## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Ministry of Education Science and Technology in Kosovo Project Title: Education Systems Improvement Project (ESIP)

Loan No.: IDA Credit 5726 -XK KESIP

**Assignment Title: Implementation Support for School Development Grants** 

Reference No.: 1.3.1/CS-QCBS/ESIP

The Education Systems Improvement Project (ESIP) is financed by a World Bank credit, equivalent to US\$11 million, and will be implemented by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Government of the Republic of Kosovo. The project aims to support the education sector reforms in Kosovo to: (i) improve the strategic and financial planning and monitoring capacity for decentralized education system; (ii) improve and strengthen teacher management and certification; (iii) provide support for the strengthening and improvement of Kosovo's student assessment and examination system; and (iv) strengthening Education Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity and Implementation and Communications Support.

MEST is planning to hire a consulting firm ("Consultants") to assist and support the work of the MEST and MEDs in implementing the School Development Grants (SDG) subcomponent, and to achieve the objectives through small grants invested directly to schools.

## The Objectives of the Assignment

The objective of this assignment is to support the MEST and MEDs to implement ESIP sub-component 1.3: School Development Grants. The beneficiary schools include up to 160 primary and lower-secondary schools (grades 0-9), primarily in rural areas, throughout Kosovo. The consultant will provide management and coordination support to all schools.

## The main duties include:

- Revision and updating the existing training materials on school development plans and proposals, as well as in implementation and reporting of activities;
- Provision of training activities to beneficiary schools in school development planning and grant proposal writing;
- Provision of support and follow-up activities (mentoring and monitoring) to all schools to
  ensure proper implementation of grants, with special focus on procurement, administration,
  monitoring and reporting.

## **Deliverables**

The estimated duration of the consultancy is 30 months with a level of effort estimated approximately 1,200 man days. The assignment is expected to start on March 2017 and end on August 2019. During this period the following will be delivered:

Deliverable # 1: Detailed implementation plan;

Deliverable # 2: Revised training materials and monitoring methodology;

Deliverable # 3: Regional information sessions;

Deliverable # 4: Workshops on SDPs and SGP;

Deliverable # 5: Workshops on procurement procedures;

Deliverable # 6: Mentoring and monitoring of implementation process;

The MEST now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services.

Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shortlisting criteria are:

- Demonstrated experience with implementation of similar activities, training programs over the past three years;
- General professional qualifications and competence of its experts involved in the fulfillment of this particular assignment;
- Expertise in management of funds, financial reporting, procurement as well as monitoring and reporting experience and capacities.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's <u>Guidelines:</u> <u>Selection and Employment of Consultants [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants] by World Bank Borrowers</u> dated January 2011revised July 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection CQBS method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 08:00 to 16:00.

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 **Tuesday 07 February 2017.** 

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