

## **Request For Proposal: Research Consultant to Conduct Longitudinal Study on the Impact of Digital Technology on the Learning Outcomes of Over-age Primary School Girls in Liberia**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**

#### **About CODE**

For the last 60 years, CODE has been working towards a world in which all children can pursue a quality education, reach their full potential, and contribute to their community and the world. In Liberia, CODE has implemented comprehensive literacy programming in partnership with the WE-CARE Foundation (WE-CARE) since 2009. In July 2020, CODE and WE-CARE launched Reading Liberia 20/22 program, a two-year program with the ultimate objective of improving learning outcomes of 5,000 girls and boys in 40 primary schools in Bomi, Margibi, and Montserrado counties. As part of the Reading Liberia 20/22 program, the *Girls' Accelerated Learning Initiative* (GALI) provides additional support to 375 over-age primary school girls in grades 1 to 3. Without additional support these girls aged 11 to 18 are at a high risk of dropping out of school and missing the opportunity to become literate, empowered and educated young women.

#### **Objective and Scope of Work**

CODE is looking for a research consultant to conduct a longitudinal study designed by CODE's technical team on the impact of digital technology on cognitive and non-cognitive learning outcomes of GALI participants. The study will follow one group of GALI participants with access to tablets and Remote Area Community Hotspot for Education and Learning servers (RACHELs), and another group without access to these digital technologies. There will be two cohorts of each group representing the two academic years during which the study will take place. Research questions will include whether digital learning improves literacy skills, self-confidence, and attitudes towards gender. The study will also aim to identify the conditions under which digital learning can contribute to the retention and promotion of overaged primary school girls.

#### **\*Key Deliverables**

- 1) Two interim progress reports covering the periods January 2021 to August 2021, and September 2021 to July 2022,
- 2) A final report on research findings.
- 3) Presentation on preliminary findings and the final research report to CODE and other fora such as the Pan-African Literacy for All Conference.

\*CODE's technical team must pre-approve the work plan for each of the deliverables outlined above before the consultant moves it forward into action.

**Due dates for each deliverable will be determined closer to execution of independent contract agreement.**

**Maximum budget:** \$6,000 USD

**Time frame:** January 2021 to July 2022.

#### Location

The consultancy will be based in Liberia, and the consultant should be available for frequent discussions over phone or any online medium.

#### Requirements

- Advanced degree in education, international development, or a relevant field.
- Demonstrated experience working with international or national NGOs or national governments in the education sector.
- Demonstrated ability with qualitative research methods, particularly interviews and focus groups.
- Demonstrated ability to analyze data and prepare research reports.
- Excellent written and spoken English skills.

Preferable candidate will have experience using monitoring and evaluation software to collect and analyze qualitative and quantitative data.

#### How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit the following:

- Resume
- Research outline on data collection process and schedule (2 pages maximum)
- A financial proposal
- Bibliography of publications and up to two samples.

Submit the above to Claire Bolton at [cbolton@code.ngo](mailto:cbolton@code.ngo) by **December 7, 2020** with the subject line: *"RFP: GALI Research Consultant"*. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so candidates are encouraged to submit their proposal at the earliest opportunity.

We thank all candidates for their applications; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.