Advance Contracting Notice

Date: 30 January 2015

Country/Borrower: Mongolia

Title of Proposed Project: Skills for Employment Project

Name and Address of Executing Agency:

Ministry of Labor
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Brief Description of the Project:

1. The project will improve the employability of graduates from technical and vocational education and training (TVET) programs and courses in three priority sectors of the economy in Mongolia: agriculture, construction, and road and transportation. The project, which has several innovative features, will (i) develop an industry-driven TVET system; (ii) upgrade selected TVET providers to implement competency-based training and assessment; (iii) establish training systems for TVET teachers and managers; (iv) support secondary education career guidance and schools that specialize in technology; and (v) establish an effective project management system.

2. The project has five outputs:

(i) **Output 1: Industry-driven technical and vocational education and training system established in the three priority sectors.** The project will, in collaboration with employers, and industry and professional associations, support the establishment of an industry-driven TVET system in the three priority sectors by (i) developing occupational and other related standards for key occupations; and (ii) establishing accredited assessment and certification centers with rehabilitated and/or refurbished testing facilities, adequate testing equipment, and accredited center personnel. The role of sector subcouncils in developing, approving, and registering standards, and assessment and certification, will be reviewed and strengthened.
(ii) Output 2: Selected technical and vocational education and training providers upgraded to implement competency-based training and assessment in the three priority sectors. The project will support the upgrading of selected TVET providers to implement competency-based training and assessment for the key occupations in the three priority sectors by (i) providing up-to-date equipment for the key occupations, and rehabilitating and/or refurbishing training facilities for at least 20 selected TVET providers; (ii) delivering training programs to managers and teachers of the selected TVET providers; and (iii) strengthening industry partnerships with the selected TVET providers based on sector or subsector human resource development plans and guidelines for teacher industry placement and student internships. The selected TVET providers will be trained to conduct graduate tracer studies and employer satisfaction surveys to adjust competency-based training programs and courses to employers’ needs.

(iii) Output 3: Training systems for technical and vocational education and training managers and teachers established in the three priority sectors. The project will support the establishment of systems for training TVET managers and teachers for the key occupations in the three priority sectors by developing (i) a training program for managers in industry-driven TVET management at the Academy of Management; and (ii) industry-based technical and vocational skills training programs for teachers of the key occupations that combine institution-based, short-term training courses at accredited technical and vocational skills training institutions and workplace training through industry placement. The sector subcouncils, industry and professional associations, and employers will be involved in developing training modules and materials, and selecting master technical and vocational skills trainers in the key occupations.

(iv) Output 4: Support for secondary education career guidance and schools that specialize in technology. The project will support the (i) implementation of eighth and ninth grade civic education curriculum that integrates career guidance modules in all schools; and (ii) establishment of 30 independent senior secondary schools which will offer occupation-oriented technology elective courses. Credits of the elective courses can be transferred to higher education institutions. Quality assurance mechanisms, entrance exams, and evaluation and assessment systems will be developed and implemented.

(v) Output 5: Effective project management system established. The project will support the establishment of an effective project management system by developing the capacity of the executing agency and implementing agencies for project implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Brief Description of Goods and Related Services, Works or Consulting Services to be Procured:

3. ADB has approved advance contracting for the following consulting services: (i) a consulting firm to support competency-based training and assessment development which will be recruited through the quality- and cost- based selection; (ii) a consulting firm to support the upgrading of selected TVET providers and assessment and certification centers which will be recruited through the consultants’ qualifications selection; and (iii) a project implementation start-up specialist (international) to be recruited through the individual consultants selection to
help the project achieve the performance targets by significantly expediting the project start-up and implementation. All advance contracting will be undertaken in conformity with ADB’s Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). The issuance of invitations to bid under advance contracting will be subject to ADB approval.

**Date of Advance Contracting:** 16 December 2014