

REQUEST FOR QUOTES

Procurement Number:	MENA2022Iraq05o
Open Date:	August 1, 2022
Questions Deadline:	Rolling
Closing Deadline:	Bids accepted on a rolling basis till July 31, 2023
Geographical Area Restrictions:	937
Point of Contact:	Mohammed Hasan, iraqbids@iri.org

Background:

The International Republican Institute (IRI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, organization dedicated to advancing freedom and democracy worldwide. Since 1983, IRI has worked to develop democratic institutions and ideals, carrying out a variety of international programs to promote freedom, self-government and the rule of law worldwide. IRI provides technical assistance in the areas of political party strengthening, developing civic institutions and open elections, promoting democratic governance and advancing the rule of law.

IRI will assist Iraqi CSO's, civic educators, and political parties to implement citizen engagement and education efforts about Iraqi electoral and political processes, including elections expected within the period of performance. Some of these CSOs, educators, and parties will be focused on youth, religious/ethnic minorities, women, and other marginalized groups. To reinforce the responsibilities of citizens and political parties throughout the election cycle, IRI will support Iraqi civil society and parties in their efforts to inform citizens on the role they can and should play in a participatory democracy, their role in voting, and how to effectively message to potential voters.

Period of Performance:

One year from the date of signature with the option to extend for a total duration of up to 3 years up in two one-year increments.

Statement of Work:

A. Contractor will serve as a trainer, facilitator and consultant on various programming activities and events. Contractor must:

- 1) Produce their own training materials (agenda, presentations, reference materials and/or facilitated activities) or adapt materials provided by IRI – these will be approved by IRI prior to being used in training workshops;
- 2) Provide a post-workshop report, using an IRI-provided template, to summarize results and discussions from the workshop within ten (10) days of the end of each event;
- 3) Submit an invoice on work conducted within ten (10) days of the end of each event.

B. Civil Society Organizational Management Citizen Engagement and Electoral Awareness Training

Contractors must have relevant civil society and political experience and be able to teach on a minimum of one of the following topics, based upon the contractor's own practical experience:

1) Organizational Management:

- a) Project Management;
- b) Strategic Planning;
- c) Advocacy Strategy & Implementation;
- d) Traditional Media Outreach;
- e) Social Media Engagement;
- f) Diversity & Inclusion.

2) Citizen Engagement:

- a) Promoting civic participation of women, youth and marginalized groups;
- b) Defining community needs and developing relevant policy proposals;
- c) Developing plans for engaging with decision-makers on priority community issues;
- d) Public speaking skills and techniques;
- e) Creative methods for working with the media as a key element of political communication;
- f) Engaging citizens and communities in the government's decision-making processes.

3) Electoral Awareness:

- a) Understanding and evaluating electoral laws and procedures;
- b) Comparative examples of electoral systems;
- c) Planning and executing nationwide get-out-the-vote campaigns;
- d) Promoting election board content and materials on election procedures and processes;
- e) Coordinating with coalitions and like-minded organizations to; encourage citizen participation in elections;
- f) Issue messaging for campaigns – selecting, defining, crafting and promoting a campaign's issue messages;
- g) Creating a usable, effective database of voters;
- h) Strategic targeting of voters.

4) Political Parties/ Civil Society Cooperation:

Contractors must have a strong civil society background with experience of working with political parties and government authorities or a strong political party background with experience of working with civil society and government authorities.

- a) The organizational structure, strategic planning, and management of successful, functioning civil society organizations, political parties and local government authorities;
- b) How to define the key needs of a local community and develop relevant policy proposals;
- c) How to build and implement a successful advocacy campaign;
- d) How to engage youth into civic activism;
- e) How to develop successful cooperation between political parties and civil society organizations in order to achieve mutual goals;
- f) How political parties and civil society organizations can cooperate to make a local community stronger and its citizens more engaged in the local government's decision-making processes;
- g) How to transition from being a civil society activist to engaging with political parties and establishing a future political career;
- h) Achieving more transparency of local government authorities, including citizen engagement in public budgeting/oversight processes.

