REGIONAL TEACHER INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA - FACILITY

TERMS OF REFERENCE
Technical assessment of project proposals submitted to the second call dedicated to Supporting Teachers in Crisis Contexts (CfP2.2)

Objective of the assignment	Provide technical expertise in evaluating proposals submitted to the second call for proposals dedicated to supporting teachers in crisis-affected contexts (CfP2.2) under Window 2 of the Facility of the Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa (RTIA). The assessor will undertake a comprehensive evaluation of both concept notes (phase 1) and, on demand, full project proposals (phase 2), utilizing predefined evaluation criteria and templates to ensure consistency and fairness.
Expert profile	Education in Emergency Expert or similar profile experienced in Education in crisis-affected and/or developing countries and areas.
Type of contract	Individual expertise service contract / consultancy contract, based on purchase orders Expertise France is not committed to any minimum level of purchase within the scope of the contract. Therefore, Expertise France is not committed to send any purchase order for the "full proposal" phase.
Intended period of implementation	Phase 1: January – February 2027 Phase 2: March – May 2027
Total expected estimated number of days	Phase 1: 11,5 days Phase 2: 11,5 days

1. CONTEXT

THE REGIONAL TEACHERS INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA

The Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa (RTIA), a programme funded by the EU/EC via the Education section (G3) of DG INTPA, was designed by the African Union Commission (AUC), UNESCO (IICBA and International Teacher Task Force) and the European Union (EU). The RTIA aims to improve learning outcomes and the socio-emotional development of children in Africa, by having a more competent, motivated and inclusive teacher workforce in basic education.

The RTIA especially seeks to achieve the following outcomes over the period 2024-2030:

2. Improve the governance, management, attractiveness, and gender balance of the teaching profession, with a strong focus on increased digitalisation and innovation.
2. Enhance the quality, relevance, and effectiveness of initial and continuous teacher professional development, notably through digital education, peer-to-peer learning approaches and regional collaboration.

In this regard, the RTIA is aligned with EU's development and cooperation policy framework as laid out in the European Consensus on Development (2017) and its core objectives of poverty eradication and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN 2030 Agenda. It will primarily contribute to the achievement of SDG 4 (ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all), and in particular to target 4.c (substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small-island developing States). The RTIA is furthermore aligned with the comprehensive Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) adopted by the African Union Commission (AUC).

THE FACILITY FROM THE REGIONAL TEACHERS INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA (RTIA - FACILITY)

The Facility from the Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa (RTIA - Facility) supports teacher policy and improve teacher education and professional development systems by i) providing capacity building at country level through technical assistance, ii) promoting innovation and scaling of effective teaching solutions; iii) increasing the production and use of data and evidence, and iv) promoting the use of regional frameworks, evidence-based practices, and joint learning at regional level.

The RTIA - Facility will reach the above-mentioned objectives through 3 types of instruments or "windows": i) a window to deliver technical assistance on teacher governance and teacher education and professional development based on the demand from eligible partner countries, ii) a window on testing and scaling effective programs for teacher education and professional development in the thematic areas of digital skills, gender, green skills, and pedagogical skills, including in the context of refugees and displaced population, iii) a research window to create new evidence and support the integration of evidence in the policy making process and in the design of teacher education and professional development programs.

In addition to these windows the Facility's knowledge management and communication activities will further contribute to the sharing of knowledge, evidence, and best practices related to the overall Initiative outcomes.

The RTIA-Facility is funded by the European Union and co-implemented by the Partnership formed by four member state agencies: Expertise France for France, Enabel for Belgium, EDUFI for Finland and EstDev for Estonia. The duration of the action is scheduled from 01.02.2024 to 31.01.2030 (72 months) with a budget of 92.000.000 EUR.

THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS "TEACHERS IN CRISIS CONTEXTS" (CFP2).

As part of Window 2's strategic initiative aimed at enhancing teacher education and professional development in sub-Saharan Africa, Call for Proposals 2 (CfP 2) is specifically designed to support teachers in crisis-affected areas (internal displacement, refugees and conflict- or natural-disaster-affected areas, etc.). This initiative places a strong emphasis on identifying and backing educational strategies that effectively respond to the unique circumstances of crisis environments, thus aiming to bolster teacher performance and elevate the quality of education in fragile settings and environments disrupted by crises.

