

Strengthening Educational Legislative Governance in Punjab(SELGP)

TERMS OF REFERENCES (ToRs)

for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E) Expert

In Punjab the legislators and political leaders have been performing their oversight and supervision functions in a limited manner for a number of reasons. Our experience informs that major constraints, with regard to little engagement of legislators for improved education governance in Punjab, are mainly limitations of Rules of Procedure of the provincial assembly Punjab, weak public demand and weak engagement of civil society for transparency and accountability. The Rules of Procedure limit the role of the standing committees by stating [Rule No. 148(2) of the Rules of Procedure, Punjab Assembly, 1997] that a committee shall only deal with a matter which may be referred to it by the assembly. Similarly, the Rule 154 of Punjab assembly (Rules of Procedure) does not empower the standing committees to accept and examine petitions of public interest. The Rules 158, 162 and 164 in Rules of Procedure also reduce the opportunities for transparency and citizen participation for oversight and accountability. There is a huge likelihood of improved legislative governance of education for better planning and service delivery if the above constraints are addressed especially if the role of standing committee on education is enhanced. The role of standing committee on education is extremely critical in view of the fact that there exist serious challenges in the context of public sector education system, which need to be effectively addressed to achieve the goal of quality education for all.

In the above context, I-SAPS is implementing an initiative for Strengthening Educational Legislative Governance in Punjab, through evidence-based advocacy that informs and engages provincial legislators to raise voice for amendment in the Rules of Procedure for standing committees. We understand that the standing committee on education will serve as the entry points for initiating debate for enhanced participation of standing committees in the legislative governance in Punjab. Under this initiative, I-SAPS will also engage CSOs and media to leverage evidence-based demand for strengthening education governance, financing and oversight. It is expected that the project will help create political and legislative support for improvement in procedures of the standing committee and effective participation of provincial legislators for improved education governance.

In order to map progress of the project, I-SAPS considers it imperative to collect and analyse baseline and endline data against key project indicators. The baseline data is envisaged to inform the project implementation besides providing basic information that will be used for project monitoring and evaluation. In this backdrop, I-SAPS requires services of Research Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E) expert for conducting the baseline and endline studies.

1.1 Scope of Work and Key Tasks

In order to produce baseline of the project regarding role of standing committees and public accounts committees in legislative governance especially in education sector an assessment will be carried out. The expert is expected to conduct baseline assessment and prepare report utilizing

both quantitative and qualitative data collected for this project. Following methods will be applied to collect baseline and endline data:

- i. **Documentary Review:** In order to review performance of the standing committees established in Punjab a documentary review will be carried out. The documents and data to be reviewed will include:
 - a. Reports of the standing committee on Education
 - b. Reports on assembly proceedings
 - c. Assembly business statistics
- ii. **Key Interviews:** Interviews will be conducted with the provincial legislators including members of standing committees and public accounts committees. The interviews will collect both qualitative and quantitative data regarding knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) of the provincial legislators regarding restrictive clauses of the Rules of Procedures for standing committees. The expert will prepare a semi-structured questionnaire for collecting data from the key persons identified for interview. In total 12 interviews will be conducted according to following plan:

| Category | Number of Persons to be Interviewed |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Standing Committee on Education | 3 |
| Public Accounts Committee | 2 |
| Standing Committee on Law and Parliamentary Affairs | 2 |
| MPAs from Government Party | 2 |
| MPAs from Opposition Parties | 3 |
| Total | 12 |

The data collected and information collected during documentary review and key interviews will be used by the expert to prepare a baseline report. The report will inform about the restrictive procedures and clauses that hamper active participation of standing committees in the legislative governance. It will also inform about the knowledge and practices of the provincial legislature with regard to their involvement in the legislative governance procedures and opportunities.

This exercise will be repeated at the end of the project to collect information and data on baseline indicators and assess the progress achieved during the project implementation. The data collection tools, respondent categories and number/sample of respondents for the end-line study will be kept same as of the baseline study.

1.2 Time Frame

The final report of the study must be completed and approved for printing by the last week of the Mid-November, 2015 and end report by February 15, 2016.

1.3 Deliverables

The deliverable shall include:

1. Literature review summary
2. Questionnaires for key interviews
3. One baseline report and One endline report.