

Annex 6 - Clarification questions

1. **Can you confirm who the proposal is meant to be sent to in the RFP it says: Robert Chatfield and on the web page it says: Victoria Maineri.**

The proposal has to be sent to Victoria.Maineri@britishcouncil.org. We have corrected this on the RFP.

2. **In annex 5 (p.3) it states: *The current body of evidence across Ceibal in Inglés is varied.* What does varied mean in this context?**

This refers to there being a variety of information, from published results of the national adaptive tests, to internal-only evaluation reports of the project; from academic research articles and published book chapters to teacher narratives, etc.

3. **Could you quantify /indicate the number of reports (internal/external), academic articles, chapters in books etc that will need to be reviewed/evaluated as this activity needs to be costed.**

We are gathering these documents now and have asked Ceibal to identify others the British Council may not be aware of, but we expect the number to total between 10-12,000 pages worth.

4. **Evaluation Q4: *What is the perceived difference in learning outcomes and experience between learning face-to-face and via remote teaching?* Can you clarify what this question is referring to specifically as there is more than one way to interpret it.**

The 'perceived difference' refers to the subjective 'experience' of the stakeholders surveyed or interviewed, i.e. how they feel about remote teaching and experience, compared to learning with a teacher present in the classroom

5. **Can you confirm that we will have access to students, remote teachers, classroom teachers, Quality Managers, Project Managers, and Mentors past and present from across the 10-year period. Can you confirm that we can survey them, conduct focus groups and interviews with the different key stakeholders?**

Yes. The British Council and Ceibal will facilitate access to a wide range of stakeholders that have worked on the project during the last ten years, allowing for surveys, focus groups and interviews to be carried out.

6. **Is the mid-term presentation based on the inception report or are they totally different outputs?**

Yes, this is based on the inception report.

7. **Can you clarify the presentation length for the mid-term and final presentations?**

The presentations should be no longer than an hour for each presentation.

8. **Can you indicate the number of meetings or the number of hours you envisage will occur between the British Council and the Evaluation team over the consultancy period.**

We suggest programming 30-minute weekly meetings during the entire period to provide updates and for the British Council to clarify doubts, help facilitate access to stakeholders, etc. They should be held at a time that is convenient for both parties (i.e. to take into account the time zone differences between the region and the UK). The number and frequency of meetings can be reduced if felt unnecessary during all or part of the consultancy.

9. What is expected the number of reviews before the eval report and exec summary is finalised.

A week should be planned to enable the British Council to read and comment on the draft report. Once changes have been made and reviewed by the British Council, we expect no further versions will be necessary if all suggestions / comments made by the British Council have been addressed.

10. Will the British Council procure a designer for the report?

Yes, once the report has been completed, the British Council will manage the design and also expect to produce a number of other assets using information from the report (e.g. videos, infographics, etc.)-

11. Is it possible to interview local and remote teachers involved in Ceibal? What is the maximum number of interviews that can be conducted with local and remote teachers?

Yes, the British Council will facilitate access to remote teachers (RTs) so they can be interviewed. In theory, there is no limit to the numbers of interviews with RTs. Interviewing local classroom teachers (CTs) is more difficult, but we have been able to arrange this in the past, so there should be no problem arranging for a sample (10-12) of CT interviews to be conducted.

12. Who will coordinate these interviews? The evaluator or British Council programme staff?

The evaluator. The British Council will facilitate access (i.e., obtain their email addresses and brief them on the nature of the interviews)

13. How many documents are involved in the literature review and how long are the documents?

We are gathering these documents now and have asked Ceibal to identify others the British Council may not be aware of, but we expect the number to total between 10-12,000 pages worth.

14. How many are in Spanish? A ballpark number for question 1 and 2 would help prediction time and the budget allocated.

Estimates are 25% of these will be in Spanish at the most.

15. Please provide more details of the Ceibal language adaptive tests.

More information on this test can be found here, along with reports on the results:

<https://ingles.ceibal.edu.uy/biblioteca/categoria/primer-categoria-de-biblioteca>

16. Will the consultant have access to raw data from teachers, stakeholders, reports and evaluative instruments involved in previous research?

Yes, although not anticipated, some of this can be made available if it has been stored and required / requested by the consultant. Please note this would mean an increase in the quantity of documents.

