

Notice Type: Pre-solicitation **based on** the DRAFT RFP Notice # 623-EA-09-004 posted at FedBizOpps Dec. 08, 2008.

Synopsis: The U. S. Agency for International Development/East Africa (USAID/EA) Regional Mission intends to negotiate and award multiple Indefinite Quantity Contracts (IQCs) for Support for Food Security Activities (SFSA).

Contract(s) resulting from this Request for Proposal (RFP) will award three (3) indefinite quantity contracts (IQC). Individual task orders may be Term (Level of Effort – LOE) or Completion Cost-Reimbursement (CPFF) Contract type or Firm-Fixed-Price (FFP) pricing arrangements. There is no guarantee on the number of IQCs awarded or the number of task orders that any one firm that is award an IQC will receive beyond the guaranteed minimum order stated in the RFP. USAID anticipates that the maximum ordering limitation of the contracts resulting from this RFP will be \$500,000,000 over the five (5) year ordering period. Note that this ceiling applies across all IQCs and cannot be exceeded in the aggregate.

The objective of this IQC mechanism is to provide Missions in East and Southern Africa the means to support U.S. foreign policy objectives in promoting food security in the Region conducive to sustained development and advancing peace and stability. Through specific task orders, the contractor(s) will implement quick-response discrete activities within the scope of the IQC. The RFP Annexure will contain specific requirements to be implemented as the first and second task order to be awarded shortly after the IQC awards are made.

The funding of some future task orders will come from the Congressional specific earmarks requiring results to be achieved and reported in short (up to two year) performance period. Therefore ability to assemble quality team and deploy rapidly to performance site will be critical.

The successful contractor(s) shall be responsible for all logistics, procurement, personnel, management, and finance aspects of the program. These include, but are not limited to mobilizing rapidly; hiring and training staff; setting up offices; establishing logistics systems to support in-kind procurement; establishing and maintaining security and emergency systems; purchasing office equipment and vehicles; establishing communications and information systems; developing and maintaining procurement and financial systems; and providing varying amounts of funds to their field offices on short notice in countries where there are no or limited banking institutions. Contractors will be working in an environment where they will have to overcome significant challenges, destroyed or damaged infrastructures, lack of security, restricted movement of U.S. citizens and possibly other nationals, scarcity or lack of banking and currency exchange institutions, and the lack of adequate communication services.

Prospective prime contractor(s) must have relevant international experience providing the kinds of services described in this synopsis in countries experiencing political tensions/transitions and/or in post conflict environments.

Barring last minute changes, it is anticipated that full RFP Solicitation will be posted on FedBizOpps website upon the lapse of consecutive (15) calendar days running from the next calendar day after this Pre-solicitation notice is posted at FedBizOpps. The closing date for the submission of proposals will be (30) calendar days from the RFP issuance date. Amendments to the originally released RFP Solicitation may be issued (without extending RFP closing date). Prospective prime contractors are advised to periodically visit FedBizOpps to view the Solicitation as soon as it is posted and continue to visit FedBizOpps during entire period the RFP is open to be familiar with amendments, if any are issued. No reply to inquiries whether or when RFP will/was posted will be responded to.

The prospective prime's proposal must be responsive to all RFP requirements. Firms/US NGOs selected to receive basic IQC award will be requested to submit separate technical and cost proposals for each of the first Task Orders within time stated in the Annex to the RFP containing relevant (separate) Statements of Work.

If prospective prime contractor seeks waiver or deviation from any RFP provisions, this must be included in the initial offer and be clearly labeled "Requested Waivers/Deviations". USAID may determine proposal seeking waivers/deviations non-responsive if there are other sound proposals not seeking such.

Contracting Office local Address:

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Place of Performance:

East and Southern Africa (COMESA Member States and Tanzania)

Point of Contact(s):

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