools

Comparison schools have not been pre-identified. Selection is expected to be guided by **robust matching strategies**, taking into account multiple factors beyond programme exposure, including:

- similarity in key **socio-demographic, educational and contextual characteristics**;
- absence of exposure to ProFuturo or similar EdTech interventions;
- feasibility and ethical considerations.

Comparison schools may be:

- refugee-hosting non-implementation schools, and/or
- host-community schools serving refugee learners,

Particular emphasis is placed on the quality of **matching between treatment and comparison groups**, rather than reliance on any single criterion.

UNHCR Rwanda will provide a sample frame with data for each school and a suggested choice of schools (a total of 5 to 7 treatment schools, and 2 to 3 control schools).

D3. Gihembe camp site

The former Gihembe Camp is referenced as part of the historical intervention footprint. Its inclusion:

- as part of the evaluation sample, or
- as contextual reference only,

and the continuity of data post-closure are **to be confirmed by UNHCR Rwanda**.

Gihembe camp school (GS Kageyo) is not expected to be included in the sample, as its profile is atypical in the study universe.

D4. Access, security and operational constraints

Any access, security, or scheduling constraints within camps will be clarified by UNHCR Rwanda during inception and reflected in the final sampling and fieldwork plans.

Applications for access will be submitted once the consultant is on board – lead times expected to be manageable (within one or two weeks). There are no security concerns to report for camp access in any of the project locations.

E. Project A and Project B design and articulation

E1. Distinction and integration of Project A and Project B

Project A and Project B are conceived as **complementary but methodologically distinct** components of the evaluation:

- **Project A:** comparative analysis of existing secondary data (administrative, academic, monitoring), subject to feasibility;
- **Project B:** primary data collection using a pre-post design within the same academic year (2026–2027).

It is acceptable—and encouraged—that:

- both projects target overlapping schools or grades;
- **findings from Project A contribute to informing the sampling strategy and design of Project B.**

Projects must, however, be **costed separately**, with assumptions, dependencies and synergies clearly explained.

E2. Design choices under data constraints

Consultants are expected to define clear decision rules for choosing between:

- pre-post analysis,
- cross-sectional comparison, or
- combined designs,

based on data availability, quality, and feasibility.

E3. Attrition and follow-up

Acceptable levels of attrition and approaches to replacement sampling should be defined by the consultant, justified analytically, and aligned with ethical standards.

F. Governance, roles and approvals

F1. Review Board composition and role

The Review Board includes representatives from **UNHCR and ProFuturo**. It provides:

- strategic oversight;
- quality assurance;
- formal approval of key deliverables linked to payment milestones.

Its comments are binding for deliverable validation.

F2. Ethical approvals and research authorisations

Requirements regarding research visas and ethical approvals (e.g. NISR, RNEC) will be supported by UNHCR Rwanda.

UNHCR is expected to support or lead national authorization processes. The consulting firm will provide technical documentation and comply with requirements.

F3. Access to schools and systems

UNHCR and partners will facilitate access to:

- schools;
- relevant authorities;
- existing datasets and ProFuturo systems (PAS, M&ES),

subject to data-protection and availability constraints, which will be documented during inception.

G. Proposal requirements and administrative questions

G1. Proposal formats and templates

No additional templates are required beyond those specified in the ToRs. Proposals must comply strictly with page limits and submission instructions.

G2. Level of methodological detail

A **high level of methodological detail** is expected, particularly for quasi-experimental and mixed-methods components, including assumptions, limitations, and feasibility.

G3. CVs and supporting documentation

CV length and format requirements as specified in the ToRs are mandatory and must be followed.

CVs and any tabulated annexure (e.g., budget in Excel format) are not included in the 15-page maximum length for the analytical proposal.

G4. Evaluation criteria and role of methodology

The methodological and technical approach is **central to the evaluation and will be assessed**, even if not isolated as a standalone scoring line. Robustness, feasibility, and analytical clarity are critical.

G5. Request for submission deadline extension

A one week extension is granted to all applicants bringing the deadline to Sunday 24 May 2026 at 11.59pm, CET (Madrid/Copenhagen time).