Strengthen civil society roles in promoting the transparency and accountability of national education sector policy and implementation

Webinar on Education Out Loud
Operational Component 2
19 May 2020

Presentation by Lars Udsholt
Global Programme Manager
Oxfam IBIS
Overview

Purpose

- Inform about Operational Component 2 supporting civil society actors to generate and use evidence of implementation of education policy and budgets
- Offer guidance for prospective applicants in advance of 19 June deadline, including responding to questions

Outline

1. Introduction to the Global Partnership for Education and Oxfam IBIS
2. Introduction to Education Out Loud
3. Overview of Operational Component 2
4. Additional Questions and Answers

Webinar conducted 19 May 2020, 2 – 4 pm, CET
GPE’s vision: SDG4 for Education

**Vision**
To ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

**Mission**
To mobilize global and national efforts to contribute to the achievement of equitable quality education and learning for all, through inclusive partnership, a focus on efficient and effective education systems, and increased financing.
What GPE does

- Mobilize financing
- Better sector planning
- Improving policy dialogue & mutual accountability
- Results-focused financing
- International coordination
- Knowledge broker
- Advocacy
Introduction to Oxfam IBIS

• WUS ⇒ IBIS ⇒ Oxfam IBIS
• Civil society identity, including advocacy
• Education focus + Grant management experience
• Current portfolio
  ➢ Southern Africa: Mozambique
  ➢ Latin America: Bolivia + Guatemala + Nicaragua
  ➢ West Africa: Ghana, Mali, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Niger, Liberia
  ➢ MENA
  ➢ South Sudan
  ➢ Humanitarian efforts
• Grant agent for Education Out Loud 2019-2024
Education Out Loud

- GPE’s new advocacy and accountability fund
- Support for civil society to become active and influential in shaping education policy to better meet the needs of communities, especially the most marginalized
- Managed by Oxfam IBIS, grant agent for GPE
Goal:
Enhanced civil society capacity to further GPE 2020 goals in learning, equity and stronger systems, by improving their participation, advocacy and efforts to ensure transparency and increased effectiveness of national educational policy and implementation processes.

Objective 1:
Strengthen national civil society engagement in education planning, policy dialogue and monitoring.

Objective 2:
Strengthen civil society roles in promoting transparency and accountability of national education sector policy and implementation.

Objective 3:
Create a stronger global and transnational enabling environment for civil society advocacy and transparency efforts.
Each objective corresponds to an Operational Component

**Objective 2**

**Operational Component 2:**
National CSOs; national focused projects in one or several countries; 450,000-1.2 M USD; max 15-20 grants
What will EOL success look like?

**National Coalitions**
- are more inclusive, particularly for marginalized and local groups
- have increased capacity, especially for engagement in policy dialogues
- are actively participating in Learning collaboratives’ and generating lessons learned for institutional strengthening of CSOs

**National civil society organizations**
- have gathered data/evidence relevant for policy changes have made it actionable and available
- have increased capabilities to mobilize citizens as right holders in strategic data collection and monitoring of government commitments and education policies/plans
- are actively participating in Learning collaboratives’ on actionable data and how to turn information into advocacy relevant tools for change

**Transnational Civil society alliances**
- have influenced education policies/practices at global, regional and national level
- have created or strengthened social accountability mechanisms to follow up the right to quality education at global, regional or national level
- are actively participating in Learning collaboratives’ on effective advocacy strategies and increased capacities of transnational civil society alliances
Grant Agent Organization Structure

- Global Management Unit
  - Copenhagen
  - Regional Management Unit
    - Nepal
    - Mexico
    - Ghana
    - Uganda
Eligibility – 1

• Applicant – requirement
  ➢ National organization w. formal registration in a GPE partner country OR
  ➢ Multiple organizations working together on a joint project in one or more GPE partner countries, working with a signed MOU and a formal registered Lead
  ➢ Applicant organizations (lead) in existence for at least two years
  ➢ Not EOL grantee

• Other types of civil society actors than formally registered CSOs invited – requirement
  ➢ direct interest in working with social accountability.
  ➢ already operational and history of working together.
  ➢ When not registered and/or less than two years of experience
    ➢ partner with lead organization compliant with above requirements.
Eligibility – 2: who can apply

