



POSITION: Project Manager on Early Childhood and Preschool Education (NUS) (Category 2)

1. Objective(s) and Linkages to Reforms

The Reform Support Team (RST) at the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (MoES) is a group of Ukrainian professionals (non-civil servants) funded on a temporary basis by the donors to provide targeted technical support and assist the Ministry in the design and implementation of priority reforms. The RST will assist in filling the capacity gaps in the design and implementation of priority reform strategies and programs while strengthening links and partnerships between the Ministry's priorities and relevant donor support.

The RST is operational as of June 2019. It is currently helping the MoES to implement three priority education reforms: the Early Childhood and Preschool Education, the general secondary education reform – the New Ukrainian School (NUS), and the reform of Vocational Education and Training (VET), as well as Public Administration Reform (PAR) and Digital Transformation of Education.

2. Position and Reporting Lines

The expert reports to RST Director / RST Deputy Director (NUS) and maintains close coordination and collaboration with the sectoral Deputy Minister, Director-General of the Directorate for pre-school, school, extracurricular and inclusive education.

3. Duration and Proposed Timeframe

This consultancy appointment is expected to start in July 2023 and has an estimated initial duration of up to 2 months. Subject to the availability of funding, the performance of the selected consultant and the specific needs of the RST, the appointment may be extended by an additional 12 months. The probation period is one month.

4. Main Duties, Responsibilities and Deliverables

The expert is expected to provide assistance in the following areas:

- Ensuring equal access to quality early childhood and preschool education for all children aged 1 to 5(6);
- Ensuring there is sufficient number of highly qualified and motivated pedagogical staff in the field of early childhood and preschool education;
- Ensuring compliance of the content and system of scientific and methodological support of early childhood and preschool education with the Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care;

- Ensuring the effectiveness of the system of monitoring and evaluation of the quality of early childhood and preschool education in order to improve the quality of education and education policy;
- Ensuring the consistency and efficiency of the system of management and financing of early childhood and preschool education at the regional and state levels;
- Other tasks in accordance with the MoES requests and subject to agreement with the URA 2.0 project donors.

Deliverables

- Recommendations on the implementation of the Child Protection Policy in the system of early childhood and preschool education;
- Recommendations for communities and service providers regarding the establishment and development of alternative forms of early childhood and preschool education;
- Methodology of accounting for needs and planning of the network (including providers) of early childhood and preschool settings;
- Recommendations for updating the standards of educator training;
- State Standard on Early Childhood and Preschool Education;
- Framework (Typova) programme for early childhood and preschool education;
- Recommendations on updating approaches to the design of educational environment for children aged 1 to 5(6);
- Project of the system of monitoring and evaluation of the quality of early childhood and preschool education as a component of EvaluEd based on a simplified international quality scale;
- Project on Institutional Audit of Early Childhood and Preschool settings;
- Project of the procedure for monitoring the quality of an alternative form of early childhood and preschool education;
- Project of protocols for tracking the results of education and development of children in early childhood and preschool education.

5. Qualifications, Skills and Experience

5.1 Qualifications and Skills:

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in a relevant field (early childhood and preschool education, policy development);
- Exceptional command of the Ukrainian language and fluent English;
- Impeccable ethical standards;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills;
- Strong organisational management, analytical and presentation skills;
- Motivated team player with an ability to work independently;
- General understanding of political processes would be an advantage.

5.2 Professional Experience:

- More than 5 years of general post-graduate professional experience;
- More than 3 years of experience in the education field.

5.3 Other Competencies:

- Knowledge of early childhood and preschool education;
- Experience in applying the results-based management (RBM) methodology in strategic planning;
- Experience in developing programme or strategic documents;
- Experience in participating in working group meetings, consultation meetings, conferences, roundtables, seminars, training, and other relevant events with national stakeholders, including through moderating/facilitating discussions and delivering presentations;
- Experience in developing internal institutional regulations, guidelines and information materials on specific aspects related to education and science;
- Familiarity with the reform agenda in Ukraine;
- Experience in working with local and international education experts;
- Experience in working with government organisations, public bodies will be an advantage;
- Experience working in a multidisciplinary teams would be an asset;
- Ability to conduct assessment of legal acts and policy documents (draft documents and documents in force) will be considered an advantage.

6. Funding Source

The funding source of this assignment is the EBRD Ukraine Stabilisation and Sustainable Growth Multi-Donor Account (MDA). Contributors to the MDA are Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union, the largest donor.

Please note, selection and contracting will be subject to the availability of funding.

7. Submissions

Submissions must be prepared in English only and be delivered electronically by 23.07.2023, 23:59 (Kyiv time) to the following address: rstmoes.recruitment@gmail.com. All submissions must include a completed [Application Form](#), [NDA Form](#), the candidate's Curriculum Vitae and Reference Letter from a recent supervisor (original in English, or Ukrainian with English translation) together with the contact details for two further referees who, if contacted, can attest to the professional and/or educational background of the candidate. In case of availability of a professional portfolio presenting experience in working with tools for visual content creation, it also must be submitted along with other application documents.

Only applications that have been submitted using the correct template and are completed will be considered.

8. Selection Procedure

Following the evaluation of all applications received, selected candidates may be invited to the tests. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to the interview.