**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**(SELECTION OF INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS)**

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| Country: | Republic of Tajikistan |
| Project Name: | Joint IsDB/ISFD-GPE-OFID Project for Support to Implementation of the National Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan (Phase-II) |
| Sector: | Education |
| INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SERVICES: | CBE Expert / Education Consultant |
| Mode of Financing: | IsDB Loan and Instalment Sale |
| Financing No: | TJK1043 |

The Republic of Tajikistan has received financing from the Islamic Development Bank toward the cost of the Joint IsDB/ISFD-GPE-OFID Project for Support to Implementation of the National Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan (Phase-II), and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under the contract of consultant services of an Individual Consultant for which this Expression of Interest is issued.

The Project objectives is to improve the learning environment and facilitate system strengthening for sustainable implementation of an inclusive, competency-based education system to improve student learning outcomes in Tajikistan. The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan is the Executing Agency of the project. The project implementation period is 5 (five) years.

The services include, but limited to the following: carry out the overall coordination and monitoring of the interventions related to CBE based Curriculum Reform (Sub-Component 2.1), provide technical support in establishment and management of the WGs responsible for curriculum revision and TLM development, facilitate meetings of the MoES Steering Committee and Local Education Group, support the MoES, Academy of Education and UNICEF in achieving all project indicators through advocacy at various levels of the government etc. The estimated level of efforts is 48 (forty-eight) months. The expected start date of assignment is March 2025.

The detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) for the assignment is attached to this document.

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan now invites eligible consultant (“Individual Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants must provide specific information which demonstrates that they are fully qualified to perform the services.

The shortlist will be drawn up following the evaluation of CVs and useful information in response to this notice of expression of interest including references. Potential candidates will be required to provide information on their general qualifications as an individual consultant,their mission-relevant experience, their experience in the sector as well as their language ability.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the selection method applicable to Individual Consultants as defined in the IsDB *Guidelines for the Procurement of Consultant Services under IsDB Project Financing* (April 2019 edition, revised February 2023)

**Minimum Qualification Requirements**

* Advanced university degree in the fields of education, with focus on curriculum design, learning assessment and development of teaching and learning materials, and any related field. PhD level in education is in an asset
* At least 8 years’ experience in a relevant field, with focus on curriculum development and education support. Experience in development of curriculum standards, including related to capacity development.
* Experience in project management at any level is an asset;
* Strong analytical and conceptual thinking. Excellent writing, communication and presentation skills with stakeholders. Ability to work under pressure and commitment to work to tight timeframe. Good writing skills.
* Fluency in Tajik is required, knowledge of English and Russian is an asset.

The attention of interested Individual Consultants are invited to read Clauses 1. 23 and 1.24 of the IsDB *Guidelines for the Procurement of Consultant Services under IsDB Project Financing, April 2019 edition, revised February 2023* (the "Procurement Guidelines") setting forth the IsDB's policy on conflicts of interest.

Interested individual consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours*, i.e. 08:00 to 17:00* (local time).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in written form accompanied by the CV and any other document (in person or by e-mail) to the address below no later than 22 February 2025.

Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan

Attention: Project Implementation Group for Joint IsDB/ISFD-GPE-OFID Project for Support to Implementation of the National Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan (Phase-II)

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**Terms of Reference and Scope of Services**

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| **Title of position:** | CBE Expert / Education Consultant |
| **Project Title:** | The Joint IsDB/ISFD-GPE-OFID Project for Support to Implementation of the National Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan (Phase -2) |
| **Project No:** | TJK1043 |

1. **Background**

The Republic of Tajikistan has received financing from the Islamic Development Bank toward the cost of the Joint IsDB/ISFD-GPE-OFID Project for Support to Implementation of the National Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan (Phase-II). The total cost of the project is US$86 million. IsDB financing amounts to US$ 45 million. The project is co-financed by Global Partnership for Education, OPEC Fund for International Development and Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. The Project objectives is to improve the learning environment and facilitate system strengthening for sustainable implementation of an inclusive, competency-based education system to improve student learning outcomes in Tajikistan.

