

ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IsDB) GROUP

Economic and Social Infrastructure Department (ESID)

BCC2022-029 REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR SHORT- TERM CONSULTANT

To Support the ESID Operationalization of GPE / ACG SmartEd

May 2022

Invitation for Expression of Interest (IEOI) – Short-term Consultant

*Date*: May 10, 2022

Invitation for Expression of Interest

**[Support the ESID Operationalization of GPE / ACG SmartEd]**

1. The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) has approved an administrative budget for financing consulting services ***(the Services)***for the above project. The Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Services is in Appendix A. The Services will be provided by an individual consultant who may be self-employed professional or employee of a consulting firm.
2. IsDB will select and engage the Consultant in accordance with the IsDB Corporate Procurement Policy (Policy). The staff consultant for the assignment will be engaged based on a Fixed Budget Selection method based on monthly remuneration.
3. IsDB now invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from potential applicants from for consideration by IsDB in determining a shortlist of candidates to be invited to submit proposals. Depending on the number of the EOIs received and the qualifications of the applicants, IsDB may or may not short list all applicants who have submitted EOIs.
4. The consultancy services required are highlighted in the TOR.
5. The Applicants should complete the EOI Form in Appendix B and submit it along with copy of CV through IsDB’s online IEOI facility or by emailto the following authorized representatives of IsDB:

**Abdulrasheed Hassan Gul**

Corporate Procurement Division Administrative Service Department

Islamic Development Bank E-mail: EoI Submission - BCC2022-029 Consultant to Support the Operationalization of the strategic GPE Related ACG SmartEd Initiative [8b4db377.isdb.org@emea.teams.ms](mailto:8b4db377.isdb.org@emea.teams.ms)

**Appendix A:** Terms of Reference **Appendix B:** EOI Form

**Annex A: Terms of Reference (TOR)**

1. **Background / General description:**

**About the Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDBG)**

The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) approved its first Education Sector Policy in December 2018 as a blueprint to guide investment decisions and its engagement in global aid architecture in the sector. The overall goal of the IsDB Education Policy is to “support education systems to build resilience and institutional capacity, ensure continued learning for all and enhance learning outcomes”. The Education Sector Operations Strategy 2025 defines six enablers: System strengthening, Inclusiveness, Innovative financing, Partnerships, Capacity development, and Integration of technology, geared to support the Vision of building “Education systems that transform knowledge and learning for human development”.

The IsDB works towards improving lives and livelihoods by promoting social and economic development in its 57 Member Countries and Muslim Communities in Non-Member Countries across four continents in the world. To deliver impactful interventions at scale, the IsDB provides the infrastructure, training and capacity building needed for people to lead better lives and achieve their full potential.

Guided by the Islamic teaching to seek knowledge as a fundamental right for individuals to live and thrive to their fullest potentials, and to live in dignity and prosperity, investments in education and training is central to IsDB’s mission. Thus. inclusive human capital development is a key pillar of the IsDB strategic objectives of boosting recovery, tackling poverty and building resilience, and driving green economic growth in Member Countries.

In delivering on its mandate and to specifically finance the implementation of the Education Sector Strategy, the IsDB recognizes that development financing serves as a catalyst to leverage domestic resources and to unlock private sector financing. It also takes note of the extraordinary circumstance posed by COVID-19 pandemic and its implications for future education financing. In this regard, IsDB builds collaborative partnerships with development partners to enhance synergies and leverage expertise and financial resources.

**The Arab Coordination Group**

The Arab Coordination Group (ACG) comprises of ten Arab development financial institutions: Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Arab Gulf Development Program, Arab Monetary Fund, Islamic Development Bank Group, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, OPEC Fund for International Development, Qatar Fund for Development, and Saudi Fund for Development.

The principal objective of the ACG is to consult and optimize the application of resources and the giving of aid by the various Arab Development Funds. A further objective is to derive benefit from coordinating financing efforts and the accompanying procedures, particularly for major projects and programs that exceed the capacity of any single institution. In addition to achieving these common objectives, the intention is to establish clear links to promote development assistance and economic relations in the recipient countries.

At the invitation of the IsDB in May 2020, the ACG institutions agreed to pledge US$10 billion for a coordinated initiative to address and mitigate the negative impacts of the novel Coronavirus Pandemic on developing countries. The package focused on health emergency response; and as a contribution towards sustaining and reviving the economic and social sectors. To date the ACG Institutions has approved/committed US$ 8.6 billion financing, representing 86% of the US$ 10 billion pledge. These disbursements/commitments will benefit a large number of people in beneficiary countries and communities. Some ACG members have already exceeded their initial pledged targets, while others are well on the way to achieve or exceed their multi-year pledge target, ensuring the readiness of projects for implementation and delivery of results.

