



Ministry of Education



**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR IMPLEMENTATION
SUPPORT PARTNERS (ISPs) FOR THE BUILDING EDUCATION
FOUNDATIONS THROUGH INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (BEFIT)
PROGRAMME**

Background

The Malawi Ministry of Education, through the Directorate of Open Distance and eLearning (DODeL) and the Directorate of Basic Education (DBE), is implementing the **Building Education Foundations through Innovation and Technology (BEFIT)** programme to improve primary school children's acquisition of literacy and numeracy skills. This groundbreaking programme will be a national rollout of a tablet-based learning intervention to all pupils in Standards 1-4 in Malawi's public primary schools, supplementing teacher efforts and ultimately reaching ~3.8 million learners in 25,800 schools. Malawi will be one of the first nations to scale a digital personalized learning solution countrywide and will create a roadmap for other countries to follow.

The BEFIT programme will roll out over six years from September 2023 to August 2029. BEFIT will be implemented through a consortium made up of the Ministry of Education (MoE), Imagine Worldwide (IW), Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) and onebillion (OB). The MoE will be the Lead Implementing Entity, while IW, VSO and OB (the software developer), will provide technical, operational, and coordination support. The overall programme management, technical services provision, and coordination will be provided through a Programme Implementation Management Unit (PIMU).

The objectives of the first year of the rollout are to:

- Initiate BEFIT at 600 schools located in the 19 districts that do not currently have any formal edtech programming.
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation to collect lessons learned to inform revised protocols for the next phase of the rollout.

Geographic Coverage

During the first year (commencing September 2023) BEFIT will be implemented in approximately 600 primary schools in 19 Districts across the country. The 19 districts have been divided into **six clusters** for efficient management and supervision as summarized in the table below:

Cluster	Districts	Number of Primary Schools
1	Chitipa (36), Rumphi (37)	73
2	Mzimba North (54), Mzimba South (60)	114
3	Nkhata Bay (38), Nkhotakota (31) Likoma (2)	71
4	Mchinji (39), Dowa (48), Ntchisi (27), Lilongwe Rural (43), Balaka (33)	190
5	Mwanza (12), Neno (16), Chikwawa (36), Nsanje (19)	83
6	Zomba Urban (3), Thyolo (35), Mulanje (31)	69

To ensure adequate technical and operational support to the Ministry's district-level implementation structures and further build required capacity before the programme is solely operated by the Ministry of Education, **Implementation Support Partners (ISP)** will be deployed.

Ideally, each ISP will be allocated one cluster in line with demonstrated capacity to implement the roles and responsibilities outlined below. At minimum, an ISP will be allocated one district if there is no ISP with capacity to cover all districts in a cluster.

Consequently, the BEFIT programme through the PIMU, seeks Expressions of Interest from registered organizations in Malawi to join a consortium of partners supporting the Ministry of Education to implement this programme in public primary schools in **Clusters 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6** outlined above. ***Note that Cluster 4 has already been assigned to existing ISPs.***

Summary Roles and Responsibilities of ISPs

ISPs shall support the following aspects of the programme:

- Capacity building of teachers and school leaders to support delivery of the programme focusing on lesson facilitation, timetable management, and technical support.
- Mobilization and sensitization of local school communities about the project to enhance local support of the programme.
- Development of a network of technical officers at local school, zone and district levels to ensure readily available technical support to address local technical challenges schools may encounter with the technology.
- Operationalization of a monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEAL) system to ensure data from the programme is fully utilized in monitoring pupil achievement and progress.

- Review of instructional content in the tablet programme and provision of feedback to onebillion to ensure alignment with Malawi's national literacy and numeracy curriculum.
- Implementation support of rigorous research to help guide ongoing programme improvement, scale, and sustainability efforts.
- Support advocacy and lobby efforts to the Government of Malawi for the inclusion of the programme in the MoE budget and national timetable.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements for ISPs

ISPs must be non-governmental organizations or limited companies duly registered with the Government of Malawi who are eligible to operate in the country with the following qualifications:

- Strong leadership and governance arrangements including a functioning governing board with strong organizational systems and procedures.
- Demonstrated strong programming and technical capacity (designing and implementing quality programmes) in education and other related sectors.
- Experience in implementing education or technology focused programmes.
- Active field presence in the proposed districts of operation for the BEFIT programme.
- Demonstrated strong financial management systems and procedures including audited accounts for the past three years.

How to Apply

All interested and eligible organizations are advised to view the full Scope of Work and submit their application at the following link <https://bit.ly/3yZ4YnG>.

Or scan the below QR code to access the website:



If you have any issues with your submission, please email info.malawi@imagineworldwide.org

Applications should be submitted via the website no later than 7th April 2023.

Shortlisted organizations will be invited to submit full proposals.

