

Call for Proposal

Reference: 139.39/NFE064/2017

Issue date: 15 December 2017

Request to submit a written proposal for a work assignment with UNESCO

UNESCO is inviting written proposals from an organization for the work assignment described in attachment A.

To enable you to prepare a proposal for this assignment, please find attached the Terms of Reference (see attachment A);

Your written proposal should comprise:

- (a) A Technical Proposal which includes implementation strategies/approaches, work plan and comments on the Terms of Reference if any (in brief); and
- (b) A Financial proposal for the assignment quoted in US dollars only. Please show any travel costs separately if any.

Your proposal and any supporting documents must be in English.

UNESCO places great emphasis on ensuring that the objectives of the work assignment, as described in the Terms of Reference, are met. Accordingly, in evaluating the proposals for the assignment, attention will focus first on the technical elements. From those proposals deemed suitable in terms of the criteria in the Terms of Reference, UNESCO shall select the proposal that offers the Organisation best value for money.

Your proposal should be submitted by e-mail no later than close of business **16:00, Bangkok time, on 12 January 2018**. E-mail proposals should not exceed 5MB.

The e-mail address is: eisd.bgk@unesco.org

It is your organization's responsibility to ensure that the proposal is received by the deadline.

Thank you for your interest in this UNESCO assignment; and we look forward to receiving your proposal.



UNESCO Bangkok Office
Mr. Libing Wang, Chief,
Section for Educational Innovation
and Skills Development (EISD)

Background

Non-Formal Primary Education Programme (NFPE) in Myanmar

NFPE is an accelerated primary education programme that allows out-of-school children (OOSC) aged 10 to 14 to complete the five years of primary education in two years. Children who complete this programme receive a certificate equivalent to formal primary education from the Ministry of Education (MoE) that will enable them to progress to lower secondary education.

In Myanmar, the programme was jointly initiated by MoE, UNDP and UNESCO. Since the Assessment Year (AY) 2009-2010, NFPE has been expanding annually. During the 2016-2017 AY, the programme was implemented in 105 townships, covering around 11,000 OOSC. The upcoming 2017-2018 AY is expected to start from July, 2017, covering at least 84 townships.

Since 2015, UNESCO Bangkok has been implementing various NFPE activities in Myanmar to improve access to education as well as integration of flexible learning strategies to ensure sustainable futures for all learners. UNESCO's efforts will continue to support the programme for the 2017-2018 AY. UNESCO's support will include

1) implementing and managing the NFPE programme in the four townships that UNESCO (Shwepithar, Kyauktan, Dala and Nyaungdon) supported during the previous year; 2) producing monitoring- and performance test-related materials; and 3) collecting students' enrollment and attendance data in all NFPE townships as students in those townships will be indirectly supported by UNESCO Bangkok through regular trainings of trainers and facilitators.

Non-Formal Middle School Education Programme (NFME)

In Myanmar, access to education is a pressing challenge, with approximately 1.2 million Myanmar adolescents are currently out of school. Although an increasing number of students graduate from primary schools, the transition rate from primary to secondary education remains 73% and the net schooling and drop-out percentages for lower-secondary are 45.5% and 11.9%, respectively.

With support from UNESCO, the NFMSE programme was developed by MOE to provide marginalized and out-of-school youth and adult learners with an effective alternative pathway for learning. NFMSE also aims to enable these learners to develop academic knowledge and vocational and life skills. In 2013, the Department of Myanmar Education Research Bureau (DMERB), with support of UNESCO, completed the process of drafting textbooks for 26 subjects and training manuals and guidebooks for teachers and supervisors. Then, the textbooks were piloted in three townships in 2014, and were subsequently revised in light of the feedback received from stakeholders. The NFMSE materials are currently under review and awaiting approval of the Minister's Office and the CESR.

From November 2015 to June 2016, UNESCO also supported in developing NFME training materials and enhancing capacities of relevant stakeholders through various workshops, meetings and a two-day field visit. Since August 2017, with support of the Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU), two pilot townships (i.e., Hlaingthayar and Kyaikhto) have been supported and capacity development opportunities for the programme implementers and stakeholders have been provided. From January to December 2018, this support will continue.

