

FAQ - RFP - BY54EDU82025 - Implementing partner for the Adolescent Girls Empowerment project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Question no 1: We are writing to request clarification on the 120 Hours of learning mentioned in the RFP- BY54EDU82025. Could you clarify if this learning is required to take place during School hours or as a complementary/after school activity?

Answer no 1: The 120 hours of learning will be structured in alignment with school schedules. Flexibility will be ensured to accommodate local calendars and exams. The programme is designed as a complementary structured learning activity, with delivery approaches to be agreed during the inception phase with government task groups.

Question no 2: District Requirements (Section 3.1.2 & 7 – Geographic scope): Could you please specify the districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa where the programme is expected to be implemented?

Answer no 2: The specific districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will be selected in consultation with the KP Government and communicated to the successful implementing partner.

Question no 3: Number of Participants (Section 7 – Objectives & Scope of Work): What is the estimated/target number of adolescent girls and other beneficiaries to be trained under the programme?

Answer no 3: The programme is expected to reach approximately 30,000 adolescent girls, primarily from grades 6 and 7, 600 headteachers and 2000 teachers.

Question no 4: Targets & Deliverables (Section 7 – Deliverables): Are there any fixed targets (e.g., number of schools, facilitators, or community sessions) beyond those already mentioned in the RFP?

Answer no 4: Beyond the requirements outlined in the RFP, there are no fixed additional targets. Deliverables will be agreed during the inception phase with government task groups.

Question no 5: Budget Guidance (Section 13 – Evaluation Criteria & Annex 3 – Pricing): Can you provide any financial ceiling, indicative budget range, or additional guidance on allowable cost categories to support accurate budget preparation?

Answer no 5: The indicative budget ceiling for this assignment is up to GBP 100,000 (inclusive of VAT).

Question no 6: Additional Requirements (Section 8 – Mandatory Requirements / Constraints): Are there any other essential programme or compliance requirements that the implementing partner must specifically account for in the proposal?

Answer no 6: All applicants are expected to comply with British Council's safeguarding and child protection policies, as well as financial and operational compliance standards.

Question no 7: Are INGOs eligible for this call/opportunity?

Answer no 7: Yes. This is an open and competitive call. Both national and international organisations are eligible to apply.

Question no 8: How many districts are to be included in the project activities?

Answer no 8: The number and selection of districts will be finalised in consultation with the KP Government.

Question no 9: Which districts are the focus of this call?

Answer no 9: The number and selection of districts will be finalised in consultation with the KP Government.

Question no 10: How many schools and teachers are included as the target reach for this activity?

Answer no 10: The programme aims to benefit approximately 30,000 adolescent girls, 600 headteachers and 2000 teachers across selected schools. Final numbers of schools and teachers will be defined during the inception phase with government stakeholders.

Question no 11: How many total direct beneficiaries are anticipated to be reached through this

Answer no 11: The programme aims to benefit approximately 30,000 adolescent girls across selected schools. Final numbers of schools and teachers will be defined during the inception phase with government stakeholders.

Question no 12: Could you please confirm whether the total estimated contract value £80,000 excluding VAT £100,000 including VAT is for the period starting from 1st October 2025 to 31st December 2026? Additionally, we would like to know if the extension period (if exercised) will be allocated additional funding beyond this amount?

Answer no 12: The contract value of up to GBP 100,000 (inclusive of VAT) is for the period 1 October 2025 – 31 December 2026. Any extension, if agreed, will be subject to additional funding decisions.

Question no 13: Could you please clarify the criteria that will be used to select the districts for programme implementation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa?

Answer no 13: Districts will be identified based on government priorities, feasibility, and alignment with project objectives, in consultation with the KP Government.

Question no 14: Will the British Council or the Elementary and Secondary Education Department provide a list of selected schools, or is the implementing partner expected to identify them?

Answer no 14: The list of schools will be finalised in consultation with the KP Elementary and Secondary Education Department.

Question no 15: What is the expected number of adolescent girls (beneficiaries) to be reached through this programme, either overall or per district/school?

Answer no 15: The programme aims to reach approximately 30,000 adolescent girls across selected districts. Distribution per school or district will be finalised during the inception phase.

Question no 16: Are there specific eligibility criteria (e.g., age range, grade level, socioeconomic indicators) for participant selection?

Answer no 16: Participants will primarily be adolescent girls in grades 6 and 7. Further eligibility criteria will be finalised during the inception phase in consultation with government stakeholders.