17. Does the report also need to be provided in Spanish?

No, we will be procuring translation separately afterwards

18. Does the British Council have set guidelines and a format that govern the final report? Can I see any examples?

Example reports commissioned by the British Council Americas previously can be seen here:

<https://americas.britishcouncil.org/new-ways-of-teaching/research-and-reports-0> and here:

<https://americas.britishcouncil.org/services/schools/webinars/impact-and-lessons-learned-school-closings-americas>

19. Will the British Council be open to sharing evidence and/or a client testimonial of the evaluation service upon completion for my company's records?

Yes, this will be possible.

20. Have any previous evaluations of *Ceibal en Inglés* been carried out under the British Council evaluation framework (current or previous model)?

Yes, there have been external and internal evaluations which will be made available to the consultant as part of the collection of documents for review.

21. To what extent is this evaluation expected to conform to the latest evaluation framework?

This should be used as a guide. We will also be evaluating the consultants' suggestions in order to obtain credible evidence.

22. How much flexibility is there around the deadline for the project, bearing in mind that there will be summer holidays in both UK & Argentina before the end of the project period?

This is open for negotiation, although once the report has been finalised, the British Council will be conducting design work that needs to be completed in the first few months of 2024.

23. Is there any part of the research / data collection that could not be done remotely, e.g. interviews with key stakeholders?

No, it has been anticipated that all of the work can be done remotely.

24. The *Final Report* (in English) and the executive summary are both expected to be ready by December 2023. What are the approximate dates for the mid-term and final presentation of the findings?

Ideally, the mid-term presentation of findings would be available by the end of September, though this and the date of the final presentation can be negotiated.

25. The first presentation is likely to be internal only (i.e. presented to British Council programme staff), and the second one will include stakeholders. Are these expected to be done online via Zoom/Meetings and in which language?

Yes, online. In English.

26. Will other programmes (i.e. *Artistas en el aula*, *Ceibal*, *Ciencias de la Computación*, etc.) be needed to be taken into consideration in order to determine the potential impacts of *Ceibal en Inglés* on the education system in Uruguay?

No, this will only need to take into account the **primary English programme** that the British Council and Ceibal have been working on since 2012, and how this interconnects with primary English teaching in Uruguay in general.

27. If the pupils participating on the proposed evaluation do also take part on other Ceibal programmes, will the consultants be expected to research on these subject-specific programmes? If so, will they have access to any existing evidence on these?

No other programmes except those relevant to teaching English to upper primary students need to be taken into account.

28. There is not much information in the RFP about coverage of the project. One line does note that ‘Over 3,300 English classes a week are now taught remotely, which means 96% of Uruguayan children in 4th to 6th grade urban schools are able to study English.’ What is the coverage in rural areas?

Rural school ([as defined by ANEP](#)) coverage is limited because of connectivity and the nature of these schools (e.g small numbers and different age groups put together). The study can take this into consideration, but only in passing, as rural schools have not as a matter of course been included in the programme.

29. What percentage of students nationally experiencing the programme?

This has varied over the years. Documenting this and how it has changed should be part of the desk research.

30. How has this changed over the years?

See answer to question 29 above.

31. How many teachers have been involved each year, and where are they?

See answer to question 29 above.

32. Would contact information be available for students who have taken the program over the last 10 years?

No, we do not anticipate the consultant being granted access to current or past students.

33. Would longitudinal data from the national adaptative test of English in Uruguay be made available to us? Is there a similar test for secondary? Are there longitudinal records of teacher language ability improvements?

More information on this test can be found here, along with reports on the results:

<https://ingles.ceibal.edu.uy/biblioteca/categoria/primer-categoria-de-biblioteca>

The last published data available is from 2016. Subsequent to this, the test was reviewed and changed. We anticipate being able to give the consultant access to more recent data, which Ceibal has.

Formal teaching of local classroom teachers (CTs) was undertaken in the first years of the project, but then discontinued. No longitudinal records of teacher language ability improvements exist.

34. The RFP points out that the British Council managed the project until 2020. Who manages it now?

Ceibal took over the project management.

35. What is the maximum budget available?

The total value, including taxes, must not exceed GBP 45,000.

36. Should consultants applying for this opportunity represent an institution (or "company" as meant in the application template), or it could also be a professional leading a team, or a group of individual professionals (under no specific institutional frame)?

All of the abovementioned will be considered, as long as the requirements specified are met.

37. Would the invoice address for the project be a UK or Argentinian British Council office? So that we can confirm the VAT status

The invoices should be addressed to the British Council in Argentina.