



Terms of Reference

International advisers for Secondary School Reform (Years 10 - 12)

Advisor on Mathematics Education - July 2019 – July 2020

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MEJD) of Timor-Leste is embarking upon a reform of Secondary Education. This reform will commence in 2019. The Ministry is currently seeking advisors to help support and facilitate this reform. Each of the international consultants will work with National Advisors, the Directorate of Secondary Education, the National Curriculum Directorate and Working Group members. Please read the following and apply to the address listed at the bottom by 30 August, 2019.

1. Background

There is widespread agreement that there is need for reform of the Secondary level of formal education, Secondary Schooling includes General, Technical - Vocational and Agricultural High Schools, each have different problems but they do share a good deal of content, in particular the languages, mathematics, the IT literacy subject *Tecnologias Multimedias*. Initial reform of these curricula units, together with reform of Assessment of Learning and introduction of career counselling could benefit all types of Secondary Schools and build momentum for greater reform, in particular reform of the teaching of the Natural and Social Sciences.

In addition, a series of reforms to infrastructure and systems are seen as part of the overall reform of Secondary school including reform of selection criteria, job descriptions and operational systems for the leadership of Secondary schooling, libraries and IT systems, initial and in-service training for teachers, reform of assessment of learning and introduction of career counselling.

2. Purpose of the consultancy

The purpose of this consultancy is to support the National Curriculum Unit, in partnership with the Secondary Education Directorate, to:

- 2.1 Initiate a thorough study to assess the current proficiency level in mathematics, both of students and teachers, beginning at the 7th grade level until 12th grade. This study should include a diagnosis of the reasons for success and/or failure of Timorese students to become proficient at mathematics, and to recommend

changes in teaching methodology and other contributing factors. This study will collaborate and inform the curriculum reform of Cycle 3 of Basic Education.

- 2.2 Upon completion of the study mentioned in 2.1, consultant will ensure that results of said study are incorporated into the curriculum revision at the 3rd cycle and secondary levels.
- 2.3 Facilitate reform of Secondary School, (Years 10-12) mathematics curriculum to improve students ability to make good choices for their working life including further study. To ensure all students achieve Foundational skills, competencies and character qualities as described in the World Economic Forum's '21st Century Skills.
- 2.4 Guide the development of new syllabi in mathematics and the quantitative components of other subjects.
- 2.5 Facilitate classroom and focus group testing of classroom activities to ensure relevance and teacher-usefulness and friendliness.
- 2.6 Assist with the development of a Mathematics Teacher's Association from those who are successful mathematics teachers guide members of this Association in the production of new classroom activities and course material for the new curriculum.
- 2.7 Identify additional curriculum resources and reference materials needed to more effectively implement that part of the curriculum including classroom materials that can be ordered and distributed nationally to school libraries, to ensure that all Secondary Schools have access to teaching and learning materials and equipment.
- 2.8 Advise on Teacher Training for implementation of the new curriculum.

3. Supervisor

The consultant will be supervised by the National Curriculum Unit and the Directorate of Secondary Education, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

4. Counterparts

The International consultant will work closely with National consultants, staff from the National Curriculum and Secondary School Directorate of MEJD. The main counterparts will be the members of the Advisory Group, which will involve up to 10 relevant members of government and civil society. Specialized Working Groups will work with the International consultants and groups of teachers will produce the actual curricula and syllabus for the languages, mathematics, communications skills and the Modules for the Natural Science and Social Science component.

5. Office Space Requirements

An office space for group work and individual writing will be provided by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

6. Terms of Consultancy

Contract is for 3 months, renewable for 3 months. Salary commensurate with experience.

7. Schedule of Payments

Payment will be processed monthly, and is conditional of deliverables outlined in Section 4 above.

8. Criteria

- A Masters Degree or equivalent in the field Mathematics teaching, with relevant experience.
- Ability to read and write English. Some knowledge of Portuguese would also be useful.
- Ability to establish good working relationships with working group members, and staff in other MEJD directorates relevant to the reform and provide professional advice to those responsible for implementing the reform process
- Experience in working in multilingual and multi-cultural educational environments
- Familiarity with the context in Timor-Leste and a broad understanding of the education system is an asset.
- Familiarity with the 21th Century Skills and a broad understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
- Ability to work under stress and produce quality work in a prescribed time frame.
- Undertake other tasks, as requested by the Director General and Minister.

To Apply: Please send current Curriculum Vitae, along with an expression of interest in this position on or before 30 August, 2019, to:

Antoninho Pinto

ATTN: Gemito do Carmo Amaral de Jesus

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