

Request for Proposals: Development of an Innovative, Interactive Digital Platform for a Research Commons

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Deadline for applications: 10 January 2020, 23:59 IST

About Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation

The Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation envisions a world where every child is free, safe, healthy and educated.

OUR MISSION

- **Child Rights**
 - Preserve "child rights" through historically tackling violence against children-abuse, lack of education and lack of health
- **Global Voice**
 - Be recognized as a "global voice for violence against children" through movement creation and research
- **Policies**
 - Enable global and national policy and its implementation to protect children
- **Capacity Build up**
 - Build capacity of all stakeholders – government, businesses/ corporates, grassroots organizations/ civil society to full potential
- **Global Platform**
 - Become a global platform to recommend best practices in implementation, policy/regulatory frameworks and remove the trust deficit between various stakeholders

Summary of this request for proposals

The Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation(KSCF) is creating a digital platform named 'Research Commons' which would attempt to bring wide-ranging information on all aspects of children under one umbrella portal. The idea behind the digital platform is to share and access information and enable dialogue through knowledge sharing, publication of original work and interactions. The Research Commons would be hosted by the KSCF. In this regard KSCF wants to engage with an agency to design, develop and maintain this Web Portal.

Detailed Scope of work

Access Content

Digital Access to a range of articles, academic and non-academic research papers, commentaries, and other content on children. The platform would be online, ensuring that stakeholders in all countries can connect with each other at any time. The digital platform would enable both thinkers and practitioners to be able to access the latest and archival research on issues relating to children at all points of time.

Share and Publish Content A common platform to share knowledge and publish articles for people working on issues related to children. As the work related to children is mostly scattered, this space will be the go-to place for anyone looking for research work on all issues of children.

Who can contribute? Contributors could include non-governmental organizations, think tanks, universities, schools, governments, countries, individuals and children themselves.

The Research Commons platform will be used to host content under the following two categories:

Published Content: Content already published on websites, journals and other platforms shall be placed on the Research Commons portal. The placement of published material will be done by contacting the journals on child rights for making select articles available on Research Commons after obtaining due permissions and clearances or on a receipt of request for information-sharing by the author/organization. This kind of knowledge sharing would be moderated by a portal administrator. A set of guidelines shall be developed to judge the suitability of published material for being placed on the portal.

Unpublished/ Original work would also be published on the Research Commons portal. A set of 'submission guidelines' put forth by an Editorial Board which will be formed will be applied for acceptance of any article, paper, commentary for publication. Thus, the acceptance of any new article for publication will depend on its review and approval by the Editorial Board.

It is to be added that that the administrator will only see that the article conforms to the guidelines for sharing of published material. No article shall be denied publication on the basis of the views expressed therein or the position taken therein.

A Space for Children

A dedicated space for **comprehensible content for children**. Children around the world are doing fascinating work. However, the lack of a common platform makes it difficult for them to access knowledge or research work being done as also to share their views on issues related to children in different parts of the globe. Children are thus often left out of the discussion that is centered around them. The Research Commons would address this gap and seek to disseminate their views on issues relating to them as also on the content being shared on the platform. The portal shall have a separate space/section for children to voice their thoughts and share content that they feel is relevant to them.

Encouraging Dialogue

The research Commons will be a discussion forum that would invite comments on issues relating to children which will be moderated by the administrators. This discussion would allow for a rich exchange of information and ideas on the Research Commons. Social Media Engagement will be a cardinal part of this engagement. The Research Commons will also be linked to Twitter and Facebook in due course for engagement with the international community. The published papers and articles would be linked with the social media platform of the RC. In this way, a wide network of stakeholders will be reached out. With social media shares and comments, a healthy conversation representing various perspectives will be created.

Online Journal

A web conference will be hosted online on the portal on a specific child- related theme every quarter for contributors and commentators to engage in discussions/debate. The online journal is envisioned to later become a separate print journal in a year or two. The quarterly themes would be decided and placed on the Research Commons platform in advance by the Editorial Board in consultation with the administrator.

