UNESCO's YouthMobile Initiative: Call for Consultants

Type of contract:	**Individual Consultant Contract**
Duration:	**30 days**
Closing date:	**28th August 2015**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Office in Windhoek is seeking applications for a consultant to conduct a feasibility study on the incorporation of mobile application development in formal and non-formal education in Namibia.

Background

The YouthMobile initiative empowers youth to resolve identified local issues of sustainable development and to reduce chronic youth unemployment through the sale of smart mobile applications, the formation of small businesses, and through acquisition of employability skills. The overarching objective is to have impacted at least 25,000 young people worldwide, particularly young women, with the skills to develop, promote, and sell at least 5,000 locally relevant mobile applications by 2017. The initiative builds on the experience of many worldwide projects that introduce young people to computer science programming (learning-to-code) and problem solving (coding-to-learn). It also seeks to show these young people that such computing power can be used for directly addressing their personal challenges or the problems faced by their local communities. Eventually groups of young people can create a business or demonstrate skills for applying to IT jobs in the local, national, or international market.

Terms of Reference

Within the framework of the UNESCO YouthMobile Initiative, the Contractor will undertake a study to establish the feasibility of incorporating mobile applications development training into formal and non-formal learning sectors. The Contractor will report to the Programme Officer for Communication and Information in the UNESCO Windhoek Office and should deliver to UNESCO a final report prepared in English language on or before 15th September 2015. The report will include an analysis of the findings clearly showing how feasible it is to incorporate mobile applications development training in formal and non-formal education.

The Contractor will focus on the following tasks and demands for Namibia:

1. Informed by the **Report on the National Assessment of Mobile Applications Development in Namibia** (copy to be provided), conduct a comprehensive study on the practical possibilities of incorporating training on mobile applications development in formal and non-formal learning sectors in Namibia. Consult mobile apps development training providers listed in the National Assessment Report and ascertain whether they can provide

training to young people in formal and non-formal education sectors and ascertain the cost implications.

2. Analyse the curricula and training materials offered by the three identified mobile apps development training providers (identified in the national assessment report) and ascertain whether such curricula can be used in formal and non-formal learning sectors.

3. Identify and analyse IT policies of the following Ministries among others with the view of establishing of how they support in upscaling the Youth Mobile Initiative:

    i.   Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture;
    ii. Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Innovation;
    iii. Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service;
    iv. Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare;
    v.   Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation;
    vi. Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development; and
    vii. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology.

4. Engage the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture and the Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Innovation and discuss the feasibility of incorporating mobile apps development training in formal education.

5. Engage the Ministries of Information and Communication Technology; Sport, Youth and National Service; Gender Equality and Child Welfare; Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation; Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development; and TVET institutions to assess the possibility of incorporating mobile apps development training in the non-formal education sectors as well assess the infrastructure/capability of these Ministries and institutions to host apps development training for out-of school youths.

6. Engage possible private and public sector partners, in particular mobile service providers (MTC, Telecom and TN Mobile) who can support the training on mobile apps development for both in-school and out-of school youth. The results of the engagements should include possible support the partners can provide, full contact details of the potential partners and their contact persons.

7. Skilfully develop a Programme on how the various Ministries and different institutions can implement mobile apps development training in Namibia.

8. Produce a report detailed that has the following among others:

    i. An Executive Summary that includes an overview of report and key takeaways.
    ii. A Methodology section that details a step-by-step analysis on how the feasibility study was conducted.

iii. Detailed findings of the study clearly showing whether it's practically possible to incorporate mobile apps development training in formal and non-formal learning. It should explain why it's feasible or not, how it should be done, realistic time frames and what needs to be done for the incorporation to be successful. The findings should clearly show the evidence or interpretations obtained from the various policies analysed and engagements made during the study.

iv. A list of stakeholders/potential donors (including mobile phone service providers) who should be involved in mobile apps development training in Namibia and their contact details. This should include the type of potential support each potential stakeholder/donor can provide based on engagements made during the study.

v. A Programme supported by conclusive data/evidence on how mobile apps development training should be conducted in Namibian formal and non-formal learning sectors. The Programme will be submitted to Government and other partners and should therefore clearly highlight the significance of mobile apps development training, why both the private and public sectors should support it and how the training can be implemented.

Education and skills

The consultant should have a Master's Degree in Communication, Development Studies or Computer Sciences. Additional qualifications and experience in the fields of social research, information and knowledge management would be an asset. At least 1 year experience working with communication for development projects; telecommunications; mobile applications development; or proven research track record is required.

The Successful Candidate Profile should include:
- Excellent research skills;
- Excellent technical writing skills on issues related to mobile applications development;
- Strong analytical and communication skills,
- Ability to multi-task, prioritize and deliver to deadlines;
- Excellent IT skills including applications to establish/modify filing, reference and information systems;

The successful candidate will not work from the UNESCO Offices as this is a practical study. S/he will however have to visit the Office when asked to do by the supervisors.

This vacancy is open to both local and international candidates who meet the above qualifications. Individuals willing to apply for this position are invited to submit their detailed CVs and a letter of motivation supporting their application, either by post or e-mail. The application should also indicate how much the 30-day consultancy work will cost and the approach/methodology to be used.

CONTACTS

For further inquiries, contact Mr. Chimbidzikai Mapfumo by email: c.mapfumo@unesco.org

Applications should be sent **not later than 28th August 2015** to the **Head of Office,** UNESCO Windhoek Office, UN House, 38-44 Stein Street, P.O. Box 24519, Windhoek, Namibia or by Email: windhoek@unesco.org with a copy to c.mapfumo@unesco.org.