



INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

Request for Applications - RFA 20-064

Questions and Answers

July 14, 2020

Q1. There is a discrepancy in the cutoff for application submission. Under sub-section 1.2 -RFA Schedule, the cutoff for closing the RFA is 23rd July 2020. Whereas, under sub-section 3.6 - Application Submission, the application close date is July 20, 2020. Please clarify.

IFES Response: Thank you for pointing this out. Please note that the date included under sub-section 3.6 was incorrect. The deadline for applications under RFA 20-064 is indeed **July 23,2020; by 17:00 Washington DC (EST)**. Please disregard the initial date noted under sub-section 3.6 titled “**Application Submission**”.

Q2. Can two or more partners form a consortium to implement the project?

IFES Response: IFES will review applications of all prospective applicants but will issue only one subaward partner per each scope (She Leads Pakistan and Women NIC/Voter Registration). A total of two subawards can thus be provided through IFES, either to two separate organizations or one organization covering both scopes. A consortium therefore will not be granted under this RFA.

Q3. On page 6, paragraph 2 of the RFA, it is noted that there will be 6 beginners and 6 intermediate trainings with a total number of 100 women trained. One district can be divided into two groups of 12-13 women, so this can lead to a total of 8 groups of trainings for 100 women leading to more than just 6 sessions per each module. If you could please provide further clarity on this.

IFES Responses: Due to the existing COVID-19 context, the complete She Leads Pakistan (beginner and intermediate modules) will be conducted online. Based on best practices a max range of 15-16 participants is recommended to be part of each online session. As a result, we have provided an approximation of 6 beginner and intermediate trainings. If prospective applicants find that holding smaller sessions (12-13 participants) would be more feasible, do incorporate costs for all beginner and intermediate trainings (with extended number of sessions). Applicants should only propose additional activities (and costs) directly associated with execution of the series of women’s leadership trainings, under She Leads Pakistan, within the approximated (4-5 months) period of performance.

Q4. On page 6 of the RFA, it mentions that there will be 4 days for the beginners and 4 days for the intermediate trainings each, if the trainings will all be held online, one training module can be longer than just 4 days.

IFES Response: The She Leads training is designed to be four full days of content. However, given that the sessions will be run online, it is suggested that implementing partners deliver approximately one,

2.5 hour session per day, which will be spread over multiple days. Please indicate in your budget a range of days for implementing 8-10 sessions, varying for about 2.5 hours each. Again, as mentioned above, Applicants should only propose additional activities (and costs) directly associated with execution of the series of women's leadership trainings, within the approximated (4-5 months) period of performance.

Q5. With the requirement to be locally registered organizations, what are the specific requirements?

IFES Response: According to the Pakistan Government requirements, interested applications are required by the Economic Affairs Division (EAD) to provide proof of registration in Pakistan after issuance of an award from an INGO. All interested applications should have active registration either through provincial or national entities, which following issuance of a subaward, can successfully submit and receive acknowledgement from the EAD.

Q6. The RFA notes that interested organizations should demonstrate prior experience working with young people particularly in rural areas. What specific age bracket is defined for young people here?

IFES Response: The specific age bracket for youth in Pakistan is from 15-29 years of age.

Q7. What will be required in term of financial capacity of a local organization, as part of IFES' due diligence?

IFES Response: As part of due diligence, IFES conducts pre-award surveys on all potential grantees to assess capacity and inform the appropriate grant mechanism. Interested organizations should share the relevant registration certificates, financial and audit reports.

Q8. What is the total budget IFES is looking for from potential partners for this RFA?

IFES response: As part of this RFA, IFES will not release a set budget cap. Interested organizations should instead provide a competitive budget based on the detailed scope comprised in the RFA.

Q9. Can one organization apply for 2 or more districts for each scope noted in the RFA?

IFES response: IFES response: Interested organizations can include implementation in 2 or more districts under both She Leads Pakistan and the Women's NIC registration scopes but implementation should focus only on districts within Sindh province. The final determination and selection of districts will be completed in coordination with IFES Pakistan following the issuance of the subaward(s).

Q10. Does IFES have a fixed amount for one organization per district?

IFES response: As part of this RFA, IFES will not release a set fixed budget amount. Interested organizations should be instead provide a competitive budget per district based on the detailed scope comprised in the RFA.

Q11. During the proposal submission, would interested organizations also have to provide non-voters data for targeted districts?

IFES response: Under this RFA, IFES does not require submission of all pertinent data but within the technical narrative, interested organizations should highlight the existing gaps in the voter lists between genders and women's political participation in the province at large based on publicly available data and reputable sources.

Q12. In the proposal application, can one organization apply for both women’s voter registration and Women’s Leadership Program in the same district?

IFES response: Yes, interested organizations can target the same districts under both scopes. Please provide details and rational behind selection of preferred districts in the technical narrative of your application.

End of Questions and Answers