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Position: Technical Assistance for Digital Learning Consultant with Education Section

Employing Agency (Employer): Inductus Limited

Duration of the contract: 1st November 2024 to 25th May 2025

Remuneration: Gross compensation budgeted for the position is very attractive. Please note that the offer made to the selected candidate shall be commensurate with qualifications, experience, and salary history. Applicants to mention their current professional fee & expected professional fee on www.inductusjobs.com/un

No. of Vacancy: 1 (ONE)

Duty Station: New Delhi

Reporting Line:

1. Administrative Supervision- Inductus Limited
2. Education Specialist, UNICEF

Last Date for Application: 1st November 2024 (Mid Night)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. BACKGROUND / RATIONALE

India, with a population of 1.21 billion as per the 2011 Census, has a literacy rate of 73%, with a notable disparity between genders (65% for females) 1. The projected population aged 3-17 years stands at 370 million2. The educational infrastructure includes 1.49 million schools, 9.5 million teachers, and 265.2 million students enrolled as of the 2021-22 academic year3. Despite high enrolment rates in pre-primary and primary education (ages 3-10), there is a significant drop in age-specific enrolment rates in higher grades. Enrolment at the secondary level is 73% (73% girls), and at the higher secondary level, it drops to 43% (33% girls)4. Approximately 32.2 million children aged 6-17 are out of school, with a higher percentage (26.2%) in the 14-17 age group. Among these out-of-school children, girls (28.0%) are more affected than boys (24.4%). Disadvantaged groups face even higher out-of-school rates, including Scheduled Castes (30.2%), Scheduled Tribes (37.7%), and Muslim children (36.1%) 5. Pre-school education is a critical factor for successful primary school entry, yet only 53% of children entering grade 1 have had some form of pre-school education. Of these, 30%

attended school-based pre-schools, while 23% came from Anganwadi centres. The availability of pre-school education varies significantly across states, ranging from below 10% to over 90%. UN ORGANISATION is actively engaged in supporting the Indian government to enhance access, retention, and learning outcomes in education, focusing particularly on the most marginalized communities across 17 states.

Rationale

UN ORGANISATION's programme strategy for education is aligned with government initiatives and aims to leverage technology to make education more inclusive and responsive to children's educational needs. UN ORGANISATION India is currently providing support to the national and state governments to implement New Education Policy 2020 from pre-primary education to secondary. The digital learning consultant will support the country office to harness the potential of quality digital learning in school education ecosystem. She/he will provide technical support in enhancing learning of teachers and students by; coordinating creation, contextualization, and translation of quality digital learning content for both field offices and ICO, support in hosting of courses using content authoring tools on Moodle-based LMS, support in creation of digital strategy at national/state-level and leverage existing UN ORGANISATION resources, support in knowledge management and sharing of learning content.

2. PURPOSE OF ASSIGNMENT

The purpose of this assignment is to provide technical support in the areas of

- Educational technology strategy and system strengthening
- Digital learning through digital content and platforms
- Advocacy for improved access to digital devices and connectivity

3. PROGRAMME AREA AND SPECIFIC PROJECT AREA

The proposed position is a part of cross cutting area of digital learning for Outcome 3 Outcome 3: By 2027 children including adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, have equitable access to and participate in quality gender-responsive learning and skilling opportunities within a safe inclusive learning environment.

4. OBJECTIVE/S Key objectives:

The digital learning consultant would provide coordination support for planning, curating, creation, reviewing, enhancing, hosting and implementation of eLearning course content. She/he shall also function as coordinator of all activities relating to roll out of e-learning courses, to ensure that project activities happen as per the requirements of the ICO/state offices. She/he will work with the Education section and partners to support need-based/demand-driven content creation, support orientation workshops for learners on access to courses; provide data on progress of implementation of courses rolled out, thus addressing education challenges and accelerate results for children.

5. MAJOR TASKS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED

Technical Advisory and Programming Support

- Support to development of digital learning strategy through facilitation, consultation documentation at the national and state level.
- Develop knowledge products, concept notes and donor proposals for digital learning.

