code.sprint MT

MINISTRY FOR EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT
MALTA

CALL FOR SERVICES AND SUPPORT FOR CO-ORGANISING CODESPRINTMT - NATIONAL CODING CHALLENGE

1.0   Aim of this Call

The aim of this Call for Services and Support is the engagement of public or private entities to support in the organisation of the national coding challenge, entitled Code.Sprint Malta. This is currently being organised by the Directorate for Learning and Assessment Programmes (DLAP). DLAP deems it essential to involve local IT related educational entities/institutions in this endeavour to offer their expertise and support. The main aim for this collaboration is to continuously increase the quality of the event and enhancing the opportunities being offered to participating students.

2.0   Background

Code.Sprint Malta, is a national coding contest organised once yearly for students following studies in Computing Science at Ordinary, Intermediate and Advanced Level, as well as undergraduate students following a bachelor's degree course in Computing/IT.

The main objective of this competition is to gauge participants' problem solving, computational and programming skills in an environment different than students are accustomed to; i.e. in schools/institutions or during traditional assessment methods. Besides being an open book challenge, participants' work is assessed against a set of assessment criteria based on functionality, effectiveness and creativity.

Code.Sprint Malta also aims to strengthen and bridge the gap between education and employment and inherently improving the skill base of the workforce.

More details and an overview of past editions can be found on the website www.codesprintmalta.edu.mt or Facebook page on https://www.facebook.com/codesprintmt.

3.0   Engagement of Local IT-related Educational Entities / Institutions

This call for services and support is aimed to engage IT related educational entities/institutions, hereinto referred as 'co-organisers', to undertake several duties in relation to the logistical endeavours for Code.Sprint Malta, hereinto referred to as "event", ergo partnering with DLAP to co-organise the event.

The chosen co-organiser is expected to collaborate closely with the team from DLAP to co-organise the event which consists of three categories: Secondary, Post-Secondary and

Undergraduate. An agreement will be formulated and signed by both DLAP and the co-organiser which will be valid for a period of three years.

The purpose of such an agreement will be to clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each party in relation to the smooth running of the event.

Some of the advantages that can be achieved from this collaborative partnership include but are not limited to:

- assisting participants with new learning opportunities and skills development, such as:

  - apply digital competence acquired in schools / institutions in a competitive scenario,
  - demonstrate competence and self-confidence while presenting in front of an audience,
  - reflect on work and identify possible improvements,
  - tackle a given problem in an innovative and creative way,
  - work effectively under pressure and judgment within fixed timeframes.

- providing career guidance,
- providing opportunities for student's career exploration,
- providing a platform whereby students can demonstrate coding abilities in a competitive setting,
- ensuring that education and training are relevant to the problem solving / programming skills required of industry.

3.1   DLAP shall undertake the following responsibilities:

- accredit and certify candidates as per the procedures set by national accreditation units,
- develop workbooks and related documentation required for the accreditation process,
- develop tasks and related assessment rubric(s) for the secondary and post-secondary categories,
- form a judging panel made of professionals in the field for the secondary and post-secondary categories,
- provide hardcopy (printed) booklets to be used during the challenge, boot camp sessions and award ceremony,
- provide a venue and required resources for the Award Ceremony,
- maintain and update current landing page (www.codesprintmalta.edu.mt),
- update the event's rules and regulations as required on a yearly basis, and

- may also assist the co-organiser in:

  - forming the judging panel for the Undergraduate category,
  - running of the boot camp sessions for secondary and post-secondary finalists,
  - promoting the event.

3.2 The co-organiser shall on its part undertake to collaborate towards the achievement of the above objectives by assisting DLAP in the organisation, running and promotion of the event. Specifically, to:

- promote the event, including the branding and social media, such as the Code.Sprint Malta Facebook page, the co-organiser's social networks, etc.;
- develop the task/s and assessment rubric for the Undergraduate category;
- form a judging panel made of professionals in the field for the Undergraduate category;
- provide venue for the challenge and the required infrastructure including:

  - Table and chair for each participant,
  - Laptop/PC for each participant at any one point in time pre-loaded with the necessary software such as programming IDEs, etc.,
  - Internet connection with WiFi capabilities with enough bandwidth for a minimum of 35 clients connected to the same SSID,
  - Overhead projectors and/or large screens for presentations.

- accommodate for the needs of the event during the competition and the boot camp sessions;
- design and provide both the certificates of participation and the award certificates to the participants;
- provide programming courses for winners and runners-up (can also be sponsored and courses delivered by some other educational institution);
- design custom-made trophies for the winners of each category, and
- be available to assist DLAP in:

  - forming the judging panel for the secondary and post-secondary categories,
  - planning and running of the award ceremony,
  - the development of and/or modifications required in the rules and regulations.

