CALL FOR CONSULTANCY

Terms of Reference

Functional Title : National Consultant in Sri Lanka

Level / Fee : USD 7,000

Organizational Unit : Section for Educational Innovation and Skills Development, UNESCO Bangkok

Contractual Status : Contract for Individual Consultant

Duration : 9 months (March – November 2018)

Closing date : 2 February 2018

Background


EISD manages numerous projects including (i) the China/Hainan Airlines Group (HNA)/Hainan Cihang Foundation Funds-in-Trust (CFIT) project on Enhancing Girls’ and Women’s Right to Quality Education through Gender Sensitive Policy Making, Teacher Development and Pedagogy in South, Southeast, and Central Asia and (ii) the Shenzhen Funds-In-Trust (SFIT) project on Seizing Digital Opportunities in Higher Education: Building staff capacity for ICT-driven innovation in Cambodia and Sri Lanka.

(i) Enhancing Girls’ and Women’s Right to Quality Education through Gender Sensitive Policy Making, Teacher Development and Pedagogy in South, Southeast, and Central Asia

The 2013/14 Education for All Global Monitoring Report highlighted that there were 57 million out-of-school children, the majority being girls. The situation is even worse in rural areas where poverty and gender stereotyping have a great impact on girls’ education opportunities. Gender equality is not only about girls’ access to education, but also about enabling them to be free from gender stereotyping and other forms of gender-based discriminations and violence. Global efforts towards gender equality have largely looked at girls’ enrolments, without much attention to the wider issues of quality, outcomes and structures of power and authority. Achieving gender equality in education calls for sector-wide efforts involving all institutional and policy frameworks, including policymaking and planning, budgeting, curriculum, textbooks and learning materials development, teacher preparation, and participation in leadership role. A coherent approach to gender mainstreaming is needed where all components and processes of the education sector mutually support gender equality goals. Gender equality should be a ‘lived’ reality in classrooms and hence teacher education and training can play a critical role in eliminating
all forms of gender-related discriminations in the classroom by preparing gender-sensitive and gender-responsive teachers and school leaders. This project is designed to strengthen education sector’s responsiveness to gender equality focusing on teacher development in five countries including Sri Lanka.

(ii) Seizing Digital Opportunities in Higher Education: Building staff capacity for ICT-driven innovation in Cambodia and Sri Lanka

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are now widely applied in many sectors of the economy, including higher education. The utility of ICTs presents an opportunity for increased access to quality teaching and learning opportunities and to improved governance of higher education institutions overall. To build capacity for quality higher education, new models are needed to fully realize the potential of ICT, expand access to lifelong learning, and achieve quality higher education for all. These issues are especially urgent in least developed countries and emerging economies throughout Asia and the Pacific. UNESCO Bangkok will engage the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, in an institutional assessment and capacity building process to develop, implement and scale ICT-driven innovation in higher education. The overall purpose of the project is to increase access to quality higher education in Sri Lanka by leveraging ICTs and strategic partnerships that enhance teaching and learning and promote effective institutional governance. As a result of this project, the University of Colombo will have identified and implemented good practices and lessons learned on technology-supported innovation in higher education, including quality teaching and learning and effective institutional governance. Consequently, the University of Colombo can become more effective and an innovative leader in the development of ICT models for higher education in emerging economies in the wider Asia-Pacific region.

Work assignments

Under the overall authority of the Director (a.i.) of UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education and the direct supervision of the Chief of EISD, the National Consultant in Sri Lanka shall be responsible for the following functions:

1. For the project on Enhancing Girls’ and Women’s Right to Quality Education through Gender Sensitive Policy Making, Teacher Development and Pedagogy in South, Southeast, and Central Asia

1.1 Provide technical and logistical support for three components:

   a. Situation and Training Needs Analysis for Gender Mainstreaming across the Education Sector in Sri Lanka
      - Follow up on the collection of data using the tools prepared by UNESCO Bangkok.
      - Follow up on the preparation of the country report to ensure that the deliverables are submitted on time.
      - Coordinate the dissemination of the research findings to key stakeholders in Sri Lanka.
b. Regional Training of Trainers Workshop on Gender Sensitive Policy Making in June/July 2018 (date and venue to be confirmed)
   - In consultation with UNESCO Bangkok, communicate with key government agencies and educational institutions to identify participants to attend the workshop
   - Provide logistical assistance to the selected participants to coordinate their travel to the venue

   c. Regional Training of Teacher Educators Workshop for the online ‘Gender and Education’ course in October/November 2018 (date and venue to be confirmed)
   - In consultation with UNESCO Bangkok, communicate with key government agencies and educational institutions to identify participants to attend the workshop
   - Provide logistical assistance to the selected participants to coordinate their travel to the venue

