

BRIEF OF SCOPE

Revamping eThaksalawa Learning Content Management Platform ICTA/GOSL/CON/QCBS/2016/117

1. Background

The eThaksalawa is a project initiated by the ICT Branch of the Ministry of Education, to establish the National e-learning portal of the General Education System which launched in the year 2013.

This Learning Content Management System (LCMS) is produced and developed by the Ministry of Education with a view of improving as a content repository in future to provide various services for storing, accessing, and managing contents. But with age and technological advancements it is recommended that new version of e-Thaksalawa need to be emerged. This contributes long term plan of ICT in Education Sector which is expected to be implemented by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with ICTA.

ICTA and Ministry of Education will collaboratively work on the revamping and development of a quality eLearning platform under the preview of Ministry of Education. Objectives are expected to be achieved through the development and delivery of quality content in all subject areas and education tools through the revamped eThaksalawa platform.

2. Objective

To engage a consultancy firm to revamp the eThaksalawa platform for facilitating seamless digital content provision related to general education and SMART Classrooms initiative.

3. Scope of Services, Tasks (Components) to be carried out,

The selected Consultancy firm shall complete the following while adhering to the recommendations made by the client.

3.1 Client will provide a set of recommendations and As-Is assessment document which shall be considered by the consultancy firm. The Consultancy firm should identify the required further improvements/enhancement to be made to the existing eThaksalawa platform and verify with the appointed review committee.

3.2 Study the existing platform and global best practices in providing digital learning content in the school education sector and SMART Classrooms.

3.3 Prepare the following documents and obtain concurrence from the appointed review committee

3.3.1 Draft a solution architecture which will cater to the identified improvements/enhancements mentioned above. It is also expected to comply with all requirements specified under the non-functional requirements, listed in annexure 1.

Approval for the proposed architecture should be obtained from ICTA project team.

3.4 Platform should (not limited to) consist with following features/ Functionalities,

3.4.1 User Interfaces

- Design a responsive UI compatible with any digital device.
- A mechanism to customize web template without affecting the core program and functionalities.

3.4.2 User Management component with a hierarchy

- User privilege should be maintained based on the user role.

3.4.3 User Profiles

- Each user should be able to manage their own profile.

3.4.4 Language

- The web application should support Tri-Lingual.
- Comply with the standards for Sinhala SLS 1134:2004: Parts 1 and 2 thereof and SLS 1126:2008: Tamil: Part 1

3.4.5 Integrations

- Email integration.
- SMS integration

3.4.6 Pedagogy Functions

System must be capable of following functions (not limited to) in terms of pedagogy

- i. Communication Forums, Chats, News, Emails, Personal Messages, Audio Conferencing, Video Conferencing, Interactive Whiteboards, Desktop Sharing etc.
- ii. Content: A multimedia lessons builder to nest various digital contents such as Typography, Audio, Video, Interactive lessons etc.
- iii. Search: An optimized search functions to look learning contents, Activities, Assessments and Discussions in various aspects of keywords.
- iv. Assessment: Provisions to develop quizzes, puzzles, mock exams with sub functions such as random questions, answer shuffling, timer mode and deadline specifications etc.
- v. Appraisal: Progress tracking and system managed badges, awards and completion acknowledgements to learners in various stages with option to customize in course level frameworks.
- vi. Content Frameworks: Frameworks in lesson and subject level with features to import and export functionalities and cloning facilities.
- vii. Lesson & Subject level Progress: At every attempt in lessons within a subject, it must contribute the progress to the learner profile dashboard.
- viii. Interoperable learning contents: Provisions to import, embed and redirect to various other external learning resources freely available in the internet.

3.4.7 Login

- Single Sign On (SSO) with any social media or email login

3.4.8 Analytics and Reporting Module

- A separate module to provide various analytical functions such as usage, trends, access peaks, accessing devices etc and must be available for inter-relational reporting requirements.
- Automated reports on pre-defined intervals of above captioned information to customizable user groups.

3.4.9 Accessibility Features

- Web application should be made differently-abled friendly
- Use of best practices to considering future demand of the application

3.5 Develop a working prototype which contains main features and functionalities (Upon client agreement).

3.6 The platform must be compatible with text, audio, video, images, interactive content and any other learning material.

3.7 The Consulting firm should provide use manuals in an acceptable format. All manuals should be in English, Sinhala and Tamil. The user manuals should be available in both printable and electronic formats.

3.8 Conduct continuous consultation and adhere to the feedback/recommendations given by the team or nominated representatives of key stakeholders of eThaksalawa initiative.

3.9 Follow an agile development methodology throughout the process.

3.10 Comply with the independent quality assurance process, which will be carried by a team designated by the evaluation committee.

3.11 Adhere to common web standards and eLearning standards in collaboration with standards specified in 4.1.

3.12 The intellectual property rights of the content and solution shall be with the client.