



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS

CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS FOR GRANTS TO SUPPORT PUBLIC VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTES UNDER UGANDA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (USDP)

1.0 BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) has received a loan from the World Bank to implement the Uganda Skills Development project. This project is designed to support the MoES implement key reforms under the Skilling Uganda Strategic Plan (2012/13-2021/22). It focuses on supporting the design of an initial set of reforms that will set the foundation for transforming skills development in the country, and targeting the investment program on meeting the skills needs of a few priority sectors (*i.e. Agriculture, Construction and Manufacturing*).

The overall Development Objective of the project is to enhance the capacity of Institutions to deliver high quality, demand –driven training programs in targeted sectors. Specifically, the project seeks to: (i) Develop National Occupational Standards for relevant trades/occupations in the target sectors; (ii) Enhance equitable access/ intakes in targeted training programs;(iii) Improve the student cohort that completes target training courses (short courses, certificate, diploma); (iv) Improve the participation of employers in skills training programs; and (v) Enhance the quality and relevance of skills acquired by trainees in supported firms disaggregated by economic sectors.

The project has got 4 components and 7 sub-components. The main components include:-

- 1: Institutionalizing systematic reforms in Skills Development;
- 2: Improving Quality and Relevance of Skills Development;
- 3: Employer-led short-term training and recognition of prior learning; and,
- 4: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation.

In terms of implementation, the project is being implemented by two implementing agencies (*i.e. MoES on one hand and Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development - through Private Sector foundation Uganda-PSFU on the other*). The MoES is responsible for implementation of component 1, 2 and 4 and MoFPED responsible for component 3 and 4.

Under component 2 (*i.e. Improving Quality and Relevance of Skills Development*), sub-component 2.2, the project intends support up to **12 Public Vocational Training Institutes (VTIs)** to strengthen their capacity to respond to the needs and opportunities of the labour market, including delivery of short term training courses and improve the quality of the training being offered. The selection will be done according to a set of eligibility and selection criteria.

The selected VTIs will be assisted to introduce new short and long competency based courses within one sector (*occupational area*), e.g. construction, manufacturing or agri-business. The support will include adaptation of curricula, training of trainers and assessors, basic civil works, selected trade- relevant equipment, machinery and tools, and training-learning resources both for students and instructors, and training consumables, development of students counseling, placement and tracing routines.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligibility criteria for selection of VTIs will include:

- (i) A government aided training institution;
- (ii) Institution has been in existence as a training institution for a period of at least three (3) Academic years;
- (iii) The institute provides training programs and courses in either of the three target sectors (Agriculture, construction and manufacturing);
- (iv) Average annual enrolment of at least 100 students in the last 3 years and,
- (v) Established and functional Board of Governors.

3.0 FUNDING

The selected VTIs will be provided with an operating budget to finance the maintenance, and acquisition of training workshop supplies & consumables. Additionally, procurement of training and learning goods and civil works will be undertaken by the MoES in a centralized fashion.

4.0 NETWORKING PARTNERSHIP

The selected VTIs will partner with one of the proposed Centers of Excellence (CoEs) which include Uganda Technical College- Lira, Uganda Technical College- Elgon, Uganda Technical College- Bushenyi and Bukalasa Agriculture College (BAC). This partnership is to strengthen the capacity of the selected VTIs to respond to the needs and opportunities of the labour market in their trades. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between the Governing Council of the Centre of Excellence and the Governing Council of the selected

VTIs. A maximum of three (3) Vocational Training Institutes will be supported by each CoEs in the selected target sectors. The partner CoE, through its respective international recognized twinning partner institute, will assist with adaptation of new curricula, training of trainers/instructors and assessors as well as guide them on the equipment to be purchased.

5.0 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Applications for funding are to be submitted in five (5) hard copies using the application form. An electronic copy of the proposal on flask disc/ CDs should as well be part of the proposal submission. Electronic copies must be in Microsoft Word format at **Rwenzori Courts floor 1, Albertine Office, Lumumba Avenue Plot 1**, Kampala. Application forms can either be picked from the USDP/ARSDP project office on **Rwenzori Courts floor 1, Lumumba Avenue Plot 1**, Kampala or down loaded from the Ministry's [website www.education.go.ug](http://www.education.go.ug).

6.0 INELIGIBLE COSTS THAT CANNOT BE SUPPORTED BY THE GRANT

The following costs among others are not eligible for support:

- (i) Repayment of debts and bank loans;
- (ii) Purchase of land;
- (iii) Refunds towards earlier investments.

The purpose of this communication is to invite all the eligible Public VTIs to submit their proposals in order to benefit from this grant.

7.0 TIMEFRAMES

The deadline for applications submission is **6th January 2017**. Once the applications are received, they will be assessed and ranked by the Review and Selection Committee against the selection criteria already outlined in **2.0** above. The outcome of the call for proposal assessment shall be available by 28th February 2017, on the Ministry of Education and Sports Notice board, Ground Floor at Embassy House, as well as the Ministry web-site at www.education.go.ug.