In addition to the elements outlined above, proposals must include all of the essential

elements described below:

- **Security:** Describe how you will develop the site to prevent security breaches such as spam, viruses, phishing, DOS attacks, site hijacking, unapproved posting and content, FTP access, personal information or database thefts.
- **Speed:** Describe how you will ensure fast site loads and the specs to which you will design. Describe how your design will accommodate slower speeds in internet-constrained or mobile data constrained areas.
- **Plugins:** Describe the level of plugin compatibility for Java and others you will design to, as well as detection software for user compatibility and download or upgrade options for users.
- **Search engine optimisation:** Describe how you will develop the platform to maximise optimal search returns.
- **Mobile:** Explain how you will design the site so that it – or an optimised version of it offering virtually identical capabilities – will render appropriately on mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets of varying manufacturers and dimensions.
- **Simplicity:** The platform design should skew relentlessly toward simplicity.
- **Flexibility:** The platform design should have flexibility at its core to diminish the likelihood of haphazard future additions and performance-sapping workarounds.
Fresh and intuitive: The design should not be easily out of date in fewer than five years: clean and modern. It should visually communicate messages clearly and succinctly.
- **Accessibility:** Describe how your design will consider users who are colour-blind and who may need accommodation for visual impairment. **Functionality:** Please provide this information: In addition to the elements outlined above, proposals must include all of the essential elements described below: **Security:** Describe how you will develop the site to prevent security breaches such as spam, viruses, phishing, DOS attacks, site hijacking, unapproved posting and content, FTP access, personal information or database thefts.
- **Speed:** Describe how you will ensure fast site loads and the specs to which you will design. Describe how your design will accommodate slower speeds in internet-constrained or mobile data constrained areas.
- **Accessibility:** Describe how your design will consider users who are colour-blind and who may need accommodation for visual impairment.

Platform maintenance

The successful applicant should ensure implementation, troubleshooting and maintenance support for the platform for 180 days after it has been accepted by KSCF to ensure a successful migration from the old to the new design. KSCF will have the option to continue to avail these maintenance services after 180 days or tender for ongoing maintenance without any

further obligation.

Eligibility and minimum qualifications

Only legally registered companies or organisations are eligible to apply. Individuals or a consortium of individuals are not eligible to apply,

- The contracted vendor must be a reputable firm in the field of website design with a demonstrated record of relevant and successful projects. Relevant experience in working with academic, research or NGO online database applications will be given preference.
- The vendor/firm must have sufficient expert staff on board and available to work on any KSCF contract from the time of signing.

How to apply

KSCF requests all eligible parties to submit their proposal to udit@satyarthi.org with 'Research commons platform development RFP' included in the subject line. **The deadline for submission of proposals is 10th January 2020 by 23:59 IST.** Only complete submissions meeting the eligibility requirements will be considered.

Eligible companies or organisations are required to include the following documents as part of their proposal package:

Technical proposal

- A brief profile (maximum two pages) of the company or organisation focused on information relevant to this project;
- An appendix with project record which demonstrate experience delivering similar projects (including project title, type of project, type of client, location, duration from the start of contract to final payment and total contract value)
- Last three years turnover details
- CVs of key project personnel.

Financial proposal

The financial proposal must include the following information:

- A budget with rates for all services provided, inclusive of all taxes or other applicable charges you will levy;
- A clear explanation of how work is charged; and
- A brief statement about how the services offer good value for money.

How to submit a proposal for the assignment

The Agencies are **requested to submit their Technical and Financial Proposal separately by the closing date of this RFP**. The Technical proposals would be assessed at the first round of selection. Financial Proposal will be opened only the Agencies qualifying in Technical round. These firms will be invited to present via an online panel meeting. The final selection of the Agency will be made based on scores obtained by the Agency in Technical and Financial Proposal combinedly. KSCF expects to name the successful vendor within 15 days from the last date of meeting with the shortlisted agencies.