

TERMS OF REFERENCE – PART A

1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Partner country

Eritrea

1.2 Contracting authority

EU Delegation to Eritrea

1.3 Country background

Eritrea ranks 182th out of 189 in the UN Human Development Index (HDI) 2019 and has huge development needs in all sectors. Recent progress towards achieving MDGs and SDGs, particularly linked with healthcare, education, gender equality needs to be further consolidated and even accelerated.

The economic potential needs to be untapped as most of the population depends on low productivity, subsistence primary agriculture, and the mining sector is the country's only source of foreign exchange. Strategically located in the Horn of Africa (HoA) and along the Red Sea, at the crossroad of trade routes, with a young population and a dynamic diaspora, Eritrea could have great potential. A number of factors hamper that potential.

Some line ministries have developed policies and sector development plans (SDPs) in areas such as agriculture, environment, education and health.

There are several areas where EU and Eritrean interests and objectives coincide, notably the promotion of Green Deal and Sustainable Growth and Jobs, with an emphasis on human development, education and skills, women and youth.

In order to offer further opportunities to the young Eritreans to extend their knowledge and skills, without being forced to travel abroad, this project aims at identifying University/ies technical schools in the European Union that can deliver on-line courses (Master and/or diploma) on specific priority sectors. Priority sectors will be identified by the potential beneficiaries and shared with the contractor by the EUDEL. In addition, the project shall identify potential service providers that have the capacity to set up and manage a project where the selected European Union University/ies technical schools will deliver on-line courses on the priority sectors to selected Eritrean students.

In a long term perspective the successful implementation of this project, will create the basis to contribute to the development of the country as well as to strengthen links with European Union universities and increase the possibilities of employment.

1.4 Current situation in the sector

Eritrea is still a young country with limited scientific knowledge and reduced possibilities to increase the number of people with advanced tertiary education, especially in scientific matters in the Eritrean colleges. This educated manpower is considered essential to guarantee the development of the country.

For the time being, parts of the needs are already covered by other third countries but the European Union offers a wide range of fields of specialization.

The EUDEL is financing a project in the agricultural sector in support of the climate smart agriculture innovative research in the dairy value chain in Eritrea. Within this project, through a capacity building component, 20 students have/are attended/ing post graduates study (PHD and MSC) in European and Africa countries

1.5 Related programmes and other donor activities

Currently, the context in Eritrea is not ripe for joint programming. EU Member States (MS), including the few present in Eritrea (IT, FR, DE, SE), do not have bilateral development programs with the Government and also do not have large portfolio for financing development cooperation. Only the Italian. EU MS support few development cooperation actions in the country, mainly through multilateral channels (UN), or small grants to international CSOs (mostly Italian). They are active mainly in the sectors of health and basic social services, vocational training, food security, culture.

There are no prospects for any meaningful change in the near future, therefore it is difficult to envisage a joint programming document or a joint programming process. The priority areas proposed by the EU Delegation – Social and Human Development – are endorsed by the MS and that could lead to closer cooperation and coordination in the years to come.

The EU Delegation can play a leading role in ensuring coordination with the MS.

2 OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE & EXPECTED RESULTS

2.1 Overall objective

To increase job opportunities for the youth in Eritrea

2.2 Specific objective(s)

To increase knowledge of the youth in Eritrea in priority sectors

2.3 The expected outputs of this contract are as follows:

- University (ies) delivering the online courses on the selected priority sectors is/are identified
- List of service providers able to set up and implement a project for online courses – liaising and coordinate between selected University/ies, technical schools and selected students, choice of premise for training courses in Eritrea etc - identified.

The assignment aims at creating the basis for increasing knowledge of the youth in Eritrea in specific sectors; the increased knowledge will also enhance the job opportunities for the youth. The project shall identify European Union University/ies which hold on-line courses covering the specific priority sectors which will be identified by the potential beneficiaries.

The project will be implemented in phases (see details under specific work):

- a) **Scoping phase:** the contractor will identify the European Union University(ies) and technical schools that can deliver courses in the sectors identified by the potential beneficiaries.
- b) **Assessment phase:** the contractor shall identify service providers that can set up and implement a project for online courses – liaising and coordinate between selected University/ies, technical schools and selected students, choice of premises for training courses in Eritrea.

The assignment will be carried out in two phases: scoping phase (preparatory) and Assessment and evaluation.

In particular:

- 1) Scoping phase:** during this phase the contractor shall carry out the following activities:

- To explore, in close consultation with EUD staff and other stakeholders, potential training course offers in response to the demands on the Eritrean labour market.
- To identify relevant European Union higher education facilities (universities, academic institutes, universities of applied science/polytechnics) which can deliver online courses on the priority sectors identified by the potential beneficiaries and received from the EUDEL to Eritrea.
- The list of relevant institutions and their relevant courses on offer will be shared with the EUDEL to Eritrea

- 2) Assessment phase:** during this phase the contractor will carry out the following activities:

- To assess and identify potential service providers that can set and implement a project aimed at delivering on-line training courses to Eritrean students on priority sectors. Criteria to assess and identify service providers should be also shared with the EUDEL to Eritrea.

