

## DEVELOPMENT OF TWO COUNTRY PROFILES

### PROJECT

In 2007, the Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials, a unit of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), embarked on a project entitled the Pan-Canadian Quality Standards in International Academic Credential Evaluation,<sup>1</sup> which provided for a diagnostic study to investigate the consistency and portability of assessments across Canada. Subsequently, a number of recommendations have been proffered, and these have formed the basis of Phase 2 of the project.

In April 2010, CICIC undertook this second phase with funding provided through Human Resources and Social Development Canada's Foreign Credential Recognition Program. One of the activities called for the development of two country profiles for academic credential evaluators to use as a set of pan-Canadian references.

### TASK DESCRIPTION

CICIC is looking for a bilingual consultant who will coordinate the development of two country profiles based on existing data readily available from other organizations. The consultant will also coordinate the development of a web-based platform to provide information about specific countries for academic credential evaluators and other audiences. The idea is to create a unique interactive tool, which will also include up-to-date information on educational trends and the development of the country's educational system that is being profiled.

The consultant will work closely with the project manager and will be guided by the Country Profile Working Group (which will be composed of individuals from various backgrounds who perform academic evaluation).

### *Expectations*

The consultant will create country profiles made up of the following two components:

- a structured template to link information to each country's educational-system and
- an associated wiki-based section for credential evaluators to come in, share expertise, and interact with other evaluators.

These "made in Canada" country profiles will be developed on a trial basis, to be presented at the National Workshop of Academic Credential Evaluators at the end of the summer.

The overarching goal is to demonstrate the value and feasibility of these profiles to academic credential evaluators and other audiences, leading to the development of additional country profiles to serve as pan-Canadian references.

### *Tasks*

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<sup>1</sup> The report for the project is available at [http://evaluation.cicic.ca/37/Phase\\_1.html](http://evaluation.cicic.ca/37/Phase_1.html).

Template

- Based on his or her research, the consultant must determine the common elements to be incorporated into a structure that would accommodate new countries as they are added into the database. The consultant will base his or her research on existing country profiles and will consult with academic assessment evaluators to validate the structured template he or she will have developed.
- In consultation with the project manager and the Country Profile Working Group, the consultant will select a firm to develop the template and will then pilot the design and implementation of that template by the selected firm.

Wiki

- In consultation with the project manager and the Country Profile Working Group, the consultant will select a firm to develop a wiki environment and will then pilot its design and implementation as an extension to the profile template. Academic assessment evaluators will then be able to share expertise through that wiki environment. (The design and functionality of the wiki environment will be based on the consultant's research.)

Creation of the Country Profiles

- In consultation with the project manager and the Country Profile Working Group, the consultant will choose two countries as examples to illustrate how the model can be used. Note that no further research on countries will be required, since all the information will already be available in existing profiles. The selection of the country to use is critical to showcase and promote the model at the National Workshop for Academic Credential Evaluators.
- The consultant will populate the two profiles and complete the end product to present at the National Workshop meeting.

**Deliverables**

- (a) Present the draft model as developed, including the chosen countries and some features of the wiki, at the Country Profile Working Group meeting in Alberta on March 21, 2011.
- (b) Pilot the implementation of the template and the wiki by the selected firm(s).
- (c) Populate the two country profile templates.
- (d) Present the working pilot project to the Working Group, along with a final report describing the steps undertaken and recommendations for the development of a management model for a permanent Canadian country profile repertory.
- (e) Present the country profiles at the National Workshop of Academic Credential Evaluators (to be held in the summer of 2011).

## **FUNDING**

- The consultant must include a budget for the completion of the project that is inclusive of all fees, costs, services, expenses, and taxes other than the federal goods and services tax (“GST”) or the harmonized sales tax (“HST”). GST and HST expenses may be noted in addition to the total in the budget.
- The budget must include a short breakdown of the fees, costs, services, expenses, and taxes included in the total.
- The two scheduled meetings (the Country Profile Working Group meeting and the National Workshop of Academic Credential Evaluators) will be covered separately by CCMEC under the CCMEC expense guidelines.
- Should the consultant require communication with stakeholders throughout the course of its research, the consultant must be prepared to provide translation and/or interpretation when necessary. Costs pertaining to translation and/or interpretation should be outlined in the budget.
- The consultant should also present a price estimate for the services rendered by the firm he or she will select in consultation with the Country Profile Working Group. Please note that CCMEC **will** enter into a separate contract with the selected firms.

## **CONTACT**

If interested, please send a short proposal and an electronic copy of your résumé **by February 23, 2011**, to:

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