

Economic Empowerment Programme Component

Component title	Economic Empowerment Programme
Area of implementation	Lebanon (Beirut, Bekaa, Tripoli)
Short description of the Component	Creating opportunities for students to find employment in their study area and try to establish their own businesses.
Target	Details mentioned in the main activities
Duration	6 months (July to December 2019)

Background

SPARK is responding to the higher education crisis for Syrian refugees and vulnerable youth residing in the region. SPARK develops the capacity of local higher education institutions, improves Syrian refugees' access to higher education amid the Syrian refugee crisis, with the aim of enabling them to engage in Syria's post-conflict reconstruction in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq/KRG.

Since 2015 SPARK offers a holistic scholarship programme in Lebanon for more than 2000 students, this means that students are provided with several additional services such as language support, soft skills trainings and Psycho-Social (PSS) support in addition to their scholarship. The scholarship programme allows vulnerable young people, primarily Syrian refugees, to access higher education in the region. By partnering with local universities, we ensure that successful applicants are automatically offered a place at an institution, without having to further apply.

The object of this tender is to select the qualitative best 'Contracting Partner' to support SPARK Lebanon in implementing **the Economic Empowerment Component**.

I. Objective

Economic empowerment component:

The Economic Empowerment Programme facilitates the development of new businesses creation among the target students. Extracurricular training on entrepreneurship and business skills will be offered to SPARK scholarship recipients. A business plan competition will be organised amongst the scholarship holders. In addition, events and seminars will be organized for scholars. At these events, local Syrian businessmen will be invited to speak about inspirational stories on how they have managed to keep their business afoot and what plans they are making to return to Syria when such is possible. Moreover, SPARK will tap into network of young business leaders from over 25 (Former) fragile states to invite inspirational business leaders that have managed to bring their dream of setting up a company or making a career in a company into a success. The detailed outcome of this component would be having students demonstrating entrepreneurship and good employability through entrepreneurial capacities and qualities, employment skills, small business creation, business plans writing, and soft skills among the target beneficiaries.

This work package focuses on two main results:

- A. Train target students, among refugees and host community members, all present scholarship holders of SPARK in Lebanon to learn about entrepreneurship regarding to be able to create their own businesses.
- B. Assist target students, among refugees and host community members, all present scholarship holders of SPARK in Lebanon to learn about entrepreneurship and develop their own businesses.

The entrepreneurship programme is structured by three main topics:

- 1) General Information on Entrepreneurship & Basic Skills;
- 2) Thinking skills & decision-making, principles of economy etc. Business planning and modelling;
- 3) Execution phase & Finance (Seeding money).

1) Entrepreneurship training

Description: A comprehensive approach for economic empowerment will be adopted in order to facilitate the development of new businesses creation among the target students. Extracurricular training on entrepreneurship is offered to all BA and TVET diploma scholarship students. The existing SPARK Arabic language vocational entrepreneurship curriculum is contextualized and offered as an extracurricular training opportunity to the scholarship

holders. Annually a large business plan competition will be organized amongst the scholarship holders.

Lessons learnt through several similar entrepreneurship programmes have been adapted, for example that training needs to be practical rather than theoretical, it should be simple and helps the start the generate and shape their business ideas. A tailor made entrepreneurship curriculum has been designed that tackles all main elements of starting and running a business.

Activities are designed to help students to orientate themselves in entrepreneurship, generating a business idea, developing a prototype and writing their business plan. The best plan will receive further support in terms of professional coaching and mentoring from practitioners and potentially financed.

2) Economic Empowerment events

Description: Students will be economically empowered. Events will be organized for all scholars who gravitate around the economic reconstruction. At these events, local businessmen will be invited to speak about inspirational stories on how they have managed to keep their business afloat. Moreover, SPARK will tap into a network of young business leaders from over 25 (Former) fragile states to invite inspirational business leaders that have managed to bring their dream of setting up a company or making a career in a company into a success. A competition will be held amongst the scholars to develop their own ideas to business plans that are entered into a business plan competition so that a group of students will be financed to start their own businesses.

3) Internships and Employment Opportunities

Description: To assist scholarship students to develop knowledge and skills that will help them gain employment through obtaining work experience during the studies. Towards the end of their scholarships, traineeship and job placement services will be offered. Special effort will be made to place students at companies doing business in the target countries. Students will receive monthly stipends during the internship/traineeship.

