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Learning Advancement and Measurement Project (LAMP: P172631)

Ministry of Education

Republic of Maldives

TERMS OF REFERENCE

CHIEF EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

(Procurement Ref: MV-MOE-209550-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 preschool 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 Ministry of Education (MoE) overlooks the highest number of stakeholders and needs of the society. In the past few years, the MoE has had significant development in the area of information communication technology, which has further enhanced and strengthened the provision of education and educational administration.

A brief look into these advancements initiated with the introduction of the Maldives Education Management Information System (MEMIS), which enabled all the schools across the Maldivian archipelago to be connected and monitored through one central data management system. Parallel to that, a programme was conducted where the MoE, and all the schools running under it were introduced to G-Suite and its uses. Online training programmes were conducted throughout the atolls to certify all the academic staff to use the educational facilities available on G-Suite. In addition to that, EduPage, another web-based mechanism to enhance the administrative operations of schools were introduced. One of the biggest ICT projects in the educational history of the Maldives has been the provision of tablets to all students studying in government schools. Through this programme, all the students and academic staff have been assigned tablets, which are being used to augment the quality of education provided in the schools. Another ICT project currently being rolled out in the country is the Interactive Digital Content programme, through which students and teachers will be provided interactive digital textbooks, which will aid them to improve the quality of education provided within the classrooms. Furthermore, in collaboration with Hologo Education, Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) are being introduced to schools.

The major platforms that require staff training and support are:

- MEMIS;
- G-Suite for education;
- Edupage and aSc timetable;
- Cambridge Elevate;
- FILAA portal; and
- Canvas.

ICT in Education Master Plan 2.0

The ICT in Education Master Plan of the education sector of the Maldives expired in 2019. The new master plan (ICT in Education Master Plan 2.0) is built on four major dimensions and is almost complete and being validated. (Please refer to the Annex for the draft of the ICT master plan).

A consultant is needed to support the Ministry of Education to coordinate the finalization and implementation of the ICT Master Plan.

Roles and responsibilities of the CETO

The CETO will report to the ICT Coordinating Committee of MoE. His/her main duties and responsibilities are to:





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- Facilitate / coordinate the implementation of the ICT in Education Master plan.
- Monitor and report to the MoE senior officials on the progress and challenges in the implementation of the ICT master plan.
- Coordinate with the QAD and identify the ICT aspects in SIQAAF and help schools to embed these elements in school improvement plans (SIP).
- Coordinate with the Policy Planning and Research Division (PPRD) and the Information Technology Section (IT Section) of the MoE to streamline and standardize the data in digital learning platforms and data in MEMIS.
- Manage and organize the learning resource repository (filaa.moe.gov.mv).
- Coordinate with NIE and MEMIS unit to ensure that teachers' in-service training data is recorded and updated in MEMIS.
- Promote, foster and help schools to inculcate digital ethics and elements of digital citizenship in teaching, learning and school administration.
- Develop indicators to evaluate and monitor the extent of ICT integration in schools in teaching & learning and school administration and capture data for analysis and reporting.
- Develop a plan to establish an educational TV channel for MoE/NIE.
- Develop a plan and monitor the localization (in house development and control) of MEMIS.
- Develop a plan and monitor the integration of MOE portals with other government portals.
- Provide general support in ICT related areas.
- Report the issues, progress and challenges to the ICT coordination committee.

Qualifications, experience and Professional Competencies

- The candidate must have at least a Master's Degree in the field of Information Communication Technology (ICT) or in a relevant field.
- The candidate must have at least 5 years of work experience in a relevant field.
- The ability to support the strengthening of the ICT unit, such as capacity building, across the multiple dimensions of the Master Plan.

Remunerations

As per the agreement between GoM and the WB for this position, according to the National Pay Commission's Circular Number 13-NPC/CIR/2018/5.

Schedule

The service is initially for a period of 12 months. Performance evaluation reviews will be organized by the ICT Coordinating Committee of MoE, who will provide feedback on performance to the Project Coordinator. The position is renewable on an annual basis, subject to satisfactory performance.





