

**Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) Operation  
Consultancy on Outcome-based Education and Learner-Centred Pedagogy**

(UWU/AHEAD/ELTAELSE/FAS/ICC/CON/02/2)

**Faculty of Applied Sciences (FAS), Uva Wellassa University (UWU)**

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## **1. Background and AHEAD Operation**

The development of the higher education sector is of central importance to enable Sri Lanka to make the transition from a Lower Middle-Income Country (LMIC) to an Upper Middle-Income Country (UMIC). Recognizing this, the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) and the World Bank have agreed, to support the higher education sector through a Bank funded Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) operation.

Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) operation is organized into two components. The first is a Program Component that supports the national Higher Education Development Program. The second is a system strengthening, capacity building, and technical assistance component that will assist GoSL to strengthen the higher education sector and achieve the objectives of the AHEAD program component. This second will also cover monitoring and evaluation, policy analyses, program coordination and communication.

The implementing agency is the Ministry of Higher Education and Highways (MHEH). The University Grants Commission (UGC) will coordinate the activities of the universities. There will be an Operations Monitoring and Support Team (OMST) which will coordinate and support all AHEAD activities between the MHEH, UGC, and the universities.

AHEAD has three Results Areas:

Results Area 1: Increasing Enrollment in Priority Disciplines for Economic Development

Results Area 2: Improving the Quality of Higher Education

Results Area 3: Promoting Research, Development and Innovation

Improving the Quality of Higher Education area covers the Enriching Learning, Teaching, Assessment, and English Language Skills Enhancement (ELTA-ELSE) Development Project (DP). This DP aims at improving the quality of higher education which has two main components: (a) academic and socio-emotional skills development and (b) enhancement of English language skills and One of the main goals of the higher education is to produce employable graduates that integrate into the workforce and positively contribute to the development of the nation.

## **2. Faculty of Applied Sciences and AHEAD ELTA-ELSE Faculty DP**

The Faculty of Applied Sciences (FAS) is a pioneering Faculty and it was established in 2005 (previous name: Faculty of Science and Technology). The FAS consists of two academic Departments established at the inception of the university; Department of Science and Technology, and Department of Computer Science and Technology. The two Departments offer four degree programs, namely Science and Technology, Mineral Resources and Technology, Computer Science and Technology and Industrial Information Technology. All degree programs are at Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF) Level 6. FAS performs on a unique operational model where both human and physical resources are optimally shared among Departments and degree programs. All four degree programs of the Faculty are aligned with the Vision and Mission of the UWU and are based on the value addition theme. The medium of instruction is in English from first year to fourth year.

Under the AHEAD Operation, the FAS has identified the following five activities to improve the quality of all degree programmes which are offered by FAS.

Activity 1: Improving English language skills

Activity 2: Revising the curricula of existing degree programs to meet the local and international demands

Activity 3: Introducing innovative and interactive learner centered teaching, learning and assessment procedures through an effective smart environment

Activity 4: Improving students' socio-emotional skills through career guidance and student welfare

Activity 5: Strengthening University and industry linkages

The FAS aims to produce globally competitive graduates who can sustain in any international working environment. In this regards, curriculum of four degree programmes designed to improve the overall quality of graduates and their socio-emotional skills required by employers; in order to cater the demand of a modern technology based society. Further, graduates are required exposing to cutting edge resources and skills to build well-rounded personality suited for competitive national and international arena. To fulfil above requirements, the Activity 2 proposed to improve and develop the ongoing curricula to meet the local and international demands though the curriculum revision of the all four degree programmes by addressing the following activities.

- Aligning the existing curricular with Outcome Based Education (OBE) and Learner Centered Teaching (LCT) principles through curriculum revision
- Training of academic staff on innovative teaching methods to enhance the student experience through OBE and LCT principles

In order to successfully initiate said activities, training of academic staff on OBE and LCT principles is essential. This consultancy is targeting to provide the hands on experience for academic staff on OBE and LCT principles for their teaching, learning, and assessment processes. Accordingly, this TOR is meant for a consultant for providing OBE and LCT

materials and training for academic staff of FAS. In addition to this, this consultancy will plan to produce the master trainers for future trainings and activities of the FAS. Purpose of the training the Master trainers is to provide the training for students, non- academic staff and new recruit academic staff and those who are study leave when it will required and yearly basis.

### **3. Objectives of the programme**

All degree programmes under FAS have been mapped with SLQF guidelines during the curriculum revision 2020. In addition to, teaching, learning and assessments process of all course units under the each and every degree programmes are required to align with OBE and LCT principles. Therefore, FAS seeks to get External Experts as Consultants to provide the following services.

- Providing the relevant skills and knowledge to Higher Education Faculty on how to develop OBE and to design for Learner-Centred Teaching.
- Mapping the teaching, learning and assessments process of all course units in line with the learning outcomes, number of hours etc, in alignment with OBE and LCT principles
- Training the academic staff on OBE and LCT principles
- Producing Master trainers for future training and activities of the FAS

### **4. Scope of the work**

The selected Consultant is expected to develop material and train the academic staff on OBE and LCT principles. This would cover both theoretical and practical aspects in teaching, learning and assessments processes. However, the target group of this programme is the academic staff of the FAS, the ultimate beneficiaries are the undergraduate students under four-degree programmes in FAS. It is expected the consultancy will host approximately 30 to 40 academics staffs. Further, the final programme should meet the Intended Learning Outcomes given below.

