

OPEN TENDER FOR EDUCATION CONSULTANCY

DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE AND BLENDED TEACHING AND LEARNING FOR SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe (ERI SEE) is opening this Tender for Education Consultancy, for the purpose of development of the Regional Guidelines for Online and Blended Teaching and Learning (hereinafter the Guidelines), for the South Eastern European region.

The Guidelines are commissioned by the Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe.

The Guidelines are to complement the work of the South Eastern European Teacher Education and Training (SEE TET) Network, composed of the representatives of the ministries and/or national agencies in charge of teacher education and training from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Moldova and Serbia, with envisaged participation of representatives from Kosovo*. The SEE TET is coordinated and funded by the ERI SEE and European Training Foundation (ETF).

The Guidelines are also to take into consideration the Study on digital skills in the South Eastern Europe implemented by the European Training Foundation, The Guidelines on the Blended Learning by the European Commission and the good practice examples on guidelines, frameworks, instructions and similar supportive material from the South Eastern European region as well as EU member states.

The Guidelines should be delivered following the instructions laid down in the [Terms of Reference](#).

This Tender is open from **15th April – 25th April (midnight)**.

The applications, in line with the specifications of the Terms of Reference, should be received on office@erisee.org, with the subject line specifying: **Development of Guidelines for Online and Blended Teaching and Learning**, no later than 25th April midnight.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TITLE OF CONSULTANCY: Development of Guidelines for Online and Blended Teaching and Learning for South Eastern Europe

ECONOMIES OF INTEREST: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo*, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Croatia

SECTORS OF INTEREST: general education and vocational education and training (pre-tertiary education)

LANGUAGE OF THE STUDY: English

START DATE of the assignment: 26th April 2021

FINAL DATE of the assignment: 6th May 2021

RESPONSIBLE TO: Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe (ERI SEE)

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS of the consultant/s performing the study:

- Min. 5 years in education, with experience in digital education policy development and/or online teaching and learning or digitalization processes in education and training
- Experience in conducting or participating in studies and research in education
- Experience in teaching is a plus
- Knowledge of English
- Knowledge of at least one language of the SEE is a plus
- University degree
- Good communication skills (verbal and written)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe (www.erisee.org) together with the European Training Foundation have established the South Eastern Europe Teacher Education and Training (SEE TET) Network composed of the representatives of ministries and national agencies in charge of teacher education and training – continuous professional development – from 8 economies: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, North Macedonia, Kosovo*, Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia.

The purpose of the SEE TET is to offer a platform for the exchange of expertise and experience, and provide suggestion for the improvements of the TET systems in the critical areas identified. Having in mind the COVID-19 pandemic and all the consequent modifications of the teaching and learning processes at pre-tertiary level, digitalization in education and training has become either the main mode of education provision or supplementary mode. In addition, having in mind the digitalization strategy currently being developed in the Western Balkans region, there is a tendency to move to a more digital society (education and training included) even when the pandemic is over.

For that reason, the objective of the Guidelines are to provide a structured instructions on how to organize teaching and learning in the periods of complete digital provision, and in periods of hybrid provision (face-to-face and digital). The aim is to support education institutions in transitioning to digital and hybrid teaching and learning in a coordinated, structured and clear way at the level of schools and local communities. The Guidelines are to provide the list of areas to be addressed and clear guidance on how to best organize those areas for the benefit of learners, teachers, principals and communities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSULTANCY/SCOPE OF WORK

This regional study is to present guidelines for the improvements of the education and training systems in terms of the implementation of online and blended teaching and learning at the primary and secondary school level. It is meant for the policy makers and policy implementers and for their integration or modification into the systems already at place.

The study is to cover the following aspects:

- Definitions of digital education, online and blended learning

- Key considerations for successful online and blended learning in pre-tertiary education in times of pandemic
- Key consideration for successful online and blended learning in pre-tertiary education beyond pandemic
- The role of school leadership in organizing online and blended learning
- The role of teachers in organizing online and blended learning
- The communication within school environment
- The communication with the school and community
- Practical guidance for organization of online and blended learning (pedagogy, didactics, free tools, communication, coordination mechanisms etc.)
- Recommendations for improvements
- Recommendation for integrating blended learning into regular teaching and learning conditions (beyond pandemic)
- Quality assurance mechanisms
- Literature review

OUTPUT:

Guidelines on the teaching and learning in online and blended environment for South Eastern Europe

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS:

The study is to be developed in the period from 26th April to 6th April 2021.

Assistance in the development of the study is to be provided by the ERI SEE Secretariat

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS of the consultant/s doing the study:

- Min. 5 years in education, with experience in digital education policy development and/or online teaching and learning or digitalization processes in education and training
- Experience in conducting or participating in studies and research in education
- Experience in teaching is a plus
- Knowledge of English
- Knowledge of at least one language of the SEE is a plus
- University degree
- Good communication skills (verbal and written)

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

A. Applicants (individual expert, individual experts applying jointly, or a consultancy company/NGO/research institute/other organization are eligible to apply) will need to submit the proof they meet the experience and qualifications requirements, attaching a **motivation letter, a detailed CV and proof of their involvement in similar work** in which they participated, showing their expertise in education and digitalization matters.

B. In addition, the applicants will need to submit an **Offer for the delivery of the Guidelines, consisting of the proposal of the Structure of the Guidelines (list of paragraphs/topics addressed).**

C. **Financial estimation**, detailing the number of days of involvement in the Study

Candidates may be shortlisted, and interviews with the shortlisted candidates may be implemented via on-line tools.

The Offer for the delivery of the Guidelines and Financial estimate are subject to negotiations.

The applications are to be submitted by 25th April 2021 midnight (CET).

The applications are to be sent on-line, to the e-mail address: office@erisee.org; with the subject line specifying: **Development of Guidelines for Online and Blended Teaching and Learning.**

Only applications received within the given time-frame and containing all the application documents will be considered.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the **Kosovo** Declaration of Independence.