As a bloc, the ACG cooperates and partners with other similar entities notably the OECD DAC in several sectors/areas of international development. Following the adoption of the Education Sustainable Development Goal (SDG4) in 2015, Arab and DAC providers agreed, during the 2016 Arab-DAC Dialogue on Development, to explore setting up a joint task force on education. Since then, the Islamic Development Bank has been the Focal Point for the ACG in the Task Force, which aims at accelerating access to quality education in areas that are not being addressed through other initiatives or that have gaps in coverage.

At the operational level, the ACG meets regularly to share data on pipeline projects and solicit co-financing to any financial gaps thereof. The bulk of co-financing are through parallel financing in which parties maintain fiduciary responsibility over their funding while supporting a common project development objective.

**The IsDB-GPE Partnership**

GPE is a shared commitment to ending the world’s learning crisis, mobilizing partnership and investments to help partner countries transform their education systems. GPE brings together education partners with one overarching mission - deliver quality education for every child.

GPE is also a key driver of global and regional advocacy for transforming education. It endeavors to accelerate access, learning outcomes and gender equality by building resilient education systems in lower-income and lower middle-income countries.

GPE is governed by a Board of Directors with representation from lower income countries, donors, multilateral organizations (UN organizations and development banks), civil society, teacher organizations, the private sector and private foundations. IsDB is an Alternate Board Member for the Multilateral Agencies Constituency (MLA 3).

Bilateral and multilateral partners are critical to the GPE as it relies on this diverse group of partners for funding, governance, technical collaboration and support to sector coordination and grant delivery at country level. These partners also take on the role of Coordinating Agency and/or Grant Agent in GPE partner countries, playing key roles in the operationalization of GPE’s strategy. These roles are decided in Local Education Groups as an integral part of the overall sector coordination mechanism with government in the lead. The IsDB is one of fourteen accredited GPE Grant Agents and is currently serving in this capacity in Tajikistan, Yemen and Mauritania with an operation in Nigeria under processing.

The IsDB and GPE signed a ***Letter of Intent*** in April 2019 to serve as a framework to facilitate cooperation in areas of common interest in the field of education. The initial areas of collaboration identified were (i) leveraging additional resources for education through the GPE Multiplier; (ii) expanding role of IsDB in country level coordination, including as Grant Agent for GPE funding; (iii) deepening participation of IsDB in GPE governance; and (iv) jointly promoting political commitment to education.

**The ACG SmartEd Initiative**

The Arab Coordination Group’s Smart Financing for Education (ACG SmartEd) is an IsDB-GPE led initiative to create a ***US$ 500 million facility*** comprised of $400 million in concessional loans mobilized by the Arab Coordination Group (ACG) blended with $100 million of GPE grants to finance education and get millions of children into school and learning. The initiative is an opportunity to combine grant capital from GPE with concessional lending from the ACG to raise investment in high-impact education programs in 37 common member countries[[1]](#footnote-1). The combined financing of the SmartEd facility will be invested in evidence-based, nationally owned programs predicated on countries identified strategic aims for their education sectors to facilitates impact, national ownership, and sustainability. The SmartEd will be implemented over the GPE 2025 Strategic Plan period.

The IsDB will serve as the Focal Point on behalf of the ACG partners in the implementation of the ACG SmartEd facility and the Economic & Social Infrastructure Department wishes to strengthen the Education Sector Team to support the implementation process and ensure a focus on results. The Team will coordinate with the ACG institutions and the GPE Secretariat and work closely with the IsDB Regional Hub teams who are responsible for directly liaison with client governments and the Local Education Groups in beneficiary countries. The teams in the Hubs will coordinate with technical counterparts from the ACG institutions to jointly design, appraise and implement the country projects.

1. **Job Purpose:**

The IsDB is seeking an experience, high-performing, energetic individual consultant to support the Education Team in the coordination of the ACG SmartEd facility with partners and assist the IsDB Regional Hub Teams in the country dialogues during identification, preparation, appraisal and implementation of the country projects to ensure compliance with the partners requirements in general but more specifically with GPE procedures and guidelines.

***Duration of Assignment***: The successful candidate will be offered a one-year term for the first phase covering pipeline development, followed by an annual renewable tenure that covers preparation, appraisal and approval of projects and subsequent implementation, on a yearly basis based on performance.

