

TO 39: ICT4E Quarterly Report FY 2012, Q3

GLOBAL EVALUATION & MONITORING II GEM II BPA Number EDH-E-39-08-00003-00

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GEM II, Task Order 39 Quarterly Report
ICT4E
FY 2012, Quarterly Report: April 1, 2012 – June 30, 2012

The present Task Order was signed in the third quarter of FY2011, on June 22, 2011. The activities outlined in this Quarterly Report focused largely on support for the Mobiles for Education (mEducation) Alliance's upcoming International Symposium, to be held September 5-6 in Washington, D.C. This quarter, Aguirre/JBS also continued to convene smaller mEducation Alliance events and provide technical support for strengthening engagements with Alliance partners, including the MasterCard Foundation, Intel, Alcatel-Lucent, YouTube EDU and Microsoft.

(1) Analytical Research

- Aguirre/JBS conducted a brief analytical scan of existing uses of OER (Open Educational Resources) and ICTs for early grade reading, in preparation for the 2012 mEducation Alliance Research Roundtable focused on this topic. This was done at the request of the COTR in order to provide participants with illustrative examples of technologies in practice for specific types of interventions proven to lead to improved learning outcomes (e.g. instruction in mother tongue, increased time spent with text, continual assessment, etc.)
- This quarter, Aguirre/JBS updated its inventory spreadsheet of ICT4E projects which includes details on regional focus, donor, and project websites.

(2) Knowledge Exchange

- Aguirre/JBS attended relevant local events for information gathering and outreach. This quarter these events included a review of Portugal's 1:1 laptop deployment and a project overview of integrating VoIP (voice over Internet Protocol) with Drupal.
- At the request of the COTR, Aguirre/JBS provided logistical support for the launch event of a toolkit produced through USAID support under EQUIP3 to the IYF (International Youth Foundation) and EDC (Education Development Center). The toolkit, *YouthICT: Employment Training & Placement*, was launched virtually in a WebEx discussion and in-person at the Ronald Reagan Building. Both events were overseen and supported by Aguirre/JBS.

(3) E-Forums, Workshops, and Conferences

- On April 13, Aguirre/JBS convened the 2012 mEducation Alliance Research Roundtable: The Mobiles for Reading Working Group and OER. The event was held at Harvard Law School and attended by 27 select invitees from academia, donor agencies, and NGOs. The venue and timing of the event were selected to enable the event to be collocated with the Hewlett Foundation's OER Grantee meeting. Hewlett also provided support for the mEducation event, providing for catering and venue costs.
- On June 7, Aguirre/JBS held the mEducation Seminar Series, "Recent publications by GSMA and Alcatel-Lucent." As the presenters were located in Europe, this

seminar was held through WebEx with more than 20 participants during any given portion of the session.

- Aguirre/JBS also dedicated significant effort this quarter towards preparations for the 2012 mEducation Alliance International Symposium: *Partnering for Scale and Impact*. Diligent and prudent efforts were made to secure an equitable and cost-efficient venue contract and secure high-level clearance for the event itself. Aguirre/JBS conducted considerable outreach efforts to attract a robust sample of presentation submissions (more than 50 were received). Aguirre/JBS developed a rubric for scoring proposals which were sorted, grouped and scored by the mEducation Steering Committee and Secretariat. Aguirre/JBS also worked to secure additional event support and confirmed sponsorship from Alcatel-Lucent, Intel, British Council and the MasterCard Foundation. A draft agenda, with planning advice sought from ISTE, was produced and circulated for comment.

(4) Support for Improved Analysis of ICT4E Global Activities

- Aguirre/JBS did not perform activities under this task during this quarter, in light of plans to modify the current contract to remove this task to reflect COTR priorities.

(5) Mobiles for Education for Development Alliance

- This quarter, Aguirre/JBS continued to develop plans for the Mobiles for Youth Workforce Development (mYWD) Working Group and a funding proposal for MasterCard to support this activity. This included strategy planning with USAID's Youth team and interviewing potential consultants for producing a review of existing projects and field trends. As the funding proposal also includes a mYWD-focused track at the mEducation Symposium, Aguirre/JBS also conducted substantial outreach to attract relevant proposals.
- Aguirre/JBS, at the request of the COTR, sought cost estimates from web design firms for the task of carrying the mEducation's website re-design through to all of the site's sub-pages. Upon review of quotes received, the COTR approved contracting these services from BrowserMedia. The fully re-designed website will be delivered in the coming quarter.
- Aguirre/JBS provided technical support for the mEducation Alliance's Private Sector Planning Committee, consisting of representatives from GSMA, ISTE, Alcatel-Lucent and World Vision. These efforts included outreach to key industry stakeholders with a view towards sponsorship, connections to keynote speakers for events, participation at the Symposium, and general engagement with the Alliance.
- Aguirre/JBS also assisted USAID with strategic planning efforts for fomenting Alliance partnerships with Intel, Microsoft and YouTube EDU.

(6) Education Grand Challenge / All Children Reading (ACR-GC)

- This quarter, Aguirre/JBS provided technical support for ACR-GC on several fronts:
 - Participation in the panel review of full technical proposals
 - Assistance with inventory summaries of finalists
 - Participation in June 11-12 ACR-GC Partners Meeting

- Planning and outreach assistance for the ACR-GC 'DevelopmentXChange' event on Sept. 7

Anticipated Activities for Coming Quarter

In the coming quarter, Aguirre/JBS will continue with planning and logistical preparations leading towards holding the mEducation Alliance Symposium on September 5 and 6. Aguirre/JBS also expects to finalize the re-design of the mEducation website, launch the Mobiles for Youth Workforce Development Working Group, and continue to provide administrative and logistical support for the USAID-led Education Grand Challenge – All Children Reading.

Budget Overview

The following table displays the expenses allocated for each sub-activity of this Task Order this quarter (FY2012 Q3), final spending totals for Program Year 1 (PY1 Total), and final status against budgeted resources for Year 1 (PY1 Obligated Budget and PY1 Budget Balance).

Task Order Activity	FY2012 Q3	PY 1 Total (6/11 - 6/12)	PY1 Obligated Budget	PY1 Budget Balance
A. Analytical Research	\$2,989.75	\$25,257.00	\$122,982.00	\$97,725
B. Knowledge Exchange	\$6,048.45	\$16,784.95	\$52,461.00	\$35,676.05
C. E-Forums, Workshops, and Conferences	\$45,091.49	\$259,136.90	\$86,347.00	(\$172,789.90)
D. Support for Improved Analysis of ICT4E Global Activities	\$284.63	\$6,592.71	\$137,000.00	\$130,407.29
E. Mobiles for Education for Development Alliance	\$79,686.57	\$310,015.73	\$95,454.00	(\$214,561.73)
F. Education Grand Challenge / All Children Reading (ACR)*	\$4,129.46	\$26,601.46	(Not contemplated in initial award)	(\$26,601.46)
Total	\$138,230.35	\$644,388.75	\$494,244.00	(\$150,144.75)

* This represents a new category of activities under this Task Order and will be included as such in the forthcoming award modification request.