The Peruvian Ministry of Education (MINEDU) wishes to train approximately 500 state secondary school teachers of English on two or more two-week ‘summer schools’ during the Peruvian summer break in January and February 2015 in Peru. These schools may run consecutively or in part concurrently, depending on the nature of bids received. UK organisations are invited to bid to provide the tutor team to deliver one or more of these summer schools, to be held in state secondary schools in Lima (and possibly other cities in Peru), either for all 500 teachers or for multiples of 100 teachers.

Logistics, such as board and lodging for participants and tutors, will be dealt with locally; the UK organisation’s task is to deliver a highly effective learning experience for the Peruvian participants, with a twin focus on language development and classroom practice development. It is anticipated that summer schools will be a regular feature of CPD in Peru over the next five years and that over that time the Peruvian Master Teacher cadre will play an increasing role in the delivery of the schools, eventually assuming responsibility. The wider context for this work is a commitment by the government of Peru to the country being ‘bilingual in English’ by 2021 and the allocation of significant resource to this ambition over the period to 2021. The UK and Peru will shortly be signing a Memorandum of Understanding on Education Co-operation to support and facilitate this work.

Summer schools will typically assemble on a Sunday, for example Sunday 18 January, and end with lunch two Fridays later, for example Friday 30 January. Participants will not be returning home during the weekend in the middle of the summer school.

Full board and lodging and airport transfer will be provided for UK teams in Peru.

Participants will be drawn from the group of 1,000 teachers who scored  most highly on a recent test of language proficiency, taken by over 3,000 teachers nationally. We hope to have more information on both the test and participant scores soon, but it is not anticipated that many teachers will have English of a higher standard than B1 CEFR – and many may have a lower level than B1.

Bids must be received by 13:00 on Wednesday 26 November and should be addressed to my colleague Adam Lewis adam.lewis@ukti.gsi.gov.uk, who will collate them and forward them to MINEDU via Ben Rawlings of the British Embassy in Lima. ‘Soft copy’ in PDF format will suffice initially, but this should please be followed up by 09:00 on Friday 28 November with two hard copies addressed to Adam at UKTI Education, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET – we’ll be couriering these to Lima later that day.

Issues that your bid should address include the following, but we would welcome a creative approach to the delivery of these summer schools.

* Specify the number of participants you propose to accommodate at your summer school(s) and the size of tutor team you think appropriate for that number of participants
* How you plan to reconcile the twin foci of language development and classroom practice development
* How you plan to ‘bond’ a large group most of whom will be meeting for the first time and thereby enable them to leave the summer school with a sense of belonging to a national ‘community of practice’
* Most but not all teachers will be working in a low-tech, low-resource environment. The government of Peru has ambitious plans for broadband roll-out across the country but these may not be fulfilled before 2018
* Whether you would wish to recommend the purchase of any materials for each participant, for example dictionary, flash card sets, wall-charts, or audio materials
* many participants will be inexperienced travellers and may not even have been to Lima before
* whether a placement test on arrival and a progress test at the end of the summer school would be appropriate in a course of this length
* how you will ensure maximum language immersion during the summer school
* the equipment you will need to be provided (and the equipment you would propose to bring with you from UK)
* access to the internet is likely to be limited

Bids should please also indicate experience, if any, of work with Peru specifically and with Latin American countries in general, and should give a general indication of the organisation’s track record in the development of international groups of teachers of English.

Organisations should please nominate a full-time summer school director, to be present in Peru throughout the school(s), and submit their CV, plus the CV of at least three other members of staff who will definitely be working on the school(s), with an indication of the contribution each will be making.

Bids will be scored according to the following criteria:

a) approach (33%)

b) track record and staff experience (33%)

c) cost (33%)

As help to organisations deciding whether to bid for this opportunity or not, Adam and I will be holding two Q & A tele-conferences this coming Wednesday, 19 November, at 10:00 and at 14:00. Dial-in details are available from Adam, with whom organisations should please register their interest.

Our intention is to have made a decision on the allocation of this work by Wednesday 3 December.