At the end of the programme, participants should be able to:

- understand outcome-based education and its characteristics
- develop outcome-based learning objectives for their curriculum
- align the curriculum and associated assignments to meet the requirements of outcome-based education
- plan for learner-centred pedagogical approaches such as collaborative learning, problem-solving, and self-directed learning

## 5. Key Tasks and Related Activities

The key tasks of the Consultant will be to:

- Produce the course material for OBE and LCT principles (hard and soft copies)
- Conduct the three days training programme for academic staff (6 hours per day)
- Identify the master trainers and provide the necessary and adequate guidance for future activities.
- Check the adequacy of OBE and LCT principles alignment into all course units under four degree programmes.
- Plan and Coordinate the programme efficiency and effectively
- Submit the Final Report at the end of the Consultancy.

Key Task	Required Deliverable	Time Schedule
Signing the Contract	Consultancy Agreement	April 9, 2021
Submitting a Work Plan and Schedule for programme	Work Plan and Schedule	April 23, 2021
Producing a programme materials	Required Materials	April 30, 2021
Conducting the Training programme	Training Programme	May 7, 2021
Submitting the Final Report	Final Report	May 31, 2021

Expecting outline for the three days training programmes as follows.

Day	Session	Description
1	Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding Outcome-based education and its characteristics</li> <li>• Learning to develop and write outcome-based learning objectives</li> </ul>
	Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applying the skills and knowledge to revise the existing curriculum to develop outcome-based learning objectives and aligning the assessment</li> </ul>
2	Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principles of Learner-centred pedagogy</li> <li>• Collaborative learning: What is it, Why include it and How to design for it? Participants to apply to a given topic and to design and share</li> </ul>

	Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem-based learning: What is it, why include it and How to design for it?</li> <li>• Participants to apply to a given topic and to design and share</li> </ul>
3	Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-directed learning: What is it, why include it and How to design for it?</li> </ul>
	Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants to design for Self-directed learning and to share.</li> <li>• Consolidation of learning</li> </ul>

## 6. Duration of the Consultancy

The duration of the Consultancy will be of two (02) months from the date of signing the contract.

Task	Time Schedule												
	March 2021			April 2021			May 2021						
Publishing the Notice for Inviting EOIs													
Deadline for Submission of Proposals													
Signing of Contract													
Provide the Programme materials													
Conduct the training programme and measuring outcomes													
Check the adequacy of OBE and LCT principle alignment to the course units and submission final report													

## 7. Schedule of Payments

Activity	Payment (LKR)
Signing the Agreement and Acceptance of Work Plan	30 %
Submission of the Final Report of the Consultancy	70 %

## 8. Required Qualifications & Experience

- Educational expert in OBE and LCT principle
- Have a more than 5 years' experience in similar field
- Conducting this type of consultancies in international level
- Have an experience in mapping ILOs with OBE and LCT principles in the degree

programme curriculum

- Academics who have experience in multi disciplines and incorporation of the soft skills in the curricula are highly preferred
- List of previous clients and their feedback

## **9. Required Professional Competencies**

- High level of IT literacy
- Strong communication and negotiating skills in English
- Good interpersonal relations
- Ability to function effectively in a team environment inspiring trust and cooperation of the client
- Ability to analyse and resolve the implementation issues effectively
- Ability to interact with academic and administrative staff of the FAS and UWU

## **10. Method of Selection**

IC-C

## **11. Reporting Obligations**

The Consultant shall closely coordinate and report to the Coordinator of Activity 02. The Consultant shall submit the following reports/documents as per schedule given in section 5 above.

- Course material and Programme schedule (soft and hard copies)
- Provide the training programme (Live sessions online via Zoom is acceptable)
- Final report

## **12. Ownership of the Assignment**

This assignment is funded by the Ministry of Higher Education via AHEAD-OMST under the program component of AHEAD. As such, the University shall be the owner of the assignment and will reserves the Intellectual Property Rights for all deliverable of the assignment under the terms and conditions given in the IP policy of the University. The Consultant will have no right of claim to the assignment or its outputs once it is completed and **no rights** to use **Data and Information** gathered through the assignment for other purposes without written permission from the Vice Chancellor of the UWU. Any Reports/ Data/Information produced as a part of this assignment shall be handed over to the Client in soft and hard forms.

### **13. Application and Particulars**

Submissions will be received by the Deputy Director Procurement (AHEAD/OTS), Uva Wellassa University, Passara Road, Badulla on or before 2.00 p.m. of 31.03.2021 through email or post.

You are hereby requested to provide your work schedule and fill the attached form of price schedule along with your CV and any other data which you may think are relevant for accepting your submission.

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