REPUBLIC OF TURKEY MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR INNOVATION AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES (DGIET)

SAFE SCHOOLING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION PROJECT (SSDEP)

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

COUNTRY: Republic of Turkey

NAME OF PROJECT: Safe Schooling and Distance Education Project (SSDEP)

Loan No.: 9152-TR **Project No:** P173997

Assignment Title: Consulting Services for Feasibility Study/Needs Analysis, Technical

Designs and Implementation Support

Reference No. CS-C1.2-01

Deadline for Submission of Applications: April 23, 2021 at 18.00 hours local time

The Republic of Turkey has received financing from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) toward the cost of the Safe Schooling and Distance Education Project (SSDEP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") - Feasibility Study/Needs Analysis, Technical Designs and Implementation Support – include feasibility studies that are broken down into 4 main interrelated sections (work packages): (i) Macro level Feasibility Study of the Project; (ii) Feasibility and technical design study for Information Technologies Infrastructure; (iii) Feasibility and technical design study for digital content and (iv) Feasibility and technical design study for Developing EdTech Innovation Hub and Innovation Ecosystem; In addition, the Consultants to be selected will undertake the 5th work package which is the implementation phase supervision consultancy in order to realize the 4 main work packages in terms of scope, quality, quantity, deadlines, etc. in line with all aspects stated in the respective Terms of Reference. Duration of services is until December 2023, expected to commence in June, 2021

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website:

https://yegitek.meb.gov.tr/meb_iys_dosyalar/2021_04/06172317_SSDEP_Feasibility_Study_Ter_msofReference.pdf

The Directorate General for Innovation and Educational Technologies, Ministry of National Education, Republic of Turkey (DGIET/the Client) 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 as well as detailed information and/or documentation covering national and international assignments successfully completed in the last five years.

The shortlisting criteria are: (i) the Consultants must be in the consulting business for not less than the last ten (10) years prior to deadline for submission of interests; (ii) the Consultants should have at least five (5) years of specific experience prior to deadline for submission of interests in each of: (a) development of Edtech research and innovation center/cluster and ecosystem structures including the management and operations; (b) educational digital content and pedagogy development through need analysis, standards, design and strategy; (c) technology infrastructure (IT infrastructure, platform design, service design (PaaS), CDN, virtual classroom, etc.) design, development, implementation and management); (iii) the Consultants should demonstrate availability of the key experts for the performance of the services described in the TOR; (iv) the Consultants should demonstrate experience in the implementation of projects financed by the international organizations including UN and World Bank; (v) the Consultants should demonstrate sound administrative and financial capacity. Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture (JV), all the partners in the JV shall be evaluated jointly for the purpose of short-listing and shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. Interested Consultants should clearly indicate the structure of their "association" and the duties of the partners and sub-consultants in their application. Unclear expression of interest in terms of "in association with" and/or "in affiliation with" may not be considered for short listing.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures of "Selection Based on the Consultants' Qualifications (CQS)" method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 0900 to 1800 hours, local time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form, in English and/or Turkish, including the contact address and numbers of the Consultants, quoting the reference number and name of the contract (CS-C1.2-01 – Consulting Services for Feasibility Study/ Needs Analysis, Technical Design and Implementation Support) to the address below in person or by mail or by e-mail or by facsimile by April 23, 2021 at 18.00 hours local time:

T.C. Millî Eğitim Bakanlığı

Yenilik ve Eğitim Teknolojileri Genel Müdürlüğü (İdari ve Mali İşler Dairesi Başkanlığı, Satınalma Birimi) (Administrative and Financial Affairs Department – Procurement Unit)

Attn: Mr. Mehmet İNAN, Head of Department

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