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**Educate A Child**

**General Submissions**

**Guidance and Template for submission of Expressions of Interest**

**for Projects Targeting**

**Children at “*High Risk*” and “*Most at Risk*” of Dropping out of Primary Education**

*Draft of 17th July 2018*

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| **Organizational Contact Information** |
| **1. Name of the submitting organization:***Please provide the full legal name of the organization submitting this Expression of Interest.* |  |
| **2. Primary contact person***Please provide the following information for the primary contact person for this Expression of Interest (EOI).* |
| Full Name:*First Name and Last Name* |  |
| Title: |  |
| Email Address: |  |
| Phone Number: |  |
| Mailing Address: |
| Address Line 1: |  |
| Address Line 2: |  |
| City: |  |
| State/Province/Region: |  |
| ZIP/Postal Code: |  |
| Country: |  |

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| **Submission information** |
|  |
| **Date of this EOI submission:**  |  |  |  |  |
|  **DD MM YYYY** |
| **Is this the first submission of this EOI to EAC? [ ]  Yes [ ]  No**  |
|  |
| ***If this is a revision of a previous submission, what is the date of the original EOI submission?*** |
|  |
| **Date of original submission:**  | *DD-MM-YYY* |  |

**What is Educate A Child?**Educate A Child (EAC) is a global initiative of the Education Above All Foundation launched by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser at the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) international conference in November 2012, in Doha, Qatar. EAC aims to significantly reduce the number of children worldwide who are denied their right to education and focuses on ensuring every child it supports has access to a full course of quality primary education, in particular the world's hardest to reach marginalised children. Educate A Child is based on the principle that education is not only a fundamental human right for all children, but also a clear lifeline to those in the most challenging circumstances. Educate A Child is, at its heart, a commitment to children who are out of school or most at risk of dropping out of school to help provide them with opportunities to learn, and as such, is also a contribution to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.

EAC Vision Statement
EAC’s vision is a world where every individual has the opportunity to learn through a quality education.

EAC Mission Statement
EAC’s mission is to make a major contribution to trigger significant breakthroughs in providing out of school children and children most at risk of dropping out of school with a full course of quality primary education.

EAC Strategic Objectives

1. Ensure inclusive and equitable access to primary education for out of school children.
2. Support education for “at risk" students in primary level education.
3. Raise public awareness on the importance of primary education for marginalised people.
4. Keep the issue of education for the most marginalised children at the top of the global agenda.

**EAC Working Definition of Children at “High Risk” and “Most at Risk” of Dropping Out of School**In addition to the millions of children who drop out of primary education annually there are many millions more who are at risk of dropping out. There is no global figure for the number of children at risk of dropping out, in part because there is no universal definition of “at risk,” but research suggests that there are a range of interrelated demand and supply factors that interact to influence how and why children drop out from school, including, on the one hand, economic or social disadvantages due to the children’s background or belief systems; or in-school factors, i.e., lack of safety, inadequate school infrastructure, and quality or relevance of instruction, on the other. Marginalised groups are most seriously at risk of dropping out, including children in rural areas, those from poorer families, and girls.

According to a recent EAC review of international experience (unpublished) of children at risk of dropping out of school, there is broad consensus that dropout is often a process, one frequently preceded by repeated and sometimes prolonged absenteeism and increasing disengagement. The EAC review of experience notes “[R]isk factors for dropout come from background disadvantages combined with difficulties faced in school, and prior to dropout children begin to display signs of withdrawal and disengagement.” A number of academic proxies – such as low performance, poor attendance, and other behaviours in school -- have been shown to predict school dropout. And because dropout is a process with recognizable characteristics and markers which are observable, it is possible to monitor drop out risk.

**Figure 1: *EAC decision tree for identifying children at higher risk of dropping out***

**Demographic and Background Characteristics** *(Illustrative)*

**Risk Determination**

**Academic Markers**

 **EAC Focus**

Monitoring heightened vulnerability

Determining initial vulnerability

The diagram above captures the general essence of the categories of “high risk” and “most at risk” that are relevant and actionable for EAC and its partners. The two sets of factors, demographic/background characteristics and academic markers intersect, and while the second is not always determined by the demographic factors, it is often the case that children at a disadvantage as a starting condition are the ones that shift into heightened vulnerability, which becomes evident in their poor attendance and engagement in school.

EAC’s target population will be the more disadvantaged and marginalised children within school/communities defined by the number of background/demographic characteristics and the relative magnitude of disadvantage based on demographic characteristics. Differences of three or more categories of disadvantage from their peers will identify them as targets/beneficiaries of the proposed project.

EAC uses the following **general operational definition**:

**Children at “high risk” of dropout**: Children facing adversity due to a range of factors including economic/ financial barriers, chronic illness, displacement or migration, disability, linguistic minority status, or gender-related cultural barriers.

