**The Kyrgyz Republic**

**LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT**

**Terms of References № KG\_LFF/IOC/IC-11**

 **Senior Procurement Specialist**

**I. Background**

In 2018, the President of the Republic approved the ‘National Development Strategy for 2018-2040 (Strategy 2040). Its focus is to create opportunities for human capital development including through education and the creation of highly-productive quality jobs, particularly in strategic sectors. It is fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The first phase of the Strategy 2040, the ‘Development Program of the KR 2018-22 (Program 22)’ acknowledges that the education system is not yet effective in developing the higher order skills that are needed; and identifies several education sector priorities, including: (i) improving the quality of education; (ii) making the education system more effective in teaching skills required by the modern economy; (iii) supplying schools with a broader range of modern teaching-learning materials and innovative technology and (iv) strengthening the professional capacities of teachers. In the latest development, the MoES’s draft of the National Education Sector Strategy 2030 addresses on the following priorities: (i) expanding access to ECE and improving its quality; (ii) strengthening teacher professional capacities to effectively teach skills, including transversal competencies (such as digital literacy) and providing flexible, accessible and affordable continuous professional development; (iii) improving the availability and use of digital teaching-learning materials at schools; and (iv) strengthening assessment systems to ensure children are formatively assessed, summative assessments are aligned with curricular competencies, and sample-based learning outcome evaluations are carried out to identify and remedy system weaknesses.

The project seeks to contribute to achieving these objectives by expanding ECE and enhancing the quality of education i.e., by promoting the teaching-learning of higher-order curricular competencies including socio-emotional skills to establish the foundation for adaptive learning to acquire the necessary skills for becoming a successful modern worker. In addition, it seeks to improve teaching-learning practices through the use of digital materials. The project also works to enhance the measurement of cognitive and non-cognitive skills and all three types of assessments outlined in the NEP 2026.

The project consists of two components, core and implementation support component.

### Component 1: Enhancing Teaching and Learning

The objective of this component is to increase equitable access to quality early childhood education and enhance the effectiveness of teaching-learning practices in pre-school through secondary education.

### Sub-component 1.1: Expanded school readiness for underserved children

The objective of this sub-component is to increase access to early childhood education in poor rural areas with no or low access, through establishing community-based kindergartens (CbKs).

### Sub-component 1.2: Increased effectiveness in teaching practice

The objective of this subcomponent is to increase teacher capacities in pre-school and general secondary education through a strengthened professional development model.

### Sub-component 1.3: Technology-enabled support for learning

The objective of this subcomponent is to strengthen teacher capacities for effective teaching through digital resources aligned to the new curriculum that complement new textbooks.

**Sub-component 1.4: Enhancing measurement of learning**

Building on the national assessment system strengthened through technical assistance under prior IDA and Trust funded operations, the objective of this subcomponent is to further enhance the measurement system and its capacity for assessing student learning outcomes in cognitive and non-cognitive domains, by gender.

#### **Component 2.1 Implementation Support**

This component will support the coordination, technical quality and fiduciary integrity of implementation; and the monitoring, evaluation and reporting on project processes and results.

**II. Objective of Assignment**

The objectives of assignment are to assist the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic by providing professional procurement consulting to ensure the timely Learning for the Future Project implementation and follow the Credit Agreement, BRD loans and IDA Credits of the World Bank Borrowers (the WB Procurement Documents) and the legislation of Kyrgyzstan.

**III. Scope of Services**

In order to achieve these objectives, the Specialist expected to do the following:

* Carry out the international and local bidding processes for the procurement of goods, consulting services in accordance with the Procurement Plan, WB document or the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Public Procurement” (hereinafter the Law on Public Procurement), depending on what is defined in the plan procurement;
* Ensure that the procurement of project activities is in accordance with the approved procurement plan is done in a timely and effective manner;
* Provide recommendations to the PCU Director on the procurement activities necessary for the timely and effective implementation of the project objectives;
* Review and update from time to time the Project Procurement Plan and obtaining the Ministry and Bank’s ‘no objection” to them;
* Prepare bidding documents in accordance with the WB Standard Bidding Documents and state procurement according to the procurement Plan;
* Prepare tender notifications in accordance with the WB Procurement Procedures or the Law on Public Procurement, depending on how it is defined in the procurement plan.
* Issue bidding documents to the potential bidders;
* Respond to the requests for clarifications, preparation and edit tender documents on time (as necessary);
* Carry out the processes of opening tender proposals / applications in accordance with the WB documents or the Law on Public Procurement;
* Receive proposals and submit these proposals to the evaluation committee;
* Participate in the work of the evaluation committee and provide advisory assistance to committee members in evaluating proposals / applications;
* Take the minutes of evaluation committee meetings;
* Prepare evaluation reports of bids/application based on the findings of evaluation committees;
* Prepare draft contracts;
* Prepare, publish contract award notifications and provide information about contract winners;
* Monitor and administer contracts of goods, services and consultants under the Project;
* Support all regular communication with PCU Financial Manager to coordinate procurement activities;
* Maintain and monitor the contract implementation in working order with suppliers of goods and consultants for the successful implementation of contracts.
* Inform the supplier of any breakages, or damages or defects in the goods supplied and ensure that these are remedied in accordance with the contracts;
* Manage all actions related to disputes with consultants or suppliers and warranties for the goods procured;
* Report procurement status for each process to the PCU Director on a monthly basis or as required;
* File and maintain all written and electronic records of procurement steps to enable the carrying out of the Project audit and required post reviews;
* Maintain all documentary records relating to procurement under the project for scrutiny by the independent auditor and WB supervision missions.
* Assist in preparing project progress reports;
* Work with STEP portal and upload all required files;
* Work with public procurement portal and deliver tenders according to the procurement plan.
1. **Expected Duration**

The proposed duration of this assignment is 5 years or until any other date to be agreed between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the WB. The contract will be concluded for one year (full time and part time) with the possibility of subsequent extension with satisfactory performance of the work.

1. **Reporting and Approval Procedures**

The senior specialist will work closely with the Department of Public Procurement and Infrastructure of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic on the procurement activities of the project, and report systematically to PCU. In the framework of the assignment, the consultant will prepare monthly progress reports on procurement.

1. **Client Input**

The PCU will provide appropriate office space, all relevant reports and studies, as well as project documents, to the Consultant to ensure efficient completion of this assignment. Such materials, data, reports, and documents may include data related to the current examination system in the country and new initiatives in the field of education (the Education Sector Strategy for KR; World Bank/Ministry and other relevant databases and documents).

1. **Qualification requirements and evaluation criteria**
2. Higher education in areas such as logistics, economics, finance, engineering, law, or other related fields- 10 points;
3. At least 5 year-professional experience in procurement financed by international donors - 40 points;
4. Good knowledge of procurement procedures of international donors and public procurement - 20 points;
5. Experience in developing procurement strategies and procurement sections of the project operational management - 15 points;
6. Excellent knowledge of Russian and good knowledge of English, knowledge of Kyrgyz is an advantage - 10 points;
7. Computer skills (Windows, MS Office, Internet Explorer, Microsoft Outlook) - 5 points.