

Moldova Education Reform Project (MERP)
Ministry of Education, Culture and Research

TERMS OF REFERENCES

IT Specialist
(part-time assignment)

1. Background information on the project

The „Moldova Education Reform” Project (MERP) is a World Bank-financed Specific Investment Loan (SIL) to be implemented between April 2013 and June 2020.

The total cost of original credit is SDR 26.1 million (USD 40 million equivalent) and the Additional Financing in the amount of SDR 7.1 million (US\$ 10 million equivalent) is provided to the Republic of Moldova in support of Moldova Education Reform Project.

The MERP supports the Government of Moldova (GoM) reform program by financing activities that will strengthen the quality of education and lead to a more efficient education sector. Through this Project, the World Bank support the GoM in implementing the needed reforms, which include initiatives for:

- Improve learning conditions in targeted schools;
- Strengthen the education monitoring systems;
- Promoting efficiency reforms in the education sector.

The objective of the Project is to improve learning conditions in targeted schools and strengthen the Recipient’s education monitoring systems, while promoting efficiency reforms in the education sector.

MERP’s focus is to support interventions that would lead to improvements in the quality and efficiency of primary and general secondary education. Specifically, the AF would allow Ministry of Education, Culture and Research (MoECR) to expand the coverage and depth of selected activities already initiated under MERP, such as teacher and school managers’ training, participation in PISA, and development of an additional module to EMIS (TVET module) and roll-out of the preschool module.

The MERP has three components:

- A. “Strengthening the Quality of Education”,
- B. “Improving the Efficiency of the Education Sector”
- C. “Improving the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research’s Capacity to Monitor the Reform”.

Component C has the objective to finance Technical Assistance (TA) for the MoECR to support the implementation, monitoring and measurement of the MERP. Within component C, the World Bank offers technical assistance to help the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research of Moldova in the achievement of the project activities, through making available global knowledge and technical expertise. In this context the MoECR intends to apply part of the proceeds for contracting a Consultant for IT Specialist position.

The IT Specialist will assist and provide technical support to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research and Project management team in order ensure smooth implementation of the project activities related to development and implementation of informational technology as well as procurement of IT Equipment.

2. Objective(s) of the assignment

The objective of the consultancy is to provide technical support to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research and Project management team in order ensure smooth implementation of the project activities related to development and implementation of informational technology as well as procurement of IT Equipment.

3. Scope of Work

The individual consultant to be hired based on these Terms of Reference shall:

- Assist and support the stakeholders, relevant Divisions and Departments of MoECR involved in the implementation of the activities related to IT for the purpose of experience exchange in the field.
- Participate in development and improvement, as appropriate, of concepts, terms of reference, technical specifications and other technical documents required for procurement of IT solutions including equipment;
- Assist the evaluation committee and procurement specialists by providing the technical feedback during the selection process of the Companies that will be mainly in charge of the Project activities related to IT Solution;
- Ensure management including by managing risks, assessing activities, developing recommendations of the contracts related to development/procurement of IT Solution;
- Coordination and monitoring of implementation of the contract related to IT solutions;
- Assist and coordinate the process of acceptance of developed/purchased IT Solutions within MERP project;
- Perform the risk and vulnerability assessment of the IT activities under MERP Project;
- Provide management of IT activities under the MERP project.

4. Qualification requirements and basis for evaluation (evaluation criteria)

The consultant should have:

- I. General Qualifications - 30 points
 - Higher education degree in Informational Technology;
 - Experience in working for or with international development organizations and/or projects;
 - At least 2 years of professional experience in IT projects' management.
- II. Adequacy for the Project - 60 points
 - Proven specific IT Project Manager experience through implementation of similar projects implying technical analysis, formalization of requirements, design and development of software solutions;
 - understanding the cloud computing principles and the related architectural application development approaches. Experience in development of technical specifications related to M - Cloud, ECMP, M-Pass, M-Log and other governmental platforms;

- Experience in the development of national scale systems with the use of „Oracle APEX” will be an asset.

III. Language and relevant skills - 10 points

- Good knowledge of English and Romanian (both written and oral);
- Outstanding organizational skills, ability to multitask and reply to inquiries upon short notice.

5. Deliverables

The consultant to be hired in accordance with the proposed assignment should prepare monthly reports on all activities performed. This monthly report should be subject to approval of MERP Project Coordinator.

6. Duration of the assignment

This is a part-time assignment (subject to 4 hours per day) expected to begin in May 2019. The consultancy services will last till June 2020 with possible extension throughout the life of the project.

7. Reporting requirements

The individual consultant to be hired will report to the Project Coordinator.