

The United Nations Educational, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) hereby invites qualified companies/individuals to express their interest to prepare a **feasibility study report on a proposed category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO**.

The time schedule for the assignment is planned between March - May 2019. Interested candidates who meet the qualifications specified in section D of the Terms of Reference below should contact Ann-belinda Preis ([ab.preis@unesco.org](mailto:ab.preis@unesco.org)) copy to Paulette Forest ([P.Forest@unesco.org](mailto:P.Forest@unesco.org)) to express their interest along with curriculum vitae no later than 22 February 2019 at 23:59 hours (CET).

### **Terms of Reference for an external consultant to prepare a feasibility study report on a proposed category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO**

A. Within the overall framework of the proposal by the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the “Regional Category 2 Centre for dialogue and peace under the auspices of UNESCO (RCDP)” (hereafter the “proposed Center”) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia as a UNESCO Category 2 Centre, and in application of the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO, adopted by the General Conference at its 37th session (37 C/Resolution 93), the **Contractor shall conduct a feasibility study and write a report (maximum 15 pages), that includes a full assessment, a recommendation, as well as any elements that could serve to inform the Executive Board Document and/or as operational paragraphs of a possible agreement between the proposed Center and UNESCO**. To do this, the Contractor will focus his/her work on the following points:

- i. the activities and objectives of the proposed Center and assessment of whether a clear programmatic linkage exists with the Organization’s purposes as set forth in its Constitution and the strategic programme objectives and priorities, including the two global priorities of UNESCO (gender equality and Africa), as well as Education, Culture and Social and Human Sciences Sector programme priorities;
- ii. the relevance of the proposed Center’s programmes and activities to achieving UNESCO’s strategic programme objectives and sectoral or intersectoral programme priorities and themes, as defined in the Organization’s Medium-Term Strategy (37 C/4) and in particular in its Strategic Objective 6 : “Supporting inclusive social development fostering intercultural dialogue for the rapprochement of cultures and promoting ethical principles”, to attaining programme results at the Main Lines of Action (MLA) level in Education, Human and Social Sciences Sector and Culture in their performance indicators and benchmarks, as defined in the Organization’s Approved Programme and Budget (39 C/5) – these documents shall be provided to the Consultant by UNESCO;
- iii. the scope of the proposed Center’s activities and capacity to meet its objectives over the next years (including financial viability, staffing, research and publication capability, flexibility with the evolving nature of the subject matter, relations/partnerships with relevant stakeholders etc);
- iv. the global, regional, subregional or interregional relevance and impact (actual or potential) of the proposed Center, in particular the complementarities and interactions between it and other existing institutes or centres with similar focus; the contribution that it is expected to make in strengthening the provision of policy advice, capacity-building in Member States and the promotion of South-South cooperation; and the areas of direct cooperation with and role that could be provided by UNESCO;
- v. the eventual complementarity and/or redundancy of the proposed Center with other category 2 entities or similar institutions created and operated by other United Nations system organizations;

- vi. the likely impact of the engagement with the proposed centre on the capacity of the Secretariat to undertake effective coordination of this and other category 2 institutes/centres;
- vii. the legal status, timeline for the creation of the Center, governing body, workplan, international and regional visibility, and financial sustainability of the proposed Center.

The report should **contain a recommendation on whether or not the proposed Center** should be created as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

The report should also provide elements that could serve to inform the Executive Board document and any draft agreement that may be devised, and that must be based on the model annexed to document 37 C/Resolution 93. The report should summarize the findings and recommendations, including possible deviations from the model agreement.

- B. The feasibility study of the proposed Center will include:
  - i. A desk study of relevant documents, including those provided by the Saudi Authorities and UNESCO Secretariat;
  - ii. A visit to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for interviews and information gathering;
  - iii. Interviews (in person, by telephone, online and/or via e-mail) with the stakeholders, and collaborators as well as UNESCO staff concerned;
  - iv. Consideration of elements that could serve in the Executive Board document and/or as any operational paragraphs of a possible agreement between the proposed Center and UNESCO.
  
- C. The schedule for the review is as follows:
  - i. A mission to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in March 2019 (7 days), where the Centre will be located. The composition of the delegation is still to be determined.
  - ii. Submission to UNESCO of the draft review report no later than 30 April 2019 (+1 month after the feasibility study);
  - iii. Submission to UNESCO of the final review report no later than 15 May 2019.

The assignment is estimated to require approximately 40 professional working days (20 days per each consultant), including one 7-day mission to Riyadh.

- D. The assignment requires a two-person team with the following key qualifications required:
  - University degree at Masters level or equivalent in education, social sciences, political sciences, economics, or any related field;
  - At least 10 years of working experience acquired at the international level or in an international setting;
  - Senior experience of at least 10 years in project and/or programme evaluation;
  - Knowledge of and experience in applying qualitative and quantitative data analysis techniques and RBM or Theory of Change principles;
  - Senior professional experience relevant to the field of Intercultural dialogue and intercultural education;
  - Professional work experience in developing countries or in a national/regional/global development context;
  - Understanding and knowledge of the UN mandates and its programming in relation to education in the framework of the Sustainable Development Agenda;
  - Excellent analytical and demonstrated excellent drafting skills in English;
  - Working knowledge of Arabic (reading and speaking);
  - No previous involvement in the implementation of the activities under review.

Verification of these qualifications will be based on the provided curriculum vitae.

E. Example of documents required within a feasibility study - the case of the International Centre for the Rapprochement of Cultures in Almaty (Kazakhstan) as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

- i. Report on the feasibility study:  
<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000252305?posInSet=1&queryId=a734b56c-7fa4-476b-8b06-c544766b2dec>
- ii. Draft agreement: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000252303>
- iii. Introductory document for the Board : i.e.: 202 EX/18 Part X :  
<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000252835/PDF/252835eng.pdf.multi>
- iv. Introductory document for the GC, i.e: 39 C/18 part X :  
<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000259716/PDF/259716eng.pdf.multi>

F. Reference documents:

- i. [INTEGRATED COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO](#)
- ii. [39 C/5](#)
- iii. [37 C/4](#)