

# Research on Improving Systems of Education (RISE) Tanzania Consultant, Education Research - Dar es Salaam Terms of Reference

## 1. Background

Georgetown University's Initiative on Innovation, Development and Evaluation (gui2de) invites applications from individuals capable of providing research implementation support to the Research on Improving Systems of Education (RISE) Tanzania Research Project. The consultant will lead efforts to develop an intervention aimed at enhancing the impact of the Government of Tanzania's new School Quality Assurance (SQA) program and support other research activities on the project, as needed. The consultant will be expected to work for a period of **3-6 months** starting in **late October** or **early November 2018**. He or she will be based in **Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**, with frequent travel to other regions of Tanzania.

### **Project Information**

The [Research on Improving Systems of Education \(RISE\) Program](#) is a multi-country research project, co-funded by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) and Australia's Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Through rigorous research, RISE seeks to answer the question, "What works to improve education systems to deliver learning at scale in developing countries?"

The RISE Program aims to expand the evidence base around education reform and drive systems-level change by:

- 1) Commissioning high-quality research on education systems and systems-level reforms that responds to locally-identified challenges.
- 2) Engaging with researchers and practitioners to deliver an analytical framework to understand how education systems function.
- 3) Ensuring that researchers, teachers, practitioners and policymakers have the latest up-to-date information on the impact of education programs on learning outcomes.

RISE's work in Tanzania is led by the [Tanzania Country Research Team \(CRT\)](#), an international team of 12 researchers based at institutions in Tanzania, the United States of America, the Netherlands, and Georgetown University in Washington DC. Georgetown serves as the lead contracting and coordinating institution for the Tanzania Country Research Team.

## 2. Scope of Work

The consultant will work closely with RISE Tanzania's Primary Investigators and DC-based Senior Program Manager to support critical components of the team's research program over the next **3-6 months**.

Georgetown University is looking for an individual that can lead the following activities:

- 1) **Conduct qualitative fieldwork around the implementation of the Government of Tanzania's School Quality Assurance (SQA) program; develop and field-test prospective interventions aimed at strengthening the Government of Tanzania's new School Quality Assurance (SQA) Program.**
  - Conduct qualitative interviews with stakeholders involved in the design and implementation of the new SQA program to understand potential process improvements and seek feedback on intervention ideas

- Liaise with the SQA Division in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and local education officials to communicate the evaluation design and monitor adherence to research design (via phone calls and in-person conversations)
- Collect data on the progress of the Whole School Visit (WSV) component of the SQA program in study regions
- Work with the Primary Investigators of the RISE Tanzania Country Research Team and SQA officials to design and test a variation on the current School Quality Assurance approach
- Work with government partners to launch the final intervention in study regions

**2) Support the design, development, and piloting of other prospective evaluations (as needed)**

- Conduct qualitative work and desk research to inform the design of other prospective interventions
- Pilot potential interventions and support the launch of the final intervention

**3) Support the launch of a tablet-based baseline survey which will be conducted in 400 primary schools and 200 secondary schools in early 2019**

- Test the programmed version of instruments; identify and communicate any discrepancies or errors to survey firm staff
- Lead piloting of survey instruments
- Develop an enumerator training manual and co-lead survey training
- Monitor adherence to research protocols and implement data quality assurance controls prior to and after the launch of the survey
- Conduct high-frequency checks using STATA; liaise with the survey firm to rectify discrepancies

**3. Desired Skills/Qualifications**

- Bachelor's degree in Economics, Public Policy, Education or similar; Master's preferred
- Prior experience implementing field research
- Knowledge of education sector in Tanzania (preferred)
- Excellent analytical, team management, and communications skills
- Ability to effectively interact with public officials including high-level government representatives
- Ability to work independently
- Proficiency in spoken and written Kiswahili (strongly preferred)
- Experience working in Tanzania (preferred)
- Knowledge of STATA or similar statistical software package (preferred)
- Previous experience with electronic data collection (preferred)

**4. Request for Applications**

Interested individuals should send a CV and a 1-page cover letter highlighting relevant experience and skills to [Shardul.Oza@georgetown.edu](mailto:Shardul.Oza@georgetown.edu) by **9:00 am Eastern Standard Time on Tuesday, October 16th, 2018**. Expressions of interest will be reviewed on a rolling basis starting **October 1st**. In case you have questions, please feel free to contact Shardul at the aforementioned address.