

Education Officer (Africa Hub) – Regional Facility for Teachers in Africa (RFTA)

Project description.

The Regional Teacher Initiative for Africa (RTIA), a programme funded by the EU/EC via the Education section (G3) of DG INTPA 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 will especially seek to achieve the following outcomes over the next 6 years:

1. 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.

Within RTIA, the Regional Facility for Teachers in Africa (RFTA) will support 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.

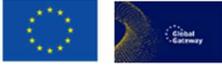
The Regional Facility for Teachers in Africa (RFTA) will reach the above-mentioned objectives through 3 types of instruments or “windows”:

- one window to deliver technical assistance on teacher governance and teacher education and professional development based on the demand from eligible partner countries ,
- one 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 populations,
- 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 Facility will be funded by the European Union and be co-implemented by the Partnership formed by 3 member state agencies: Expertise France for France, Enabel for Belgium, EDUFI for Finland. Expertise France has been designated the Coordinating Agency for this Partnership. With the Facility governance scheme serving as the Initiative’s governance scheme, it is expected that the Partnership will work closely with UNESCO and UAC, in charge of the other 2 components of the EU Initiative.

The duration of the action is scheduled from 01.02.2024 to 31.01.2027 (36 months) with a budget of 46.000.000 EUR.



Assignment description.

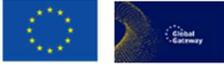
Based in Expertise France coordination office in Addis ("Africa Hub" in charge of supporting political dialogue and providing technical assistance to partner countries), the Education Officer will primarily provide support to the development and implementation of activities related to the Technical assistance window ("Window 1"), with a focus on Eastern Africa. This demand-driven mechanism is activated upon request from eligible Sub-Saharan countries with the purpose of supporting system reforms and policies in the technical areas under the Specific Objectives 1 and 2 ("Teacher governance" and "Teacher education and professional development"). The technical assistance window consists in the mobilization of expertise to support countries in the design and implementation of national teacher policy reforms, capacity building and systems strengthening for more effective teaching, including improving social dialogue with teachers' representatives.

Under the direct supervision of the Programme Coordinator responsible for overseeing EF-managed activities, the Education Officer will primarily focus on the implementation of the country action plans which will be agreed between the Facility and the partner countries (especially in Eastern Africa). Within the CAP, she/he will handle assistance requests from eligible countries throughout each stage of the process (reception and processing of the CAP request, implementation of the CAP, TORs drafting of the technical assistance, expertise contracting and supervision, M&E, reporting and closure), as per RFTA Standard Operating Procedures. Although the primary focus will be on the CAP implementation, he/she may provide technical input to the fine-tuning of Country Action Plans (CAP) in collaboration with the Team Leads in Education (TLE) based in Addis Ababa and the Education Officers based in Europe, and to the development of activity and budget plannings aiming to roll out these CAP. He/she will also play a key role in monitoring interventions, supervising technical assistance contracts, monitoring the quality of the technical assistance, and identifying key lessons learnt from technical assistance activities.

Reporting to the Programme Coordinator at the RFTA coordination office in Paris, and liaising closely the Coordinator of the Technical unit in Addis, the Education Officer is assigned the following primary responsibilities:

Responsibility 1: Implementing the Country Action Plans

- Facilitate communication with requesting and partner institutions in eligible countries to guide them through the Facility processes.
- Screen the CAP country request for eligibility and completeness, as per the Standard Operating Procedures requirements.
- Contribute to a first level of analysis of the CAP, in close collaboration with the Technical Lead in Education
- Support the consolidation of Country Action Plans (CAP) under EF management, in close collaboration with the Technical Lead in Education
- Contribute to crafting detailed operational plans for implementing CAPs, including activity schedules and budget allocations, to facilitate their effective rollout.
- Based on the Partners' and the TLE's inputs, finalize the drafting of the TORs of each activity of the CAPs
- Follow-up on the publication of the TORs and recruitment process of the expertise identified in the CAP (whether institutional or individual expertise)
- Support TLEs in the identification and prospection of expertise to deliver on the CAP, and in particular in leveraging expertise from African public institutions to promote sustained institutional partnerships.



- Contribute to the development of the Facility database of expertise, including the development of a pool of African experts in key technical sectors.
- Coordinate TA activities and expert missions, whilst maintaining contact with relevant individuals and stakeholders in Partner countries.

Responsibility 2 : Oversight and Reporting

- Supervise the comprehensive execution of activities outlined in Country Action Plans
- Ensure the effective implementation of workflows, key processes, and required forms (templates, TORs, activity reports, etc.) to roll out technical assistance activities.
- Review and validate deliverables of mobilized experts, in close coordination with the Technical Leads in Education
- Compile and produce action evaluation reports, including results, achievement of indicators, and lessons learned.
- Report, compile and file relevant information and documentation on requests and activities.
- Manage the administrative closing of requests and actions, in close collaboration with the Support services Unit.
- Identify lessons learnt from technical assistance activities to contribute to MEAL outputs.
- Contribute to the preparation of interim and final activity reports (narrative and financial) in accordance with deadlines and contractual terms.

Responsibility 3 : Networking and Coordination

- Identify, select, and mobilize suitable practitioners and supporting organizations for short or longer peer-to-peer exchange missions.
- Coordinate with backstopping FIT members for logistics and coordination of TA activities.
- Coordinate with FIT members with transversal duties for expert briefing, accompanying, and debriefing.
- Participate in consultation/coordination meetings between the EF team and other MS agencies, facilitating effective planning and implementation of activities related to Window 1.
- Ensure alignment with activities across other Windows for coherence and synergy.

The Education Officer may perform additional tasks and responsibilities belonging to the operations of the RFTA, as delegated by the Programme Coordinator. The described tasks involve the necessity to network and interact with a multiplicity of institutions and stakeholders from EU and Sub-Saharan countries and require readiness and ability to travel abroad when necessary to MS coordination offices in Europe and partners institutions in Africa.

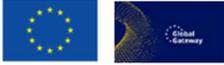
Qualifications

Required Skills:

- Master's degree in Education or relevant field (Educational sciences, Educational Policy and Planning, Economics of Education, Teacher Education, etc.), or equivalent experience.

Is funded by:

& implemented by:



- Practical knowledge and experience of cooperation tools and processes including project cycle management; Familiarity with EU project management, and financial procedures is advantageous.
- Excellent planning, organisational, interpersonal and communication skills.
- Capacity to liaise and coordinate with various actors.
- Full command of standard computer applications (Microsoft Office)
- Fluent English spoken and written skills are essential, French in an asset. Other languages desired: Portuguese, Arabic.

Required Experience:

- Minimum of 3 years' professional experience in an Education Officer position, preferably with focus on teacher-related issues.
- Previous experience working on education projects or programmes design or implementation. Working experience in the field of education in Sub-Saharan Africa is an asset.
- Experience in policy advice and/or capacity-building (including peer-to-peer exchanges among public sector experts) is an asset.
- Experience in the creation, maintenance, coordination and animation of networks of expertise, especially in the field of education in Africa.
- Work experience in a multi-lingual/international environment and ability to accommodate cultural differences to interact effectively with people of different cultures.

Contract information.

The position is based at the Expertise France coordination office in Addis Ababa. We offer a wage portage contract with a competitive salary and benefits package in accordance with Expertise France's employment terms in Ethiopia. This position is open to Ethiopian nationals or individuals already residing in Ethiopia with the necessary authorization to work legally.

Application.

Documents to be provided:

- A CV
- A cover letter
- Any business references including email and telephone contacts.