



**Management and Operation of
Madharusathul Hamad Bin-Khalifa Al-Thani (Laamu Atoll Gan)
Under a Public Private Partnership Contract**

South Central Province, Republic of Maldives

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



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MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF MADHARUSATHUL HAMAD BIN KHALIFA AL THANI (QATAR AMEER SCHOOL) under a Public-Private Partnership Contract

1. Introduction

The Government of the Republic of Maldives ("GOM" or the "Grantor") has decided to mobilize private sector participation for the management and operation of Madharusathul Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani (Qatar Ameer School) in Laamu Atoll Gan, Central South Province.

Maldivians place a very high demand for high quality education and the Government of Maldives (GOM) is committed to meet this demand and explore different avenues to ensure equitable access to a quality education for all. In this regard GOM has initiated a nation-wide strategy to seek both local and internal expertise of capable private parties in the provision of educational services.

In this context, the GOM wishes to enter into an indicatively 15-year public private partnership (PPP) contract with a private partner to rehabilitate, manage and operate Qatar Ameer School as a comprehensive 1 to 10 school and also the provider of post secondary education including higher secondary/pre-university courses and courses and technical vocational education programs. Qatar Ameer School situated in the central ward (Mathimaradhoo Ward) of Gan island currently offers education from grade 6 up to grade 12 with a total enrolment of 467 students. The GOM wishes to achieve high quality, international standard education and pertinent facilities through this PPP. The contract will be awarded through a transparent competitive bidding process to the party offering best value-for-money.

2. Scope and Objectives

Qatar Ameer School is located on Gan Island in Laamu Atoll, Central South Province of the Maldives. Laamu Atoll Gan is the largest island of the Maldives which is also interconnected to the regional Airport (Kaddhoo Airport) and the capital island of Laamu atoll, Fonadhoo. Gan Island, which is the provincial capital, has a population of over 3000 people living in three separate wards of which Qatar Ameer School is located in the central ward of Mathimaradhoo. While Gan island has two other schools with one school in each ward, Qatar Ameer School is the only school with secondary and higher secondary classes. The school is named after the Ameer of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad Bin-Khalifa Al-Tani as the school was built with a generous donation from the government of Qatar.

Qatar Ameer School stands in approximately 9 acres of land (the largest allocation for a school plot). It is a full-fledged, fully functioning school with all the necessary facilities and equipment, which includes a large auditorium, computer lab, library science laboratories, Audio Visual rooms and other such amenities for teachers and students. The school has 84 teachers and the current student body is outlined in the table below:

Student Enrolment – Qatar Ameer School (2010)

Year Level	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11*
Enrolment	37	76	128	95	98	31

* Students in grade 11 will progress to grade 12 in 2011.

There is considerable potential for further market development of the school. It is expected that the school under private operation can retain students from the Gan and nearby islands who currently migrate to Malé or abroad for their education. Similarly, with the high demand put on a quality education, there is potential to attract students from far away islands including Male', as well as from the wider Asian region.

In addition to school level education, the operator may address other educational market segments, such as:

- Professional qualification training e.g. accountancy or marketing
- Diploma level courses
- Vocational training in sectors such as commerce or tourism

To offer additional programs and services to school age students and to cater for professional and technical educational needs, the operator will be required to build additional facilities and rehabilitated existing facilities.

Adjoining the school there is also a recently constructed facility for students which consist of fully furnished 3 bedroom 12 apartments. Interested parties can also propose to operate and run these facilities to provide boarding services to students.

3. Key Project Features

- a) **GOM payment for qualifying students** – during the contract period the GOM will pay the private operator an agreed amount for all qualifying students enrolled in the grade 1 to 12 classes.
- b) **Land and asset ownership** – ownership of the land and facilities will remain with the GOM. The operator will have usage and will maintain the property under a lease agreement.
- c) **Cost compensation for possible personnel restructuring** – should restructuring of personnel be required, within applicable criteria such costs (e.g. redundancies) will be borne by the GOM.

4. Procurement Process and Prequalification Criteria

The procurement process entails two consecutive stages, the current Pre-qualification Stage and the Request-for-Proposal Stage. During the current Pre-qualification Stage, interested parties are requested to submit an Expression of Interest (as described below). Based on the Expressions of Interest received, a limited number of firms will be shortlisted and invited to the Request-for-Proposal Stage.

Interested parties are now invited to submit an Expression of Interest with information indicating that they are qualified to carry out the project, in particular in relation to the following criteria:

- A clear and effective vision on educational services and facilities to be provided
- Sufficient experience in the delivery of quality educational services, by demonstrating a proven track record of comparable educational projects and services
- Relevant technical and managerial qualifications to implement and manage the project and PPP contract over its duration
- Sufficient financial standing by demonstrating (through audited financial statements) sound financial performance and an annual turnover of at least U\$1 million in the last three years

Firms may request to be qualified alone, or in consortium with other firms. If the Expression of Interest is from a consortium of firms, information on all firms making up the consortium must be provided, it must be clearly indicated which firm is the lead firm of the consortium, and the nature of the consortium arrangement should be specified, including a consortium letter or agreement signed by all firms. The involvement of appropriately qualified Maldivian firms as bidders or in consortiums is encouraged.

Expressions of Interest should be no longer than 10 pages, excluding supporting financial information or brochures. Submissions marked clearly as “**Expression of Interest – Madharusathul Hamad Bin-Khalifa Al-Tani**” should be submitted electronically by e-mail (PDF document) and/or in hard copy on or before **15:00hrs, Maldives Time (GMT+5), on Thursday, 24th February 2011** to the address below:

Ministry of Economic Development
Boduthakurufaanu Magu
Male', 20095
Republic of Maldives,

To the attention of: *Ms. Fathimath Niuma*
Deputy Under-Secretary
e-mail: fathimath.niuma@trade.gov.mv;
fathimath.niuma@po.gov.mv
Tel: (960) 3324767, 333 3190
Fax: (960) 332 3840
Website: www.trade.gov.mv | www.investmaldives.org