The overall objective of the call is to strengthen the educational framework in crisis contexts by enhancing the professional development and personal well-being of teachers and addressing teacher shortages in pre-primary, primary and lower secondary schools. Gender Equality in Education and Green Competences are required as mandatory core components for all proposed actions.

On 29 October 2026, the second CfP 2 was launched. A 5 million EUR allocation is to be awarded across to 5 to 6 grants. Here is the link to the online platform gathering all relevant documents for this call, including the guidelines, the application form and all required documents and annexes: https://pops.expertisefrance.fr/sdm/ent2/gen/ficheCsl.action?PCSLID=CSL_2026_LNRxVH2BzA

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The main objective of the assignment is to provide technical expertise in evaluating proposals submitted to the second "Support Teachers in Crisis Contexts" Call for Proposals – CfP2.2.
This assignment will contribute to the overall evaluation of all eligible concept notes submitted. Therefore:

- For phase 1 (concept note evaluation): four similar and parallel assignments will be launched, leading to the signature of four distinct contracts;
- For phase 2 (full proposal evaluation): two distinct purchase orders will be sent to two assessors among those selected for phase 1.

The assessor will undertake a comprehensive evaluation of

- concept notes (phase 1)
- and on demand, full project proposals (phase 2).

The assessor will use predefined evaluation criteria and templates to ensure consistency and fairness.

3. GENERAL APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The evaluation process is going to unfold into 2 phases: 1. Concept Notes 2. Full proposals. The provisional planning and estimated dates of the service depend on the number of concept notes received and deemed eligible. These are subject to modification.

Throughout the process, the assessor will ensure consistency and fairness by reviewing predefined evaluation criteria and templates. The assessor will provide detailed feedback on each proposal, highlighting strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement. The assessor is expected to maintain confidentiality and impartiality throughout the evaluation process. They will also need to sign a declaration of non-conflict of interest, ensuring that they have not participated in the development of the projects being evaluated and will not be directly involved in their implementation.

Phase 1 – Evaluation of concept notes

During Phase 1, the evaluation of concept notes shall be conducted using the evaluation grid (pertinence and project concept) developed by Expertise France. Eligibility checks of proposals shall be carried out beforehand by Expertise France. The evaluation shall then be discussed in plenary sessions with other committee members to reach a consensus on the project ratings.

The mission shall commence with a kick-off meeting with Expertise France, either in Paris or remotely, scheduled around 6-8 January 2027.
The evaluation of concept notes shall take place from 11 January to 5 February 2027. The estimated amount of time for analysis is half a day for each concept note.
The estimated date for the evaluation committee is 11 February 2027.
The exact duration of the service depends on the number of concept notes received and deemed eligible.

The assessor must submit duly completed evaluation grids for each concept notes to the focal point of the call for proposals at Expertise France, who will organise the internal review of the evaluation grids.

Phase 2 – Evaluation of Full Project Proposals

On demand, the assessor can be required to proceed to the evaluation of full project proposals.

In Phase 2, the evaluation (operational capacities, effectiveness and feasibility, durability and scalability, budget cost-effectiveness) of full project proposals will be conducted based on a report template with specific instructions.

Phase 2 will commence with a kick-off meeting with Expertise France, either in Paris or remotely, scheduled around 10-12 March 2027.
The evaluation of full project proposals shall take place from the week of 15 March to the week of 5 April 2027. The estimated amount of time for analysis is two days for each full proposal.
The estimated date for the evaluation committee is13 April 2027.

The assessor must submit duly completed evaluation grids for each full project proposal to the focal point of the call for proposals at Expertise France, who will organise the internal review of the evaluation grids.

Participation Requirements

1. Concept Note Phase:
- Kick-off meeting
- Evaluation committee meeting

2. Full Proposal Phase:
- Kick-off meeting
- Evaluation committee meeting

The above-mentioned meetings will be organised either in Paris or remotely. Further details will be provided later.

Applicants must ensure their availability on the dates mentioned above and be fully committed throughout the proposal evaluation process.