Digital Content Development

- Support to strengthening guidelines and standard operating procedures (SOP) for digital content including use of user-generated content.
- Support in development of quality digital learning particularly in the area of life skills, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), Climate change education, Career Guidance course, for teachers and career counsellors and psychometric analysis
- Support in strengthening existing digital courses particularly in for Early Childhood Care and Education.

Digital Platform support

- Ensure liaison support with India Technology Hub of the UN office of Vienna which is currently managing day to day operations of UNiLearn and different government departments at national and State level.
- Support to States for updated user data to ensure reporting, particularly year end reporting for RAM India.
- Support to inclusion of new features into the system particularly related to frontier technologies such as AI/ML.
- Provide support to States on digital learning tools including UNiLearn, DIKSHA, Chatbots and others.

Networking and Partnerships

- Support in convening and strengthening EdTech partnerships and/or consortiums for thought leadership, knowledge sharing and collaborative commitment for achieving educational goals through leveraging technology.

6. DELIVERABLES AND DEADLINES

In view of the nature of the work, all the responsibilities will have to be done throughout the period of engagement and relevant work plan will be developed at the beginning of the consultancy, in consultations with the Technical Supervisor. Envisaged key deliverables (with deadlines as mentioned in the table in section 11):

- Report on support to strengthening guidelines and standard operating procedures (SOP) for digital content including use of user-generated content.
- Report on support in strengthening existing digital courses particularly in for Early Childhood Care and Education.
- Report on support to States for updated user data to ensure reporting, particularly year end reporting for RAM India.
- Report on support in development of quality digital learning particularly in the area of life skills, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), Climate change education, Career Guidance course, for teachers and career counsellors and psychometric analysis
- Develop one concept note on frontier technologies in education and 2 donor proposals for digital learning.
- Report on support in convening and strengthening EdTech partnerships and/or consortiums for thought leadership, knowledge sharing and collaborative commitment for achieving educational goals through leveraging technology.
- Support to development of digital learning strategy through facilitation, consultation and documentation at the national and state level.
- Support to inclusion of new features into the system particularly related to frontier technologies such as AI/ML.

5. **DUTY STATION:** New Delhi
6. **SUPERVISOR:** (1) Administrative Supervision: Inductus Group Limited
(2) Education Specialist, UN Organisation

7. **OFFICIAL TRAVEL INVOLVED (ITINERARY AND DURATION):**

As and when required, the consultants may be expected to undertake 6 field missions during the assignment period. The field missions may involve travel to any of the state and districts in the country, for State/National level consultation/meetings and supervision. The itinerary cannot be indicated at this point of time as the consultant will have to travel based on instructions from the Technical Supervisor

8. **ESTIMATED DURATION OF CONTRACT:** 01- Nov-2024 to 31-May-2025

9. **QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE / EXPERIENCE/ COMPETENCIES (CORE/TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL) / LANGUAGE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT (Please use as applicable)**

- Master's degree in education, communication, instructional design or related discipline from a reputed university.

Technical Knowledge and Experience

- Minimum five (5) years of professional experience is required in creating and developing relevant and engaging digital content for a wide range of products such as online learning modules, live classes, surveys, training etc. is a must.
- Experience with creating digital content and knowledge of education technologies and digital teaching pedagogies is a must.
- Solution oriented with a high sense of quality, attention to detail, accuracy, efficiency, and meeting deadlines.
- Ability to engage with a wide range of people, including government partners, academic centres, formal and in-formal networks and collectives, frontline workers, NGOs/CSOs and technical experts if required to collate all relevant information.
- Proven analytical, report writing and organizational skills.
- Institutional knowledge of the UN including UN ORGANISATION is desirable.
- Fluency in English is required.
- Fluency in Hindi and /or any other Indian regional languages will be an advantage.

10. **PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

- The payments will be done on a monthly basis upon raising approved deliverables and other related formats.