



**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Ministry of Education**  
**Selection of Consulting Firm for Technical Support for ICT Learning Centers (ILC)**  
**Network Operations under Secondary Education Sector Investment Program**  
**(SESIP)**  
**Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)**  
for  
**Short listing of National Firms for Technical Support for ICT Learning Centers (ILC)**  
**Network Operations (SD-10)**

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Memo No: DSHE/SESIP/SPSU/2-287/ICT Learning Center/2016/ 30

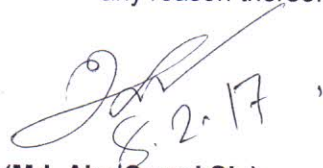
Date: 08.02.2017

1. The Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) has been allocated public funds from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Secondary Education Sector Investment Program (SESIP) and, intends to apply part of the proceeds of these funds under the ADB Loan No.3047-BAN, Tranche-1, to eligible payments to the selected Consulting Firm under the consultancy services for the program for which this REOI is issued.
2. SESIP supports secondary education in Bangladesh over 10 years, using a multi tranche financing facility (2013–2022). SESIP will support the implementation of key reforms envisaged in the National Education Policy (NEP), 2010 in a phased manner. The MOE has approved a 10-year Secondary Education Sector Road Map for implementation of the NEP. SESIP will also adopt a sector-wide approach that supports a government-led common secondary education program framework with enhanced harmonization of ADB and other development partner's assistance. The Ministry of Education (MOE) is the executing agency and the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) is the implementing agency.
3. "Enhanced Use of ICT for Pedagogy" the ICT infrastructure will be created in 640 schools to provide a technical platform (equipment, operating systems and utilities) for an integrated system of software applications to support e-learning, such as: creation of multimedia materials; use of repository of e-learning materials; office productivity – document editor, spreadsheets, slide presentation; website authoring tools; email; Internet browsing.
4. Other relevant e-learning activities have been completed or are being implemented by SESIP's GD-4 contract (ILC infrastructure), Second Teaching Quality Improvement in Secondary Education (TQI II), Secondary Education Quality and Access Enhancement Project (SEQAEP), British Council, English in Action, Primary Education Development Program (PEDP) II and III, Access to Information (A2I) and BRAC Education Program to mention a few. Consultation with TQI II is especially important as they are planning to develop e-learning materials for Grade 6 on 16 subjects and also for Grades 9 and 10.
5. NCTB is the main co-implementing partner to work closely together with in the area of effective usage of ICL facilities and determining user requirements and technical support for operations of ILC. Also the DSHE Training Wing and local entities like TTCs are important partners when it comes to training and continuous professional development of teacher trainers, teachers and administrators in the field. DSHE Secondary Wing and M&E Wing will be implementing partners for monitoring.

6. The purpose of this Service Package is the selection/development and installation of appropriate software applications, security settings, proper configuring of laptops (Windows 10) and server systems. It means setting up the enable/disable system options, user profiles and accounts, allocation of work storage for teachers and students, utilities for organizing, monitoring, and reporting the usage of the system, and maintenance of Repository of E-Learning Materials (RELM). These are the tasks of creating the software architecture for entire network of ILCs and the Central Node at DSHE. The services requested in the Terms of Reference are the creation of proper software system architecture and a plan for continuous technical support for ILC operations (effective use of software and data/information/e-learning resources, and provision of operational instructions for students and teachers).
7. The duration of the assignment for the consultancy services under Time-based Contract is 15 (fifteen) months in multiple phases [Subject to extension of existing loan closing date (31 December 2017)] comprising of 50 person-months of time-inputs of national expertise as detailed in **TOR**. The location of the assignment will be in Dhaka for the First and Second phases. In the following phases the main location of the assignment will be Dhaka with field visits related to installation and testing of the software architecture and in some cases as a direct technical support in the field. The Ministry of Education (MOE), GOB will be the Executing Agency (EA) and DSHE under MOE, GOB will be the Implementing Agency (IA).
8. DSHE now invites eligible national Consulting Firms to submit EOI for Consultancy Services for SESIP for '**Technical Support for ICT Learning Centers (ILC) Network Operations (SD-10)**' under the financing agreement between ADB and the GOB. Eligible national Consulting Firms should submit their EOIs through ADB's consultant management system at <http://cms.adb.org>. The Firms must prepare and submit their EOIs in a standard form, "**Template for Expression of Interest (Consulting Firms)**", which can be obtained by contacting the office of the Joint Program Director at the address indicated below or downloading from the ADB website: (<https://www.adb.org/site/business-opportunities/operational-procurement/consulting/documents#loans>).
9. The scope of work and detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) can also be obtained by contacting the office of the **Joint Program Director, SESIP** during regular office hours or can be downloaded from SESIP's website (<http://www.sesip.gov.bd>) and ADB's website (<http://cms.adb.org>) with reference to this assignment (SD-10) under SESIP.
10. A group of consulting firms may form an association to express interest together and, have their qualifications and experience considered jointly. Associations may take the form of joint ventures or sub-consultancies.
11. The short listing will follow the "Guidelines on The Use of Consultants by Asian Development Bank and Its Borrowers, March 2013" including revisions, if any. The Consultant will be selected using Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method. The EOI from the consulting firm will be rejected if it or its associated firm has been debarred by the GOB or the ADB.
12. The eligibility of the firm is described below. The firm/organization should preferably have:
  - I. 5 years-experience on (a) WLAN design and implementation, (b) Networking and Application software integration;
  - II. Expertise on designing and providing technical support to users of WLAN networks and laptop software usage (MS Windows environment including 1-year experience in using Windows 10);
  - III. Experience on designing web based fast-track technical support platform with ticketing system for ensuring quick solutions of technical problems to the computer classrooms, and other user support facilities;
  - IV. In-house expertise in developing and implementing software systems for educational environment including schools at the secondary level in Bangladesh;
  - V. Experience on designing business models to propose permanent solutions for technical operational support for the network of ILCs.
  - VI. High level expertise in configuring WLAN server and laptops (Windows 10) used in WLAN architecture.

In addition to eligibility criteria and others as appropriate, short listing will be carried out by the following major criteria as in the ADB EOI Template for Consulting Firms:

- Technical Competence
  - Geographical Experience
  - Management Competence
13. The EOI must be submitted as stated under **Para 8** above by 11:59 PM (Manila time) on 15 March 2017.
14. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the EOIs without assigning any reason thereof.



A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date '8.2.17' written in a similar style.

**(Md. Abu Sayed Sk.)**

Additional Secretary

Joint Program Director

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