C. Technical Digital/Social Media Advocacy and Management:

Contractors must have relevant digital and social media experience and be able to train or consult on a minimum of one of the following topics, based upon the contractor's own practical experience:

- a) Developing brand identity
- b) Social media campaign design and management
- c) Digital content creation
- d) Strategic online communications
- e) Audience targeting and message dissemination via online advocacy campaigns
- f) Designing and implementing digital advocacy campaigns (topics including but not limited to civic education, freedom of speech, access to information and social censorship)

Technical Bid:

All bids submitted to IRI must include:

1. Information addressing your experience in providing each of the services identified in the above Statement of Work and your proposed specific approach for providing those services to IRI under this contract, including sufficient information to determine a clear definition of services as it relates to other providers that may be involved.
2. The name, address, and telephone and facsimile numbers of the bidder (and electronic address if available);
3. Bidders shall provide contact information for a minimum of three professional references with whom the applicant has had a working relationship within the last 24-month period. IRI may contact these individuals.
4. If the Bidder is a U.S. organization/resident, or a foreign organization/resident which has income effectively connected with the conduct of activities in the U.S. or has an office or a place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the U.S., the technical bids must contain Bidder's Taxpayer Identification Number.

5. Bids will not exceed 5 pages (not including cover page), using Times New Roman font, 1” margins and may be submitted in English or Arabic.
6. Bids should indicate prior consultancy or training facilitation work with international NGOs, the UN or similar organizations.
7. Attachment requirements:
 - CV/Resume indicating prior work with Iraqi civil society organizations, IHEC and /or political parties.
 - Expert rate form listing prior income/rates to justify his/her quoted daily rate. Daily rates must be in line with prior rates charged for similar work. IRI may contact previous clients and employers for professional references and compensation confirmation.
 - Copy of Passport
 - Examples of previous training materials and/or reports about trainings led by bidder

Price Bids must adhere to the following criteria:

IRI will pay directly (to the hotel and airline) for all preapproved travel related expenses including transportation, lodging, and meals for the contractors’ participation in IRI activities and events. The daily and hourly rates submitted should, therefore, not include an assumption of costs incurred by the contractor for travel related expenses. All other expenses, including domestic ground transportation within their home city and meals should be included within the daily rates, as no other expenses will be covered or reimbursed by IRI.

Bids must be submitted in USD, payments under any resulting contract will be made in the currency outlined in the accepted bid. Payments will be made by wire transfer upon acceptance of Contractor’s invoice and training report. The unit cost in Bidders’ proposals must take into account any potential fees levied by the Bidders’ bank.

Unit	Unit Price
Daily Rate*	

**Rates proposed should include travel medical insurance. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, travel medical insurance should also include coverage for all COVID-19 related medical expenses. Upon notification of selection, Contractor will be required to provide proof of insurance, failure or inability to provide proof of insurance will result in withdrawal of selection.*

RFQ Terms and Conditions:

1. Prospective Bidders are requested to review clauses incorporated by reference in the section “Notice Listing Contract Clauses Incorporated by Reference”.
2. IRI may reject any or all bids if such is within IRI’s interest.
3. Payment will be made upon receipt of detailed invoices and deliverables/services.
4. Proof of costs incurred, such as but not limited to receipts, pictures and financial documents may be requested during and for up to three years after the end of the contract period.

5. The Bidder's initial bid should contain the Bidder's best offer.
6. IRI reserves the right to make multiple contracts or partial contracts if, after considering administrative burden, it is in IRI's best interest to do so.
7. Discussions with Bidders following the receipt of a bid do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by IRI.
8. IRI will hold all submissions as confidential and shall not be disclosed to third parties. IRI reserves the right to share bids internally, across divisions, for the purposes of evaluating the bids.
9. If IRI continues to require the goods and services and the price remains reasonable and within market norms, resulting contract may be renewed each year for up to 3 years with 30 days' notice to the Contractor. Bidder must establish any price increase for each renewal year in the initial bid.
10. By submitting a bid, Bidder agrees to comply with all terms, conditions, and provisions included in the solicitation and agreement to the services identified above and will specifically identify any disagreement with or exceptions to the terms, conditions, and provisions.
11. Bidders confirm that the prices in the bid/proposal/application/quote have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition.
12. By applying to this RFQ, applicant is certifying that if it is awarded a contract, none of funds payable under the resulting contract will be used to (1) procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; (2) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure; or (3) obtain the equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system in compliance with the National Defense Authorization Act. Covered telecommunications equipment and services mean any of the following:
 - a. Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - b. For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - c. Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
 - d. Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country. ([2 CFR 200.216](#)).
13. Bidders agree to disclose as part of the bid submission:

- a. Any close, familial, or financial relationships with IRI staff and agents. For example, the bidder must disclose if a bidder's mother conducts volunteer trainings for IRI.
- b. Any family or financial relationship with other bidders submitting bids. For example, if the bidder's father owns a company that is submitting another bid, the bidder must state this.
- c. Any other action that might be interpreted as potential conflict of interest.

