EDUCATION QUALITY IMPROVEMENT Project (EQIP)

Ministry of Education and Research

**Procurement Reference No.: MD-MOED-413110-CS-INDV**

**TERMS OF REFERENCES**

National Individual Consultant to provide engineering/architect services for the design of new schools under the Education Quality Improvement Project

**(Part-time assignment)**

1. **BACKGROUND**

„Education Quality Improvement” Project (EQIP) is a World Bank (hereinafter “the Bank”) - financed Project to be implemented between June 2023 and December 2029.

The total cost of the Project is US$ 59.8million equivalent comprising (i) a non-concessional portion in the amount of EUR36.5 million (US$40 million equivalent), (ii) a concessional portion in the amount of US$10 million under the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) on a non-reimbursable basis (Loan No. IBRD 9536-MD), (iii) a grant in the amount of US$5 million from the Early Learning Partnership Multi-Donor Trust Fund (TF0C1507) and (iv) a grant in the amount of US$4.8 million from the Global Partnership for Education Fund (TF0C1484).

The project development objectives are to: (i) improve the learning environment in Participating Institutions, with an emphasis on supporting Disadvantaged Students; and (ii) strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education and Research for sector management and refugee response. The Project is organized around four components described below:

1. *Component 1* - *Improve Quality of Teaching Practices*. This component aims to (i) improve the quality of teaching; (ii) develop, pilot, and implement a rapid formative assessment, a Learning Recovery Program, and a supplemental tutoring for Disadvantaged Students; and (iii) develop School Subprojects through the provision of School Grants to support in-service teacher professional development opportunities.
2. *Component 2* ­– *Improve the Quality of Learning Environment in Participating Institutions*. This component aims to improve the learning environment of Participating Institutions through (i) equipping Participating Institutions with furniture and equipment; (ii) carrying out civil works for the rehabilitation of Participating Institutions and Selected ECEC Facilities; and (iii) construction of three (3) high schools in Priority Areas.
3. *Component 3* – *Strengthening the Capacity for Education Sector Management and Refugee Response*. This component would support (i) improvement in planning, management, and evaluation of education reforms and (ii) Project Management.
4. *Component 4* ***–*** *Contingent Emergency Response*. This component will provide immediate response to an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, as needed, in case a natural or man-made disaster or emergency arises.

The project will support the building modern lyceum that will support the upper secondary education reform that requires establishing separate lyceums to standardize access to high-quality upper secondary education across the country. The new modern lyceums will be constructed based on the latest risk-informed, climate-resilient, energy-efficient, and waste-reducing construction standards which will be integrated into a broader school network optimization strategy aimed to provide quality education at all levels including for high school students.

The Ministry of Education and Research (MoER) would be responsible for overall Project implementation including the design of lyceums, while the National Office for Regional and Local Development (NORLD) would implement activities related to civil works.

1. **OBJECTIVE(S) OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The objective of the assignment is to assist and provide technical support to the MoER and Project Management Team (PMT) in order to perform all relevant activities related to the design of new schools.

1. **SCOPE OF WORK**

The engineer shall perform the following activities:

1. Assess the internationally available new school models and propose the most appropriate architectural design for the new schools;
2. Prepare and plan the architectural studies and construction works;
3. Organize and supervise the design procedures;
4. Work closely with the Procurement Specialist on the design bidding documents;
5. Organize and monitor the technical evaluation of the institution’s design within the Project;
6. Supervise the contract documents signed between Ministry and the design companies;
7. Organize the technical supervision of the institutions design implementation and monitor the schedule of school design implementation by the contractor, the payments and the quality of the executed services;
8. Regularly reports the issue that arise to the Ministry during the implementation of the institutions design and, if necessary, presents proposals to improve the problematic situations;
9. **DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT AND ESTIMATED TIME INPUT**

This is a part-time assignment (subject to 4 hours per day) expected to begin in April 2024. The contract will be signed for a period of 12 months. Subject to Consultant’s satisfactory performance, the contract may be renewed until the design of the new schools is completed.

1. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

The consultant to be hired in accordance with the proposed assignment should prepare monthly reports on all activities performed. This monthly report should be subject to approval of EQIP Project Coordinator.

The MoER and Project team will provide the Consultant with necessary support to complete the assignment: project documents necessary for assignment accomplishment, necessary work conditions, including office space, telephone, fax and other office equipment and supplies.

1. **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**
* Higher technical education: engineering and management in construction, construction and civil engineering, architecture and urbanism;
* Knowledge of national building legislation (Law 721, Law 163, Code. No.434 of 28.12.2023);
* Knowledge of the regulatory base in the field of construction and design (CP A.04.02:2023, CP B.01.01:2023, NCM C.01.02.2017/A1:2021, CP A.02.02.2018, NCM C 01.12:2018) and other regulations that are in force;
* Knowledge of international building regulatory base and the best practices in building educational institutions will be an asset;
* Minimum seven years of experience as a specialist in the construction field, experience in civil engineering and architecture;
* Working with international organizations would be an asset;
* Proven experience of technical supervision of construction works of social and educational objects costing at least 2 million MDL per object, in the last 5 years;
* Working experience with Nearly zero-emission buildings (NZEB) would be an asset;
* Good knowledge of Romanian, knowledge of English would be an asset;
* Good computer knowledge, including AutoCad, ArhiCad, WinCmeta, Microsoft Office, Internet and social media etc.
* Developed organizational capabilities, good communication skills, high level of responsibility, creative approach in problem solving, experience in planning and analysing the work done.
1. **CONFIDENTIALLY STATEMENT**

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