EUDEL shall be informed of each step of the process

The Language of the contract is English

The Team Leader shall be present in Eritrea for briefing and de-briefing can be held through VTC.

3 LOGISTICS AND TIMING

Please refer to Part B of the Terms of Reference.

4 REQUIREMENTS

Please refer to Part B of the Terms of Reference.

5 REPORTS

5.1 Reporting requirements

The contractor will submit the following reports in English in one original and one copies:

- **Inception Report** of maximum 12 pages to be produced one month from the start of implementation. In the report the contractor shall describe e.g. initial findings, progress in collecting data, any difficulties encountered or expected in addition to the work programme and staff travel. The contractor should proceed with his/her work unless the contracting authority sends comments on the inception report.
- **Draft final report** of maximum 30 pages (main text, excluding annexes). This report shall be submitted no later than one month before the end of the period of implementation of tasks. The Report shall contains detailed info about the procedures and criteria used to select the University/ies, technical schools and the pool of service providers.
- **Final report** with the same specifications as the draft final report, incorporating any comments received from the parties on the draft report. The deadline for sending the final report is 30 days after receipt of comments on the draft final report. The detailed analyses underpinning the recommendations will be presented in annexes to the main report. The final report must be provided along with the corresponding invoice

5.2 Submission and approval of reports

The report referred to above must be submitted to the project manager identified in the contract. The project manager is responsible for approving the reports.

Please refer to Part B of the Terms of Reference.

6 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Number of Universities and technical schools identified

Number of service providers identified

7 PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Please address any request for clarification and other communication to the following address(es):

delegation-eritrea@eeas.europa.eu

Delegation of the European Union to the State of Eritrea

Marsa Teklai 192 Street - Zone 2 Sub zone 03, House n. 20/22, Asmara, Eritrea

Postal Address: P.O. Box 5710, Asmara

Tel: +291-1-12 65 66

TERMS OF REFERENCE – PART B

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Benefitting Zone

Africa

2. Contracting authority

The European Union, represented by the European Commission, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium.

3. Contract language

English

LOCATION AND DURATION

4. Location

- **Key Expert 1 - Team Leader :**
 - Normal place of posting of the specific assignment: Asmara - Eritrea
 - Mission(s) outside the normal place of posting and duration(s): N/A

5. Start date and period of implementation

The indicative start date is 22/01/2024 and the period of implementation of the contract will be 12 Month(s) from this date (indicative end date: 22/01/2025).

REQUIREMENTS

6. Expertise

For this assignment, one individual expert must be proposed for each position.

The expertise required for the implementation of the specific contract is detailed below.

- **Key Expert 1 - Team Leader :**
 - General description of the position: The Team Leader will liaise with the local counterparts and EUDEL to Eritrea. he/she will be in charge of reporting to the EUDEL to Eritrea
 - Expert category: Cat. I (>12 years of experience)
 - Qualifications and skills required: •University master's degree (MSc) relevant to the assignment (Political sciences, development cooperation) related field or equivalent experience. •Excellent social interaction and communication skills •Good analytical and report-writing skills

- General professional experience: At least 12 years of professional experience in working in the field of development and/or project and programme management.
- Specific professional experience: •At least 10 years' professional experience working in the education sector, particularly with Universities and technical schools •Experience in coordinating/negotiating and communicating with EU Delegation(s), and International and local stakeholders. •Familiarity with online courses organised by Universities and technical schools •Prior experience with EC programmes •Previous experience in contract management both with EU and UN funded programmes •Experience in Eritrea and/or in the region is an asset. •Experience in working in a post conflict or protracted conflict context is an asset
- Language skills: Written and oral fluency in English language is essential, while knowledge of local language is an added advantage
- Minimum number of working days: **30 days**

7. Incidental expenditure

No incidental expenditure provided for in this contract.

8. Lump sums

No lump sums provided for in this contract.

9. Expenditure verification

No expenditure verification report is required.

10. Other items defined by Contracting Authority

No other items provided for in this contract.

REPORTS AND DELIVERABLES

11. Reports and deliverables requirements

Title	Content	Language	Submission timing or deadline
Inception report	Inception Report of maximum 12 pages to be produced one month from the start of implementation. In the report the contractor shall describe e.g. initial findings, progress in collecting data, any difficulties encountered or expected in	English	Within 1 Month(s) After the project start

Title	Content	Language	Submission timing or deadline
	addition to the work programme and staff travel. The contractor should proceed with his/her work unless the contracting authority sends comments on the inception report		
Draft final report	Draft final report of maximum 30 pages (main text, excluding annexes). This report shall be submitted no later than one month before the end of the period of implementation of tasks. The Report shall contains detailed info about the procedures and criteria used to select the University/ies, technical schools and the pool of service providers	English	Within 11 Month(s) After the project start
Final report	Final report with the same specifications as the draft final report, incorporating any comments received from the parties on the draft report. The deadline for sending the final report is 30 days after receipt of comments on the draft final report. The detailed analyses underpinning the recommendations will be presented in annexes to the main report. The final report must be provided	English	Within 1 Month(s) After the project end

Title	Content	Language	Submission timing or deadline
	along with the corresponding invoice		