Evaluation and Award Process:

1. Bids will be evaluated by IRI for compliance with administrative requirements, recent and relevant past performance and experience in performing of similar projects by the Bidder, technical capabilities and proposed technical approach, the qualifications of the personnel for the project, and price. IRI may contact any Bidder for clarification or additional information, but Bidders are advised that IRI intends to evaluate the offers based on the written bids and reserves the right to make decisions based solely on the information provided with the initial bids. IRI may but is not obligated to conduct additional negotiations with the most highly rated Bidders prior to award of a contract and may at its sole discretion elect to issue contracts to one or more Bidders.
2. Mathematical errors will be corrected in the following manner: If a discrepancy exists between the total price proposed and the total price resulting from multiplying the unit price by the corresponding amounts, then the unit price will prevail and the total price will be corrected. If there were a discrepancy between the numbers written out in words and the amounts in numbers, then the amount expressed in words will prevail. If the Bidder does not accept the correction, the offer will be rejected.
3. IRI may determine that a bid is unacceptable if the prices proposed are materially unbalanced between line items or sub-line items. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable total evaluated price, the price of one or more contract line items is significantly overstated or understated as indicated by the application of cost or price analysis techniques. A bid may be rejected if IRI determines that the lack of balance poses an unacceptable risk.
4. IRI will conduct a source selection based as follows:

Best value: IRI intends to make an award to the responsible Offeror based on the following evaluation factors:

Quality of proposed training approach	40
<i>Extent to which Proposal and CV indicates ability to train on at least one of the requested training topics.</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Evaluation of quality and content of example materials and training reports</i>	<i>20</i>
Past performance and experience in performing similar projects	40
<i>Past performance (based on reference checks)</i>	<i>20</i>

<i>Experience performing similar projects (per CV/resume and technical bid)</i>	20
Price	20
Total	100

IRI intends to evaluate Offerors' proposals in accordance with these factors and make an award to the responsible Offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the program.

5. If a cost realism analysis is performed, cost realism may be considered in evaluating performance or price.

Submission Instructions:

Bids must be submitted via email to Mohammed Hasan, at iraqbids@iri.org with the subject line "MENA2022Iraq05o" by the deadline listed above.

IRI Obligations

Issuance of this RFQ does not constitute a contractual commitment on the part of IRI, nor does it commit IRI to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a bid.

Notice Listing Contract Clauses Incorporated by Reference

IRI is required to make the Bidder subject to the clauses of the prime award. The resulting agreement incorporates one or more clauses by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Where "flow-down" to the Bidder is appropriate and applicable, references to "USAID" or "Department of State" shall be interpreted to mean "IRI", "Recipient" to mean "Contractor", and "Subrecipient" to mean "the Bidder". Included by reference are 2 C.F.R. 200 and USAID Standard Provisions for Non-US Non-governmental Organizations/US Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions.

EXPERT RATE INFORMATION					
Name <i>(Last, First, Middle)</i>			Proposed Rate:		Daily Hourly
Rates should be given for the last three (3) years. If employment history/salary information is applicable, list salaries separate for each year. If expert services is applicable, indicate the type of rate daily/hourly.					
EMPLOYMENT HISTORY - SALARY					
POSITION TITLE	EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Employment Period <i>(M/D/Y)</i>		Annual Salary ¹ U.S. Dollars	
		From	To		
SPECIFIC EXPERT SERVICES					
SERVICES PERFORMED/TITLE	CLIENTS NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Service Period <i>(M/D/Y)</i>		Units at Rate	Daily/Hourly Rate ² In U.S. Dollars
		From	To		
CERTIFICATION: To the best of my knowledge, the above facts as stated are true and correct.					
Signature				Date	

¹ Basic periodic payment for services rendered. Exclude bonuses, profit-sharing arrangements, commissions, consultant fees extra or overtime work payments, overseas differential or quarters, cost of living or dependent education allowances.

² A form of management fee whereby the client pays a set fee for providing professional services. Exclude cost reimbursements, bonuses, overtime work payments, overseas differential or quarters, cost of living, and any other allowances.