Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Development of the IOS and Android based app

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Project Title: Democratic Local Governance for Development in Pakistan

Title of the app: DLG Budget Tracker

Short description
This app will provide information about budget allocations and its expenditures of major development initiatives of 15 districts of KP, Baluchistan and Sindh.

Project Description
Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) is a research based advocacy organization working on issues of peace and development in Pakistan. Budget watch is a core program area of CPDI. CPDI has recently started a project under this program area, which is co-funded by European Union. It aims to improve the quality of life of the citizens by strengthening democratic local governance. In current scenario, the procedures of our public departments lack elements of transparency and accountability which are requisite for systematic improvements in service delivery. The root of the problem lies in the fact that budgets are not accessible and citizens are unable to provide input on their priorities. This project will empower citizens to raise their issues and highlight them in pre-budget consultations with local authorities and then track the developmental progress via quarterly budget tracking reports.

To prepare that budget tracking reports data will be collected and also will be available for the citizens to check the allocations and expenditures accordingly. This would establish a comprehensive mechanism for citizens to participate and get timely information on development working of their districts. It will enable them to continuously monitor the performance and participate meaningfully in planning activities further.

Mobile App Development:

In a quest to implement the above stated project activities CPDI is planning to develop a budget tracking application. We require the services of a competent and professional IT firm/technology house to design and develop an android and IOS based mobile application.

Objective:

Following are the main objectives to develop the app:
Accountability and Information sharing: Citizens, civil society organizations, Journalists and development practitioners would be able to track how budget are being released and development work is being done in their districts.

Efficiency: Access to data will help the policymakers, bilateral agencies, and multilateral organizations manage development finance more effectively and efficiently to achieve greater impact on sustainable development.

Trust building: Accessibility to information, accountability and transparency are for creating development partnerships that are based on trust. Through this app all aforesaid good governance elements will be ensured and trust of citizens will improve on public departments.

Features:

The mobile app, DLG Budget Tracker, will provide the budget allocation and its expenditure data of 15 project districts on quarterly basis. Major development projects of Education, Health, and Water and Sanitation department pertaining to a particular district shall be enlisted. Their budget allocations and the expenditure shall be tracked on quarterly basis and data will be updated at back end server to make available for its users.

The app should be able to provide user with the options to select from drop down window province of choice and then required district. A dropdown selection of years starting from 2016-17 onwards will enable user to select the year of which he wants to see the budget details of particular district. The user will also be provided with options to see department-wise development budget and lists of development schemes in the district.

This mobile platform will not only provide the information of development projects to the users but also give them access to give feedback on the ongoing progress of development projects as per their observation on actual in field. It will also be linked with project web portal.

Once the user selects a specific scheme the app should show him/her, in a new window, the budget details of that scheme showing total budget allocation and quarter wise release of budget and expenditures.

The app design should be such that it should enable CPDI to add data for all the future years/quarters to come while keeping the old data available for the users. The app design should also be kept flexible to adapt to any changes that CPDI might want to include in future.

The app should be designed in such manner that the progress on development projects can be entered at the backend by the IT staff of CPDI on quarterly basis without hampering the old data and without shutting the app.

General Requirements & Proposal Submission:

Other than the data handling features mentioned above following features are also required must in the app;

1) **Simplicity for the user.** Convenient user interface/ user friendly interface. Must adhere to platform specific UI standards provided by Apple and Google respectively.

2) **Mobile Apps:** Native mobile apps for iOS and Android platforms are required.
3) **Administration Panel:** A web admin panel with options to manage the Mobile Apps data must be developed using latest combination of technologies.

4) **Good performance/Loading Speed.** Speed of loading mustn't keep users waiting.

5) **Offline Access.** Once data of any district downloaded/checked from this app must be available to the user offline afterwards.

6) **Feedback.** It must open to everyone and engage users into mutual communication. Users should be able to leave suggestions, rates, and reviews.

7) **Search.** It must have system of search and filters.

8) **Link with web portal:** It must be linked with project web portal.

9) **Interface to simply reflect the citizens’ priorities for development projects.** One interface is required to simply reflect the priorities shared by citizens for development of their districts.

10) **Technologies:** Bidder must provide details of tools and technologies to be used and why the chosen combination is best suited for the said project. The bidder must consider platform, security and usability while proposing a solution.

11) **Execution Plan & Deliverables:** The bidder must provide a detailed execution plan with deliverables list.

12) **Support:** The bidder must provide support for minimum three months after the launch of the mobile apps on both PlayStore and AppStore.

13) **Intellectual property:** All information and assets related to the mobile apps will be property of DLG. The bidder must submit all source code and documentation to the DLG upon successful launch and expiry of three months support period.

14) **Proposals:** The bidder must submit both technical and financial proposals for the project. The technical proposal must cover all important aspects of the solution and the financial proposal should cover development and support cost.

15) **Licensing:** DLG would prefer using open source technologies to avoid any licensing cost.

These details can further be refined modified and amended when the developer and CPDI discuss the technical and financial aspects of the app development. The bidder must submit both technical and financial proposal in a single document.