

Dear Beyond Borders Team,

I am thrilled to submit my letter of interest to work as a consultant with Beyond Borders. As a seasoned international researcher and management consultant, I bring over 15 years of experience in mixed-methods research, academic publishing, and program management supporting education in emergencies across the USA, Liberia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Thailand. I hold a Ph.D. in Social Science and Comparative Education from UCLA, and my career has been driven by a commitment to improving education systems for people affected by conflict and disaster, guided by principles of compassion and human dignity. The work of Beyond Borders is exemplary and I am eager to contribute my expertise to your team.

I have held several positions throughout my career that demonstrate my ability to work as an education in emergencies consultant. In my current role as a research consultant with the Inclusive Education Foundation, I manage a 7-person team in Thailand conducting mixed-methods research on an education support program for refugee students. My success in this role stems not just from the technical skills I employ, such as using data to write advocacy briefs and academic articles, but also from building the capacity of and fostering relationships with the research team and school staff.

Previously, as a practitioner-scholar at UCLA and consultant for Hope International, I managed a 15 person Myanmar-based team designing K-12 curriculum and instruction for over 20 ethnic-minority run schools. This involved traveling to rural communities across SE Asia to research social protection and education for IDPs amid ongoing conflict, leading to actionable insights that informed the design and improvement of programs in these diverse contexts. I am trained in qualitative and mixed-methods research methodologies and have published in both popular and academic outlets, demonstrating an ability to convey rigorous evidence-based findings and complex ideas in varied formats for different audiences.

With my extensive research experience, proven publishing record, and international management experience, I believe that I can be a valuable asset to your team. Moreover, my professional and personal journey working with refugees and migrants globally has instilled a deep commitment to service and passion for the work supporting education in emergencies.

Please find my CV attached which further details my experience with curriculum design, project management, qualitative research, M&E, and e-learning in emergency contexts. I am currently open to part or full-time work and thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome the opportunity to discuss how I might add value to your community.

With gratitude,
Andrew Swindell, Ph.D.