4.0 Agreement

Through the eventual signing of the agreement both parties will agree that:

- both parties will serve to the best of their abilities the duties set out in section 3,
- both parties will collaborate to find external sponsors to enhance the funding available for the running of the event.
- if an external sponsor is not found for the purchase of the trophies, the cost should be divided between both parties,
- any purchasing done related to the event where DLAP funds are concerned need to occur through procurement procedures as set out by the Government's procurement policy.
- logos of both parties are to be included in any promotional material,
- logos used must be in accordance with any style guides and guidelines for use provided by the parties,
- the event can be promoted by both parties through respective channels,
- external entities which are selected as sponsors or otherwise permitted to represent or make part of the event cannot be representatives of industries which go against the policies, ethics and morals of the Ministry for Education and Employment. Final acceptance of a company and/or individual as an external entity to the event shall rest solely with DLAP,
- Develop a post evaluation report, as per section 5.0,
- MEDE has the right to organize the event on its own only if the co-organiser terminates the agreement. However, the co-organiser must organize the event only in collaboration with MEDE.
- The co-organiser agrees that the entity does not own any rights on Code.Sprint Malta and DLAP will not organise satellite or branch events of Code.Sprint Malta without the consent and collaboration of the co-organiser while the agreement is active.
- MEDE has the right to terminate the agreement if the co-organiser does not abide with the duties mentioned in the agreement.

5.0   Post-Evaluation Report

A post evaluation report shall be made after every edition of Code.Sprint Malta. This exercise shall be carried out by a DLAP representative with the support from the co-organiser. The finalized report shall be ready within three (3) weeks post event against signature from both parties.

The report must include:

- Statistics showing number of participants in each category and the sector they come from (State, Church or Independent).
- Names of participants registered in each category.
- Names of participants who qualified for the final round.
- Names of the top three participants in each category.
- Names of participants who received accreditation certificate.
- Names of judges and in which panel they sat.

- Copies of attendance sheets of both the participants and judges.
- Overall financial statement demonstrating the entities who provided the funds, including supporting sponsors.

6.0   Eligibility Criteria

6.1   The eligibility criteria for the selection of the local IT related educational entity / institution includes:

- having a regular licence through the National Commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE), AND
- established for at least five years, AND
- specialising in Computing and/or IT field, AND
- offer a minimum of THREE Computing and/or IT courses which are recognised as MQF 4.

6.2   Preference is given to institutions that:

- are awarded with an ISO 9001 certification.
- offer programming courses from beginners to advanced level.

7.0   Submissions

Since Code.Sprint Malta is an educational event within MEDE, DLAP is bound to partner only with institutions that portray values that are completely aligned with its corporate message and scope. Thus, interested parties shall be required to submit a corporate scoping document highlighting how their values align with those of the event. This document should be of NOT LESS than 200 words and include the following:

- past commitments and achievements that align with the scope of the event *(see section 2.0 and MEDE mission statement on: https://education.gov.mt/en/Ministry/Pages/Mission-Statement.aspx)*.
- vision related to the Computing/IT sector in general, and education in particular.
- the interest in partnering with DLAP to co-organise the event.
- vision of and ideas for the event.

Interested parties should register their interest by **Friday, 4th December 2020** noon (12:00), via the online form https://bit.ly/38SMXs2

By submitting your interest in this call for services and support, the entity acknowledges the minimum requirements set out in this document and can satisfy all commitments.

Interested parties may also submit a list of services, over and above what is required in this call, that might be offered to the event.

8.0 Adjudication

Adjudication shall be based on primarily satisfying all minimum duties set in section 3 and the validity of services offered. Besides, entities will also be ranked as per assessment criteria specified below in section 9.0. In case of stalemate an interview will be carried out.

MEDE reserves the right to recall, amend, re-issue or cancel this call without pre-advice.

9.0 Assessment Rubric

	Criteria			Marks
1.	Have ISO9001 certification.			15
2.	Programming courses that the co-organiser can directly offer to winners and runners up.			1 per course, max of 10
3.	Corporate message and scope			
	a.	Past commitments and achievements.		1 per commitment / achievement, max of 10
	b.	Vision related to the Computing/IT sector in general, and education in particular.		15
4.	Other factors exceeding the requirements:			
	a.	Established for more than 5 years:		
		i.	6 - 8 years	3
		ii.	9 – 11 years	6
		iii.	12+ years	10
	b.	Offer more than three MQF4 Computing / IT related courses (not necessarily in programming).		1 per course, max of 10
	c.	Offer MQF 5 courses.		1 per course, max of 10
	d.	Further ideas that the event can benefit from.		1 per idea, max of 10
	e.	Further services that can be offered to the event.		1 per service, max of 10
	TOTAL			**100**