Question no 17: Will the British Council provide the 120-hour learning curriculum, or is the implementing partner expected to develop it?

Answer no 17: The British Council will provide all resource and learning materials, including the 120-hour curriculum and training manuals. The implementing partner will focus on facilitation and delivery.

Question no 18: What is the expected number of educators/facilitators to be trained?

Answer no 18: Approximately 2,000 teachers and facilitators are expected to be trained across the intervention districts.

Question no 19: Are there specific community stakeholders (e.g., religious leaders, local NGOs) the British Council expects to be engaged?

Answer no 19: Community engagement will extend beyond School Management Committees (SMCs) to include parents, caregivers, and other relevant stakeholders, as agreed during the inception phase.

Question no 20: Is the submission through the portal must or is it possible to submit through email.

Answer no 20: Your proposal and other supporting documents must be submitted to MyProcurement <https://tap.tcsapps.com/tap2/#/bc-supplier-registration> / moiz.khalid@britishcouncil.org

Incase if you are still unable to access the portal (<https://tap.tcsapps.com/tap2/#/bc-supplier-registration>). You can submit your detailed proposal and clarification question to moiz.khalid@britishcouncil.org as per the timelines mentioned in the RFP documents.

Question no 21: Is the call a bid? i.e there is no mention of the budget. The proposer will quote the amount.

Answer no 21: This is a competitive bidding process. Applicants should propose budgets within the ceiling of GBP 100,000 inclusive of VAT.

Question no 22: Could you please confirm the number of districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that will be covered under this project?

Answer no 22: The number of districts will be determined in consultation with the KP Government during the inception phase.

Question no 23: Is there a pre-identified list of target schools/communities, or will the implementing partner be responsible for identifying them?

Answer no 23: Schools and communities will be identified jointly by the British Council, KP Government, and the implementing partner during the inception phase.

Question no 24: What is the expected number of schools, teachers, and adolescent girls to be directly reached through these interventions?

Answer no 24: Approximately 30,000 adolescent girls, 600 headteachers, and 2,000 teachers will be directly reached through the programme.

Question no 25: Will the project be focused only on public schools, or will community/low-cost private schools also be included?

Answer no 25: The project will primarily focus on public schools, but inclusion of community or low-cost private schools may be considered in consultation with the KP Government.

Question no 26: Could you clarify the percentage of women and girls expected to be targeted under different project components?

Answer no 26: The project will prioritise adolescent girls as the main beneficiaries (approximately 100%). Women teachers and facilitators will also be engaged as part of the delivery team.

Question no 27: Will the community-level interventions be focused only on School Management Committees (SMCs), or will they also engage parents, caregivers, and broader community groups?

Answer no 27: Community engagement will extend beyond School Management Committees (SMCs) to include parents, caregivers, and other relevant stakeholders, as agreed during the inception phase.

Question no 28: Is there a defined budget ceiling or range for this assignment that applicants should align their financial proposals with?

Answer no 28: The maximum budget ceiling is GBP 100,000 inclusive of VAT. Proposals should remain within this ceiling.

Question no 29: Are administrative/overhead costs subject to a maximum percentage cap?

Answer no 29: Administrative and overhead costs should remain within reasonable limits, generally not exceeding 7-10% of the total budget.

Question no 30: Will the training manuals be provided by the British Council, or is the partner expected to design and adapt it and seek approval from the Education Department?

Answer no 30: The British Council will provide all resource and learning materials, including the 120-hour curriculum and training manuals. The implementing partner will focus on facilitation and delivery.

Question no 31: Are applicants encouraged to apply individually or as a consortium? If consortiums are allowed, is there a requirement for a lead partner?

Answer no 31: Applications are welcome from single organisations or consortia. In the case of a consortium, a lead partner should be designated.

Question no 32: Will the British Council facilitate coordination with the KP Education Department and other relevant government stakeholders, or will this responsibility fall entirely to the implementing partner?

Answer no 32: The British Council will facilitate coordination and initial introductions with relevant KP Government stakeholders.

Question no 33: Regarding the three core themes (leadership, life skills, and language), should these be implemented through an integrated approach, or as separate thematic interventions?

Answer no 33: this would be implemented through integrated approach.

Question no 34: Could you please confirm this so we can align our submission accordingly?

Answer no 34: Please align your submission accordingly.

Question no 35: Can you please share the list of selected districts in KP where the programme will be implemented, or will this be finalised after partner selection?

Answer no 35: The districts will be finalised after partner selection in consultation with the KP Government.

