

Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Religion King

Ministry of Agriculture
Forestry and Fisheries

Ministry of Education
Youth and Sport

Royal University of Agriculture

Higher Education Improvement Project (HEIP)

Credit No. 6221-KH

Terms of Reference for “Assistant for STEM Local Partnership”

I. Background

The Higher Education Improvement Project (HEIP) was approved by the Board of Directors of the World Bank on April 26, 2018 and became effective on 17 September 2018. The HEIP activities are funded by an International Development Association (IDA) Credit of US\$ 90.0 million equivalent and US\$2.5 million from the Royal Government of Cambodia. The project is expected to be implemented over a 6-year period – starting in July 2018 and ending in June 2024.

The project main beneficiaries include: support activities in five targeted public Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), relevant departments in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), and selected private HEIs. The public HEIs include three within Phnom Penh – the Institute of Technology Cambodia (ITC), the Royal University of Agriculture (RUA), the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP), and other two in the provinces – the Svay Rieng University (SRU) and the University of Battambang (UBB). The Phnom Penh-based public HEIs were selected because they represent the top institutes in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Agriculture education and research in the country. The two provincial HEIs, one in the northwest bordering on Thailand and the other in the south-east bordering on Vietnam, were selected because of their geographical proximity to Special Economic Zones and economic corridors that have a high volume of cross-border trade, thus increasing HEI-industrial linkages and graduate’s labor market participation. In addition, since private HEIs enroll one-third of students in STEM and Agriculture, this project will support selected private HEIs that mainly provide courses in STEM, Agriculture, and other priority subjects in line with the Industrial Development Policy (IDP) 2015-2025. These private HEIs will be competitively selected through a call for proposals.

The direct beneficiaries of HEIP include approximately 16,356 students (5,070 females: 31.0 percent) in the relevant departments at targeted HEIs who will enhance learning from: (a) improved teaching; (b) additional research opportunities; (c) more learning materials; and (d) upgraded facilities. Other beneficiaries include academic staff at targeted HEIs who will benefit from the higher education partnership programs and research funds. In addition, MoEYS staff members from selected departments and HEIs will benefit from sectoral governance activities supported by the project. Female students will in particular benefit from the building of dormitories, increasing access and retention in the program.

This project also aims to strengthen the system of higher education through the improvement of quality assurance mechanisms; expansion of information systems; and support the development of legislation for autonomous HEIs. These activities will be implemented by Directorate General of Higher Education (DGHE) and the Accreditation Committee of Cambodia (ACC).

II. Project Development Objectives

The Project Development Objective (PDO) of HEIP is to improve the quality and relevance of higher education and research mainly in STEM and Agriculture at targeted HEIs and to improve governance in the sector.

III. PDO-Level Results Indicators

The PDO Indicators are:

- a) Number of HE partnership programs evaluated as modest or higher by expert panels (to measure quality)
- b) Number of research projects in collaboration with industry completed (to measure relevance)
- c) Number of HEIs that completed accreditation process (to measure governance and quality).

This position supports PDO indicator “Number of HE partnership programs evaluated as modest or higher by expert panels”

IV. Project Components

There are four main components as follows:

1. Component 1: Improving Teaching and Learning Capacity
2. Component 2: Improving Research in STEM and Agriculture
3. Component 3: Strengthening Sectorial Governance and Project Management
4. Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response

This position supports component “Improving Teaching and Learning Capacity”

V. Objective and Expectation of the Assignment

The “STEM Education Local Partnership between 6 HEIs, Higher Education Sub-sector and Secondary Education Sub-sector”. The STEM Local Partnership will work with secondary schools to: 1) prepare secondary school students on STEM subjects by learning knowledge and applying skills for life and work especially on agriculture and technical skill majors and minor subjects, 2) to allow secondary school students to practice their agriculture and technical skills in relation to STEM subjects at schools and/or their homes.

Royal University of Agriculture is one among five universities, implementing the STEM Education Local Partnership, will support 32 schools in target area to practice agriculture life skill at school and at student home. In addition to orient the student about the career linked to BSc program offered at the university and what STEM subject student should prepare for to ensure the success of the BSc program.

VI. Scope of Work

The successful candidate will work under supervision of Coordinator for: STEM Education Local Partnership, Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia. Tasks will include, but not be limited to:

- Implement administrative tasks for local partnership program implementation
- Arrange the logistic works for partnership program meeting and minute taking
- Communicate and liaise with other stakeholders for the partnership program implementation
- Support STEM Education Local Partnership coordinator to prepare reports and other formal documents
- Perform other tasks assigned by STEM Education Local Partnership team to implement the program

VII. Location

The selected candidate is expected to be based at the Planning and International Cooperation office, RUA, Phnom Penh. S/he is required to participate occasionally in meetings, training at province.

VIII. Qualifications and Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in Agriculture any field related;
- One-year experience in similar position is preferable;
- Proficient in using Microsoft Offices, Internet and Email;
- Fairly good English proficiency
- Honest, able to work with less supervision and good communication;
- Punctual and organized
- Willing to learn new things

IX. Term

The position will start as early as possible, with 3-month probation, 1-year contract, and possible to renewed.

Interested applicant should submit:

1. Cover letter
2. Up-to-date CV with two referees
3. Copy of any obtained degrees, and other related certificates

not later than **30 April 2021** by sending E-mail: heippr@rua.edu.kh cc nsopheap@rua.edu.kh, pinnthira@rua.edu.kh

With the subject stated as “**Assistant for STEM Local Partnership**”

Attention to Ms. Nhim Sopheap,

Any information related to this position, please contact to Tel: 015551556