



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Education Specialist

A. OBJECTIVE

The Education Specialist will be responsible to review all reports developed by consultants under the EQIP, BESRP I and BESRP II to ensure the content is aligned with the Belize Education Sector Strategy and the expected outcomes from the work of the Ministry of Education Youth Sports and Culture (MOEYSC).

B. BACKGROUND

Below is an overview of the projects managed by the MoEYSC's Project Execution Unit (PEU).

1.0 EDUCATION QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

- 1.1 The Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture of Belize (MOEYSC) requested technical assistance from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to support its efforts to improve the quality of primary education and the governance of the Belize education system. The specific objectives of this program are to: (i) train Teacher Education Institutes (TEI) pre-service instructors teaching methods courses and to train in-service teachers at the primary level; (ii) train primary school principals in instructional leadership and administration; (iii) develop and implement an Education Management Information System (EMIS) for all schools at the primary and secondary levels; and (iv) improve the profile of teacher candidates.
- 1.2 The above objectives will be achieved through the investments of resources in three components:
 - i) **Improving the Quality of Teachers.** The objective is to improve the quality of primary school teachers by raising the profile of teacher candidates, improving the quality of initial teacher education, and improving the skills of in-service teachers.

- ii) **Governance of the Education System.** The objective is to create a quality assurance system to improve education policy planning and accountability mechanisms at various levels of the education system, including schools, the TEIs, and the MOEYSC.
 - iii) **Evaluation.** This component will finance the evaluation efforts of the operation throughout its execution.
- 1.3 To manage the execution of the program the government will contract a Project Coordinator to lead the Program Executing Unit for EQIP.

2.0 BELIZE EDUCATION SECTOR REFORM PROJECT I

2.1 The BESRP is funded through a loan and a small grant from the Caribbean Development Bank. The funding is for the implementation of various interventions in the form of technical assistance aimed at achieving three key policy objectives: increased equitable access across all levels, improved quality and relevance and strengthened governance. The project objective is to “improve learning and student performance across all levels of the education sector and enhanced human capital in Belize and poverty reduction are the ultimate outcomes.” The enhancement of learning outcomes across the system is the principal focus of the BESRP I, key components of the project are:

- i) Strengthen Governance
- ii) Enhance Quality and Relevance
- iii) Increase Access
- iv) Project Management

3.0 BELIZE EDUCATION SECTOR REFORM PROJECT II

3.1 Is a continuation of BESRP I, its overall outcome is focused to increase equitable access to quality basic education and will assist the GOB to increase the number of children benefiting from the current reforms in the education sector. This loan provides for the following projects

- (i) Enhancement of the learning environment by the construction and equipping of thirty-five (35) new schools at the pre-primary, primary and secondary levels benefitting approximately 5,300 students; and
- (ii) The institutional strengthening of management in the education sector, by enhancing the mechanisms and capacity for quality service delivery. The overall outcome of this project is to increase equitable access to quality basic education.

C. KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Education Specialist shall be responsible for the review of all TORs and submissions made by the various consultants undertaking work under the EQIP, BESRP the BESRP II and I. This person is expected to lead discussions with the consultants, discuss any discrepancies with the lead person within the MOEYSC to ensure the highest level of value will be accrued by the stakeholders, and advise the Ministry and CDB on the acceptability of the outputs submitted by the consultants.

The responsibilities of the education specialist include, but are not limited to:

- i) Assist the senior project coordinator to finalize the draft terms of reference;
- ii) Assist the senior project officer to finalize advertisements for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for institutional strengthening and capacity building activities;
- iii) Lead the review of EOIs and RFPs for institutional strengthening and capacity building activities;
- iv) Review all reports submitted by the various consultants to ensure the reports are aligned with the TOR, the education strategy and will yield SMART results for the key stakeholders;
- v) Draft and present timely synopsis reports to the Project Steering Committee and to the MOEYSC's Senior Management and for submission to CDB;
- vi) Coordinate timely feedback from the various MOEYSC working groups and where necessary, incorporate such feedback into the relevant documents;
- vii) Compile feedback from various stakeholders, and where necessary, incorporate such feedback into the relevant documents;
- viii) Ensure high quality and applicable outputs are delivered through the various consultancies.

This person will report to the Senior Project Coordinator.

D. QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- Minimum of a Master's Degree or equivalent in education, or experience with education policy and/or strategy development or related field demonstrably relevant to the position.

Experience

- Intimate experience with the Belize education sector, in particular early childhood and basic education
- Experience with macro analysis of education policies and strategies
- Demonstrate knowledge and familiarity with the various units of the MOEYSC and their functions
- Experience in the education sector
- Experience working with local education projects would be an asset

Language Requirement

The ES must be able to speak fluently in Standard English and must be able to write proficiently in Standard English.

Duty Station

The Education Specialist shall be stationed at the MOEYSC's Project Execution Unit in Belmopan.

Deadline

Interested applicants should submit an updated CV as soon as possible but no later than August 25, 2017. Applications should be addressed to Ms. Amilin Mendez, Sr. Project Coordinator, 1899 Constitution Drive, City of Belmopan, or by emailing project.coordinator@moe.gov.bz