Notes 25 June 2019

Pre-Bid Conference Kiribati Education Sector Analysis and Plan (Skype/Phone), 11.00 am Suva Fiji Time

Chair: Patrick Adler, UNICEF Supply Section

**Opening**

Director Reetina, MOE

* We are coming to the end of the current ESSP
* There are two main pieces of work that need to be completed, the Education Sector Analysis and the Education Strategic plan
* The dates for the inception report noted as 30 June will need to be 30 July
* The date for the draft ESA noted as 30 August, hoping to keep dates as in TOR where possible
* Emphasize the tightness of the timeline. Bidders to take note. Hope to complete by end of the year. Open to negotiate and discuss, but will prioritize timeliness.
* May have a new government by the end of the year so would hope to secure approval by then.

Anna Smeby, UNICEF

* UNICEF is the contract holder but working closely and in consultation with MoE at all times
* All deliverables approved jointly by UNICEF and MoE/GoK
* Emphasize timeliness but also quality.
* Funded by GPE ESDPG. Final plan and process will undergo independent appraisal. The plan must meet GPE guidelines for sector plan to ensure quality and relevance for the country, and also to enable Kiribati to access future GPE funds.
* Noted that DFAT is coordinating agent.
* Important that proposals address the TOR and if alternatives are suggested that these are outlined clearly

**Questions**

* What is the expected length of time in country?
  + Up to bidder to propose based on staff expertise and proposed process to meet expectations in the ToR.
  + Potential may be one month of in-country working time.
  + Need to be in country for summits.
  + Work in parallel by relevant specialists may reduce overall duration of the process.
* Expectations for costed operational plan for ESSP: which 4 years is that for and when is it expected to be produced?
  + 2020-2023. This would be produced following the finalization of the ESSP, but drawing on work that has been done along the way.
* Appraisal is of the plan or the inputs?
  + Appraisal is of the plan, not of the consultancy. Appraisal does look at national leadership and participatory process, but focuses on the plan itself.
* Role of consultancy in stakeholder consultations?
  + Consultations are critical to inform the ESSP. MoE will organize the national consultations. Outcomes will be shared with consultancy. Great for the consultancy to be present, especially for some of them, but if not able to attend summit outcomes will be shared with consultants
  + Consultancy will have an important role to work with the MOE to design the agendas and methodologies to ensure consultations contribute the maximum possible to the process.
  + The MoE will be responsible for all logistics / costs associated with organizing stakeholder consultations (not the consultancy, which would only be responsible for logistics/costs of own participation)

Other comments

* There are policy and other technical advisers in Kiribati in MOE. This is an additional resource in the process.
* UNICEF has agreed to provide technical support to the Early Childhood Education (ECE) stakeholder consultation and will have other inputs and resources to share on other issues of relevance to this task.
* Other partners and stakeholders will also surely have relevant inputs and/or resources. The consultancy will be encouraged to draw on and maximize use of available resources and partnerships in this process.

RFP submission process was summarised (per text in the RFP).

**Call ended**