***Duty station***: S/he shall be stationed at an IsDB Regional Hub nearest to his home country or as mutually agreed with at least an annual mission to IsDB HQ in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

1. **MAIN TASKS & DUTIES:**

The candidate will report to the Director, Economic & Social Infrastructure Department through the Lead Education Specialist. S/he will play a critical role in raising the profile of the ACG SmartEd as an innovative financing instrument. Additionally, s/he shall work closely with the Lead Education Specialist to ensure the translation of strategic objectives of the IsDB education strategy into operational priorities, results frameworks and quality assurance processes. Ensures that processes and instruments are fit-for-purpose and optimize development impact.

Specific duties include:

* The successful candidate will play a key role in supporting the joint IsDB-GPE technical team in developing the operational guidelines for the ACG SmartEd facility and participate in its operationalization. The candidate will provide support in matters related to Education, collaborate and engage with multiple stakeholder to nurture a network to enhance IsDB capacity to adopt best practices in project/programme management that support the sector operational strategy.
* ***Strategic Leadership***: Prepare and maintain a robust and rigorous operational mechanism for the implementation of the ACG SmartEd facility and to prepare necessary communications for the Bank to effectively coordinate with ACG institutions and the GPE Secretariat regularly.
* ***Operational leadership***: Works closely with the Regional Hub teams develop pipeline projects and support the planning, design and implementation arrangements including identification of suitable consultancy services for specific thematic areas of the projects, management of consultant contracts, and quality reviews of consultant reports and inputs to project appraisal documents to ensure quality. To provide capacity building sessions for project teams on partner processes and procedure to ensure continued compliance.
* In close consultation with the Regional Hub project teams, s/he will establish and convene quality assurance progress review meetings ahead of each semi-annual technical review meetings with partners and support the preparation and/or review of individual projects and program progress reports.
* Coordinates with relevant Entities/Departments/Units of the IsDB to provide timely response to data, information, reporting and other ad-hoc requests from partner institutions.
* Supports the Education Unit participate and/or contribute to cross-team/Departmental activities/tasks.
* The candidate shall be responsible for the review and preparation of technical notes and briefs, and advise on matters going to Board meetings of the Bank and/or GPE as well as the ACG
* Participate in project related missions (physically or virtually) to support complex project designs and ensure adherence to partner requirements.
* Works closely with the Lead Education Specialist to prepare occasional operational or management briefs and disseminate key knowledge products, best practices and learning outcomes with colleagues and partners.

1. **Remuneration**

The successful candidate shall receive a lumpsum pay to be disclosed and negotiated upon selection.

1. **Qualifications and Experience**

* Master’s degree in education, economics, finance or related disciplines
* At least seven to ten years’ experience in a similar or relevant function in international development or the private sector
* Experience in innovative financing in the social sectors
* Demonstrated knowledge of the trends and emerging challenges/issues related to the global education and development community, and experience working effectively with governments, civil society, multilateral development institutions, and the private sector
* Demonstrated ability to undertake analytical/technical work that translates technical skills into operational mechanisms for results in developing countries including in fragile contexts
* Sustained record of managing/participating at senior levels and delivering programs in teams for high performance, achieving substantive results over time in education sector planning, sector management, and in design of monitoring and evaluation of programmes and initiatives.
* Ability to conceptualize, organize, and manage teams, demonstrated expertise in analytical, evaluation and quality assurance work
* Strong technical leadership skills and knowledge, and effective communications skills and ability to convey complex technical ideas to a non-specialist audience including senior management and stakeholders. Strong negotiations and presentation skills.
* Experience supporting policy/strategy & programme development and implementation in education or other social sectors
* Ability to work under pressure, prioritize and juggle with multiple tasks under tight deadlines and respond to requests in a timely manner with quality
* Ability to work independently with minimum high-level guidance/supervision
* Proficiency in English with ability to work in French and/or Arabic is preferred

1. **Expression of Interest**

ESI invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above-mentioned services by filling the self-registration form for doing business with the IsDB via this link [**http://isdb.supplier.mn2.ariba.com/ad/selfRegistration/**](http://isdb.supplier.mn2.ariba.com/ad/selfRegistration/) and the following documents by the emails below:

* 1. Information on availability for the expected services.
  2. Curriculum Vitae, including relevant publications and assignments.
  3. Sample of similar works

Interested candidates are requested to submit their Expression of Interest submission channel email address stating the subject as: “To Support the ESID Operationalization of GPE / ACG SmartEd” and surname of the candidate. The Expression of Interest should be submitted not later **than June 7, 2022**. Please note that this Expression of Interest entails a non-binding commitment.