The magnitude of the risk increases with the:

* number or intersection of demographic factors (e.g. being a girl and being poor); or
* level of disparity in that factor between the child in question and the average child attending school on a regular basis (e.g. being dramatically below the average socio-economic level, or severely chronically ill).

**Children “most at risk” of dropout**: Children facing adversity who are displaying signals of heightened vulnerability, manifested through reduced attendance and lack of engagement in learning.

These factors share commonalities across multiple contexts, as the research has shown, but the intensity of the effect that they exert on the likelihood of dropout differs depending on the context. This is true for both academic markers and demographic factors. Therefore, it is important to allow for local contextualization of risk factors and thresholds of risk to identify children who are most at risk.

**Strategic Aim**Projects funded as part of EAC’s 2012 – 2015 strategic plan aimed for both enrolment and retention of OOSC. OOSC-focused projects under EAC’s 2016 – 2019 strategic plan will continue this mission. In addition, EAC will invite and support a limited number of projects with an aim of retaining 100,000 children already in school who are at “high risk” and “most at risk” of dropping out of primary education. **The combined “high risk” and “most at risk” population that is the target of this initiative will be a different cohort of beneficiaries than EAC’s OOSC-focussed projects, as these children would already be attending school with an objective of ensuring they are retained.** To remain consistent with its mission EAC will continue to target the most marginalised and disadvantaged children at “high risk” and “most at risk” of dropping out.

**EAC Criteria for Projects**Under this initiative, Expressions of Interest must describe how the applicant will implement EAC’s operational definition of “high risk” or “most at risk” student. Applicants will be expected to develop and implement a protocol to identify, track and report on the children at *high risk* and *most at risk* of dropping out. This will require the local identification and validation of critical risk factors and academic markers and setting appropriate thresholds for each category to allow the identification of *high risk* and *most at risk* students. Once identified, the goal will be to provide resources and support for the children who are more likely to drop out of school to ensure they attend regularly and remain engaged in their education, successfully retaining them and ensuring they receive a quality education. The EOI must show clear linkages between the proposed interventions and identified critical risk factors and evidence of the effectiveness of those interventions in retaining high risk and most at risk children. EOIs should include interventions addressing both demographic/background characteristics and academic markers

At a minimum, EAC partnership criteria stipulate that each funded project should target at least 5,000 “high risk” and “most at risk” students over the life of the project with interventions to support their retention in a quality primary education. Each project will have at least 50% co-funding and demonstrate the cost effectiveness of EAC’s investment with a maximum spending per child of $125/per child over the life of the project.

Each EOI submission must meet the following **Minimum Eligibility Requirements**. If an EOI does not meet these requirements, it will be deemed “non-responsive” and not considered.

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| **Minimum Eligibility Requirements** |
| 1 | All sections of the EOI are fully completed. |
| 2 | The EOI describes strategies for identifying and monitoring individual “high risk” and “most at risk” students per EAC’s operational definition. |
| 3 | Project will target at least 5,000 “high risk” and “most at risk” students over the life of the project with interventions to support their retention in a quality primary education. |
| 4 | Sufficient information on the proposed strategy and activities is provided. |
| 5 | The proposed timeframe of project is realistic, given the project context and risk factors, in order to achieve stated goals/targets/outcomes. |
| 6 | The proposed budget is realistic in order to achieve stated project target and provide quality programming. |
| 7 | The EOI has information on secured and planned co-funding per EAC requirement. |
| 8 | Proposed project meets EAC criteria for Investment per Child. |

**Expressions of Interest will be appraised according to the criteria below:**

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| **Criteria** | **Quality Assessment Standards** |
| **Understanding of context and identification of critical risk factors** | EOI demonstrates strong and documented understanding of the national and local context and critical risk factors for dropout, in particular distinguishing between “high risk” and “most at risk” students per EAC operational definition, in proposed project location(s) based on pre-proposal situation analysis and/or organizational experience. |
| **Programme design and technical approach** | * Project proposes a credible, evidenced-based methodology for identifying and then supporting “high risk” and “most at risk” students.
* Credible criteria for screening “high risk” and “most at risk” children per EAC operational definition or method for determining these criteria in the project.
* Linkages between proposed interventions and critical risk factors clearly described.
* Project duration and targets are realistic.
* Target a minimum of 5,000 “high risk” and “most at risk” students over life of project.
 |
| **Implementation capacity** | Provides evidence of successful implementation of proposed approach to identifying, monitoring, and retaining “high risk” and “most at risk” children in the last 3 years, preferably in country of proposed project.  |
| **Sustainability and local buy-in** | * Clear plan for sharing and/or institutionalizing effective interventions to identify, monitor, and address the vulnerabilities of “high risk” and “most at risk” students which would allow identified at risk children to be retained and complete a quality primary education.
* Plan for engaging and building capacity of education actors at all levels and communities, as appropriate.
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| **M&E system**  | Describes specific plans for monitoring and evaluation of the project, including methods of identifying, tracking, and reporting on “high risk” and “most at risk” students, from initial identification through to completion of the programme. |
| **Communications** | Outlines activities that will be included in a communication plan for the project. |
| **Budget** | Detailed budgets will be assessed at the Proposal stage only. However, at the EOI stage EAC will consider whether:* Proposed budget amount appears realistic and appropriate to the proposed project.
* Expression of Interest has information on secured and planned co-funding.
* Proposed project meets EAC criteria for Investment per Child.
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**EOI Submission**Please answer all fields directly in the form below and submit to EAC via email to partners@educateachild.org.qa.