A dedicated full-time Project Implementation Group is established within the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan (MoES / Executing Agency) to ensure efficient management and implementation of the Project. The Executing Agency is recruiting a Competency-based Education (CBE) Expert / Education Consultant who will function under the supervision of PIG Manager.

**II. Key Tasks and Responsibilities:**

The details of the specific assignments/tasks of the CBE Expert / Education Consultant will be as follows:

* Carry out the overall coordination and monitoring of the interventions related to Project’s CBE based Curriculum Reform (Sub-Component 2.1);
* Liaise with the MoES, Academy of Education and UNICEF on implementation of Sub-component 2.1;
* Provide technical support in establishment and management of the WGs responsible for curriculum revision and TLM development;
* Compile reports (narrative and financial) on implementation of Sub-Component 2.1. and Component 2 (Improving the Quality and Efficiency of Education Services) in general, including due reporting on identified delays, implementation risks and solutions to move forward;
* Ensure close collaboration between various stakeholders engaged in the implementation of Sub-Component 2.1, including through organizing regular joint meetings and facilitating discussions;
* Facilitate meetings of the MoES Steering Committee and Local Education Group on Component 2;
* Work closely with Teacher Professional Development Consultant and other key stakeholders to ensure aligned approach to implementation of Component 2;
* Provide technical support to all relevant stakeholders in understanding the requirements of the PAD, M&E Framework and other project relevant documentation to all key stakeholders;
* Support the MoES, Academy of Education and UNICEF in achieving all project indicators through advocacy at various levels of the government, including obtaining approvals for relevant policy documents developed within the project.

**III. Essential Skills, Experience and Qualifications**

* Advanced university degree in the fields of education, with focus on curriculum design, learning assessment and development of teaching and learning materials, and any related field. PhD level in education is in an asset
* At least 8 years’ experience in a relevant field, with focus on curriculum development and education support. Experience in development of curriculum standards, including related to capacity development.
* Experience in project management at any level is an asset;
* Strong analytical and conceptual thinking. Excellent writing, communication and presentation skills with stakeholders. Ability to work under pressure and commitment to work to tight timeframe. Good writing skills.
* Fluency in Tajik is required, knowledge of English and Russian is an asset.

**IV. Competencies**

* Communication skills: the ability to communicate appropriate, concise and accurate information in written and verbal formats;
* Accuracy and attention to details: the ability to ensure and maintain a high degree of accuracy and quality in work, including work under pressure and multiple assignments;
* Problem solving: ability to make reasonable judgment and take initiative in all operational processes and propose practical and realistic solutions to address them;
* Planning and organizing: ability to operate independently with minimum control, prioritize and schedule workload. Effectively manage high volume of multiple tasks;
* Team work: building effective communication and relationships both within and outside the team. Sharing knowledge, information and best practices with others;
* Results orientated: ability to ensure the goals and operational targets are achieved and exceeded.

**V. Contractual conditions**

* The duration of the contract will be 12 (twelve) months with 3 (three) months’ probation period starting from the contract signing date and renewable annually based on annual performance evaluation and project needs.
* Remuneration will be paid monthly in accordance with the salary scale agreed between the IsDB, Executing Agency, and Ministry of Finance (in line with Decree of GOT #582 dated November 29, 2022
* The position may require travel to project sites within Tajikistan. Travel expenses such as daily allowance, accommodation, etc. will be reimbursed in accordance with the relevant procedures.
* The CBE Expert / Education Consultant will be accountable to PIG Manager on day-to-day project activities.
* The place of work - Dushanbe city.

**VI. Required documents:**

* CV and cover letter in Tajik/Russian and English
* University diplomas and other relevant certifications along with translation into English
* Two reference letters from the most recent employers.