II. Economic Empowerment Programme Breakdown Structure:

Phase	Activity	Target G1	Target G2
Phase 2: Entrepreneurship Training ¹	Organize 2nd Training: Business Idea Development and Modelling	89 beneficiaries	23 beneficiaries
	Trainer/local partners experts (5 groups of 18 beneficiaries each, will receive 24 hours = 4 full time days of training) + 2 hours of individual coaching	89 beneficiaries	23 beneficiaries
	3rd Selection of entrepreneurs	70 beneficiaries	13 beneficiaries
	Organize 3rd Training: Business Planning	70 beneficiaries	13 beneficiaries
	Trainer/local partners experts (5 groups of 14 beneficiaries each, will receive 40 hours = 5 full time days of training)	70 beneficiaries	13 beneficiaries
	Organize Entrepreneurship Bootcamp (24 hours = 2 days)	62 beneficiaries	17 beneficiaries
Phase 3: Business Plan Competition (BPC)	Announcement and outreach campaign	1 campaign directed to 29 beneficiaries/MSME	5 beneficiaries
	Introduction workshops	29 beneficiaries/MSME	5 beneficiaries
	Experts and jury members for selection	Jury of 5 entrepreneurs/businessmen and SME experts	
	coaching and mentoring the participants (29 businesses/teams will receive 15 hour/3 days of coaching)	29 beneficiaries/MSME	5 beneficiaries
	Prizes and graduation	7 Beneficiaries	3 beneficiaries
	Support/seeding during start-up phase of new companies or expansion for existing SMEs	7 beneficiaries/M SME	3 beneficiaries
	Coaching for winners	7 beneficiaries/MSME	3 beneficiaries
Internships and Employment Opportunities	Internships offered to students at host companies	25 beneficiaries	8 beneficiaries

¹ SPARK Blueprint will be provided to be used as reference of training structure

III. Scope of Services

We are looking for partners/ consortium who:

- 1- Have a reasonable experience in the field of refugees' entrepreneurship and economic empowerment.
- 2- Are well-connected to the entrepreneurship ecosystem.
- 3- Have added-value and advantage over competitors.
- 4- Are competitive budget-wise and can contribute to the success of the activities.
- 5- Ensure visibility and branding for the activities, students, and the partners, detailing timeframe for bi-weekly reporting and delivery of high quality visual material covering all activities implemented;
- 6- Implement all training related activities and logistical arrangements;
- 7- Prepare relevant satisfaction survey and pre- and post-test to measure impact of the activity.
- 8- Integrated reporting and bi-weekly reporting and delivery of high quality visual material covering all activities implemented

M&E tools and evaluation forms are designed by SPARK.

IV. Area of Coverage

Division of the groups in 3 locations will be according to the number of SPARK students in the following areas: Beirut, Bekaa and Tripoli.

V. Bid Proposal Checklist

- Brief description of the expertise/portfolio of the applying agency in the field of training, capacity building, leadership for development;
- Legal documents and proof of Registration
- Detailing why the applicant agency is a good candidate for this partnership based on programme design as indicated in this call and qualifications of the trainers
- ANNEX I Detailed implementation plan;
- ANNEX II Budget breakdown (a.o. covering activities, communications efforts and staff hours)
- Annex III Integrated reporting and communications plan

VI. Bid Data Sheet

Ref.	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements
1	Language of the Bid	English
2	Submitting Bids for Parts or sub-parts of the Schedule of Requirements (partial bids)	Not allowed
3	Bid Validity Period	3 months
4	Currency of Bid	United States Dollar
5	Deadline for submitting requests for clarifications/ questions	4 days before the submission deadline
6	Contact Details for submitting clarifications/questions	E-mail address: n.farah@spark-online.org
7	Manner of Disseminating Supplemental Information to the ITB and responses/clarifications to queries	Direct communication to prospective Proposers by email
8	Deadline for Submission	31/05/2019
9	Allowable Manner of Submitting Bids	Courier or Hand Delivery in sealed envelopes
10	Bid Submission Address	Bchara el Khoury Berytech building, 4th floor Beirut, Lebanon
11	Date, time for the opening of bid	10 days after deadline submission
12	Evaluation Method for the Award of Contract	Technical responsiveness Eligibility of the NGO Qualification of the trainers.

		Lowest priced in relevance with the requirements
13	Expected date for commencement of Contract	July 2019
14	Maximum expected duration of contract	6 months
15	Spark will award the contract to:	One Proposer Only
16	Type of Contract	Service Agreement
17	Spark's Contract Terms and Conditions that will apply	Open tendering