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| **Project Summary Information** |
| *Please provide the following information about the project proposed in this EOI:* |
| **3. Country of Implementation:** *Please provide the following information:* |
| Name of the country |  |
| Regions/ Districts of implementation |  |
| Total number of “high risk” and “most at risk” student to be targeted (*disaggregated by level of risk*):  |  |
| **4.** **Proposed project name/title:** |  |
|  |
| **5.** **Total number of years of the proposed project** |  |  |
|  |
|  **Anticipated project start date:**  |  |  |  |
|  | **MM** | **YYYY** |  |
|  **Anticipated project end date:**  |  |  |  |
|  | **MM** | **YYYY** |  |
| *\*NOTE: ANTICIPATED START DATE SHOULD BE AT LEAST SIX TO NINE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE EOI SUBMISSION.* |
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| **6.** **Total number of “high risk” and “most at risk” students targeted by the end of the proposed project** (*disaggregated by level of risk*)**:** |
| *Please refer to the EAC definition of “high risk” and “most at risk” students beginning on page 2.* |  |  |
| **7. Number of “high risk” and “most at risk” students targeted each year of the proposed project** (*disaggregated by level of risk*)**:** |
| Year 1 |  |
| Year 2 |  |
| Year 3 |  |
| Year 4 |  |
| Year 5 |  |
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| **Project Summary Information continued…***Please provide the following information about the project proposed in this EOI:* |
| **8. What is the total project budget for the life of the project?** *Total project budget is equal to the EAC request plus all co-funding for all years of the project.* | *$* |
| ***Total project cost in $USD*** |
| **9. What is the total funding request from EAC?** *NOTE: The total funding request from EAC should be less than or equal to 50% of the total project budget.* | *$* |
| ***Total funding request from EAC in $USD*** |
| **10. What is the estimated EAC investment per child (“high risk” and “most at risk”) targeted by the project?** *EAC investment per targeted child = Total requested from EAC divided by Total number of “high risk” and “most at risk” students targeted.* | **Total EAC request: $** *(This is equal to the amount in question #9)* |
| **Total targeted:** *(This is equal to the total in question #6)* |
| **EAC investment per child: $**  |

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| **Organizational Past Experience—EAC Experience** |
| **11. Does your organization have, or has it had, previous projects with EAC?** **[ ]** Yes[ ]  No*IF YES, please provide the following information: Project country/countries, Project title, and Years of operation.* |
| EAC Project 1 Country/Countries name(s) |  |
| Project name |  |
| Total project years |  |
| EAC Project 2 Country/Countries name(s) |  |
| Project name |  |
| Total project years |  |
| EAC Project 3 Country/Countries name(s) |  |
| Project name |  |
| Total project years |  |

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| **Organizational Past Experience—Education Project Implementation** |
| **12. Provide evidence of your organization’s experience with identifying and retaining “at risk” children in the proposed country of operation, as well as its experience implementing the proposed activities or similar activities within the last three years.** *Include key activities, beneficiaries (type and number), and areas of intervention.* |
| *MAXIMUM OF 200 WORDS*. |

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| **Program Context**  |
| **13. Briefly describe the relevant national and local educational context of the country in which the proposed project will operate; in particular, critical risk factors for dropout which will be addressed by the project.** |
| *MAXIMUM OF 100 WORDS*. |
| **14. Describe the types of children at “high risk” and “most at risk” of dropping out of school you intend to reach and the critical risks factors these children face.***Please describe the critical risk factors that the children face in each area/region of project implementation.* *NOTE: Refer to the EAC Working Definition of “high risk” and “most at risk” children. (What population groups and subgroups will the project reach?)* |
| *MAXIMUM OF 250 WORDS*. |

