Call for Proposal

Reference: 139.39/NFE052/2020
Issue date: 28 August 2020

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 7 September 2020. 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)
Non-Formal Middle School Education Programme (NFME)

Background

In Myanmar, access to education is a pressing challenge, with approximately 1.7 million Myanmar adolescents are currently out of school. Although an increasing number of students graduate from primary schools, the net schooling and drop-out percentages for lower-secondary in 2018 were approximately 67.7% and 21%, respectively.

With support from UNESCO, the NFME programme was developed by MOE to provide marginalized and out-of-school adolescents and youth with an effective alternative pathway for learning. NFME 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 NFME materials are currently under review and awaiting approval of the Minister’s Office and the Comprehensive Education Sector Review (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. From August 2017 to May 2019, with support of the Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU), two pilot townships (i.e., Hlaingthayar and Kyaikhto) were supported and capacity development opportunities for the programme implementers and stakeholders were provided. With successful piloting of the programme, the 2nd phase began in August 2019. The first semester of AY 2019/2020 in Bilin and Hinthada was supported by the UNESCO Bangkok-KNCU partnership. NFME schools and centers that have been closed due to to the current COVID-19 outbreak will reopen from September 2020.

Objectives

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 continuation of NFME in Bilin and Hinthada townships in Myanmar.

Tasks to be performed

1. Manage the NFME programme in Bilin and Hinthada townships from September to October 2020
2. Ensure enrollment of 78 learners in the two townships
3. 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
4. Organize the 3rd semester instructor training, which is tentatively scheduled for mid-September
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 NFME by 11 September 2020
2. Data and information on the learners enrolled in September with a brief note on monitoring results by 21 September 2020
3. Final reports of all NFME activities undertaken and final financial report by 30 October 2020
Inputs of UNESCO and the contractor
UNESCO will:

- Review the work plan and costing prepared by the contractor;
- 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.

NFMSE
The contractor will:

- Enroll 78 students in Bilin and Hinthada and keep registrations and records
- Lead the implementation and management of NFMSE in Bilin and Hinthada from September to October 2020
- Organize the 3rd semester instructor training, which is tentatively scheduled for mid-September
- 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 September to October 2020, tentatively.

Qualifications/Requirements
- Must have a minimum of 10 years of experience in the field of non-formal education, with a focus on equivalency programme in Myanmar
- Extensive experience in NFMSE implementation and management
- Previous experience managing education projects in Bilin and Hinthada would be a strong advantage.