4. MAIN DELIVERABLES

PHASE	DELIVERABLE	ACTIVITIES
1. CONCEPT NOTE	Completed Evaluation Grids for Each Concept Note	The assessor will receive the template evaluation grid from Expertise France. The assessor will annotate the grid based on published evaluation criteria, providing comments on the strengths, weaknesses, and improvement suggestions for each concept note.
	Summary Report of Concept Note Evaluations	The assessor will compile a summary report of the evaluations, highlighting key findings and overall assessments. This report will be discussed during the evaluation committee meeting.
2. FULL PROPOSAL	Completed Evaluation Grids for Each Full Project Proposal	The assessor will receive the template evaluation grid from Expertise France. The assessor will evaluate each full project proposal and provide detailed annotations on the evaluation grid, commenting on the strengths, weaknesses, and improvement suggestions based on the published evaluation criteria.
	Summary Report of Full Project Proposal Evaluations	Using the report template and instructions provided by Expertise France, the assessor will compile a summary report of the full project proposal providing key points on feasibility and effectiveness of the project for technical optimisation discussion and negotiation with applicants.

Submission of deliverables

All deliverables are expected to be submitted **to the following email address: emmanuelle.maurin@rtia-facility.eu**

The deadlines for the expected deliverables will be confirmed during the kick off meetings. Estimation dates are as follows:

1. Concept Note Phase:
   - 5 February 2027: Completed grid for each CN & Summary CN evaluation report
2. Full Proposal Phase:
   - 5 April 2027: Completed grid and evaluation report for each Full Proposal

Language of deliverables

For a project submitted in French, the evaluation grids shall be filled in French.
For a project submitted in English, the evaluation grids shall be filled in English.
The summary Reports of Concept Note Evaluations shall be submitted in English.
The summary Reports of Full Project Proposal Evaluations shall be submitted in the language of the evaluated project.

5. EXPERTS' PROFILE

The expert profile should encompass a blend of educational, emergency response, project management, and regional expertise.

- **Qualifications:**
  - ✓ Advanced degree in Education, International Development and Cooperation, Crisis Management, or a related field.
  - ✓ Minimum of 7 years of relevant professional technical experience in education in emergencies, crisis response, or humanitarian aid, with a strong focus on education initiatives, preferably including gender equality and/or green competences considerations. (A minimum of one significant experience in Education In Emergencies is required – eg adapting an educational package or module to an emergency context).
  - ✓ Proven track record of designing and implementing large-scale educational programs, preferably in sub-Saharan Africa or similar contexts.
  - ✓ Experience in developing calls for proposals, grant management, and project evaluation in the context of international development or humanitarian aid.
  - ✓ Demonstrated experience working with teachers and educational institutions in crisis-affected settings.

- **Skills and Competencies:**
  - ✓ Deep understanding of the challenges and needs of teachers and educational institutions in crisis and post-crisis settings, including issues related to gender equality and green competences. Familiarity with the socio-political dynamics of sub-Saharan Africa is mandatory.
  - ✓ Strong skills in program design, including drafting calls for proposals, setting selection criteria, and managing grant-funded projects. Ability to oversee projects from conception through implementation and evaluation.
  - ✓ Capacity to innovate and adapt educational solutions to the challenging contexts of crisis-affected areas. Familiarity with digital and low-tech solutions for education in emergencies is desirable.
  - ✓ Strong analytical skills to review project documents and technical specifications
  - ✓ Good written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to produce clear and concise reports.
  - ✓ Fluent French and English spoken and written skills compulsory.

6. HOW TO APPLY & SELECTION PROCESS

Though the application is to be submitted personally, please note that the contract will be signed between Expertise France and a Company (either your single-person company or an umbrella company). Before signing the contract, the company will have to show provide Expertise France legal documents, such as but not limited to, **a proof a registration** and **tax and social security certificates.**

To be considered your application must include the following:

- your **CV** (2 pages maximum);
- a proof and a sample **of similar previous assignments** (1 to 3);
- a technical note describing how you intend to apply the proposed approach and methodology (maximum 2 pages);
- a financial offer mentioning the daily rate of the expert. **No costs relating to travel, accommodation, meals, etc. will be covered or reimbursed.**

Please click on the following link to apply:

https://expertise-france.gestmax.fr/apply/16712/1/technical-assessment-of-project-proposals-submitted-to-the-cfp-ticc-2-2-rtia-h-f-4-4

Deadline for applications: 10th of December 2026 at 5:00 pm (CET).

The evaluation of the applications received will be based on the 3 following technical criteria:

1. the candidate's diploma;
2. the candidate's experience in carrying out assignments that are relevant or similar to those specified in this call for applications;
3. the candidate's understanding of the expectations of the assignment and the proposed methodology;
4. a fourth financial criterion.

An interview with each preselected assessor will be organised between 14 and 24 December either in Paris or remotely.