

## REQUEST FOR QUOTES

<b>Procurement Number:</b>	AFRICA2022Nigeria15o
<b>Open Date:</b>	December 16, 2022
<b>Questions Deadline:</b>	December 21, 2022
<b>Closing Deadline:</b>	December 28, 2022
<b>Geographical Area Restrictions:</b>	935
<b>Point of Contact:</b>	R. Maxwell Bone, <a href="mailto:Mbone@iri.org">Mbone@iri.org</a>

### 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 deploy an international election observation mission to Nigeria for the 2023 general elections in partnership with the National Democratic Institute (NDI). As part of the observation mission, IRI is seeking a long-term analyst to monitor the political environment during the presidential and National Assembly elections. More specifically, the analyst will assess the participation of political parties and candidates during the observation period, any restrictions that affect equal access to all phases of the process for parties and candidates, and use of hate speech, inflammatory rhetoric, dis/misinformation by political parties and candidates.

**Period of Performance:** January 22 – March 19, 2023

### Statement of Work:

IRI is seeking an individual with expertise in political behavior and campaigning with a background in Nigeria or the region to serve as a Long-term Analyst (LTA). To enhance the joint mission's assessment of the 2023 elections, IRI will deploy a thematic expert to analyze political and campaign related developments during the president and National Assembly elections. The thematic expert would deploy prior to the IRI/NDI delegation to meet with various stakeholders, including political parties, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), judicial actors, civil society organizations, domestic election observers, and other representatives of the international community.

The consultant will be based in Abuja but may conduct sub-national travel if conditions warrant and budgets permit. The consultant will produce regular weekly analysis to inform mission efforts. In the analysis of the 2023 general elections, the consultant will also draw

upon the IRI/NDI's pre-election assessment statements as well as existing analyses of the political environment. The LTA will brief members of the IRI/NDI delegation of findings prior to delegates deploying to observe the February 25 elections. The LTA will also deploy as a short-term election observer on election day.

In the period between the national and state-level elections, the LTA would continue to meet with electoral stakeholders and monitor reports or statements produced by the aforementioned actors to continue assessing the political environment during and after the announcement of results. The LTA will produce a short report that will contribute to IRI/NDI's final election observation report. Some questions to guide the work of the political environment LTA include:

- What measures are the federal and state governments undertaking to allow all political parties and candidates to campaign freely?
- What measures are in place or what actions have been taken by the federal or state governments, to hold political or government actors to account for violations to the electoral law or political party regulations?
- Is the federal government taking any action to influence the outcome of any election in favor of a particular candidate or party?
- To what extent is INEC regulating political parties?
- Are political leaders engaging in inter-party dialogue?
- Are political leaders adhering to the 2022 Abuja Peace Accord, the IPAC code of conduct, and INEC guidelines for political parties? Are they proactively investigating and, where substantiated, taking punitive action against party members and supporters who use hate speech and violence (including through gangs) or disseminate false information during the election cycle?
- Is the Inter-Party Advisory Committee (IPAC) performing its coordination and mediation functions effectively with a priority on state level engagement?
- How are civil society groups engaging with political parties?
- To what extent are political parties engaging with community and religious organizations?
- How are political parties engaging with the media, including social media?
- Are political parties engaging in hate speech or using inflammatory language to engage with the public?
- Are political parties using dis/misinformation throughout the electoral period? Are members of the international community messaging regularly to the main political actors and parties to uphold the rule of law? Are these messages being coordinated?

Between July and December 2022, IRI/NDI deployed two pre-election assessment missions to examine election preparations and the political environment. At the conclusion of each mission, the joint delegations issued public statements that included recommendations to Nigerian and international stakeholders to enhance the credibility of the election process and prevent violence. The selected LTA will track the implementation (or lack thereof) of the recommendations included in the statements.

**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 three (3) pages (not including cover page), using Times New Roman font, 1" margins.
6. Attachment requirements:
  - CV/Resume
  - Expert Service Rate Form provided at the end of this solicitation. IRI may contact previous clients and employers for professional references and compensation confirmation.
7. Desired Qualifications:
  - Bachelor's degree preferably in international relations, law, political science, gender studies or related subject.
  - A minimum of five (5) years relevant professional work experience at the national or international level implementing programming in the field of democracy and governance, with experience during election processes preferred.
  - Demonstrated ability to work under pressure in a sensitive political environment.
  - Demonstrated ability to work as a member of an internationally and culturally diverse team, while maintaining impartiality and objectivity.
  - Exceptional interpersonal and managerial skills and cultural sensitivity to effectively interact with all levels of local stakeholders and foreign government personnel.
  - Excellent verbal and written communications skills to effectively present information in a clear and persuasive manner.
  - Analytical skills for interpreting complex program and political issues.
  - Experience working and living in Africa preferred.
  - Experience as a long-term observer or long-term analyst on an international observation mission preferred.
  - Experience in analysis of the political environment given special consideration.
  - Knowledge of PC-based word processing and e-mail technology.
  - Fluent in written and spoken English.

Price Bids must adhere to the following criteria:

IRI will pay directly (to the hotel, airline, train, etc.) 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 should be included within the daily and hourly 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 this currency.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Number of Units</b>	<b>Total</b>
Daily Rate			

**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. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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](#)).
12. 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:

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

- a) Past experience in performing similar work – 60 percent
- b) Price – 40 percent

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 R. Maxwell Bone, Mbone@iri.org with the subject line "AFRICA2022Nigeria15o" 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.

<b>EXPERT RATE INFORMATION</b>					
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.					
<b>EMPLOYMENT HISTORY - SALARY</b>					
POSITION TITLE	EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Employment Period ( <i>M/D/Y</i> )		Annual Salary <sup>1</sup>	
		From	To	U.S. Dollars	
<b>SPECIFIC EXPERT SERVICES</b>					
SERVICES PERFORMED/TITLE	CLIENTS NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Service Period ( <i>M/D/Y</i> )		Units at Rate	Daily/Hourly Rate <sup>2</sup> In U.S. Dollars
		From	To		
<b>CERTIFICATION:</b> To the best of my knowledge, the above facts as stated are true and correct.					
Signature				Date	

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.