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Learning Advancement and Measurement Project (LAMP: P172631)

Ministry of Education

Republic of Maldives

TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANT TO DEVELOP MEDIA PACKAGES ON PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

(Procurement Ref: MV-MOE-211017-CS-INDV)

Background

The Government of Maldives (GoM) has an Education Sector Plan (ESP) endorsed by the Local Education Group (LEG) under implementation. This is the central step required for financial assistance from the GPE. The ESP has four main goals. The first goal is to improve learning for all through equitable access to quality education. The main results of the GoM seeks to achieve under this goal are to ensure that all children from pre-school through grade 12 are enrolled in school, learning gaps across atolls are reduced, and overall learning outcomes are improved. The second goal is to provide youth and adults with the necessary skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship. The third goal is to ensure equitable access to lifelong learning and a quality higher education for all. The fourth and final goal is to strengthen the system for efficiency to deliver high quality education. The Maldives Learning Advancement and Measurement Project (LAMP) will support the first goal by promoting strategic initiatives to improve learning outcomes in foundation and primary education, with a special focus on the atolls where learning levels are lowest.

Components of the LAMP

The LAMP is organized into three components.

Component one: Strengthening Curriculum Implementation: is designed to strengthen curriculum implementation and improve learning outcomes in key subjects, English, mathematics and Dhivehi at the Foundation and Primary Education stages. To ensure equitable access to learning, this component is also designed to provide support for children with SEN and students at risk.

Component two: Improving Teacher Education and Development: is designed to improve teacher quality and performance; with initiatives aimed at improving both pre-service teacher education and continuing professional development of teachers. The Project will help the GoM to develop SBPD to continuously improve teacher motivation, pedagogical skills, competencies and performance. In addition, the Project will help enhance the quality of pre-service teacher education programs offered by the MNU, IUM, and non-state HEIs.

Component three: Advancing the Measurement of Student Learning and School Performance: is designed to advance the measurement of student learning and school performance; with specific initiatives aimed at modernizing the system for learning assessment and developing the school QA system.





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Background of the assignment

The experience of an emergency can significantly impact the mental health and psychosocial well-being of a person. Exposure to violence or disaster, loss of or separation from family members and friends, deterioration in living conditions, inability to provide for one's self and family, and lack of access to services can all have immediate, as well as long-term consequences for individuals, families and communities. The COVID-19 pandemic has similar implications on mental health and well-being of individuals especially children. The prolonged disruptions in the education are estimated to have an impact on the mental health and wellbeing of the 91,000 learners across the Maldives.

In order to minimize the impact of these stressful situations mental health and psychosocial support must be accessible to everyone. Psychosocial support plays a crucial role in responding to crises as they cater for the needs of the majority of the affected population. With the right support, the majority of people will be able to overcome the difficult experiences without further exacerbation. Psychosocial support helps in the recovery process by enabling individuals, families and communities to overcome stressful situations by adopting positive coping mechanisms. This also helps in the prevention of long-term consequences, thus easing the overall burden on health systems.

Thus, the Ministry of Education (MoE) is looking for a local consultant for the development and dissemination of media packages on psychosocial support for the school community.

Objectives and scope of work

The purpose of this assignment is to support the MoE to develop and disseminate media packages on psychosocial support for the school community. The objectives of this consultancy would be to:

- Develop a comprehensive strategy for the provision of psychosocial support through media;
- Develop communication and advocacy materials on psychosocial support; and
- Provide technical support in the dissemination of the media packages.

Duty station: Male', Maldives

Supervisor: Director General of Educational Supervision and Quality Improvement Division of Ministry of Education.

Major tasks

1. Develop a comprehensive strategy for the provision of psychosocial support:
 - ✓ Review existing resources on psychosocial support, successful media intervention programs conducted both nationally and internationally.





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- ✓ Conduct stakeholder consultations with students, teachers, counsellors, parents and other relevant organizations to identify most common issues that needs to be addressed, which modality would be most successful in reaching out to the target groups.
- ✓ Identify and finalize modalities that would be employed to deliver the messages.
- 2. Develop content of the psychosocial media packages for different target groups - students, teachers and parents. The content must be inclusive and age-appropriate.
- 3. Develop the media packages in accordance with strategy & content developed. Various methods such as animated videos, animations, posters etc. must be used in the development of the packages.
- 4. Develop a dissemination plan and provide technical support in the dissemination of the packages and address emerging issues as required.

Deliverables

1. Comprehensive strategy for the provision of psychosocial support through various media platforms.
2. Finalized content of the psychosocial media packages.
3. Finalized media packages – videos, animations, posters etc.
4. Dissemination plan for the media packages.

Estimated duration of contract

Seven months

Qualifications or specialized knowledge and/or experience required

1. At least four years of experience in conducting national level communication and social mobilization campaigns.
2. Must be able to manage diverse viewpoints and work in demanding situations.
3. Proven record of delivering high quality and timely deliverables.

Facilities to be provided

The consultancy will be entitled to the following facilities:

- An office/desk at the MoE with equipment including a computer/laptop and docking station, telecommunication services, and access to printing, photocopying and scanning equipment.
- Transport for official purposes. Transport, lodging, subsistence and incidental expenses for atoll travel for official purposes.

