INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

(IFES)

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Video Production Services in Myanmar

Solicitation # RFP-20-032

February 27, 2020
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose
The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to invite prospective contractors (“Bidders”) to submit a written response (“Response”) for the procurement of Video Production Services in Myanmar. The solicitation provides Bidders with the relevant operational and performance requirements.

1.2 Coverage & Participation
IFES reserves the right to reject any and all offers, to add, delete or modify any element of the solicitation at any time without prior notification and without any liability or obligation of any kind. This RFP does not obligate IFES to enter into a contract nor does it obligate IFES to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of submission of any Response.

1.3 Zero Tolerance for Fraud
IFES has zero tolerance for fraud. Fraud is any act or omission that intentionally misleads, or attempts to mislead, to obtain a benefit or to avoid an obligation. If you have concerns about potential fraud in any way related to IFES projects, contracts, or activities, please contact IFES’ Compliance Hotline at compliance@ifes.org or at +1 202-350-6791.

2 GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 The Organization
IFES is an independent, non-governmental organization providing professional support to electoral democracy. IFES supports citizens’ rights to participate in free and fair elections. Our independent expertise strengthens electoral systems and builds local capacity to deliver sustainable solutions.

As the global leader in democracy promotion, we advance good governance and democratic rights by:

- Providing technical assistance to election officials
- Empowering the underrepresented to participate in the political process
- Applying field-based research to improve the electoral cycle

Since 1987, IFES has worked in over 145 countries – from developing democracies, to mature democracies.

2.2 Schedule of Events
The following, tentative schedule will apply to this solicitation. The dates may change in accordance with IFES’ needs or unforeseen circumstances. IFES will communicate changes to the schedule.

- Issuance of RFP: February 27, 2020
- Technical Questions/Inquiries Due: March 5, 2020
- Answers/Addenda from IFES: March 11, 2020
- RFP Closes: March 18, 2020
3 PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Bidders’ Understanding of the Solicitation
Bidders are responsible for understanding the solicitation in its entirety and each of its elements, and should make inquiries to IFES as necessary to ensure such understanding. IFES reserves the right to disqualify any Bidder that it determines, at its sole discretion, does not understand the solicitation or any of its elements. Such disqualification shall be at no fault, cost, or liability whatsoever to IFES.

3.2 Information from IFES
All information provided by IFES in this solicitation is subject to change at any time. IFES makes no certification as to the accuracy of any item, and is not responsible or liable for any use of or reliance on the information or for any claims asserted therefrom.

3.3 Communication
All communications related to the RFP must be in writing. Verbal communication shall not be effective unless formally confirmed in writing by the procurement official listed in 3.3.1. In no case shall verbal communication govern over written communication.

3.3.1 Point of Contact: The sole point of contact for all communication related to this solicitation is listed below.

IFES Procurement
procurement@ifes.org

3.3.2 Formal Communications shall include, but are not limited to the following:
- Questions concerning this solicitation must be submitted in writing to the point of contact identified in 3.3.1.
- Errors and omissions in this solicitation, as well as enhancements. Bidders should notify IFES of any discrepancies, errors, or omissions that may exist within this solicitation. Bidders should recommend to IFES any enhancements to the work described in the solicitation which might be in IFES’ best interests.
- Inquiries about technical interpretations must be submitted in writing to the point of contact identified in 3.3.1.

3.3.3 Addenda: IFES will make a good-faith effort to provide a written response to the questions or requests for clarifications in the form of written responses or addenda in accordance with the Schedule of Events.

3.3.4 Posting Online: Copy of this solicitation, Amendments and or Q&A will be available online at: www.ifes.org/procurement-notices and www.devex.com

3.4 Submission
It is mandatory for Bidders to send proposals in electronic copy via e-mail to the point of contact identified in 3.3.1 on or prior to the closing date and time shown in the Schedule of Events.
3.5 Criteria for Selection
The evaluation of each Response to this solicitation will be based on the criteria outlined below. The purpose of this solicitation is to identify responsible Bidders that have the interest, capability, and financial strength to supply IFES with the product and/or service identified in the Scope of Work.

Evaluation Criteria:

IFES will evaluate responsive offers based on the following criteria:

1. Past Performance 40 points
   a. History of successfully producing videos of this type

2. Price 30 points
   a. Competitive pricing
   b. Competitive payment terms

3. Experience 30 points
   a. Ability of successfully producing videos of this type
   b. Demonstrated familiarity and understanding of the service needed

3.6 Selection and Notification
IFES will evaluate Responses to identify responsible Bidders and responsive offers. Finalists will be selected to move into the negotiation phase of this process. Written notification will be sent to finalists via email.

4 SCOPE OF WORK
In the lead up to the 2020 elections in Myanmar, IFES is supporting the Union Election Commission (UEC) to develop and implement a nationwide voter education program across a wide selection of mass media platforms. An important element of this program will be the production of several short films to be used on voter and civic education materials.

These films are anticipated to include:

1. Filming a wide range of voters (an estimate 2-10 actors per video) taking part in civic education programs or voter education events, shot in a range of locations and should include representatives of the following target groups.
   - First time voters
   - Women
   - Urban voters
   - Rural voters
   - Disabled voters
   - Ethnic voters
   - Youth
   - Voting for Migrant Workers
These videos will use actors for each production. The creative content and style should be discussed with IFES and UEC before production. Each respondent should be still photographed in the same location as their interview so that their image can be used in posters, billboards and newspaper advertisements.

The films will be developed in a variety ethnic minority languages in Myanmar, such as Shan, Kachin, Chin, Mon and Karen.

