

Shobai Miley Pori (“ Everyone Reads Together”)

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WRITING CONSULTANCY

– February 2021 –

I- Introduction

The United States of America Agency for International Development (USAID) is expected to release a call for proposals for an Inclusive Education project (Shobai Miley Pori :“Everyone Reads Together”).The anticipated aim of the project is to improve early grade reading outcomes in Bangla for children with disabilities in Government Primary Schools in Bangladesh. To accomplish this objective, the activity will strengthen government service delivery of disability-inclusive education and create inclusive school environments and instruction for children with disabilities to improve student learning outcomes. Through this activity, children with disabilities will gain the foundational literacy skills necessary to advance through the government school system and be more equipped to obtain better economic opportunities upon completing their education.

USAID/Bangladesh posits that:

- **If** research is conducted to understand the contextual realities of education for children with disabilities, and
- **if** the school environment and instruction are inclusive and responsive to the needs of children with disabilities, and
- **if** local communities have the knowledge, attitudes, and practices to support disability-inclusive education, and
- **if** the government has the capacity to plan, manage, and support quality disability-inclusive education,
- **then** reading outcomes for children with disabilities will improve.

Shobai Miley Pori addresses the following USAID Education Policy priorities: “children and youth, particularly the most marginalized and vulnerable, have increased access to quality education that is safe, relevant, and promotes social well-being,” and “children and youth gain the literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional skills that are foundational to future learning and success.”

The HI-led consortium partners - having past and ongoing initiatives aimed to support Inclusive Education in Bangladesh and the South Asia Region - have already conducted several workshops to reflect and develop an initial project design. The consortium now intends to hire a consultant supporting the proposal writing process based on Shobai Miley Pori anticipated priorities and building upon partners previous experience.

This document describes the expected objectives and outcomes of the consultancy.

II- Objectives

The **overall objective** of this consultancy is to support the consortium to design a quality project strategy and approach on disability inclusive education response to the anticipated USAID call for proposal.

The **specific objectives / expected outcomes** are:

1. Contributing to the definition of a quality project strategy leverages partners strengths and experiences and meet USAID guidance and priorities for the call. The consortium partners have already developed an **initial program design with detailed activities**. This will be shared with the selected consultant for further elaboration and guidance on the consultancy.
2. Leading the proposal writing process, together with consortium members, ensuring the final document is compliant with HI's quality standards and donor's requirements.

III- Roles and responsibilities

The consultant will:

- Propose a clear methodology for the consultancy, considering that consortium members work across different time zones and remotely (Bangladesh, US, France, UK).
- Provide working space, access to the internet, telephone usage and office services (copies, etc.)
- Produce a finalized Collaboration Agreement proposal with all its supporting annexes to deadline, as specified when the RFA is published (anticipated for January 18th)

Handicap International-Humanity and Inclusion, as consortium lead, will:

- Provide logistical support, including arranging meetings as requested by the consultant
- Make available all relevant documents to the consultant.

IV- Profile sought

- Strong experience in supporting proposal writing, more specifically for USAID (within a consortium structure would be a strong asset)
- Strong analysis and writing skills in English
- Strong facilitation skills (remote working sessions)

Preferable:

- Former experience with HI
- Strong theoretical understanding of inclusive education/inclusion of children with disability in developing countries
- Sound international experience of inclusive education preferably in Asia or context similar to Bangladesh
- Solid awareness of education sector in Bangladesh

V- Selection criteria

Interested consultants shall submit to i.henstock@hi.org and al.coutin@hi.org the following:

- A Curriculum vitae
- A motivation letter of maximum one page stressing experience in inclusive education, working with marginalized children/with disabilities program design
- Proposed methodology and schedule for the mission **detailing the mission outputs**
- A financial quotation, indicating a **daily fee EURO per full working day**

VI- Duration and time frame

The consultancy is:

- expected to last 15 days
- to take place between end-January / end of February 2021.

VII- Annex 1. Anticipated Call Content (pdf attached)