



USAID | MALI

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION No.: SOL-688-15-000010

Subject: Mali- Education Conflict/Natural Disasters Risk Reduction Study

To All potential offerors:

USAID/Mali is seeking a quotation to contract with two (02) local consultants to conduct a study on the impact of Crisis and Disaster in Mali's Education sector. The two (02) consultants will work as a team under the supervision of a Team Leader (international consultant) to be contracted by USAID, as detailed in the attached Terms of Reference (ToR).

The general objective of this study is to analyze the risks and vulnerabilities related to conflicts and natural disasters affecting the Malian educational system and propose guidelines for improving the management of conflicts and disasters on education. The work is estimated to **start o/a May 2015** and be completed within 60 days (see detailed tentative schedule of activities in the attached ToR).

The USAID intends to award a fixed price purchase order, with advance and final payments in accordance with a schedule to be proposed by the offeror and approved in the award.

The **quotation is due by close of business, Mali time on April 10, 2015** and must include the following:

1. A 3-5 page document describing the proposed approach for the work.
2. An illustrative work plan, including an estimated period of performance/calendar.
3. Resume/curriculum vitae.
4. A payment schedule.
5. A Bio data sheet, Form AID 1420-17. The form may be accessed electronically at the following address: <http://www.usaid.gov/forms/>.

The quotation and questions related to the request for quotation, if any, must be sent to: bamakoao@usaid.gov.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Sparacino
Contracting Officer

ATTACHMENT: TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mali- Education Conflict/Natural Disasters Risk Reduction Study

I. BACKGROUND :

The political situation in Mali has generally been stable over the last decade during which the Government was hitherto to implement reforms relating to the strengthening of the access, to the improvement of the quality and the strengthening of decentralized management of basic education. The occupation of the north of the country by armed groups from January 2012 has very largely eroded this momentum.

This complex crisis (conflict, food insecurity, floods) has severely affected the education sector thus compromising the access to education for a significant number of children of school age, estimated at more than 800,000.

As a result of armed conflict, more than 125,000 school children in the north have moved to neighboring countries and southern Mali. According to the data of International Organization of Migration (IOM), nearly 44% of the internally displaced girls and boys in the south dropped out of school. One hundred and forty (140) schools and eight (8) buildings of school administration have been occupied, damaged or destroyed. In addition, it was noted that the presence of mines and unexploded devices continue to constitute threats to school and communities in the areas of fighting.

In January 2013, with the extension of conflict to other communities in the regions of Segou, and Mopti, the number of children affected by the conflict has increased. A significant number of schools in these regions have remained closed for several weeks.

The vast territory of Mali more than half of which is desert, and its landlocked status inside and outside are amplifying factors of climate risks (random rainfall and often inadequate). The two rivers (Niger and Senegal) – constituting strengths in normal years – have sometimes been sources of aggravation of climate risks.

In the southern regions of the country, the heavy rains cause floods – aggravated by the anarchic occupation of land – with variable magnitude over the years. For example, the floods have occurred in 2013 in urban and rural areas affected more than 10,000 people. They have led to the deterioration of physical condition of school buildings and delayed school start date – classrooms served as temporary shelters for affected population.

In the northern regions of the country, episodes of drought have prevailed for more than thirty (30) years. The most severe ones result in significant damage to the crops and pastures, food insecurity and the massive movement of people. Parents in their movements drag their children who are therefore unenrolled or lose their chance to be enrolled in school. Unfortunately, the ability of the government to provide appropriate response to these multifaceted crises has been weak.

It should be recalled that the Malian authorities had commissioned a comprehensive analysis of the national capacity to respond to disasters. A multidisciplinary team was deployed in Mali in 2011, and had begun an assessment which should be followed by the formulation of a national action plan. The events of 2012 have not enabled the continuation of this activity. The assessment of national capacities is required in order to better define the national strategy for the management of armed conflict and natural disasters in the preparation of the next national plan for education.

The current study is an attempt to address this need as well as other complementary studies, which are planned for the preparation of the second generation of Education Ten Year Development Plan

(PRODEC 2). This study like the others must establish the linkages with the diagnosis of the education sector to be carried out in 2015.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY :

2.1. Global Objective :

The global objective of this study is to analyze the risks and vulnerabilities related to conflicts and natural disasters affecting the Malian educational system.

2.2. Specific Objectives:

- ✓ Identify and list the risks of crisis in the country as well as their impact on the population (vulnerabilities/capacities);
- ✓ Identify root causes of conflicts and natural disasters and others (typology of conflicts and disasters, scale of crises) ;
- ✓ Analyze the impact of crises on the performance of the education system (correlation between some indicators of education) ;
- ✓ Analyze the way in which the education system contributes to the prevention of conflicts and to social cohesion ;
- ✓ Analyze the capacities of the education system and the capacities of different education stakeholders to respond to the effects of the crisis;
- ✓ Propose guidelines to improve the mechanism for the management of conflicts and disasters on education.