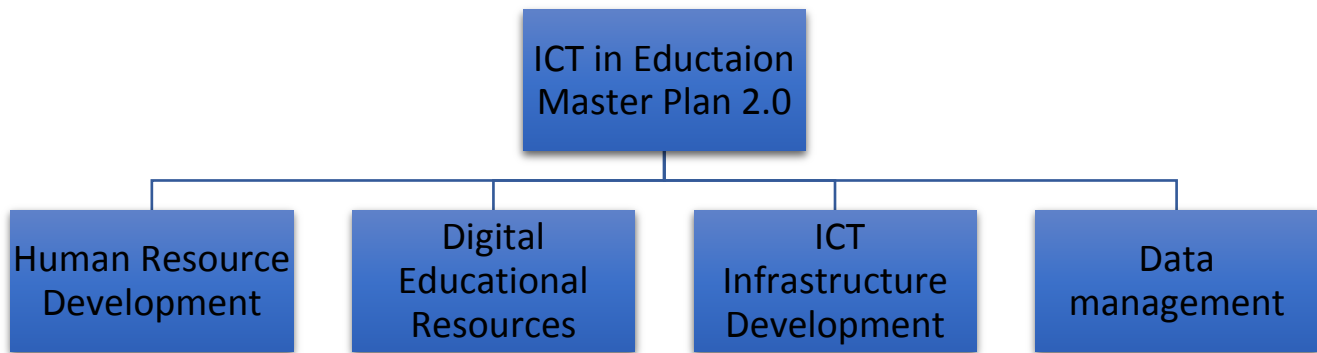
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Facilities to be provided

The holder of the position would be entitled to the following facilities:

- An office in the Information Technology Services (IT) Department of 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.

Annex



Capacity building for academic and non-academic staff	Digital interactive textbooks	High speed connectivity for all schools	Optimizing MEMIS to the needs of stakeholders
ICT related pre-service teacher education	Content adaptation for special needs	Laptop for teachers	Dissemination and access of reliable data
ICT integrated capacity building for officials of MoE	Digital teaching and learning content for teachers	Computer laboratory for all schools	Localising MEMIS - ownership and development
	Digital educational resources for students	Assistive technology for students with special educational needs	
		Digital resource portal	





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Human Resource Development

The main aim of human resource development component of the master plan is to ensure the provision of professional development and training for all key players and enable smooth ICT integrated teaching for increased student learning outcomes. There are a 3 main programmes and 7 projects under Human Resource Development component of the MP.

Programme	Projects
1.1 ICT related capacity building for academic and non-academic staff	1.1.1. Development and implementation of ICT teacher competency standards. 1.1.2. ICT integrated training for teachers 1.1.3. Training an ICT Leader in every school 1.1.4. basic ICT training for non-academic staff 1.1.5. ICT related intense capacity building for IT technicians
1.2 ICT related pre-service teacher education	1.2.1 ICT integration in preservice teacher training
1.3 ICT related capacity building for officials of MOE	1.3.1 ICT related training for MOE Officials





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Digital Resource Development

The main aim of Digital Resource Development component of the master plan is to enhance 21st century skills among learners and teachers by providing digital content to schools. There are 4 main programmes and 8 projects under this component.

Programme	Projects
1.1 Interactive digital textbook	1.1.1 Developing interactive textbooks for Key Stages 1-4 1.1.2 Developing a mechanism to provide interactive textbooks (A level subjects) for Key stage 5 1.1.3 Developing interactive text books (Dhivehi, Islam and Quran) for Key stages 1-5
1.2 Content adaptation for special needs	1.2.1 Adapting existing content to cater for visual and hearing impaired students (Key stages 1-3)
1.3 Digital teaching and learning content for teachers	1.3.1 Developing a mechanism to share digital content among teachers
1.4 digital educational resources for students	1.4.1 develop digital educational resources for Science, Social Studies, Language and Mathematics 1.4.2 develop grade appropriate Dhivehi (local) reading materials 1.4.3 develop grade appropriate English reading materials



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ICT Infrastructure Development

The main aim of ICT Infrastructure Development component of the Master Plan is developing a nationwide infrastructure in Maldivian school education system to help increase student learning outcomes through information communication technologies. There are 8 main programmes and 8 projects under this component.

