

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Georgia

Project Name: Georgia I2Q - Innovation, Inclusion and Quality

Project No.168481

Assignment Title: Early Childhood Education Component Lead - National Consultant

Contract/RFP No: GE-MESCS-208787-CS-INDV

Georgia has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the **Georgia I2Q - Innovation, Inclusion and Quality Project** and intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, and related services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

The Project consists of the following key components:

Component 1 - Improving Quality of and Access to Early Childhood Education and Care: support to facilitate expanded access to quality pre-school education in selected pre-schools.

Component 2 – Fostering Quality Teaching and Learning in General Education: Support to provide a learning environment that is conducive to quality education in selected general education schools.

Component 3 – Strengthening Financing Options and Promoting Internationalization in Higher Education: Support to improve the quality and international competitiveness of higher education.

Component 4 – System Strengthening and Stakeholder Communication: Support to facilitate a shift in attitude towards learning.

Component 5 – Supporting Project Management, Monitoring, and Evaluations: Support capacity building for effective management and monitoring of the Project including provision of Operating Costs, Training, outreach and awareness campaigns, consulting services, M & E and, Project audits for (a) Project Management Team (PMT); and (b) Project Management Unit (PMU).

The Project will be implemented over a six-year period by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia (MoESCS) and its subordinate government agencies and by the Municipal Development Fund of Georgia (MDF).

The Project Management Unit (PMU) created within MoESCS supports the implementation of the Project's tasks above. The Project Management Team (PMT) created within MDF supports implementation of the separate component aimed to improve the relevant infrastructure and rehabilitate schools under the Project overall objectives.

The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia (MoESCS) now invites Individual Consultants (Consultants) to express their interest in providing the following services: **Early Childhood Education Component Lead - National Consultant.**

Key Responsibilities

- Provide leadership and direction to the development, management, planning and implementation of the subcomponent 1.1. – Improving Quality of Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs across the country, including preparation of work plans, budgets and other project documents;
- Serve as the primary liaison and point of contact for ECE related activities under project;
- Provide leadership in support of project activities with the goal of achieving project targets and objectives, managing effectively and efficiently both human and financial resources;
- In close coordination with Government of Georgia (GoG), relevant ministries, municipalities, development partners, and other relevant stakeholders, ensure effective project planning, management and operations;
- Report on project progress in line with set objectives and outcome indicators in close coordination with project monitoring and evaluation specialists among others to monitor and evaluate project progress and impacts;
- Collaborate with the project procurement specialists in the procurement processes, including timely provision of the required inputs for the preparation of procurement documents envisaged under subcomponents 1.1 and 1.2.
- Lead and contribute to relevant analytic studies, collection, compilation and analysis of data and project information and the preparation of regular and final reports as required by the Government and WB;
- Identify project development/implementation risks, and take effective action to resolve implementation issues and bottlenecks;
- Lead the development of scope of works and ToRs for successfully implement the project;
- Review all reports and deliverables prepared by consultants ensuring the fitness to purpose and compliance with

appropriate tasks, prepare comments and recommendations for their improvement as necessary and submit final outputs to the PMU Executive Director.

- Participate in meetings organized by MESCS and other relevant structures on subcomponent related issues.
- Manage and coordinate publicizing activities related to the subcomponent activities;
- Address social aspects in the implementation of subcomponents related to inclusion.
- Participate in the process of infrastructure standards development for new model of primary schools (encompassing pre-school classes) to make sure that core curricular demands are reflected;
- Coordinate and monitor the process of implementation of component envisaged activities including performance of consultants in charge of implementing outsourced tasks.
- Assist the PMU Executive Director in all activities related to strengthen preschool education within the frames of the project;
- Other duties as assigned by the PMU Executive Director.

Interested individuals shall provide information demonstrating that they have the necessary experience to perform the aforesaid services. CVs of the candidates should cover experience in relevant to the project activities.

Working Conditions

- Based at PMU Office, Tbilisi;
- May require frequent visits to Project sites.

Duration of Assignment

This is one-year full time assignment with probation period of first 3 months starting on February, 2021. Subject to satisfactory performance as well as operational needs of the Project, the contract can be extended.

Required Qualification of the Consultant:

Required:

- MA level degree in Education, Social Sciences or relevant disciplines;
- Demonstrated experience in developing/managing/participating in the implementation of education projects in Georgia or neighboring countries, preferably in early childhood education;
- Good knowledge of current education reforms, trends and relevant legislative framework regulating ECE;
- Understanding of international education best practices in the area of Early Childhood Education;
- Minimum 7 years of work experience, including in the field of education;
- Experience of holding managerial position;
- Experience in working with relevant government agencies, educational institutions, NGOs, communities, international development partners and/or donors;
- Ability to lead and work effectively in a team environment;
- Fluency in English and Georgian;
- Knowledge of MS Word, Excel, Project, PowerPoint.
- Proven teamwork skills;
- Superior verbal and writing communication skills in Georgian;
- Strong verbal, reading and writing skills in English;
- Good negotiating skills;

Desired:

- Experience of working in international donor funded projects in the field of education and specifically in ECE.

Note: The MESCS reserves its right to verify submitted references and use obtained information for evaluation purposes.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14 “Conflict of Interest” of the World Bank’s Guidelines: [World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrower, July 2016 revised August 2018”](#), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment: The consultant shall not receive any remuneration in connection with the assignment except as provided in the contract. The consultant and its affiliates shall not engage in consulting or other activities that conflict with the interest of the client under the contract. The contract shall include provisions limiting future engagement of the consultant for other services resulting from or directly related to the firm’s consulting services in accordance with the requirements of paragraphs 3.16, 3.17 and 3.18 of the Guidelines.

An individual consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in World Bank’s Guidelines: [World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrower, July 2016 revised August 2018”](#) “Selection of Individual Consultants”.

Interested consultants may obtain further information by email: procurement@iiq.gov.ge

Cover letter and CVs of candidates in English language must be submitted electronically to the address below not later than, **January 12, 2021, 17:00 hours.**

Name: Ia Iashvili

Position: Procurement Consultant

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