



Global Expertise. Local Solutions.
Sustainable Democracy.

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Date: February 08, 2018

Ref.: RFQ/18/018

Subject: Request for Quotations for Nationwide Household Survey in Libya

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), invites your firm to participate in this competitive solicitation for pricing, delivery, and terms of potential sale of the following services for the IFES in Libya. 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 RFQ 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.

BACKGROUND

IFES is an independent, non-governmental organization (NGO) with headquarters registered in the United States of America. 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.

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

Since 2012, IFES has worked in Libya to support the High National Elections Commission (HNEC) in fulfilling its mandate as an independent electoral management body. Part of this support has been focused on developing the capacity of HNEC staff in ensuring an appropriate flow of information to the public about electoral events and the activities of the Commission.

In late 2017, IFES carried out a nationwide survey focused on Libyan's intention to vote in future elections. This statistical information about voter attitudes towards future participation allowed HNEC to formulate and create targeted campaigns with the aim of activating specific groups – including women, youth and minorities. This was especially the case during the voter registration (VR) outreach campaign, which HNEC initiated in late 2017.

Following this 2017 survey, IFES will conduct a new public opinion survey in Libya of adult citizens aged 18 years or older for a total sample size of 2,000. Survey findings will create a time-series of data points by gathering data on the following themes:

- Intention and motivation to register to vote, and vote in future elections
- Drivers of apathy/motivation to vote
- Civic, electoral and political engagement of citizens
- Opinions on modality of transition
- Perceptions of political efficacy
- Awareness and confidence in HNEC
- Trust in the electoral process
- Media consumption and sources of information
- Perceptions of Libyan political parties
- Opinions on election security

Responsibilities of Contractor (In close consultation at every stage with IFES):

1. Contribute to the development of the questionnaire and provide advice to IFES on contextualizing survey questions
2. Format, translate, and print the questionnaire.
3. Pretest the formatted and translated Arabic questionnaire.
4. Identify population database used to design the sample of the survey.
5. Select sampling approach for the survey, construct sample and identify method for selecting respondents in consultation with IFES.
6. Describe means to be used to examine the representativeness of the achieved sample.
7. Manage all aspects of fieldwork and data collection.
8. Screen and hire field staff with appropriate qualifications and regional knowledge.
9. Conduct training of interviewers and enumerators.
10. Develop coding scheme; code, enter, and clean data.
11. Prepare electronic data file, marginal results, tabulations, and a methodological report.

Materials Delivered by Contractor to IFES:

1. The translated and formatted questionnaire in Arabic.
2. Pre-test results and recommendations for changes in questionnaire.
3. Sample design and approach used to select respondents.
4. Coding scheme (based on question numbers and skips and filter instructions in questionnaire), including codes for open-ended questions.
5. Data frequency results for all questions, with weights, if weights are needed.
6. Data cross-tabulations for all questions by a set of demographic variables specified by IFES.
7. Electronic data file in SPSS.SAV format using coding scheme and open-end code formulation specified by IFES survey research team including any weight variables that may apply.
8. A detailed methodological report for the survey.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY & SAMPLING PROCEDURES

Sample size: 2,000 respondents (adult citizens 18 years or older).

Questionnaire: The survey questionnaire will consist of approximately 60 closed-ended questions and 5 open-ended questions, not including standard demographics (sex, age, education, occupation, income, employment status, place of residence, ethnicity, etc.). Interviewing time is estimated at 40-45 minutes.

Interviewing technique: Face-to-face interviewing in respondents' households. Before fieldwork start, the translated and formatted questionnaire in Arabic shall be pretested with 50 adults in both urban and rural areas. The selection of respondents for the pretest shall also take into account gender, age, and other appropriate demographic criteria such as education. The pretest will identify comprehension problems, the appropriateness of response options, and the sensitivities that any questions may arouse.

Sample Design:

- The contractor will design the sample to be nationally representative of the adult voting population in Libya.
- The sample will be stratified proportionately to the administrative regions of Libya and by rural and urban settlements.
- The contractor shall use a multi-stage, probability proportional to size (PPS) selection method using random selection techniques to select sampling points, while ensuring a sufficiently dispersed sampling plan across Libya's 22 districts. IFES might decide to oversample certain areas based on former surveys conducted. This will be decided in consultation with the contractor.
- Overall, no more than 8-10 interviews shall be conducted in any one sampling point.
- For the final results, the contractor will supply IFES with appropriate weights to bring the realized sample in line with population parameters to correct for possible regional disparities or discrepancies between actual adult population demographics and achieved sample demographics in terms of gender and age.

The contractor shall obtain IFES approval before finalizing sample design. Contractor shall also obtain approval from IFES for any changes during the fieldwork process.

Respondent selection

- Selection of the respondent will be done using a Kish Grid. Interviewers are not allowed to make any substitutions except in the following instances: (1) when the respondent completely refuses to be interviewed or to complete the interview; (2) if the respondent is not included in the sample because the respondent is not in the target age or gender group; (3) the selected building is not a home (e.g. company, shop, school, public institution, etc.); or (4) the respondent is not home. It is never acceptable to do substitutions within the household.
- At least two call backs should be done if the randomly selected respondent is not at home at the time of the interview.

Supervision of Fieldwork

Contractor shall ensure that at least at least 20% of completed interviews are back-checked by supervisors and the management team, and all completed questionnaires are subjected to quality control for proper administration. Contractor shall immediately contact IFES should any problems be detected with the quality of the fieldwork.

Data Entry

Contractor shall enter data into software that can easily transfer data to SPSS. The Contractor shall ensure 100% verification of entered data and shall use logic-testing techniques to verify the soundness of the data.