The EOIs Shall be submitted via email : EoI Submission - BCC2022-029 Consultant to Support the Operationalization of the strategic GPE Related ACG SmartEd Initiative [8b4db377.isdb.org@emea.teams.ms](mailto:8b4db377.isdb.org@emea.teams.ms)

1. **Absence of Conflict of Interest**

According to IsDB rules, the consultant must not have been involved in the design and/or implementation, supervision, and coordination of and/or have benefited from the program/project (or theme) under evaluation. The consultant will be requested to sign a declaration that the s/he has not worked in this program in any capacity.

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Appendix B

Expression of Interest (EOI) by Applicant

# **[Short-Term Consultant to Support the ESID in Operationalization of GPE / ACG SmartEd]**

Date:

Consultancy Service Unit Procurement and General Services Administrative Service Department

Islamic Development Bank E-mail: [8b4db377.isdb.org@emea.teams.ms](mailto:8b4db377.isdb.org@emea.teams.ms)

Dear, Mr. Abdulrasheed Hassan Gul, Islamic Development Bank.

I have read carefully your Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) for the captioned assignment/project and find the Terms of References (TOR) and Scope of Work match my skill mix and experiences for providing the services required in the TOR. I would like to express my interest for being considered for the Shortlist. I understand that IsDB does not have an obligation that I must be shortlisted.

I have attached to this EOI my Curriculum Vitae (CV) for your consideration. Some of the key information is highlighted below:

**Personal Profile**

Nationality: Date of Birth:

Permanent Address: Phone No.:

Email:

**Past Consultancy Assignment References**

*[Notes to consultant: Please select most relevant consultancy assignments you have recently completed to demonstrate your technical qualifications and experience.]*

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| Period | Client | Project | Country | Your role (As a Senior Consultant, Research Assistant or Regional Consultant) | Value of the Contract |
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1. **Availability**

I shall be available for the services from to *\_.*

1. **Eligibility Declaration**

I, the undersigned, certify to the best of my knowledge and belief:

I have read terms of reference (TOR) and Scope of Work (Appendix A), for this assignment.

I confirm that the project references submitted as part of this EOI accurately reflect the experience of myself.

I confirm that I have ever been convicted of an integrity-related offense or crime related to theft, corruption and fraud.

I understand that any misrepresentations that knowingly or recklessly mislead, or

attempt to mislead may lead to the automatic rejection of the proposal or cancellation of the contract, if awarded, and may result in further remedial action, in accordance with IsDB’s Integrity and Anti-corruption Policy.

*Signature: Name of the Applicant*

**Curriculum Vitae (CV)**

Position Title and No.: *{e.g., Senior Consultant, Research Assistant or Regional Consultant}*

Name of Expert: *{Insert full name}*

Date of Birth: *{day/month/year}*

Country of Citizenship/Residence: Contact information:

\_\_\_

Education: *{List college/university or other specialized education, giving names of educational institutions, dates attended, degree(s)/diploma(s) obtained}*

Employment record: *{Starting with present position, list in reverse order. Please provide dates, name of employing organization, titles of positions held, types of activities performed and location of the assignment, and contact information of previous clients and employing organization(s) who can be contacted for references. Please mark if the assignment is considered relevant to the assignment.}*

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| **Period** | **Employing organization and title/position. Contact information for references** | **Country** | **Summary of activities (Comment if relevant to the Assignment)** |
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Membership in Professional Associations and Publications:

Skills (language, technical, computer, others):

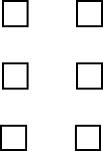
Certification:

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this CV correctly describes myself, my qualifications, and my experience, and I am available to undertake the assignment in case of an award. I understand that any misstatement or misrepresentation described herein may lead to my disqualification and/or sanctions by the Bank.

{day/month/year}

Name of Expert Signature Date

* 1. *I am employed by the concerned Agency/(ies) related to this consultancy assignment*



* 1. *I was involved with preparation of the terms of reference for this consultancy assignment*

*Y e s N o*

1. Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Nigeria, Togo, Cote d’Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Comoros, Djibouti, Mozambique, Somalia, Uganda, Guyana, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Albania, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Indonesia, Egypt, Sudan, Syria, Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen [↑](#footnote-ref-1)