



**Centre for Educational
Research & Training
(CERT)**



CALL FOR CONSULTANTS

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW & EGM DEVELOPMENT

Centre for Education and Training (CERT) at the University of Malawi (UNIMA) is inviting suitably qualifying candidates to conduct a systematic review and produce a national Evidence Gap (EGM) of foundational learning interventions and outcomes in Malawi, including a gender analysis of research authorship.

Background and Rationale

Learning poverty remains pervasive in Malawi despite policy reforms, multiple donor-funded interventions, and investments in foundational learning. Although many studies have examined literacy, numeracy, teacher development, and early childhood learning, the evidence base is fragmented. Policymakers lack a consolidated and rigorous synthesis of what interventions have been tested, what outcomes they address, and where evidence gaps persist.

A systematic Evidence Gap Map of foundational learning interventions and outcomes for children aged 4 to 10 years in Malawi is therefore required. The consultant will support this work by conducting systematic reviews, coding studies, generating the EGM matrix, and preparing a comprehensive analytical report.

OBJECTIVES

Overall Objective

To map, synthesize, and visually present empirical evidence on foundational learning interventions for children aged 4 to 10 years in Malawi and identify priority evidence gaps for policy and research.

Specific Objectives

- Conduct a systematic literature search.
- Manage, screen, extract, and code eligible studies using Zotero and EPPI-Reviewer.
- Classify studies by intervention category, outcome category, study design, and gender of lead author.
- Generate an interactive Evidence Gap Map using EPPI-Mapper.
- Produce a comprehensive analytical report.
- Prepare full appendices including search strings and coded datasets.

Deliverables

- Inception Report
- Registered Protocol
- Search Results Report
- Screening Output and PRISMA diagram
- Coded Dataset
- Interactive EGM
- Draft Analytical Report
- Final Report and Appendices

Required Qualifications

- Master's or PhD in relevant fields
- Systematic review experience
- Zotero, EPPI Reviewer and EPPI-Mapper expertise
- Education sector knowledge
- Strong analytical skills
- Excellent writing skills.

Management and Reporting

The consultant will report to the Principal Investigators and attend biweekly check-in meetings.

Duration of the Assignment

4 weeks.

Application Requirements

Technical proposal, CV, samples of similar work, and financial proposal.

Application Deadline

5th December 2025

Send your applications to

malawiudi@gmail.com

28th November, 2025