

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Education and Sports
Global Partnership for Education II Project (GPE II)
Grant No.: TF018969 Sector: Education

INTERNATIONAL READING READINESS SPECIALIST

The Lao PDR Second Global Partnership for Education Project (GPE II) is a program is managed and implemented by the Lao PDR's Ministry of Education and Sports. The program is financed through a US\$ 16.8 million grant from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), approved on April 14, 2015 and effective since June 4, 2015. The GPE II grant's supervision has been entrusted to the World Bank, acting as GPE Grant Agent (GA) under the oversight of the Lao PDR Education Sector Working Group (ESWG) and the GPE coordinating agencies (CA) in Lao PDR – UNICEF, the European Union (EU) and the Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

The GPE II supports the efforts of the Government of Lao PDR (GoL) to strengthen the governance and improve the quality of primary and preprimary education. This assignment relates to the piloting of the reading readiness program (RRP) under Component 2 of the GPE II project. The responsibility for the RRP implementation is with the following departments of the MOES:

- Research Institute for Education Sciences (RIES)
- Department of Early Childhood Education (DECE)
- Department of Teacher of Education (DTE)
- Teacher Training Colleges (TTC)
- Education Sector Plan Coordinating Unit (ECU) within the Department of Planning (DOP)

The main objective is to develop and help implement a Reading Readiness Program (RRP) for 5-year-old children in a sample of Laos kindergarten and preprimary classes (KG and PP respectively). The consultant will provide technical assistance over 2.5 years to MOES on a part-time basis. The required start of the assignment is September 2018 and the expected level of effort shall be 130 person/days with majority of input worked in Lao PDR (at least 80 days):

Year 1: 50 work days including three 10-day trips.

Year 2: 50 work days including three 10 days trips.

Year 3: 30 work days including one or two trips.

In order to be considered for the position, the candidates should meet the following qualifications and experience requirements:

- PhD in a related field with minimum 10 years' experience conducting research in the area of reading readiness;
- Evidence of excellence in the area, supported by peer-reviewed publications, international conference proceedings and participation;
- Experience developing reading readiness programs for first and second language speakers as well as rigorously documented impact of the programs developed;
- Experience teaching literacy to young children as well as training teachers and student teachers;
- Experience working in low resource classrooms and countries;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English;
- Proficiency in use of all key computer applications.

The Consultant will be selected in accordance with the World Bank's Guidelines "Selection and Employment of Consultants", Individual Consultants (IC) selection method. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011 and revised June, 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. **In order to apply for the position, the candidates shall request the Application Form from the ECU, which can be sent via e-mail.**

GPE2 Project now invites interested eligible consultants to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (curriculum vitae with expressions of interest and references). **Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by August 7, 2018, 16:00 o'clock.** Only Short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Ministry of Education And Sports
Department of Planning
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