Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Ministry of Education Jordan Education Reform Support Program

Senior PforR Consultant for MOE Terms of Reference (TORs)

Background

The World Bank is supporting MoE through the "Jordan Education Reform Support Program" under the Program for Results initiative for the main objective of expanding access to early childhood education, and improving student assessment and teaching and learning conditions for Jordanian and Syrian refugee children.

The program started in December 2017 with a total loan budget of USD 200 million financed by the EBRD and GCFF and distributed as follows:

- USD 192 million P4R: Intended to support the MoE's Education Strategic Plan
- USD 8 million IPF: Intended to cover Technical Assistance (TA) activities that would support the achievement of the DLIs

The P4R support strong aligns and corresponds to the 4 Key Result Areas of the Education Strategic Plan ESP as follows:

- Result Area 1: Expanded access and improved quality of ECE early childhood education
- Result Area 2: Improved teaching and learning conditions
- Result Area 3: Reformed student assessment and certification system
- Result Area 4: Strengthened education management system

Progress in each Result Area is measured by Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs)

During June 2020 the World Bank approved restructuring the program and added USD 100 million to continue supporting MoE in the implementation of the ESP and ensure effective education continuity and preparedness during and post the emergency of COVID-19 Pandemic. The Additional Financing specifically enhances support for the original result areas and introduces COVID-19 responsive modifications in the following areas:

- MOE redoubled its efforts to increase KG2 access with aim of universal access for Jordanian and Syrian children
- MOE expanded efforts to improve the school learning environment across all public schools to increase retention of vulnerable Jordanian and Syrian students
- MOE revised its student assessment reform strategy to include digitization of assessments in addition to revamping their content
- In response to the COVID-19 crisis, MOE has focused on integrating distance learning and classroom learning into sustained blended learning

Purpose of Consultancy

The MOE is seeking to hire an expert (through service contract recruitment) to support the Development Coordination Unit (DCU) capacity to manage the Program for Results (PforR) Technical Assistance component as well as the overall implementation of program activities, as to enable MOE's timely attainment of the Disbursement Linked Indicators. The consultant is specifically expected to manage the TA component of the project in addition to other tasks as listed below.

Consultancy Scope of Work

PforR overall support (focusing on TA component)

- *Terms of Reference Development:* lead the development of Terms of Reference (TORs) for all consultant services, both individuals and firms, based on MOE needs/requirements under the Technical Assistance (TA).
- Procurement Coordination: Assist the procurement officer and follow up with the Procurement Tender Committee to make sure that all procurement activities for the TA have been carried out on time, as well as supporting and participating in procurement committees as needed.
- Contract Management: Assist the procurement officer to oversee the contract management of all consulting services (particularly from a technical perspectives). This includes reviewing contracts terms and conditions, ensuring timely signing, tracking deliverables, deadlines, and other performance metrics, managing relationship with vendors, addressing any concerns or risks promptly and regularly providing updates and reports about the status and performance of contracts/venders.
 - Progress Reviews: conduct monthly assessments of progress against TA and other PforR
 activities, closely collaborating with respective departments/divisions to ensure the
 prompt implementation of activities and identifying any bottlenecks.
 - **Budget Coordination:** work with the MOE financial staff to ensure the necessary financial resources are embedded in the MOE budget to ensure and maintain progress of P4R programmatic components.
 - **Donor Coordination:** support donor coordination, prepare and update mapping matrices and reports to ensure alignment.
 - Liaison with World Bank Team: maintain a strong line of communication with the World Bank team, specifically on a full range of implementation issues to jointly identify bottlenecks and strategize ways to overcome them.

Education Sector Restructuring

• Support to consulting firm: act as the primary focal point from MOE in coordinating meetings, facilitating effective interaction with all MOE departments and external stakeholders, supplying necessary documentation, providing contact lists etc... to facilitate smooth and efficient collaboration between the government and the consulting firm.

- **Project Action Plan:** develop and consistently update a detailed project action plan, ensuring it's regularly shared with key stakeholders, including the World Bank and the responsible unit at the Prime Ministry and MoPIC.
- *Progress Monitoring:* regularly monitor project progress, preparing weekly/monthly progress reports and presentations as necessary.
- Stakeholder Engagement: proactively conduct meetings, presentations and coordination with relevant stakeholders to ensure timely execution of activities.
- *Technical Assistance:* Provide comprehensive technical assistance, advice, and guidance to relevant departments and divisions of MOE, exploring ways to increase their engagement in the process and optimize resources and operations.
- Support DCU Director: Assist the DCU Director in briefing the Minister and other stakeholders on activities and progress, including government entities and development partners, as well as perform any other tasks as required by DCU director.

Duration of Consultancy

The consultancy term is for two years starting 1st of October 2023 and ending 30th of September 2025.

Reporting of Consultancy

The consultant will report to the Executive Director of the DCU.

Required Qualifications

The consultant must have:

- A masters or PhD degree in education related fields is a must
- Experience in, or working with the governmental entities in Jordan
- Minimum 15 years of experience coordinating and managing projects in the education sector
- Strong analytical skills, knowledge in monitoring and evaluation, planning tools development, evidence-based data utilization
- Strong understanding of education systems, development of strategies and implementation
 plans and how they interact in different development contexts and institutional
 arrangements.
- Solid experience in working with multiple donors and education partners
- Excellent written and oral presentation skills in English.
- Arabic fluency

Type of contract: time-based