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES :

- ✓ A directory of conflicts and disasters occurring in Mali is completed ;
- ✓ Different manifestations of conflicts and disasters in Education Sector are analyzed ;
- ✓ The role of Education in conflict and peace building and social cohesion is analyzed ;
- ✓ The relevance and effectiveness of the measures put in place by the Government and its partners to address the consequences of conflicts and natural disasters that have occurred are evaluated;
- ✓ Governance measures, institutional measures, partnership measures, capacity building measures, development of communication strategy measures, etc. to improve the management mechanism of the consequences of conflicts and disasters on schooling are proposed.

IV. METHODOLOGY :

This analysis will be conducted by one main (1) international expert/consultant and two (2) national consultants in collaboration with the Emergency Education Working Group (ESU) of the Ministry of Education, UNICEF, USAID and the technical support of IPE.

The working group put in place within the Ministry of Education will be responsible for: (i) conducting the analysis of conflicts and disasters in collaboration with the consultants (ii) developing the strategy of risks reduction for the education sector and vocational training.

In collaboration with the Working Group on Emergency Education, the consultants will determine the way to conduct the analysis of risks of conflicts and natural disasters in the education system by proposing tools and techniques that will be used in such a way to involve all the stakeholders.

At first stage, the methodology will focus on documentary review. This review will visit different reports, studies and other documents on the conflicts and natural disasters and others.

After this first stage of information gathering, the consultants will analyze the statistical data to see how different risks impact the access to education and the quality of education and the management of the

education system. Quantitative data could come from data compiled by the Education Cluster as well as the System of Information and Management of Education (SIGE).

Another component of the task will be the role of Education in the mitigation or exacerbation of conflict drivers. A link should be established between conflict and school based violence.

The consultants will also propose appropriate strategies based on the risks and vulnerabilities.

V. DELIVRABLES /PRODUCTS :

- ✓ A methodological note
- ✓ An interim report with an executive summary in French and English;
- ✓ A final report ;
- ✓ A roadmap enabling the set-up of concrete actions in order to handle potential risks in Mali.

VI. PROFILE OF THE CONSULTANTS :

There will be one main consultant and two (2) national (local) consultants. The International consultant should have :

- ✓ At least a master degree in Economy, Statistics, or other related majors.
- ✓ A minimum of 8 years of experience confirmed in research, conflict management and natural disasters;
- ✓ Sound knowledge in emergency education;
- ✓ Sound knowledge of the Malian context and education system ;
- ✓ Sound understanding of data collection, analysis and presentation of quantitative and qualitative education data;
- ✓ Sound knowledge of Word, Excel, PowerPoint ;
- ✓ Excellent writing and communication capacity ;
- ✓ Excellent capacity in multicultural and multidisciplinary team work;
- ✓ Excellent level in French and English (written and oral) ;
- ✓ Speaking Bamanankan would be an asset.

The national consultants should have:

- ✓ At least a master degree or more in Sociology, Geography, or other related majors;
- ✓ Confirmed experience at least 5 years in research in education ;
- ✓ Sound knowledge of institutional landscape and national policies of Mali and coordination mechanisms;
- ✓ Sound knowledge of the Malian Education System ;
- ✓ Sound understanding of data collection, analysis and presentation of quantitative and qualitative education data;
- ✓ Sound knowledge of Word, Excel, PowerPoint ;
- ✓ Good writing and communication skills ;
- ✓ Good capacity to work in multicultural and multidisciplinary environment;
- ✓ Excellent level in French and English (written and oral) ;
- ✓ Speaking Bamanankan or other national languages would be an asset.

VII. PERIOD/DURATION OF CONSULTATION :

The total duration of consultancy for the team of consultants is estimated at 60 days/person as of the signing of contract. The ideal timeframe for the consultation will be between April and June 2015.

VIII. CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES :

Activities	Number of days
Collection, consolidation, analysis of existing quantitative and qualitative data and preparation of an interim report	10 days
Development and validation of methodology and tools for collection, processing and analysis of missing data	5 days
Collection, analysis of additional information	30 days
Synthesis of all the data collected and analyzed and preparation of first draft of the report	10 days
Dissemination of first draft report, review and production of final report	5 days

IX. WHERE TO SEND THE APPLICATIONS:

The applications/offers must be sent to bamakoao@usaid.gov The deadline is **April 10, 2015** at 05:00pm GMT.