Question no 36: Approximately how many adolescent girls are expected to participate in the programme across all districts?

Answer no 36: The estimated direct beneficiaries are approximately 30,000 adolescent girls across selected districts.

Question no 37: Are there specific criteria (e.g., age range, grade level, socio-economic indicators) for identifying eligible participants?

Answer no 37: Participants will be primarily adolescent girls in grades 6 and 7, aged approximately 11–14 years. Final selection criteria will be agreed during the inception phase.

Question no 38: How many schools are expected to be covered, and will the British Council provide a list of schools in coordination with the E&SE Department?

Answer no 38: The number of schools will be confirmed during the inception phase. The British Council will work with the KP Education Department to provide the finalised list.

Question no 39: Will the British Council provide standardised learning materials, or will the implementing partner be responsible for developing/adapting them?

Answer no 39: The British Council will provide all resource and learning materials, including the 120-hour curriculum and training manuals. The implementing partner will focus on facilitation and delivery.

Question no 40: How many educators/facilitators are expected to be trained per district/school?

Answer no 40: The exact number of facilitators per school or district will be confirmed during the inception phase, in line with the beneficiary targets.

Question no 41: Will the British Council provide training modules, or should the partner design and propose training content?

Answer no 41: The British Council will provide training modules, which the partner may adapt as needed with approval.

Question no 42: What level of prior teaching qualifications/experience will be required from facilitators to be engaged by the implementing partner?

Answer no 42: Facilitators are expected to have prior teaching or facilitation experience. Specific requirements will be finalised during the inception phase.

Question no 43: Will the British Council provide baseline and endline assessment tools, or should the partner propose and design them?

Answer no 43: partner can suggest baseline and endline assessment tools based on their prior experience, however they will be finalised during the inception phase.

Question no 44: What data management/reporting system should the partner use for MEL (British Council platform or partner-developed system)?

Answer no 44: British Council will provide reporting templates which partner can adapt for MEL functions.

Question no 45: Are there specific indicators already defined for measuring girls' empowerment, language proficiency, and leadership outcomes?

Answer no 45: Yes, would be reviewed during the inception phase.

Question no 46: Are there any pre-existing networks/committees (such as PTAs, School Management Committees) that partners are expected to work with, or should the partner establish new ones?

Answer no 46: Partners will work with pre-existing Parent Teachers Councils

Question no 47: What are the minimum safeguarding and child protection requirements the partner must comply with (e.g., existing British Council safeguarding policy, background checks for staff, etc.)?

Answer no 47: Implementing partners must comply with British Council's safeguarding and child protection requirements, including staff background checks and training.

Question no 48: Can you clarify whether the budget ceiling for this assignment will be communicated, or are bidders expected to propose their own cost estimates within available resources?

Answer no 48: The maximum budget ceiling is GBP 100,000 inclusive of VAT. Proposals should remain within this ceiling.

Question no 49: Will costs related to community mobilisation, school engagement, and advocacy events be considered eligible under the project budget?

Answer no 49: Community mobilisation, school engagement, and advocacy events are eligible costs within the project budget. Learning materials will be provided by the British Council.

Question no 50: Will the British Council directly cover costs of learning materials, or should these be included in the partner's commercial proposal?

Answer no 50: Community mobilisation, school engagement, and advocacy events are eligible costs within the project budget. Learning materials will be provided by the British Council, however printing cost should be included in the commercial proposal.

Question no 51: Is there flexibility in the 120-hour structured learning schedule to accommodate local school calendars/exams?

Answer no 51: Yes. The structured learning schedule will allow flexibility to accommodate school calendars, examinations, and local circumstances.

Question no 52: Will the inception/mobilisation period be funded separately, or should it be costed within the overall proposal?

Answer no 52: Should be costed within the overall proposal.

Question no 53: Will the British Council facilitate initial introductions/endorsements with the E&SE Department and district officials, or is this the sole responsibility of the implementing partner?

Answer no 53: The British Council will facilitate coordination and initial introductions with relevant KP Government stakeholders.

Question no 54: Could you confirm whether consortium applications are permitted, and if so, should one organisation act as the lead partner with others as sub-partners?

Answer no 54: Applications are welcome from single organisations or consortia. In the case of a consortium, a lead partner should be designated.

Question no 55: How many implementing partners/organisations does the British Council plan to select under this RFP (one for the entire KP region or multiple for different districts/regions)?

Answer no 55: A single implementing partner (or lead consortium) will be selected to manage delivery across the designated districts.

