

## **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)**

**Country: Pakistan**

**Project: Poverty Reduction through Rural Development Activities in Balochistan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Federally Administered Tribal Areas and Neighboring Areas/Program for poverty Reduction (PPR)**

**Assignment Title: Hiring of a firm for Assessment of Learning Outcomes of Students of Community and Government Schools in PPR Supported Districts**

PPAF has received a soft-loan from the Government of Italian Republic and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for **hiring of a firm for Assessment of Learning Outcomes of Students of Community and Government Schools in PPR Supported Districts**.

The investment under the PPR programme and timings of the programme raise the need to assess the achievements of learning outcomes of students in the PPR supported schools. This will facilitate in developing a monitoring and assessment system to carry out attendance monitoring and student assessment on the learning outcomes mentioned in the national or provincial curriculum and accordingly provide feedback to teachers, parents and communities.

The objectives of the assignment are to assess the learning outcomes of students in PPR funded schools in comparison with learning outcomes at provincial/national levels as well as other facilities of the same area. It also aims at identifying gaps and suggest recommendations to enhance the quality of services and ensure desired results of improved learning outcomes. For that purpose there is a need to hire a firm to undertake the exercise and facilitate PPAF/ PPR in improving its education programme.

The PPAF now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. Firm consultants shall be evaluated on the basis of following criteria:

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Benchmarks</b>	<b>Allocated Points</b>
<b>1. Registration with Government</b>	Please submit a copy of valid company registration certificate and NTN along with your EOI.	10
<b>2. Relevant Experience</b>	At least 7 years of similar assessments in development sector with at least 4 years of education related similar experience. Strong track record in reviewing the field level education projects and assessment of children through applying research tools. Must be well-versed to with various techniques of students’ evaluation in rural set up. Conversant with the principles and working methods of school management and evaluation. Strong understanding of the rural educational context, school environment and learning level of students. Strong track record in qualitative and quantitative research methods especially in education sector. Experience to conduct interviews and collect data from the beneficiaries and communities on using agreed methodology and assessment tools. Have experience of carrying out field based research studies on assessing students’ learnings.	50
<b>3. Geographical Spread/Understanding</b>	Understanding/knowledge of the education policy, education sector plans and its implementation status in the fragile security situation areas	15

<b>4. Associated Human Resources</b>	The consultant firm’s team shall include at least one expert with appropriate qualification in the field of education having knowledge and experience in designing and conducting learning outcome assessments as well as in rural development and has ability to mobilize rapidly project field teams.	25
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The firm(s) who would qualify the above criteria would be considered for next step i.e. Short listed firm(s) will be invited to submit the technical and financial proposal for the assignment.

It is required that consultants provide professional, objective, and impartial advice and at all times hold the client’s interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and that in providing advice they avoid conflicts with other assignments and their own corporate interests. Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of being unable to carry out the assignment in the best interest of the Borrower.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank’s *Guidelines: Selection Based on Consultants Qualification (CQS) method set out in World Bank Borrowers*, revised October 2011.

Interested firms may obtain further information with regard to preparing the Expression of Interest (EOI) at the address given below or via email address “sohaib@ppaf.org.pk” during office hours (0900-1700 hours) from Monday through Friday.

Expression of Interest (EOI) must be uploaded in soft form (PDF version) as per instructions given on website “http://eoi.pfaf.org.pk:82” not later than 1700 hrs on 06<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.

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