- OC2 seek to diversify the range of actors
  - *Actors outside of education having skills and tools relevant for transparency and social accountability.*
- Involvement of INGOs and INGO national chapters?
- Parallel applications to OC3 and OC2?
- Only GPE partner countries?
- How many applications can an organisation submit?
What can be funded – 1

• Processes for **gathering data/evidence** by civil society actors
  • Relevant monitoring of government commitment
  • Relevant for policy changes
    • EOL outcome 2.1

• Capacities of CBOs to mobilize citizens, in particular at local level – **multilevel monitoring**
  • EOL outcome 2.2

• **Learning collaboratives** on actionable data ⇒ advocacy
  • EOL outcome 2.3
What can be funded – 2

• **A clearly identified and defined problem** to be addressed in the proposed project

• Demonstrate clear **feedback and use of information and data** as part of national policy dialogue strengthening upward accountability

• **Efforts**
  • **Connecting** local evidence + tactics in a national approach to act on relevant policy solutions and redress mechanisms.
    ⇒ **Influence national policies**
  • Include a varied range of relevant local and national voices **elevated** and **connected** at national policy arenas
  • National advocacy to **impact on national realities**

• **Possibilities for coordination with OC1 – OC3**
What can be funded – 3

• Integrate wide **mix of voices and influences** - trade unions, women’s groups, youth groups, minority groups, school management committees etc.
• Identify relevant **accountability mechanisms** to influence national education strategies
• Influence national policy spaces
• Impacting on pre-conditions for national policy
• Choice of **strategic approach** and scope for **experimentation**
• Demonstrate **broad collaboration**, including involvement of marginalised groups
Amounts and duration

• Up to 36 months during 2020-23 (less than 24 months → not accepted)
  • Year Zero part of above

• Grants USD 450,000 ⇔ USD 1,200,000
  • Year Zero part of above

• Concept notes ⇔ Indicative budget figures only
  • Budgeting requirements + cost eligibility criteria
    ⇔ proposal development stage
How to apply – 1

✓ Find information on www.educationoutloud.org
✓ At this page ⇒ Grants ⇒ Applicant Guidelines
✓ Read Applicant Guidelines ⇒ Go to “How to apply?” section
How to apply – 2

✓ Inside Applicant Guidelines’ Section “How to apply?” ⇒ link to register as Applicant.
✓ Press the link …….

All eligible applicants are invited to apply for funding. Interested organizations and/or groups of multiple organizations can find further information online at www.educationoutloud.org. At this website, interested applicants will find a link to register as an Applicant as well as access to the relevant Concept Note proposal information and templates. In case of multiple organizations applying together only one member of the alliance need to register as an applicant in order to submit the concept note. After registering and completing the templates, the documents must be uploaded to the system. Applications will not be accepted outside of this system.

A Concept Note application consists of the following three documents:

1. Concept Note Narrative (completed template)
2. Budget Template
3. C.V. of 2-3 key project responsible persons

All documents must be uploaded before the Application Deadline and you must press ‘Finalize and Submit the Concept Note’ in order to complete the application process. The Application Deadline is currently set at June 19th, 2020 (at 23:59 GMT). No applications will be accepted after the deadline. Uploading documents can take up to 20 minutes. It is therefore highly encouraged that applicants complete and upload their applications early to avoid any complications. Upon pressing “Submit” you will receive an email that confirms that your application has been uploaded to the system. The required formats can be downloaded via the webpage.

The Concept Note only consist of the documents listed above and any other additional documents uploaded will not be assessed as part of the application.

Go to the application procedure through this link

If an applicant’s Concept Note is selected to advance to the next phase, the applicant will be required to submit Due-diligence Self-Assessment Forms and other required documents prior to engaging in the next phase of the application process.

Should an applicant encounter technical problems while registering as applicant or in uploading the application, then the applicant should take a screenshot and send it to info@educationoutloud.org. Upon receiving the screenshot, the applicant will be contacted for technical support.
How to apply – 3

✓ Pressing link → this page appears
✓ Select the Call for Proposals to apply for
✓ Press “Submit request” to access Application System and Templates
How to apply – 4

✓ You will receive email from this address with link to Personal application page
✓ Do not forward or share that link with anyone!
How to apply – 5

✓ Press personal link and arrive here....
How to apply – 6

✓ Choose which **language** to use during the application process (all templates are in four languages)

**Instructions**

Hello bso@oxfamibis.dk

IMPORTANT! This is your very personal application page. Do not share the link to this page with anyone that you do not trust, or anyone who should not have access to this page.

