
TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR RESOURCE PERSON CONTRACT

Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) Operation

Resource Person Contract for Training on Effective Learning Methods (UWU/AHEAD/ELTAELSE/DTS/CON/05)

Department of Tourism Studies (DTS), Uva Wellassa University (UWU)

1. Background

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.

The Faculty of Management (FOM) was established in 2005 with the inception of the Uva Wellassa University (UWU). The BBM in Entrepreneurship & Management was its pioneering degree programme which currently has expanded to offer three specialization streams, and subsequently in 2009, the second degree programme, namely the BBM in Hospitality, Tourism & Events Management was introduced. During its short existence, the FOM has taken steps to incorporate the principles of Outcome Based Education and Learner Centred Teaching into its degree programmes. In addition, the curriculum revisions at five-year intervals enabled the FOM to identify and incorporate emerging requirements in the industry and keep the curricular up to date, and to be in line with the university's vision to become a Centre of Excellence for Value Addition.

Under the Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) Operation, the DTS has identified the following five activities.

- Activity 1: Promoting research culture within the students and staff of the department
- Activity 2: Enhancing event catering skills of the HTE students
- Activity 3: Developing the tour guiding skills of the HTE students
- Activity 4: English language skills enhancement of undergraduates through creative practices
- Activity 5: Increasing the employability opportunities and job fitness of HTE students

Under Activity 4 – English language skills enhancement of undergraduates through creative practices, a sub activity is proposed to organize interactive programmes (4.2: Improving students' English language proficiency through offering Certificate Courses / Diploma in English). Under this, a consultancy programme is proposed for undergraduates to train them on effective learning methods. This programme is expected to carryout for first year undergraduates of HTE degree programme considering the possibility of measuring the impact of the programme throughout the next few academic years.

The DTS aims to produce globally competitive graduates who can sustain in any international working environment. In this regard, the DTS has identified the need of providing practical exposure in English language as it is important to produce a skilful undergraduate. Undoubtedly, the current classroom sessions with heavy theoretical background are insufficient to produce an undergraduate with such qualities. To conquer this challenge, the training programme on Effective Learning Method (including online effective learning

methods) has been proposed in order to support students in improving their language skills as well as learning skills.

The programme is planned to be held during the second quarter of 2021. The outcome of the given training on effective learning methods will be measured through continuous assessments and end semester examination results of the undergraduates.

In order to initiate this activity, a training programme and a video series on effective learning methods need to be developed in consultation with experts, who will be selected as resource persons for conducting the training programme later.

Accordingly, this TOR is meant for a resource person for developing and conducting a training programme, and developing a video series on effective learning methods for HTE undergraduates on Effective Learning Methods.

2. The 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

3. Objectives of the Resource Person Contract

- To develop an online workshop series on Effective Learning Methods to provide a comprehensive knowledge and understanding on the practical usage of effective learning methods
- To conduct a training programme for undergraduates on the Effective Learning Methods providing practical strategies which can be used in the learning process
- To prepare a usable video series to guide on Effective Learning Methods appropriate for undergraduates in the learning process of languages and other disciplines

4. Scope of the Resource Person Contract

The target group of the training programme on Effective Learning Methods is the 1st year undergraduates of Hospitality, Tourism & Events Management degree programmes of the DTS. It is expected the training programme on Effective Learning Methods will host approximately 60 students.

The selected resource person is expected to develop a training programme on online workshop series which would cover necessary cornerstones in learning practices, usage of effective learning strategies, practical and effective strategies to use in the English language learning, and learning of other subjects. Further, the programme should meet the Intended Learning Outcomes given below.

At the end of the training on Effective Learning Methods, the students should be able to:

1. Discuss different strategies and practices in the learning process of languages and other courses (including online leaning methods)
2. Demonstrate the effective use of acquired learning methods in learning of different subjects
3. Apply effective learning practices in their day to day learning process discovering ideological methods in learning

5. Key Tasks and Related Activities

The key tasks of the Resource Person will be to:

- Produce a training module on effective learning methods (including online leaning methods) for 1st year undergraduates of HTE degree programme
- Plan and conduct the training pogramme within the specified time period
- Submit the Video Series on Effective Learning Methods appropriate for HTE undergraduates to use in their learning process of languages and other related course modules

Key Task	Required Deliverable	Time Schedule
Signing the Contract	Resource Person Agreement	1 st Week of May 2021
Producing a Draft Training Module and Work Plan	Draft Training Module & Work Plan	1 st Week of May 2021
Submitting the final document of Training Module and Work Plan	Final Document of Training Module & Work Plan	2 nd Week of May 2021
Conducting the Training Programme	Training Programme	From 3 rd Week of May 2021 to 3 rd Week of June 2021
Submitting the Manual/Guide on Effective Learning Methods and Practices for HTE undergraduates	Video Series	4 th Week of June 2021

6. Duration of the Resource Person Contract

The duration of the contract will be of seven (07) weeks from the date of signing the contract.

Task	April 2021			May 2021			June 2021		
Publishing the Notice for Inviting EOIs									
Deadline for Submission of Proposals									
Signing of Contract									
Finalizing the Training Module									
Conducting the Training Programme									
Submitting the Video Series on Effective Learning Methods and Practices									

Note: Above mentioned dates have slightly deviated from the dates mentioned in approved PAT due to the delay in awarding the Grant.

7. Required Qualifications & Experience

- Post graduate qualifications in Education Psychology with 10 years of work experience as an academic attached to a UGC recognized higher education institute
- Experience and Research & Publications in teaching and learning practices in Higher Education Sector
- Industrial experience and exposure in international context would be an additional qualification
- Exposure to and experience in foreign universities will be added advantage
- Experience and qualifications in English Language Teaching, and Hospitality & Tourism Education will be added advantage
- Preference will be given to those who will have the ability to suggest Resource Persons for conducting the training programme and producing the Manual/Guide on Effective Learning Methods

8. Required Professional Competencies

- High level of proficiency in written and spoken English
- Strong communication and negotiating skills
- Good interpersonal relations
- Ability to function effectively in a team environment inspiring trust and cooperation of other team members
- Ability to lead and manage the training programme
- Ability to interact with academic and administrative staff of the DTS and UWU

9. Method of Selection

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10. Reporting Obligations

The Resource Person shall closely coordinate and report to the Coordinator of Activity 04. The Resource Person shall submit the followings as per schedule given in section 5 above.

- Training Module and Work Plan of Training Programme
- Video Series on Effective Learning Methods for the Usage of Undergraduates in Their Day-to-Day Learning Process

11. 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.