2. Several films will be developed for the UEC for posting on YouTube and other social media platforms. These films will be designed and planned with the UEC in NPT and use the UEC staff as actors/actresses in the films. These films will be between 1-5 minutes and will feature a variety of educational topics including information on the voter list display, disability inclusion and key electoral updates, including:

   o Number of UEC videos on:

     ▪ Why to vote
     ▪ UEC role in elections
     ▪ Countering disinformation and hate speech
     ▪ Electoral General Information
     ▪ Election Mediation Committees

   o Steps to ensure my name is on the voter list
   o Candidate Nomination Process
   o Inclusive Voter Education Activities
   o Access to voting for people with disabilities
   o The importance of using seals, ink and other integrity measure at polling station
   o Polling Procedures
   o Counting Procedures
   o Results announcement procedures
   o How to file a complaint

3. Other films will be developed from large scale voter education events including rock the vote concerts and youth festivals.

The successful bidder will be expected to work with IFES and relevant partners to:

- Storyboard the short films, ensuring all information is factual and in line with the law
- Select appropriate film locations and actors/actresses

In the proposal to IFES, prospective bidders will be expected to provide the information listed below. The selected company will also present this information to IFES as well as to the UEC on their:

- The general approach to the production of the film
- A sample storyboard of a voter education film
- An indicative budget
- A detailed indicative timeline of production and completion of each element outlined in the proposal.
5 FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Timeline
Bidders must submit a timeline in the Response showing the time required to produce and consolidate the products and/or deliver services for each of the events.

5.2 Geographic Code (applicable to USAID funding only)
IFES’ project in Myanmar is funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under Source and Nationality (S/N) Geographic Code 937 (please refer to 22 CFR 228.03 for more information). A waiver request may apply to certain offers. If IFES determines a waiver would be necessary, the estimated time required to obtain the waiver will be considered within the “Timeline” in the Evaluation Criteria. IFES encourages all Bidders to consider products that fall under S/N Geographic Code 937 whenever possible.

5.3 License, Clearance and Approvals
The Bidders will include in the timeline any time needed to obtain any licenses, clearances, and/or approvals required under local legal requirements to produce or deliver the products and/or services described in the Scope of Work.

5.4 Packing
The Response must contain details of packing for each product that requires shipping with full dimensions (length, width, and height) and weight.

6 QUALIFICATIONS & REFERENCES
Bidders must provide the following information for their Response to be considered:

1. A brief outline of the company and services offered, including:
   • Full legal name and address of the company
   • Corporate and tax registration documents
   • Year business was started or established
   • Full name of the legal representative (president or managing director) of the company
   • Name of any individuals or entities that own 50% of more of the company
   • U.S. companies must indicate if they are a registered Small Business (Woman owned, veteran-owned, Minority-owned, Disabled, Service Disabled Veteran-owned)
   • No subcontracting is allowed under this solicitation.
2. Evidence of successful completion of a project of a similar size and complexity.
3. References: Contact information for no less than three references from projects similar in size, application, and scope and a brief description of their implementation (including location and year). IFES reserves the right to request and check additional references.
4. Bidders must be legally registered under the laws of the country in which they are organized and possess all licenses, permits and government approvals necessary for performance of the work. Scope of Work.
5. A certification signed by an officer or authorized representative that the Bidder has sufficient financial, technical and managerial resources and facilities to complete the Scope of Work.

7 PRICING
Bidders must complete the following cost breakdown for the implementation of their solution for IFES’ project as described in this solicitation. Bidders must agree to keep these prices valid for a minimum of 90 calendar days.

Pricing must be in Myanmar Kyat (MMK). Unit prices are required and in the case of discrepancies between unit prices and the total price, the unit price will be taken as reference basis in the evaluation. Technical specifications must be shown for each item.

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8 ADDITIONAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

8.1 Non-Disclosure Agreement
IFES reserves the right to require the Bidder to enter into a non-disclosure agreement.

8.2 No Collusion
Collusion is strictly prohibited. Collusion is defined as an agreement or compact, written or oral, between two or more parties with the goal of limiting fair and open competition by deceiving, misleading, or defrauding a third party.
8.3 **Companies Owned or Controlled by Government**
The Bidder must disclose in writing with its Response if a government, its agents, or agencies, have an ownership or managerial interest in the company. Failure to disclose a government ownership of managerial interest in the company will result in the Bidder’s offer being removed from consideration.

8.4 **Subcontracting**
No subcontracting is allowed under this solicitation.

8.5 **Costs**
The solicitation does not obligate IFES to pay for any costs, of any kind whatsoever, which may be incurred by a Bidder or third parties, in connection with the Response.

8.6 **Intellectual Property**
Bidders may not use any intellectual property of IFES including, but not limited to, all logos, trademarks, or trade names of IFES, at any time without the prior written approval of IFES.

8.7 **Bidders’ Responses**
All accepted Responses and supporting documentation shall become the property of IFES, subject to claims of confidentiality in respect of the Response and supporting documentation.

8.8 **Partial Awarding**
IFES reserves the right to accept all or part of the Response when awarding a contract.

8.9 **No Liability**
IFES reserve the right to accept or reject any Response or to stop the procurement process at any time, without assigning any reason or liability. IFES shall not be liable to any Bidder, person, or entity for any losses, expenses, costs, claims, or damages of any kind.

8.10 **Entire Solicitation**
This solicitation, any addenda to it, and any attached schedules, constitute the entire solicitation.

[End of Solicitation]