After completion of the first 250 interviews, the Contractor shall send IFES a list of suggested codes for open-ended questions on the survey, along with sample responses that fit the suggested codes. The Contractor shall code open-ended question according to the coding scheme approved by IFES.

The Contractor shall submit a data file in SPSS format to IFES upon completion of the data processing. This file will contain variables that will be named according to the English questionnaire number, e.g. Q1, Q2, etc. All value labels shall replicate response choices as closely as possible according to the English questionnaire. All "Don't know" responses shall be coded to end in a '8', e.g. 8, 98; All "Refused" responses shall be coded to end in a '9', e.g.: 9, 99, etc.

The Contractor shall construct weights necessary to ensure that the sample is representative according to region, gender and age.

Methodological Reports

The Contractor shall submit a methodological report for the survey within one week of completion of data processing. This report shall outline the sampling information, as well as descriptions of fieldwork operations and data processing. The report shall also provide a complete breakdown of response and non-response statistics, including response rate.

Proposed Timeline:

The Contractor shall submit a proposed timeline for the implementation of the survey along the following lines:

IFES submits the questionnaire to contractor for translation and comments	DD/MM/YYYY
Translated questionnaires due to IFES; Detailed sampling plan & procedures submitted to IFES	DD/MM/YYYY
Review of translation by IFES, comments to contractor; IFES signs off on final sampling plan	DD/MM/YYYY
Contractor submits revised translation to IFES	DD/MM/YYYY
Contractor pre-tests questionnaire in Arabic; Pretest results & recommendations to IFES; Questionnaires finalized	DD/MM/YYYY
Interviewer training	DD/MM/YYYY
Fieldwork starts	DD/MM/YYYY
Fieldwork ends	DD/MM/YYYY
Initial data file and frequency tabulations sent to IFES	DD/MM/YYYY
Final data file due to IFES	DD/MM/YYYY
Methodological report due to IFES	DD/MM/YYYY

REQUIREMENTS

Prospective contractors must submit the following information in the Response:

1. A contact name, email address, and telephone number to facilitate communication between IFES and the prospective contractor.
2. General information about the contractor's history and experience.
3. If a government, its agents, or agencies, have an ownership or managerial interest in the company, the prospective contractor must indicate this when submitting its offer. Failure to do so will result in the prospective contractor's offer being removed from consideration.
4. A brief outline of the company, including:
 - a. Full legal name and address of the company or individual;
 - b. Corporate and tax registration documents
 - c. Full name of the legal representative (president or managing director) of the company (not applicable for individuals);
 - d. Name of any individuals or entities that own 50% of more of the company;
 - e. Year business was started or established; and
 - f. U.S. companies must indicate if they are a registered Small Business (Woman owned, Veteran-owned, Minority-owned, Disabled, Service Disabled Veteran-owned)
5. No subcontracting is allowed under this solicitation.
6. IFES requests quotations for the above listed services on a detailed pricing breakdown. Each element should be identified separately, such as training, fieldwork, reporting, etc.
7. Contain detailed cost in **USD**, with all applicable taxes/charges clearly identified, provided against each of the categories of services described in this request.
8. Detailed description of past experiences providing similar services to international NGOs.
9. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three business references, and approval to contact the listed references. IFES reserves the right to request and check additional references.
10. Prospective contractor 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.

All Responses shall be in the English language.

EVALUATION

IFES will evaluate bids based on the following criteria:

- 1. Quality of technical proposal: 35 points**
The offer must meet the minimum technical specifications as described above. The offer should outline a comprehensive, technical overview, including the extent to which it provides effective solutions for the services required.
- 2. Training plan: 15 points**
The offer should outline a comprehensive training plan, including the extent to which it provides effective training for field interviewers and supervisors.

- 3. Experience/Past Performance:** **25 points**
The bidders must present evidence that they have successfully planned, customized and delivered similar surveys in Libya.
- 4. Timeline:** **10 points**
Vendor's capacity to implement the project in accordance with IFES' estimated timeline and deliver all services and final products no later than June 30th, 2018.
- 5. Price:** **15 points**
The total cost must be reasonable and show efficient use of resources, and additional costs, if any, must be clearly identified. Offers will be compared amongst bidders whom meet the technical.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Release of RFQ	February 08, 2018
Questions Due	February 19, 2018, by 5:00 PM Tunis time
Answers from IFES	February 26, 2018
RFQ Closes – Responses Due	March 5, 2018, by 5:00 PM Tunis time

The schedule noted above may be changed at any time in the sole discretion of IFES. All communication must adhere to this schedule and shall be to the attention of Mr. Ragheed Al Ameen at ralameen@ifes.org and Mrs. Sajia Tokhi at stokhi@ifes.org.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. IFES will only consider responsive Responses from responsible contractors for award.
2. 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.
3. Prices quoted must be valid for entire length of contract.
4. Unit prices are required and in the case of discrepancies between unit price and total price, the unit price will be taken as reference basis in the evaluation.
5. All procurement will be subject to IFES contractual terms and conditions, and contingent on the availability of donor funding.
6. IFES reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation or stop the procurement process at any time, without assigning any reason or liability.
7. IFES reserves the right to accept all or part of the quotation when awarding the contract.
8. All information provided by IFES in this RFQ 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 reliance on or use of the information or for any claims asserted therefrom.
9. IFES reserves the right to require any prospective contractor to enter into a non-disclosure agreement.

10. The RFQ does not obligate IFES to pay for any costs, of any kind whatsoever, which may be incurred by the prospective contractor or any third parties, in connection with the Response. All Responses and supporting documentation shall become the property of IFES.

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.