



Terms of Reference

CONTRACTING OF SERVICE PROVIDER FOR CURRICULUM RESEARCH PROJECT



1. Brief background

- 1.1 The QCTO is the custodian of the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF), and the qualifications thereon. With the introduction of the Revised OQSF in 2021, there has been a strengthening the qualification structures and an increased drive to provide parity of esteem and articulation for the qualifications on the OQSF. As a result, this is an opportune moment for the QCTO to provide support to the sector by ensuring that Skills Development Providers (SDPs) are capacitated on how to use the qualification documents (i.e. the Qualification, Curriculum, and External Assessment Specifications documents developed for each qualification). Central to the process of delivering quality learning programmes is the Curriculum document that QCTO provides as the guideline for SDPs – what could be referred to as the ‘espoused curriculum’. Substantial work has gone into developing these documents and it is vital that they are correctly implemented by SDPs through what could be referred to as the ‘enacted curriculum’.
- 1.2 The research project aims to draw on the academic literature around TVET curricula as well as examine how high-quality SDPs are implementing the QCTO’s occupational qualifications, in order to support new and emerging SDPs by providing them with guidelines and best practices for successfully implementing learning programmes.
- 1.3 This research needs to be based on a strong review of current literature around TVET curriculum and then would require a desktop review of QCTO ‘espoused curricula’ together with a qualitative study of examples of ‘enacted’ curricula to determine indicators of success that can be disseminated broadly to support SDPs.
- 1.4 The literature review, desktop review, and qualitative study will result in a final report to be delivered on or before the 28th of February 2024.

2. Technical specifications

- 2.1 The service provider must ensure that the lead staff member assigned to this project is in possession of a PhD Degree in Education, with a demonstrated track record of working with and publishing in the field of Occupational/Vocational training.



2.2 A demonstrated familiarity with current academic literature on TVET curriculum is essential.

2.3 The project involves:

- 2.3.1 A literature review of current academic literature on TVET curriculum;
- 2.3.2 A desktop review of examples of 'espoused curricula';
- 2.3.3 A qualitative study of 'enacted curricula', and
- 2.3.4 A final report to be delivered to the QCTO in an agreed upon format.

3. Work schedule

3.1 The service provider will report to the Deputy Director: Research & Analysis, and will consult with them regarding the analysis and format of the final report.

3.2 Delivery of the final report will take place on or before 28 February 2024.

4. Pricing Schedule

- a) Agreement Term: up to 6 Months
- b) Payment Frequency: Tranche payments as follows – 10% upon delivery of the project plan, 30% upon delivery of the completed literature review, and 60% upon approval of the final report.

5. Submission

- a) Technical proposal with supporting documents and financial proposal must be sent to Tenders@qcto.org.za.

Please quote the correct RFQ number when sending your proposal.

Technical enquiries via email to:

Deputy Director: Research & Analysis Ms. Colette Tennison on Email: tennison.c@qcto.org.za