Objectives

Within the framework of the extrabudgetary project "Strengthening Education Systems for Out-of-School Children", UNESCO Bangkok has been supporting countries in Southeast Asia, including Myanmar, in developing robust non-formal education policies and implementing or scaling up of flexible learning strategies for OOSC.

Under the overall authority of the Director of UNESCO Bangkok and under supervision of the Chief of the Section for Educational Innovation and Skill Development (EISD) and the Programme Specialist in Literacy and Lifelong Learning, the Contractor will be engaged to support the strengthening and expansion of NFPE and NFME in Myanmar.

Tasks to be performed

NFPE

1. Manage the NFPE programme in the four townships; Shwepithar, Kyauktan, Dala and Nyaungdon from January to March 2018
2. Conduct regular monitoring visits to ensure that all learners will attain an attendance rate of at least 80 and identify issues, challenges, gaps and opportunities in the teaching-learning process
3. Collect and report students' attendance data from January to March, 2018, to UNESCO Bangkok
4. Submit a final report, including the analysis of the findings and recommendations

NFME

1. Manage the NFME programme in the two townships; Hlaingthayar and Kyaikhto from January to December 2018
2. Conduct regular monitoring visits to ensure that all learners will attain an attendance rate of at least 80 and identify issues, challenges, gaps and opportunities in the teaching-learning process
3. Organize the 4th semester instructor training, which is tentatively scheduled for early to mid-2018
4. Organize a preview and review meeting on the NFME teaching-learning process and management activities, which is tentatively scheduled for the third quarter of the year
5. Draft narrative report for all activities
6. Submit a final report, including the analysis of the findings and recommendations

Expected deliverables

The contractor is expected to submit the following deliverables to UNESCO:

1. Detailed work plan and costing of NFPE and NFME by **24 January 2018**
2. Final report of all NFPE activities undertaken and final financial report, including data and information on the learners enrolled in January to March with a brief note on monitoring results by **6 April 2018**
3. Final reports of all NFME activities undertaken and final financial report by **14 December 2018**.

Inputs of UNESCO and the contractor

UNESCO will:

- Review the work plan and costing prepared by the contractor;
- Review data and information on NFPE learners in the four townships from January to March, 2018, based on UNESCO data collection template;
- Provide feedback on data and reports submitted;
- Conduct monitoring visits to ensure implementation progress;
- Review and confirm the finalized data sets and reports; and
- Provide technical support to ensure UNESCO rules are followed.

NFPE

The contractor will:

- Ensure that learners in the 4 townships (i.e., Shwepithar, Kyauktan, Dala and Nyaungdon) attain a minimum of 80 % of attendance;
- Ensure that data and information on learners' attendance and performance is managed, tracked and reported to UNESCO Bangkok (January to March, 2018);

- Produce technical report which includes implementation progress, challenges, issues, opportunities, lessons learned and recommendations; and
- Ensure that the recommendations on programme improvement is developed.

NFME

The contractor will:

- Lead the implementation and management of NFME in Hlaingthayar and Kyaikhto from January to December 2018
- Organize the 4th semester instructor training, which is tentatively scheduled for early to mid-2018
- Organize a preview and review meeting on the NFME teaching-learning process and management activities, which is tentatively scheduled for the third quarter of the year
- Draft narrative report for all activities
- Submit a final report, including the analysis of the findings and recommendations

Duration of contract

The proposed timing of the working period is from 22 January to 14 December 2018, tentatively.

Qualifications/Requirements

- Must have a minimum of 8 years of experience in the field of non-formal education, with a focus on equivalency programme in Myanmar
- Extensive experience in NFPE and NFME implementation and management
- Previous experience in NFPE implementation in the 4 townships and in NFME implementation in the two pilot townships, and familiarity with the UNESCO-EAC data collection process would be an asset.