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INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

Request for Applications RFA-21-074

Questions and Answers

October 27, 2021

Q1: In the section “3.4 Eligibility”, it says “locally registered.” We understood it as registered within Nepal. Is it correct or something else?

- *IFES Response: Yes, it refers to the organization being registered as a national organization in Nepal. International organizations are not eligible to apply for this opportunity, as outlined in section 3.4 of the RFA.*

Q2: What is meant by a locally registered organization? Can we have a broad definition? (3.4 Eligibility)

- *IFES Response: Please see the response to Q1 above.*

Q3: What is the budget ceiling for the proposal? Is there any ceiling like amount per proposal, or per district or per municipality/rural municipality?

- *IFES Response: The estimated budget for this project is USD 50,000. IFES is inviting applicants to submit a budget for activities based on the scope of work in the RFA. Budget costs should reflect realistic costs for special events, travel, staff, etc. based on your organization’s experience and based on the location the activities will be implemented in.*

IFES will evaluate each submitted budget on cost realism and clear budget presentation of necessary, allocable and reasonable costs. The final budget costs will be negotiated with the selected partner before a contract is issued.

Q4: In the past, we had faced the problem of cost balancing between the activities conducted in urban/accessible areas and remote/very remote areas. Can we propose separate rates in the two cases to be justified and competitive?

- *IFES Response: Yes, the organization may propose different rates for costs such as transportation and lodging, among others. Please specify in the respective sections the justification for different rates.*

Q5: In the RFA document, it indicates covering the whole 7 provinces. We have understood that to be more cost efficient and effective, it is better to propose the districts/municipality where we have already been working to have past presence. Given the budget constraint, covering all maximum districts may be a challenge. Is there any priority criteria set to select the provinces/district/municipality?

- *IFES Response: Applicants should propose the approach they think is most effective. This may include operating in selected districts or municipalities in which the organization has a past presence. IFES' voter education strategy will cover all seven provinces, but as IFES is planning to issue multiple subawards, each applicant need not necessarily cover all seven provinces.*

Q6: Why should applicants have working experience in earthquake affected areas as it is directly related to the election process? (III Past performance)

- *IFES Response: IFES' donor for this project prioritizes activities that are in earthquake affected areas, therefore, IFES prioritizes outreach in these areas as well. However, as mentioned in the answer to Q6, IFES voter education strategy is to reach all seven provinces, so voter education activities need not only focus on earthquake affected districts.*

Q6: Is a JV/consortium eligible to apply, as RFA does not mention it clearly?

- *IFES Response: IFES can consider a consortium of organizations, provided that each organization individually meets the RFA's eligibility requirements. If a consortium mechanism is being proposed, please justify why the consortium is integral for the success of the project.*

Q7: Is this grant designed targeting merely the local level election taking place in 2022?

- *IFES Response: Yes, this grant is primarily to conduct voter education activities ahead of the 2022 local elections, currently anticipated for March/April 2022.*

Q8: Can existing partner of IFES also apply for the subaward?

- *Yes, existing partners of IFES may apply.*

(End of Q&A)