

**A Study Visit on Planning, Implementing, and Evaluating
the Practicum in Teacher Education Programs:
A Study Tour for USAID Teacher Education Program in Pakistan**

Questions and Clarifications

The following questions were submitted to the Education Development Center (EDC) regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) for A Study Visit on Planning, Implementing, and Evaluating the Practicum in Teacher Education Programs: A Study Tour for USAID Teacher Education Program in Pakistan. Questions have been posed verbatim to the extent possible. Duplicate or similar questions are stated only once, but marked with an asterisk (*). Responses and clarifications to the submitted questions are outlined below. Any further questions pertaining to this RFP may be addressed by clearly stating assumptions within the submitted proposal. **All proposals are due by 5:00pm EST on Monday, April 30, 2012 to sfaizullah@edc.org.**

1. Is there a specific award amount for this RFP? Maybe a range? Maximum request?*

No maximum, range, or specific award amount has been set for the budget for this study tour. As outlined in Section 3.4 of the RFP, both technical and financial merit will be evaluated. The financial evaluation is worth 25% of the total evaluation score.

2. Is this RFP for a group of 12 visiting teachers to work with one nonprofit? Are you funding one nonprofit to run the tour?*

It is expected that one primary institution or university—specializing in the teacher practicum and/or teacher training—will submit one proposal. The institution may, however, present a combined proposal in partnership with other similar institutions, or utilize expertise outside of the institution to strengthen its proposal. External resources or any combination of joint submissions must include a written commitment from all involved parties to commit to the activities if the contract is awarded. The group will comprise of 25 participants who are involved with the teacher practicum program at their institutions in Pakistan. Additional information about the participants is outlined in Section 2.4 of the RFP.

3. Can you please tell us who the funding agency is?

This study tour is part of Pakistan's Teacher Education Program (Pre-STEP), which is a five-year program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It is implemented by Education Development Center (EDC).

4. Is this a contract or agreement? We actually need to know more specifically whether it's a "grant" or "contract" from USAID.

This study tour activity will be a contract mechanism between EDC, the implementing agency for the Pre-STEP program, and the selected university/training institution.

5. What exactly do you mean by tour?

Under the regulations outlined by USAID, a study tour or study visit is a short-term training program—in this case two weeks in duration—that is intended to increase the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the selected participants. The training experience is intended to build the participants’ technical capacity in a specific area or topic so as to contribute high quality work at their places of employment. Please refer to Section 4 in the RFP for the required components of this study tour, and to Section 2.4 for further details on the target audience.

6. Clarifications on training provider (institute or individual)?*

The training provider will be an institution or organization with expertise on teacher training practicum models and able to engage faculty members or experts who can impart the training objectives as outlined in the RFP.

7. In the budget template there is something called COST SHARE. Would you please tell me what this is? Is it mentioned in the RFP?

As this RFP is a contract, cost-sharing is not applicable in this case. Cost sharing is not mentioned in the RFP, and the budget template has been revised accordingly.

8. I am not sure how to log in. Do I need to belong to some organization to sign in?

The RFP has been publicly posted on www.rfpdb.com. Please follow website directions for registering to view the RFP and associated materials. Proposals can be submitted via email and do not require going through the rfpdb.com website.