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INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

Request for Applications RFA 19-074 and RFA-19-075

Questions and Answers

September 19, 2019

Q1. Can one service provider bid for both RFA-19-074 and RFA-19-075, or does bidding for one RFA preclude bidding for the other?

- IFES Response: Yes, service providers can bid for both RFA's and both Applications will be reviewed separately.

Q2. In case one service provider could bid for both, can we synergise the projects? i.e. propose one Project Manager, use one curriculum, etc.? Or should we keep both proposals completely independent from each other?

- IFES Response: As mentioned in the previous question, both Applications should be independent from each other with a focus on that province/regional area of Pakistan. Staff and indirect costs should be allocated for in both Applications, albeit with similar rates for the same subgrantee.

Q3. Who are the beneficiary women? Have the beneficiaries already been selected within POWER? Have they received previous training in the subject area? Is there any training needs assessment related to the beneficiary group?

- IFES Response: The participants are not yet selected and will be women who demonstrate taking on an electoral or political leadership role. The selection of the beneficiaries will be led by the local partner, in consultation with IFES. The selected partner will propose a methodology and criteria for identifying and selecting its She Leads training participants. Selected participants need not have had previous training in this subject area. IFES has training needs assessments that can be contextualized for the selected participants if needed.

Q4. Are the "established selection guidelines" (mentioned on page 5 of the RFA) already developed, or should they be developed?

- IFES Response: The partner, in consultation with IFES, will be expected to propose a methodology and criteria for recruiting, identifying and selecting the participants.

Q5. Is it possible to give us some more information on the “assignment” phase? Would IFES expect the service provider to use local mentors/coaches (e.g. local academics/NGO professionals) during this phase to mentor/coach women? Or is the expectation more basic.

- IFES Response: Assignments are customized by province based on participant input in a fully consultative and iterative adaptive learning process. Forms of assignments can vary from region to region and training to training. IFES has followed a similar model for its She Leads programs in other countries. Examples of assignments, which will be developed by the participants themselves, could be conducting voter education sessions or community level awareness raising activities. Professional level mentors or coaches are not required as women will be drawing on the skills they developed in the training to carry out the assignments.

Q6. Are there any important time drivers behind the project delivery period of Oct-2019 to Apr-2021 you wish us to consider when drafting a work plan?

- IFES Response: IFES intends to begin implementation in mid-October 2019. In FATA, local elections are anticipated for early next year. For partners responding to this region, the proposal response should consider how local elections will fit with the timeline for activity implementation. The period of performance should span 17 months.

Q7. Who are the expected participants of a lessons learned workshops towards the end of the projects?

- IFES Response: The lessons learned workshop will include She Leads Pakistan alumnae from across the participating areas.

Q8. How many key personnel CVs would you like us to present?

- IFES Response: There is no required number. Anyone who is considered “key personnel” should include their CV.

Q9. Are the She Leads participants of FGDs already selected or should we plan the time for selection?

- IFES Response: FGD participants are not selected. This will fall within the scope of the selected partner.

Q10. Are the She Leads participants of the Negotiation Skills Trainings the same as the participants of the FDSs?

- IFES Response: The FGD participants will not necessarily participate in the She Leads program. The purpose of the FGDs is to inform the design of the She Leads training, which may include a module on negotiation skills. Please note that negotiation skills, like the other skills listed, are illustrative modules that fit within the broader She Leads Pakistan training.

Q11. What is the envisaged total value of “microgrants” dedicated to the assignments of the She Leads participants? Should we include the proposed amount in our financial proposal.

- IFES Response: There is no specific amount determined for the microgrants. Applicants should include their suggested amount in their budgets, as based on previous experience implementing similar capacity trainings in FATA or Sindh and potential costs which would could be included (i.e. costs of holding a community meeting, coffees with community leaders, etc.). If microgrants will be utilized, this should be budgeted separately in the total budget/financial proposal.

Q12. To what degree of detail IFES wishes to receive a log of activities that women participants of the She Lead programme will undertake?

- IFES Response: While the specific reporting mechanisms and frequency will be determined between IFES and its selected partners, applicants should anticipate reporting women participants' activities on a quarterly basis.

Q13. What are IFES requirements for M&E Frequency?

- IFES Response: As noted above, while the specific reporting mechanisms and frequency will be determined between IFES and its selected partners, applicants should anticipate reporting women participants' activities on a quarterly basis.

End of Questions and Answers