REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(Technical Assistance)

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: Consulting Services for Developing Design Standards, Drawings, Specifications as well as Bills of Quantity

(National School Infrastructure Strategy)

PROJECT ID: P164932
Grant Number: D5030

The Government of Liberia has received a grant equivalent to USD 47 million from the International Development Association (IDA) to implement the Improving Results in Secondary Education (IRISE) project. The Project duration is four years. The Ministry of Education (MoE) is the IRISE implementation agency responsible for project execution and results monitoring. The implementation will be overseen by the Ministry’s Senior Management Team (SMT).

The Project responds to the Government of Liberia’s prioritization of improving equitable access to, and quality of, secondary education. This will be achieved through a set of activities that are grouped into the five components:

- Improving access and learning environment at the senior secondary level
- Increasing opportunities for girls to transition to and complete senior secondary education
- Improving Quality and Relevance of Senior Secondary Education
- Capacity building, technical assistance, project coordination, and monitoring and evaluation
- Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC)

OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT
The objective of this component for which this Technical Assistance (TA) is required, is to support the Government in promoting equitable access to quality senior secondary education and a better teaching and learning environment in schools. It includes two sub-components: (a) improving access to senior secondary education; and (b) provision of school grants, using a community empowerment approach. To ensure quality and consistency in terms of standards across all school construction, implementation of Sub-components 1.1 and 1.2 will be under the joint authority of the MoE (Bureau of Planning, Research and Development and the PDT) and the Ministry of Public Works (MPW).

PURPOSE OF CONSULTANCY
The purpose of this consultancy is for an architecture firm to develop Secondary School Designs and revise existing Basic School designs for MoE to a cost-effective model and assist in the development of a National School Construction Strategy by MoE and MPW.
REPORTING
The Technical Assistance for this component will report to the Project Coordinator through the Deputy Project Coordinator and or the Lead for component 1.

TIMELINE
Duration, Timing and Level of Effort for the Assignment
The assignment will be for six months period.

Key Personnel
This is a firm based consultancy and a maximum of three key personnel will be needed for the assignment. Key personnel CVs are required for the purpose of evaluation as per the selection guidelines below.

GENERAL QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE
The Architectural firm shall have staffs with relevant University degrees in architecture and civil works. BSC or Master’s degree or its equivalent with a minimum of ten (10) years in school building designs and construction framework development. If the Firm is local, it shall have extensive work experience in rough environment, preferably during the rainy Season in Liberia.

SPECIFIC TASKS
The Specific roles and responsibilities of the Architectural firm will include but not limited to the following:

1. Review the existing Basic School Designs / Drawings developed by the Ministry of Education;
2. Develop detailed site drawings which include photographs, access to site, vegetation, gradient/topography survey, portable water source, drainage, landscaping and aerial/orthophoto map for the Proposed Senior Secondary Schools;
3. Site Plans should be site-specific to take into account orientation, sufficient play area and storm water drainage, stairs, ramps, retaining walls, adaptation from MoE standard plans etc.;
4. The proposed Senior Secondary Schools shall be story buildings with the following structures and elements as minimum package of facilities according to the norms and standards: 15 classrooms (5 classrooms per grade), an administrative block (offices), Science laboratories (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), Computer lab., Library, Storage rooms, gender-based latrines and access to water, a fence for security, necessary furniture and equipment;
6. Any other architectural related designs as may be asked by executing agency.
7. Development of National School Infrastructure Strategy (NSIS). The NSIS will cover the following:
   - will cover the whole country and will delineate and differentiate the elements of the Strategy that are of nation-wide nature from those which are regional-specific. It will be developed in a participatory manner and will include the following main sections: (i) a quick presentation of the current situation regarding school facilities and an assessment of the challenges; (ii) an evaluation of the past and present experiences and a presentation of the key lessons learned; (iii) a quick definition of the new school construction strategy and a presentation if the Community-Empowerment approach; (iv) the description of a long term vision (10 years) developed through a succession of short term phases (3-4 years each); (v) a minimum set of minimum norms for the period of the strategy; (vi) the minimum standards to be followed during the first phase of the strategy; (vii) the standard drawings and recommended technology; (viii) unit-costs and itemized list of quantified items; (ix) community based contracting and financial management; (x) decentralization; (xi) maintenance of education facilities; (xii)
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capacity-building including grassroots management training; (xiii) monitoring; (xiv) evaluation, including community-empowerment specifics.

- stock-taking exercise to include status of existing school network and school facility stock, assessment of school supply inequities, needs assessment, and stock-taking exercise of past projects
- Norms and standards to include national-level norms and standard drawings
- Planning and implementation mechanisms
- Capacity building at the institutional level and capacity-building of communities: grassroots management training (GMT)
- Maintenance strategy
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Selection will be in accordance with the Consultant Qualification’s Selection (CQS) method set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations, revised August 2018.

Detailed Terms of Reference is here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NfN0qf5Wk60RC9MZC6UAu5UOcenUbc5i/edit. You may also get copy of the Terms of Reference from the procurement office at the below address.

Note: The firm with the best qualifications and relevant experience that meets the requirements of the TOR will be invited to submit technical and financial proposals for negotiations.

Further Information for clarifications can be obtain at the address below during office hours between 0900 to 1400 hours from Monday to Friday but not later than February 28, 2020.

Interested firms which meet the qualifications requirement may submit an Expression of Interest marked “Consulting Services for Developing Design Standards, Drawings, Specifications as well as Bills of Quantity”, REF: LR-MOE--138734-CS-CQS” to the Procurement Division at procurement.irise@gmail.com / malah1999.ak@gmail.com; or to the below address not later than 2:00pm on Friday, March 6, 2020.

Attention:
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