

## SECONDARY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF BALOCHISTAN

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SELECTION OF GRANT AGENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GRANT ALLOCATED BY GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION (GPE)

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) has allocated a Maximum Country Allocation (MCA) of USD 125 Million for Pakistan. Balochistan, has been allocated a proportion of USD 20 Million to implement components of the new Balochistan Education Sector Plan (2019-2023) as endorsed by the Local Education Group (LEG) and approved by GPE.

Through this Expression of Interest, the Secondary Education Department aims to select a Grant Agent (GA) in line with the standard procedure laid out by GPE. The Grant Agent will manage in the MCA in a manner that supports:

- 1) Effective, inclusive partnership
- 2) Preparation of Grant Application
- 3) Fiduciary responsibilities in compliance with the Financial Procedure Agreement with the GPE trustee (The World Bank) (The Grant Agent will be required to enter a Financial Procedure Agreement with the GPE trustee.)
- 4) Program implementation and monitoring
- 5) Reporting

Expressions of interest submitted by all development partners must be in line with the Terms of Reference for Grant Agents of the GPE Education Sector Implementation Grant (ESPIG)<sup>1</sup>.

Secondary Education Department has identified the scope of work for ESPIG yet to be endorsed by the Local Education Group (LEG) through in-depth consultations. The Grant Agent selected will facilitate this process and assist the Secondary Education Department in preparation of full proposal to be submitted to GPE in order to access the allocated grant. The Grant Agent will be selected through a transparent process. The decision of the selection committee will be presented for endorsement of the Local Education Group (LEG).

Applications are invited from interesting organizations fulfilling the minimum standards below:

#### **1. Financial Management**

*Please explain your organization's ability to discharge fiduciary and administrative responsibilities particularly for the GPE funds:*

- I. Ability to work through the preferred funding modality endorsed by the LEG;
- II. Administrative and financial management systems of the organization and processes for management (including disbursement) of funds, internal and external financial audits;
- III. Ability and experience in formulation, oversight and management of similar grant size. How can the GPE grant benefit from this experience? What is your organization's history of managing multiple donor funds in a timely and correct way?
- IV. Brief description of similar programs including the scope of work and the funds managed;

#### **2. Institutional Capacity**

*Please explain your organization's ability to formulate and support implementation of programs of similar scope of work, support capacity building of the government in*

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.globalpartnership.org/sites/default/files/document/file/2019-08-gpe-grant-agent-standards-implementation-grant\\_1.pdf](https://www.globalpartnership.org/sites/default/files/document/file/2019-08-gpe-grant-agent-standards-implementation-grant_1.pdf)

*implementation of BESP and commitment to joint education sector dialogue and coordination:*

- I. Explain your organization's legal status to work in Pakistan and the authority to enter into contractual agreements with GPE and other third parties and receive funds;
- II. What role is your organization playing in education sector planning? Which education sector dialogues and forums have you contributed to in Balochistan and how?
- III. How will you synergize with existing partners and continuance of alignment between GPE funds and BESP?
- IV. How would you view your organization as distinctly valuable for partnership with the Secondary Education Department to improve access to quality education, governance and management of the education sector in Balochistan?
- V. What is your organization's internal capacity to:
  - support Secondary Education Department Balochistan in strengthening education systems in the province, and
  - facilitate other significant groups such as communities, civil society, non-governmental organizations and development partners which can impact outcomes in education;
  - supervise grants at the provincial, district and community levels in partnership with Secondary Education Department;
- VI. What information, accountability and integrity and participatory approaches will your organization adopt to improve governance and decentralization systems for disbursement, management and monitoring of funds and how your gender mainstreaming approach improve human resource management and capacity development of education officials?
- VII. What are your organization's internal capacities, experiences and achievements in developing innovative data systems in education?
- VIII. What is your organization's education portfolio in Pakistan and the ability to adjust program implementation to local contexts? (intimate knowledge of the local context of Balochistan and demonstrated work experience will be an advantage)
- IX. Brief description of projects implemented in collaboration with Secondary Education Department Balochistan in the last three years.
- X. Evidences of the successful program implementation from external evaluations or donor agencies.
- XI. What policies and procedures does your organization's have in place which demonstrate its competence to deal with financial mismanagement and other forms of malpractice including sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment? How do these policies and procedures protect individuals from retaliation due to providing information on misuse of funds or incidents of abuse, violence and exploitation?

To qualify as Grant Agent, your organization must be a multilateral agency partner, a GPE donor country or an INGO (GPE will screen INGOs for their fiduciary capacity). Please also state and confirm that your organization is familiar with the selection process as laid out by GPE and has acquired all necessary approvals demonstrating also that there is agreement within your agency at the highest appropriate level to take up this role.

### **3. Important Indicative Timelines**

- 02 January 2020: Call for Expression of Interest issued
- 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020: Deadline for submission of Expressions of Interest
- 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> January 2020: Review of Expressions of Interest by Secondary Education Department

- 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020: Comparative analysis will be presented by PPIU to the consultation group for final selection of the GA.
- 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020: Results of the process will be communicated to successful agency;
- 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020: Secondary Education Department will officially inform GPE Secretariat the details of selected grant agent.

#### **4. How to apply:**

- Agencies interested to participate in this Expression of Interest are requested to submit their documents electronically clearly mentioning 'Call for Expression of Interest for Grant Agent in Balochistan' in the subject of email. Send your submissions to [asmat\\_khilji77@yahoo.com](mailto:asmat_khilji77@yahoo.com), [rizwanahmed\\_67@ymail.com](mailto:rizwanahmed_67@ymail.com). Please also submit a hard copy of the document to the office of Additional Secretary (Dev.), Focal Person PPIU, Secondary Education Department, Government of Balochistan on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Later submissions will not be considered.

#### **ANNEX: Useful documents for ESPIG grant agents**

[Standard selection Process for Grant Agents](#)

[Grant Agents Minimum Standards](#)

[Terms of Reference for ESPIG Grant Agents](#)

[Conflict Resolution Procedures](#)