

Market Consultation Brief
Review and Reform of Maharashtra's Skill Development Assessment System

1. Project Overview:

The Maharashtra State Board of Skill, Vocational Education, and Training (MSBSVET) seeks to significantly improve its curriculum and assessment system for vocational training. This market consultation aims to identify qualified firms with expertise in educational assessment reform, specifically within the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector. The ultimate goal is to enhance the quality, relevance, and national/international recognition of MSBSVET's certifications, leading to improved employability for trainees. MSBSVET regulates skills training in Maharashtra, offering self-financed courses through a network of institutes. While the Board has a strong existing structure, there's a need for modernization and alignment with national standards (NSQF) and international best practices. The current assessment system requires a comprehensive review to address issues of validity, reliability and equity of assessments, and competency-based learning. The review will encompass curriculum, syllabi, question papers, marking schemes, and the overall institutional architecture supporting assessment delivery.

2. Objectives of Market Consultation:

This market consultation seeks to:

- Identify potential consulting firms with proven experience in large-scale TVET/Education assessment reform projects, particularly within government contexts.
- Assess the capabilities of potential firms in conducting comprehensive reviews of assessment systems, including policy analysis, stakeholder engagement, data analysis, and international benchmarking.
- Evaluate firms' capacity to develop actionable recommendations and detailed implementation plans (action plans) with phased approaches and clear timelines.
- Determine firms' expertise in designing and delivering capacity-building workshops for MSBSVET staff on topics such as competency-based assessment design, and online examination administration.

3. Scope of Work (Preliminary):

The selected consultant entity will be expected to:

- Conduct a thorough review of MSBSVET's current curriculum and assessment system, including policy frameworks, legal aspects, stakeholder engagement, and assessment methodologies.
- Benchmark against international best practices and identify areas for improvement in validity, reliability, equity, and alignment with NSQF and national skills policy.
- Develop a detailed report with evidence-based findings and recommendations for reform, including tangible tools and frameworks.
- Create a phased action plan for implementing the recommendations, outlining timelines, activities, and responsibilities.
- Design and deliver capacity-building workshops for MSBSVET staff.

4. Key Areas of Expertise Required:

- Educational measurement/assessment and psychometrics
- TVET/skills development policy and program implementation

- Curriculum design and development
- Data analysis and reporting
- Stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Capacity building and training delivery
- International benchmarking and best practices

5. Next Steps:

Firms that express interest may be invited to a short presentation and Q&A session (30-45 min) with the Government of Maharashtra, wherein they will be expected to share the following:

- Firm profile and relevant experience.
- Possible approach(es) for conducting the review and developing recommendations.
- Possible approach(es) to staffing and costing

The firms are not required to and MUST NOT share technical and financial proposals.

6. Contact:

Firms interested in participating in the consultation are required to submit their feedback/suggestions and interest to attend meeting by sending an email to daksh@msins.in, with the subject line **Market Consultation: Review and Reform of Maharashtra's Skill Development Assessment System.**

Legal Disclaimer for Market Consultation

This Market Consultation is issued by the Skills, Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation Department (SEED), Government of Maharashtra, for the purpose of seeking information from interested parties regarding the provision of institutional assessment, organizational development, and capacity-building services. This exercise is intended solely to inform the potential design of a future procurement process.

Respondents are hereby advised that participation in this Market Consultation shall be governed by the following terms:

1. No Offer or Commitment

This document is not a Request for Proposal (RFP), Invitation to Bid, or Request for Quotation, nor should it be construed as a commitment or obligation of the Government of Maharashtra to award any contract or initiate a formal procurement process. It is issued solely for information-gathering and planning purposes.

2. No Right to Compensation

The Government of Maharashtra shall not be liable for any costs, expenses, or liabilities incurred by any party in responding to this Market Consultation. No reimbursement shall be made for any costs incurred in preparing or submitting responses, or for attending any meetings or discussions.

3. No Preferential Treatment

Expression of interest to participate or participation in this Market Consultation shall not confer any preference, advantage, or special consideration in any subsequent procurement process. All future tenders or solicitations, if issued, shall be conducted in accordance with applicable procurement rules and procedures of the Government of Maharashtra.

4. Use of Information and Confidentiality

Information received may be used by the Department solely for the purpose of internal analysis and procurement planning. Respondents are encouraged to clearly indicate any information they consider confidential or proprietary. The Department will take reasonable measures to safeguard such information.

5. Intellectual Property Rights

Any intellectual property contained in the submissions shall remain the property of the respective respondents. However, by submitting information, the respondent grants the Department a non-exclusive, royalty-free, irrevocable licence to use the information for internal planning and design purposes related to the procurement in question.

6. Amendment and Cancellation

The Department reserves the right to amend, suspend, or cancel this Market Consultation at any stage, without assigning any reason and without incurring any liability.

7. Compliance with Applicable Laws

Respondents are solely responsible for ensuring that their participation in this process is in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including but not limited to those governing public procurement in India and in the State of Maharashtra.