Request for Proposals:
Consultancy Services for Impact Assessment of EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC

UWC Cyprus is looking for monitoring and evaluation experts to evaluate the impact of an EU-funded programme that offers scholarships to Cypriot youth to participate in UWC education and engagement programmes abroad and in Cyprus.

Background

EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC

The EU Scholarship Programme aims to contribute to building a bridge of mutual understanding between Cypriot communities. It offers Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot youth the opportunity to come together through education and build their skills as future change-makers for a more peaceful and sustainable world.

Since 2019, the European Union has been providing Cypriot students with scholarships to study at a UWC school in Europe (Italy, the Netherlands, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Germany). The programme has expanded to include scholarships to participate in UWC short courses, both online and residential, in Cyprus and abroad; and bi-communal youth engagement activities in Cyprus.

At present, the programme has provided 46 scholarships, welcomed 150 participants in bi-communal and international short courses, and reached over 1000+ youth, as well as an extended community of family members, educators, and other actors in the youth education field.

The programme is funded under the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community aiming at facilitating reunification of Cyprus by encouraging economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community, with particular emphasis on improving contacts between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities and with the EU.

UWC

United World Colleges (UWC) is a global movement that makes education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future. Comprising 18 residential schools across the world, UWC each year educates thousands of young people from very diverse communities around the world, with a deliberate focus on peace, sustainability and an entrepreneurial mindset.

At UWC, students study the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), a world-respected curriculum that UWC played a key role in developing. The curriculum encourages students to consider how they can actively support their community, and build initiatives that teach leadership, teamwork, creativity and self-confidence.

Outside formal education, UWC also offers shorter educational programmes on subjects such as leadership, equality and sustainability, giving more people access to UWC's unique approach to transformational learning.

The UWC alumni network is almost 60,000 strong, and our alumni can be found in every corner of the world. Each graduate follows a different path, based on their interests and talents. But each carries the UWC ethos with them, making large and small changes through courageous action, personal example and selfless leadership.

The EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC is administered and supervised by UWC International and implemented through UWC's local committee, UWC Cyprus. A core team of contracted staff is responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the programme activities. UWC Cyprus is governed by volunteers who are UWC alumni.

Programme Overview

	2 Year Scholarship Programme	**Short Courses**	**Youth Engagement Activities**
Year 1 (2020-2021)	6 scholars selected to attend UWC Mostar. *(out of 34 applicants)*		
Year 2 (2021-2022)	10 scholars selected to attend UWC Mostar (4), UWC Maastricht (2), UWC Robert Bosch College (2), UWC Adriatic (2). *(out of 70 applications)*	1st online short course with 45 participants, of which 25 Cypriot	
Year 3 (2022-2023)	12 scholars selected to attend UWC Mostar (4), UWC Maastricht (4), UWC Robert Bosch College (2), UWC Adriatic (2). *(out of 72 applications)*	2nd online short course with 34 participants, of which 25 Cypriot 1st residential short course with 35 participants, of which	4 youth engagement activities with 26, 18, 39 and 8 participants each (cumulative number of participants to date: 89).

		23 Cypriot 4 Cypriot scholars attended short courses abroad in Belgium (2), Germany (2)	
Year 4 (2023-2024)	18 scholars selected to attend UWC Mostar (4), UWC Maastricht (6), UWC Robert Bosch College (4), UWC Adriatic (4). *(out of 90 applications)*	2nd residential short course with 35 participants, of which 34 Cypriot 8 Cypriot scholars attended short courses abroad in Belgium (4), Germany (2), and Spain (2) 1st hybrid short course to take place with 30+ participants	8 youth engagement activities to take place until September 2024
Year 5 (2024-2025)		3rd residential short course to take place with 40 participants	

In addition to the target beneficiaries, i.e. Cypriot youth aged 14-18, the programme also supports bicommunal engagement of:

- Parents and other relatives
- Trainers, educators, and other youth workers

Objectives of the Impact Assessment

As the programme is entering its fifth year, UWC Cyprus is looking for an external expert to measure the cumulative impact of the different programme elements and assess its contribution to intercommunal dialogue and interaction in Cyprus, underpinning the rationale for the EU's support of this programme. The expert should have experience in designing and conducting rigorous impact assessments and be familiar with the area of youth education and peace education in Cyprus.