Programme	Projects
3.1 High speed connectivity for all schools	3.1.1 Connectivity
3.2 Laptop for Teachers	3.2.1 Laptop scheme for all teachers 3.2.2
3.3 Computer Laboratory for all Schools	3.3.1 Establishment of Computer Laboratories in all schools
3.4 Assistive technology for students with special educational needs	3.4.1 Assistive technology for students with special educational needs
3.5 Teachers' Learning Management System	3.5.1 Develop & Deploy an LMS
3.6 Digital Resource Portal	3.6.1 Creating a national resource portal
3.7 Maintenance of Equipments and Tools	3.7.1 Providing Hardware devices and equipment to cater the requirement
3.8 Smart TV for every classroom	3.8.1 Provide 65" Smart TV for every classroom



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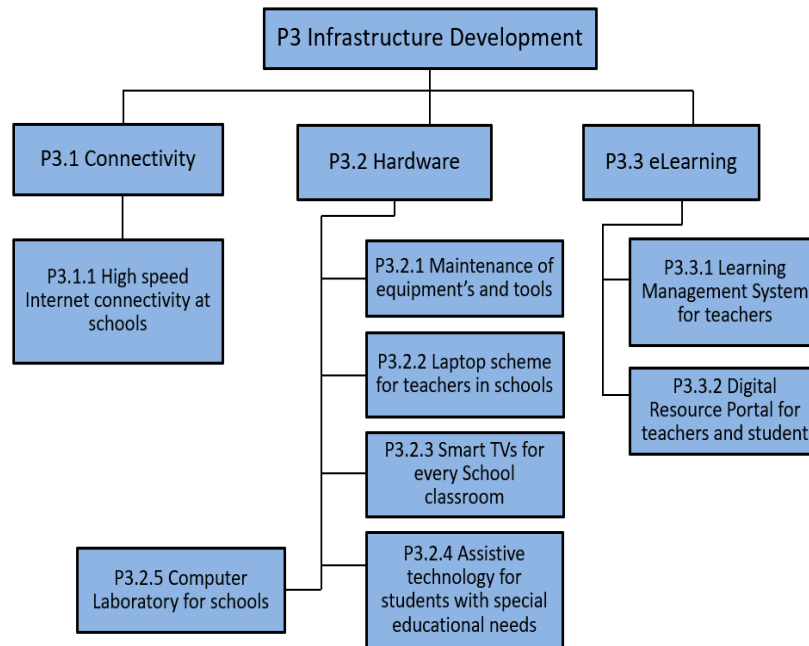
Education Management Information System Development

The main aim of the Education Management Information System Development component of the Master Plan is to further develop the Maldives Education Management Information System Development (MEMIS) as a one-stop solution for administration, dissemination, and utilisation of educational data in the Maldivian School System. There are 3 main programmes and 6 projects under this component.

Programme	Projects
1.1 Optimizing MEMIS to the needs of stakeholders	1.1.1 Customising MEMIS interface and add new features 1.1.2 Preparing learning resources / user manuals
1.2 Dissemination and access of reliable data	1.2.1 Open access to data (develop MEMIS dashboard) 1.2.2 Enhance and mainstream the use of memis APPS
1.3 Localizing MEMIS - Ownership and development	1.3.1 Ownership of MEMIS by GoM (Hosting, Database and Source code) 1.3.2 Capacity building in terms of Policy



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Since the Maldivian education sector carries a noteworthy incorporation of ICT in the provision of education and management of administration, there is an imminent need for a specialised unit to further enhance the ICT support services. This ICT unit will be responsible for the provision of support, guidance and awareness of ICT-related projects, and development of new ICT projects to further improve the quality of education and educational administration of Maldivian education sector.



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The proposed model for support unit

