

## Sierra Leone Free Education Project

(IDA Project No.: P167897)

### **Consulting Services: Recruitment of Component 1 Coordinator i.e. Coordinator of the Policy, Governance, Accountability and System Administration Component for the Sierra Leone Free Education Project**

(Date of Issue: 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2020)

#### **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

##### **Background**

The Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education is currently implementing the Free Education project with funds provided by a Multi-Donor Trust Fund that is managed by The World Bank. The overall objective of the project is to improve the management of the education system, teaching practices, and, and learning conditions. The Free Education Project has five components as follows:

- Component 1: Policy, Governance, Accountability and System Administration, which will strengthen the education system in areas of policy, governance, and administration. It will promote strategic initiatives in the areas of evidence-based policy and planning, curriculum and assessment, and gender equality and inclusive education.
- Component 2: Teacher Management and Professional Development, which addresses the quality and management of the teaching workforce.
- Component 3: School Level Education Development, which addresses the quality of the teaching and learning environment through performance-based school grants and physical improvements to the school environment.
- Component 4: Program Management, Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) covers the cost of managing the project and M&E and learning activities.
- Component 5: Contingent Emergency Response allows for the government to request additional funds to respond to emergencies.

##### **Job Summary**

The Coordinator for Policy, Governance, Accountability and System Administration (Coordinator Component 1) will provide overall leadership, management, and technical guidance to ensure the achievement of the Component 1 objectives and the delivery of Component 1 activities as outlined in the Project Implementation Manual.

##### **Primary Responsibilities**

- Create a schedule, with milestones, due dates, and cost estimates for the delivery of Component 1 deliverables
- Coordinate all activities as stated in the Project Implementation Plan to ensure Component 1 deadlines are met
- Work with the MBSSE Component One lead and relevant key stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation of Component One(1) of the project
- Support development of the Education Sector Plan (ESP) and follow-up activities
- Manage technical consultants and other team members and ensure they have the resources needed to carry out the Component 1 activities

- Coordinate component 1 activities across a diverse group of stakeholders: officers of the MBSSE, donor partners, The World Bank, MOF, TSC, other project staff, etc.
- Produce progress reports on a quarterly basis
- Ensure that the following deliverables are produced on time and are of high-quality:
  - School catchment area and rationalization plan
  - National assessment framework developed, one assessment conducted, and findings disseminated.
  - Digitized School Census conducted annually, and report produced, and staff trained in the use of data
  - School quality standards developed for primary and secondary schools
  - Support the MBSSE in conducting annual and mid-term reviews of the Education Sector Plan (ESP)
  - Annual plans and budgets guided by priorities, fiscal commitment, and fiscal capacity
  - Reform of the school approval and financing process
  - Report with recommendations from an organizational and management analysis of the education system
  - Consultant reports in support of the development of comprehensive national curriculum
  - Gender issues mainstreamed throughout all activities of the component 1
  - Inclusive education framework developed and implemented.
- Proactively assess risks or bottlenecks to delivering component activities and devise solutions to them
- Perform other duties assigned by the Project Coordinator in support of the achievement of the objectives of the project.

### **Required Expertise/Qualifications**

#### **Education:**

Advanced University degree (i.e. at least a Master's degree) in any of the following fields: Economics, Education, Development Studies, Public Administration, or other related fields.

#### **Knowledge and Experience:**

- At least 5 years of experience in coordinating donor-funded projects in education
- At least 5 years of experience in education policy, governance, and/or administration
- Substantive knowledge and practical experience in reforms in the education sector
- Knowledge in mainstreaming gender and disability issues in education programmes and policy would be an advantage
- Good understanding of the government systems, particularly in the educational development field
- Strong background in data analysis and report writing
- Excellent communication skills in English Language (verbal and written)
- Excellent interpersonal and problem-solving skills
- Demonstrated ability to achieve results while working with diverse teams
- S/he must be able to work under pressure, away from home and in any emergency

### **Selection Criteria**

The short listing criteria are:

1. Individual Consultant's experience relevant to the Assignment

## 2. Competency/Qualification of the Individual Consultant relevant to the Assignment

This REoI will lead to the preparation of Short list of Consultants

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (July 2016, Revised November 2017)

### Mode of Application

All applications in writing should be accompanied by up-to-date Curriculum Vitae and supporting documents (Note: do not send originals) with the names and addresses of three referees, one of which should be the last or current employer and addressed to:

**Team Lead**  
**Project Fiduciary Management Unit (PFMU)**  
**Ministry of Finance**  
**Africanus House, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**  
**13A Howe Street**  
**Freetown, Sierra Leone**

Or

By E-mail: application should be sent as an attachment (including all supporting documents) to: [pfm2018@gmail.com](mailto:pfm2018@gmail.com) cc: [sandelo185@gmail.com](mailto:sandelo185@gmail.com)

Please clearly indicate on the envelope (in the case of hard copy application) or in the email subject heading and attachment (in the case of electronic applications) the post for which application is made.

QUALIFIED WOMEN ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.


Closing Date:

The Closing Date and time for receipt of applications is 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 at 4:00 pm GMT.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Signed -----

Dated -----

  
11/8/2020