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INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

Request for Applications RFA-20-020

Questions and Answers

January 17, 2020

Q1. Under this RFA, would IFES grant the award to a single organization covering the whole Punjab province? Could interested organizations apply for 3-4 districts of Punjab?

IFES Response: This RFA will issue one award which would cover implementation in the province of Punjab through intervention in 3-4 districts. The application can include proposed districts and rationale behind selection but the final districts for intervention under this program will be determined in collaboration with IFES.

Q2. Can implementation arrangements include a consortium of two partners with clear TORs and segregation of responsibilities?

IFES Response: Under this RFA, the implementation arrangement will include only one partner. Unfortunately, a consortium of two partners will not be accepted under this RFA.

Q3. Is there any maximum or minimum budget ceiling for the award?

IFES Response: Please budget according to what you think is appropriate for the activities outlined in the RFA.

Q4. Is there any advisable ratio of the Program/Activity cost to Operational/HR cost?

IFES Response: IFES seeks to maximize resources for programmatic purposes. With this in mind, IFES may view budgets that reserve more than approximately 25% for operational expenses less competitively.

Q5. The Scope of Work entails disbursement of 'Microgrants' among individual or a group of 1 to 2 alumnae for implementing projects aimed at voters/CNICs registration. Does this require a 'grants solicitation and/or grants-making mechanism' to be part of the Technical Proposal?

IFES Response: Under this RFA, IFES does not require a grants solicitation to be part of the technical proposal for the microgrants. The interested organization should however incorporate an allocated amount for microgrants within the proposed program budget.

Q6. Are there any priority districts for the program?

IFES Response: IFES does not have a specified list of priority districts for the program but would advise to select districts where there is a clear need for this program intervention, while also safe and effective to implement program activities. The final set of districts will be determined in collaboration with IFES.

Q7. What is the size of one micro-grant that will be disbursed to the women?

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 interventions in Punjab.

Q9. Is there any specific number of focus group discussions?

IFES Response: IFES suggests about 2-4 focus group discussions.

Q10. Could a non-profit organization undergoing its registration process apply for the RFA?

IFES Response: IFES will only accept registered organization to implement under this award.

Q11. Under Article 4 Scope of Work, it mentions that the selected partner will “implement at least 4 three-day beginner and 4 three-day intermediate trainings for She Leads participants. In total the program will train 100 women who will participate in both the beginner and intermediate training.” Will the same 100 women trained in the beginner level training also receive the intermediate training?

IFES Response: Yes, the same women participants who undergo the beginners She Leads Pakistan training will also participate in the intermediate training. As such, the same 100 women will go through two levels of training.

Q12. Under Article 4 Scope of Work, it states that the selected partner will work with “She Leads alumnae to support and monitor alumnae’s post-training advocacy work, providing microgrants for at least 15 projects to support alumnae.” Do the alumnae include the 100 women who received the beginner and intermediate training and the 25 men who received the intermediate training?

IFES Response: The microgrants would only be provided to the women alumnae.

End of Questions and Answers