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| **Program Overview—Methodology/Strategies/Interventions**  |
| **15. Describe the educational methodology, model, and/or strategies the proposed project will employ.***Provide a description of the strategies and methodologies that the project will use to identify, engage, educate and retain “high risk” and “most at risk” students in a quality primary education. Include a description of the process and tools the project will employee to identify “high risk” and “most at risk” students. Be sure to thoroughly describe the interventions that will be used to retain these children*, clearly linked to the critical risk factors to be addressed.  |
| *NOT TO EXCEED ONE PAGE.* |
| **Program Overview—Goal, Outcomes/Results and Activities**  |
| **16. Describe the project’s theory of change or logical framework***List the project’s goal and each of the project’s intended results and the activities/interventions that will lead to the intended result.* |
| ***Overall project goal/objective:*** *State the overall project goal/objective.**(Example: XXXX “high risk” and “most at risk” students affected by [list critical risk factors] in [country x] have been retained and engaged in a quality primary education.)* |
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| ***Result/Outcome1:****State intended result/outcome 1.**(Example: XXXX number of “high risk” and “most at risk” students with the following characteristics . . . . . . retained in school.)* |
|  |
| ***Describe the activities/interventions that will be used to achieve the result*** *Briefly describe each of the key activities/interventions that will lead to achievement of Result/Outcome 1. Include the intended beneficiaries of the activities.* *(Example: Provide X [interventions] for X [number] of “high risk” and “most at risk” students…)* |
| ***List the critical risk factors(s) to be addressed by the result and its activities:*** *(Example: ethnicity, disability; gender; etc. …)* |
| ***Result/Outcome 2:*** |
| *State intended result/outcome.* |
| ***Describe the activities/interventions that will be used to achieve the result***  |
| ***List the risks factors(s) to be addressed by the result and its activities:*** |
| ***Result/Outcome 3:*** |
| *State intended result/outcome.* |
| ***Describe the activities/interventions that will be used to achieve the result***  |
| ***List the risks factor(s) to be addressed by the result and its activities:*** |
| ***Result/Outcome 4:*** |
| *State intended result/outcome.* |
| ***Describe the activities/interventions that will be used to achieve the result***  |
| ***List the risk factor(s) to be addressed by the result and its activities:*** |
| ***Result/Outcome 5*** |
| *State intended result/outcome.* |
| ***Describe the activities/interventions that will be used to achieve the result***  |
| ***List the risk factor(s) to be addressed by the result and its activities:*** |
| ***\*\*Add or delete goals/objectives, result /outcomes and activities/interventions as needed*** |

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| **Program Overview—Monitoring and Evaluation** |
| **17. Describe specific plans for monitoring and evaluation of the project, including methods for identifying critical risk factors and tracking dropout risk and retention of students at “high risk” and “most at risk” of dropping out in project schools.** *NOTE: EAC requires its partners to report bi-annually on the number of at higher risk children (both “high risk” and “most at risk”) retained and engaged and the number who remain enrolled in subsequent enrollment periods.*  |
| *MAXIMUM OF 250 WORDS*. |

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| **Program Overview—Sustainability Plan** |
| **18. Describe the plan for sustainability after the project ends, ensuring that the plan draws on efforts to date.** |
| *MAXIMUM OF 150 WORDS*. |

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| **Program Overview—Alignment with National Strategies** |
| **19. Indicate how this project is aligned with Ministry of Education National Plans.** |
| *MAXIMUM OF 150 WORDS*. |

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| **Communication – Existing Resources** |
| **20. Please indicate what resources your organization (field and HQ) currently has available to support communications for this project (communications includes advocacy, communication, information and visibility)**  |
| *MAXIMUM OF 150 WORDS*. |
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| **Communication – Planning** |
| **21. Please provide a description of the types of communication activities that you plan to implement for this project and how (communications includes advocacy, communication, information and visibility)** **Should the EOI submission result in a request for proposal, you will be required to submit a communication plan for the life of the project.** |
| *MAXIMUM OF 250 WORDS*. |

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| **Program Funding** |
| **22. Provide information on the project budget including the potential co-funding partners for this project.** *Combined co-funding from sources other than EAC should equal 50% or more of the total project budget.*

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| **Co-funding Partner** | **Co-funding Amount in US $** |
| **1.** | **$** |
| **2.** | **$** |
| **3.** | **$** |
| **4.** | **$** |
| **5.** | **$** |
| **6.** |  |
| **Total Co-funding in US $** | **$** |
|  |
| **Total Request to EAC in US $** *(Less than or equal to 50% of total project costs)* | **$** |
|  |
| **Total Project Costs in US $** *(Total Co-funding plus Total Request to EAC)* | **$** |

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| **22.a. EAC needs significant assurance that co-funding will be obtained. In the space below, please provide information on the status of securing funds from each of the above listed proposed co-funders.** *\*\* Please note that co-funding from government and other funders must be directly attributed to supporting children most at risk of dropping out of school in the proposed project. Ministry of Education funds for general operating expenses are not considered acceptable co-funding.* |
|  |