You can leave this page and come back later to remove or upload documents until you press “Finalize and submit concept note”. After deadline, you can still come back to this page, but at that time you cannot change your application.

**Your general information to Save**

- Name of organization:
- Legal registration number:
- Address:
- Country:
  - Afghanistan
- Email:
- Telephone:
- Skype address:
How to apply – 7

✓ Download relevant templates from the same page

Applying for:
Education Out Loud OC2: Open Call for Concept Notes

Concept note description:
Read the Applicant Guideline (online at educationoutloud.org or attached here below). Below you find attached the templates that you must complete and upload. You need to upload the following documents:
1. Concept Note Narrative (completed template)
2. Budget Template
3. C.V. of 2-3 key project responsible persons

Use these files for your concept note application:
- ENGLISH OC2 - 1 Concept Note Template.docx
- ENGLISH OC2 - 2 Budget Template.docx
- ENGLISH OC2 - 3 Applicant Guidelines.pdf

Full name of contact person (The contact person is the point of contact throughout the application and assessment of the application):

* Email of contact person:

Organization type:
- Civil Society Organization

* Amount applying for in US dollars (whole number, no commas or punctuation, minimum: 450000 maximum: 1200000)

The Project contributes mainly to SDG (Sustainable Development Goals):
- SDG1

The Project also contributes to SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) (max 2):
- SDG1
- SDG2
- SDG3
- SDG4

The Project contributes to the following countries (choose as many as you want):
- Afghanistan
- Albania
How to apply – 8

✓ Complete all templates and upload them on personal application page (access through link received by email)
How to apply – 9

✓ Application only complete when all required documents uploaded

✓ Need to change document already uploaded → just delete document first uploaded before upload of new document

✓ Note: personal application page closed for uploading new documents or change documents the moment you press “Finalize and Submit Concept Note”

✓ When all documents uploaded → Press “Finalize and Submit Concept Note”

   Deadline June 19th, 2020 at 23:59 GMT
How to apply – 10

✓ Note ⇒ once “Finalize and Submit Concept Notes” is pressed, documents cannot be changed
How to apply – 11

Remember to upload the following documents

1. Concept Note Narrative (completed template)
2. Budget Template
3. CVs of 2-3 key project responsible persons
Assessment process

- Basic eligibility
- Proposal assessment
- Review and recommendations
- Calibration
- Global balancing
- Global balancing
- Decisions

**GMU** Global Management Unit (Denmark)
**RMU** Regional Management Unit (Mexico, Ghana, Kampala, Nepal)
**RISP** Regional Independent Selection Panel (5 RISPs)
**GISP** Global Independent Selection Panel
Year Zero

- **Due diligence**: identify measures required to reduce risk related to applicant’s project management
- **Alliance organisational capacity**: e.g. relationship building among key stakeholders
- **Developing full proposal**: Oxfam IBIS + learning partners engage with selected alliances to support drafting of full proposal, e.g.
  - Theory of change
  - Experience from EOL stakeholders and wider education movement
  - Measures for learning and adaptive management
  - Budget
- **Modest financial support** available for the above
Learning + Adaptive Management

EOL overall emphasis on learning
• Argue for choice of approach + potential for experimentation
• Learning collaboratives + learning partners
• Adaptive management

⇒ Year Zero integral part of learning agenda, but
⇒ Begins when drafting concept note
⇒ Continues when drafting full proposal (Year Zero) including learning plans
⇒ Central aspect of implementation: strategies to document learning
Assessment Criteria

- Context analysis 25%
- Description of the Project Strategy and Action 25%
- Project Relevance 20%
- Organisational capacities for implementing the project 15%
- Learning approach and alliance development 15%

 Globally balanced portfolio
Rejected Concept Notes not reassessed. GISP decisions final. Qualified concept notes rejected because of lack of funds may be shared with relevant funders unless applicants decline this option.