



Ministry of Higher Education

Republic of Maldives

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

# Consultancy for First Degree Grant Scheme Impact Assessment

## Background

The availability of financial aid is critical to students' post-secondary achievements and opportunities. Financial barriers are a major impediment to minority and low-income students from enrolling and graduating from college. In addition, research suggests that financial aid boosts the likelihood of enrolling in higher education.

The Ministry of Higher Education, Government of Maldives (GOM) launched the national first-degree grant scheme in February 2019. The fundamental goal of this scheme is to make higher education more accessible to all Maldivians and to increase the number of educated young people in the community.

### 1. Objective and Scope of work:

The objective of the assignment is to carry out mixed methodology data analysis. This study aims to review the impact of gross enrolment and course completion after the introduction of the free first-degree grant scheme. The selected consultant will be required to:

- Analyse the diversification of programs offered by university/colleges/institutes due to the free first-degree grant scheme.
- Program enrolment and completion based on age group, gender.
- Changes in the number of students with course completion, course withdrawal after the introduction of the free first-degree grant scheme.

- Use qualitative and quantitative methods to analyse data.
- Prepare and submit an executive summary of the findings to the MoHE.
- Complete and submit the final report of the survey to the MoHE.

## 2. Deliverables and Timeline:

<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Signed contract	-
Data cleaning completed and ready for the statistical analysis	1 person-week
Data analysis completed	1 person-week
Executive summary of the findings completed and submitted to the MoHE	1 person-week
Approval of the executive summary by the MoHE	1 person-week
Draft report completed and submitted to the MoHE	2 person-week
Approval of the draft report by the MoHE	1 person-week
Final report completed and submitted to the MoHE	1 person-week
Approval of the final report by the MoHE	1 person-week

## 3. Procedure for review of deliverables:

The MoHE will check the deliverables, provide feedback to the Consultant for the deliverables.

The deliverables will be deemed as completed, once approved by MoHE, in writing.

## 4. Qualification and Professional Competencies:

- Minimum Master's degree in Education or any other related field.
- Minimum two academic articles published as author' co-author.
- Sound knowledge of impact assessment methodologies.
- Should have a good command of the English language.
- Research experience in the field (e.g., education/ assessment)

## **5. Duration of the assigned work**

The work is expected to be completed within nine weeks. The work schedule and timeline can be negotiated with the MoHE team leaders after the work is assigned.

## **6. Remuneration:**

Remuneration will be at the end of the project given upon acceptance of the final report by the MoHE.

## **7. Working Arrangements:**

The Consultant will work remotely. The Consultant will be required to provide regular updates and attend meetings as and when required by the MoHE.

## **8. Submission of Application:**

Eligible candidates should submit:

- Technical and financial proposals detailing understanding of the TOR, methodology and work plan.
- Academic Qualifications (Accredited) and Research experience documents
- Professional Profile (including details of academic articles published)
- Detailed CV (Including identity card and supporting document)

## 9. Marks Allocation Details:

<b>Details</b>	<b>Percentage Marks Allocated</b>
Price	40%
Interview <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Sound knowledge of impact assessment methodologies.</li><li>- Good command of the English language.</li><li>- Research experience in the field (e.g., education/ assessment)</li></ul>	40%
Two Academic Articles Published as author/co-author	10%
Qualifications	10%