2. For the project on Seizing Digital Opportunities in Higher Education: Building Staff Capacity for ICT-driven Innovation in Sri Lanka

   2.1 Provide technical support and assist in monitoring university and country-level activities related to the SFIT project;
   2.2 Prepare project documents (including internal evaluation documents) for review by UNESCO Bangkok;
   2.3 Coordinate the preparation of the 7th UNESCO-APEID Meeting on Entrepreneurship (tentatively in October 2018) with support from the National Enterprise Development Board (NEDA) under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka.

   In line with UNESCO’s overall gender mainstreaming strategy, the Consultant is expected to integrate a gender perspective in all activities and apply gender analysis and mainstreaming concepts whenever feasible.

**Deliverables and Timeline**

1. For the project on Enhancing Girls’ and Women’s Right to Quality Education through Gender Sensitive Policy Making, Teacher Development and Pedagogy
   1.1 Submit a report of the Situation and Training Needs Analysis for Gender Mainstreaming across the Education Sector in Sri Lanka, including dissemination of the research findings by 31 May 2018.
   1.2 Submit a report for the coordination of the Regional Training of Trainers Workshop on Gender Sensitive Policy Making by 31 August 2018.
   1.3 Submit a report for the coordination of the Regional Training of Teacher Educators Workshop for the online ‘Gender and Education’ course by 23 November 2017.

2. For the project on Seizing Digital Opportunities in Higher Education: Building Staff Capacity for ICT-driven Innovation
   2.1 Submit the first progress report for the preparation of the 7th UNESCO-APEID Meeting on Entrepreneurship by 30 April 2018
   2.2 Submit a quarterly progress report on the status of project implementation at the University of Colombo by 31 May 2018
2.3 Submit a final progress report and analysis of project sustainability and scalability across Sri Lanka by 31 August 2018
2.4 Submit final progress report for the preparation of the 7th UNESCO-APEID Meeting on Entrepreneurship by 30 November 2018.

**Payment Schedule**

Total for the duration of contract: US$7,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Sum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upon submission to and approval by UNESCO Bangkok Office of the progress report by 30 April 2018</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upon submission to and approval by UNESCO Bangkok Office of the progress reports by 31 May 2018</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upon submission to and approval by UNESCO Bangkok Office of the progress reports by 31 August 2018</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upon submission to and approval by UNESCO Bangkok Office of the progress reports by 30 November 2018</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supervision and Working Agreement:**

Under the overall authority of the Director (a.i.) of the UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, Bangkok, and the direct supervision of the Chief of the Section for Educational Innovation and Skills Development, ED/BGK/EISD, the the National Consultant in Sri Lanka will work closely with the UNESCO Education Team in Bangkok. Technical guidance will be provided by UNESCO Bangkok staff, through regular communication by distance (via email, Skype, phone, etc.) and face-to-face if possible.

**Required Qualifications for Specialized Knowledge/Experience:**

**Education** : Bachelor’s or Master’s Degree in Education or a related field

**Language** : Excellent English language proficiency (comprehension, speaking, reading and writing)

**Knowledge and Experience** : Minimum of 5 years of relevant work related to education
Knowledge of teacher education and higher education, necessary
Knowledge of gender issue in education is an advantage
Experience collaborating with a range of government officials, educational institutions, and development partners
Experiences in United Nations, international organizations or NGOs is an advantage

**Others** : Ability to communicate and work with a broad spectrum of stakeholders
Capacity to work independently and in a timely manner
Well-organized and able to meet deadlines under pressure
Team player with pleasant personality

Application:

Interested individuals are invited to submit their updated CVs and a cover letter supporting their application to the UNESCO Bangkok Office by e-mail to the e-mail address mentioned below no later than 2 February 2018, 18:00 (Bangkok time).

To the attention of:
Chief, Section for Educational Innovation and Skills Development
UNESCO Bangkok Office
E-mail: eisd.bgk@unesco.org

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.