



**International Foundation
for Electoral Systems**

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

[RFA-23-009 Chiragh se Chiragh (C2C) Youth Leadership and Civic Engagement Training in Pakistan] Questions and Answers

[March 6, 2023]

Q1. On the page 5 of the RFA, the districts are mentioned to implement the intervention. We have clarity for the Punjab and KP but would like to know about the districts mentioned for Sindh and Balochistan. As the program has to be implemented in collaboration with the Universities, we are afraid to reach out to the Universities in Jaccobabad, Qamber Tehsil of District of Larkana and Sohbatpur Tehsil of District Jaffarabad. Are these are the only districts or IFES is flexible in selecting the districts with more universities?

IFES Response: The districts identified in the RFA are the only districts where IFES plans to implement this program. If an applicant is unable to work in some of these selected districts, they should submit a proposal that identifies where they would be able to work.

Q2. We are interested in rolling out the program nationally across the 4 provinces and Islamabad Capital Territory. Can an organization submit the 2 separate proposals for the respective provinces (ICT, Punjab and KP or Sindh and Balochistan) as mentioned in the Scope of Work.

IFES Response: Applicants who have the ability to cover all program districts may submit a single application to implement in all districts. As IFES reviews applications and makes selections to ensure all districts are covered, IFES may ask an applicant to implement its proposed program in a smaller subset of districts depending on the capacity of other selected applicant(s). An applicant submitting a single proposal covering all districts will therefore not be penalized in the evaluation.

Q3. [Our organization] has an extensive experience of working with the Universities in Pakistan which includes universities from both public and private sector. Would IFES be fine with the universities from both sectors recognized and affiliated with the HEC.

IFES Response: Yes, both private and public universities are acceptable for this program.

Q4. The number of participants should be reached out with a 50% male to female ratio. Does this apply to the overall target numbers or need to consider this in every training. In Pakistan, we have certain women only universities and would like to work with these universities as well. We hope that only female training would be acceptable to the IFES.

IFES Response: The objective of this requirement is to ensure that at least 50% of participants in the overall program are women. As such, individual trainings at a women-only university would be consistent with this goal and acceptable to propose.

Q5. Our organization is situated in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where we would like to pick up the two districts of KP, Swat and Khyber.

1. However, we like to run something by you. The Khyber district was recently merged into the mainstream political and administrative structure. It also has a very short educational history. only a few colleges for boys and for girls, with the possibility of including one more private-sector institution. We would be capable of including a small number of students from this district in our training programme due to the low numbers of educational institutes. On the other hand, the district swat, there is a much wider scope to engage a higher number of students with gender balance. So, we like to ask, would this be acceptable to you?

IFES Response: Yes, this is acceptable.

2. Is it mandatory for the applicant to apply for the whole program/province or else?

IFES Response: No, applicants are not required to cover all districts in their applications.

3. Is there a ceiling out of the total \$750,000 for a province and district as well?

IFES Response: IFES has not set an individual ceiling for any single subaward. Applicants should provide a detailed budget based on how many provinces and districts they will be able to work in.

4. Is it that the '25- 02 days advance youth leadership conference', apply to the whole programme/province and what in case the 'best performer" are not considerable in number?

IFES Response: Yes, the requirement to hold 25 advanced youth leadership conferences of 2-days each that bring together top C2C performers (50/conference) applies to the whole program. IFES expects its partners to choose the strongest candidates from among the participants in the introductory trainings to participate in the advanced conferences. Working closely with selected institutes to identify participants in the introductory trainings should help to ensure there are high quality candidates for the second set of advanced trainings.

5. Aside from the scope of work, may we suggest something innovative within the scope of work? For example, given the rural nature of the area and the lack of job options, may we provide internships to recent graduates? The internship programme will provide them with the opportunity to learn practical office work and use them as Program Assistant etc. During the project cycle, the internship will be offered to two fresh female graduates each district for a period of six months on a rolling basis.

IFES Response: Such an approach would be acceptable if the period of internship would be included as part of the proposed period of performance and the work conducted by interns is relevant to the Scope of Work for this program. IFES is not able to fund internships that go beyond the period of performance or for work unrelated to this RFA.

6. I would like to ask that, can an applicant organization sublet a portion of total award of C2C project or some of its activities to its partner organization, however the major applicant/award winning organization, will be solely responsible of all the activity, its reporting and deliverables etc.

IFES Response: It is acceptable to include local partners in the budget as part of the proposed management of the program. If this requires the issuing of subcontracts, such subcontracts would be subject to IFES approval prior to being issued. In such an instance, yes, the primary subawardee would be solely responsible for reporting to IFES on the completion of activities and deliverables.