The objectives of the consultancy are:

- To generate an impact assessment model to evaluate the holistic and cumulative impact of UWC Cyprus' activities in building bridges between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities;

- To innovate existing monitoring and evaluation tools of UWC Cyprus and streamline them across different programme elements;
- To produce an impact report / booklet reporting findings of the impact study, including recommended actions to strengthen the impact of the programme .

In addition to providing data on the specific impact indicators outlined in the programme's grant agreements, the impact assessment should evaluate the impact of the programme on the following three levels:

Individual: Does the programming and practices of UWC's peace education model correlate with growth in positive outcomes for the Cypriot youth beneficiaries of EU-funded UWC programmes? Essentially, how has engaging with UWC education encouraged students and alumni to achieve broader social impact in line with the EU funding programme?

Interpersonal: Does UWC's peace education programming enhance cultural competence and result in appropriate interaction with "othered" groups, as evidenced by a measurable increase in tolerance (attitude), acceptance (behaviour), and understanding of differences (knowledge)?

Intercommunal: Do UWC's activities and presence on the island permeate the larger system in which it is embedded, such as with parents and extended families; civil society organisations; schools systems and educators; educational ministries and other officiants? Are these activities bringing the two communities together and contributing to the peacemaking process? How does the EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC complement and differentiate itself from other actors in the bi-communal space?

Timeline

The impact study will take place over a period of approximately three months in the first half of 2024. To benefit from the presence of scholars in Cyprus over their winter break, the study will ideally take place from January - March 2024 but can be adapted to a similar period in the first half of 2024. The exact timeline will be discussed and decided in agreement with the selected service provider.

January 2024	Desk review: EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot Community; EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC; UWC Cyprus monitoring and evaluation tools. Delivery of impact assessment model and plan with some knowledge transfer to UWC Cyprus team.
February 2024	Data collection and analysis: Scholarship programme, short courses and youth engagement activities.
March 2024	Data analysis: Scholarship programme, short courses and youth

	engagement activities. Report on findings and recommendations to UWC.
Spring 2024	Production of Impact Booklet based on findings.

Methodology

Using a collaborative and participatory approach with relevant project staff at UWC, the project will strengthen existing monitoring and evaluation capabilities at UWC Cyprus. The consultant is expected to recommend tools and strategies that UWC Cyprus can implement to strengthen its M&E in the future. Programme staff will support in sharing existing monitoring tools and data collected to date as well as required contact information in compliance with personal data protection policies.

Data Collection

Possible data and impact metrics include:

- Quantitative data on the reach and engagement of youth and parents
- Surveys for youth, parents, alumni and educators
- Interviews with programme staff, youth, parents, alumni and educators
- Focus group discussion with youth, parents
- Case studies, including student work, projects and initiatives of graduates, bicommunal friendships

Consultant Profile

The consultant should meet the following requirements:

Required:

- Demonstrated experience of at least 5 years in monitoring and evaluation, impact assessment, or related research experience;
- Experience of working with monitoring and evaluation in the field of education and/or peacebuilding;
- Excellent written and spoken English skills, proficiency in Greek and/or Turkish preferable.

Proposal Requirements

Interested applicants should submit a proposal in PDF format to programmes@cy.uwc.org with the subject “Proposal: EU Scholarship Programme Impact Assessment”.

The deadline to submit proposals is 11 December 2023.

The proposal should include:

1. Cover letter including the consultant's suitability for the study and examples of experience relevant to this assignment;
2. Curriculum Vitae of the consultant;
3. Contact details of three references;
4. A brief note on the suggested methodology. A mixed-methods approach is encouraged;
5. Timeline of the consultancy;
6. Budget, including consultancy fees and costs associated with the study;
7. Format of the final impact report;
8. A writing sample, for example a report the consultant has led on.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview with UWC.

Please direct any questions to Lara Savenije, Programme Coordinator, EU Scholarship Programme for Cypriot Youth at UWC, UWC International at lara.savenije@uwcio.uwc.org.

To learn more about what we do, visit the website of UWC Cyprus at www.cy.uwc.org and UWC International at www.uwc.org.