



USAID | WEST AFRICA

SOLICITATION NUMBER: 72062423R10016

ISSUANCE DATE: July 20, 2023

CLOSING DATE: August 21, 2023

SUBJECT: Solicitation for a Cooperating Country National Personal Service Contractor (CCN/PSC) – Project Management Specialist - Peace and Governance (USAID/Cameroon)

(Local Compensation Plan)

Dear Prospective Offerors:

The United States Government, represented by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), is seeking offers from qualified persons to provide personal services under contract as described in this solicitation.

Offers must be in accordance with **Attachment 1, Sections I through V** of this solicitation. Incomplete or unsigned offers will not be considered. Offerors should retain copies of all offer materials for their records.

USAID will evaluate all offerors based on the stated evaluation criteria. USAID encourages all individuals, including those from disadvantaged and under-represented groups, to respond to the solicitation.

This solicitation in no way obligates USAID to award a PSC contract, nor does it commit USAID to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of the offers.

Any questions must be directed in writing to the Point of Contact specified in the attached information.

Sincerely,

Donald
Brady
Donald Brady
Contracting Officer

Digitally signed
by Donald Brady
Date: 2023.07.17
08:26:28 Z

U.S. Agency for International Development
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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. SOLICITATION NO:** 72062423R10016
- 2. ISSUANCE DATE:** July 20, 2023
- 3. CLOSING DATE/TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS** August 21, 2023 at 11:59 pm Accra time.
- 4. POINT OF CONTACT:** acpersonnel@usaid.gov
- 5. POSITION TITLE:** Project Management Specialist – Peace and Governance
- 6. MARKET VALUE:** 27,160,754 CFA – 45,056,310 CFA equivalent to FSN-11 in accordance with AIDAR Appendix J and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID/Yaoundé. Final compensation will be negotiated within the market value.
- 7. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** The period of performance is five (5) years, estimated to start o/a **November 2023**. The services provided under this contract are expected to be of continuing nature executed by USAID through a series of sequential contracts, subject to availability of funds, satisfactory job performance and need for continued services.
- 8. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Yaoundé, Cameroon with possible travel as stated in the Statement of Work.
- 9. ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** All interested candidates eligible to work in Cameroon. Cooperating Country National (CCN) is defined as an individual who is a cooperating country citizen, or a non-cooperating country citizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the cooperating country.
- 10. SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Regional Security Office Clearance
- 11. STATEMENT OF DUTIES**

1. General Statement of Purpose of the Contract

The USAID Cameroon Sr. Project Management Specialist –Peace and Governance (Sr. PMS) is the senior-level specialist on conflict management and mitigation (CMM), countering violent extremism (CVE), and democracy, human rights, and governance (DRG) issues in Cameroon. She/he provides direction, advice, policy guidance and substantive input in the design, implementation, and monitoring of related regional and bi-lateral activities in Cameroon. In this context, the Sr. PMS will provide expert technical oversight and manage a set of specific regional and bilateral activities related to CVE, CMM, and DRG with an average annual value estimated between \$5-10 million. The Sr.

PMS is integral to bilateral strategic planning for programs, donor coordination, report writing, and management of related bilateral resources. In addition, the Sr. PMS plays a lead role in representing Cameroon on regional CVE, CMM, and DRG issues, including political analysis, donor coordination, and representation. The Sr. PMS will work in close collaboration with the DRG staff, particularly in integrating results and efforts between CVE, CMM, and DRG programming. Finally, the Sr. PMS works closely with the U.S. Embassy in Yaoundé and will participate in relevant meetings and working groups as required.

2. Statement of Duties to be Performed.

1. Project Management and Oversight – 60%

Serves as Agreement Officer's Representative (AOR) and/or Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) for sizeable bilateral and/or regional CVE, CMM, and DRG activities as designated by the Regional Acquisitions and Assistance Office at USAID/West Africa, including those with funding sources from USAID/West Africa. This includes supporting the planning, formation, and administration and management of activities, including providing technical direction and reviewing critical programmatic documents for approval, such as annual work plans, terms of reference, performance reports and evaluation and monitoring reports. The program management responsibilities of the Sr. PMS will reflect the overall priorities of the DRG, CMM, and CVE portfolio in Cameroon, balancing between bilateral and regional programs.

The position also serves as the Cameroon Activity Manager for regional CVE, CMM, and DRG activities implemented in Cameroon, as designated by the Regional Peace and Governance Office (RPGO) in USAID/West Africa, and in consultation with the USAID Cameroon Country Representative. This includes supporting the planning and management of activities, including reviewing critical programmatic documents and providing technical expertise and local contextual knowledge to the AOR/COR.

The Sr. PMS communicates and interacts regularly with implementing partners as both an AOR/COR and Activity Manager, including ensuring that the implementing partners complete technical requirements of their awards in accordance with terms, conditions and specifications of the applicable instruments. This includes conducting site visits and meeting regularly with implementing partners to assess progress of activities, as well as organizing and coordinating consultants and USAID staff field visits. Lastly, s/he will also identify implementation problems, issues and constraints, and recommend remedial actions and other ways to improve performance.

The Sr. PMS coordinates closely with the Program, Acquisition and Assistance, and Finance Offices in USAID/West Africa regarding program management, including for strategic planning and reporting processes, procurement planning, and regular financial and portfolio reviews. The Sr. PMS Initiates and/or coordinates the evaluation of CVE, CMM, and DRG activities during and following project completion, to ascertain project impact and cost-effectiveness, including implications for future programming and financing.

The Sr. PMS prepares CVE, CMM, and DRG activity-related information for reports to

meet USAID and broader USG reporting requirements, including when necessary, reporting on Operational Plans, Performance Reports, Congressional Budget justifications, Mission Resource Plans, human rights reports, trafficking reports, reports on gender and people with disabilities issues, and other priority issues as requested by the Country Program Officer and the Regional Peace and Governance Office, etc.

2. Program Coordination and Technical Support (30%)

Provides support to senior-level leadership in coordinating with stakeholders in the CVE, CMM, DRG, and other sub-sectors with the aim of improving collaboration, building synergies, and elevating development results. The success of the Sr. PMS will depend on his/her ability to cultivate and leverage working relationships with senior-level stakeholder representatives. Stakeholders include, but are not limited to, the Government of Cameroon, the U.S. Embassy, USAID implementing partners, the donor community, regional institutions, non-governmental organizations, and local-level activity beneficiaries and partners. The Sr. PMS will be expected to represent USAID on interagency working groups and may be asked to represent USAID and/or the US Government (USG) at regional meetings and conferences and serve as liaison with host country officials, and other institutions. Lastly, the Sr. PMS is responsible for regular coordination and communication with USAID/West Africa on CVE, CMM, and DRG programs.

Serves as an expert on CVE, CMM, and DRG programs, providing technical counsel and guidance to USG colleagues and partners, including the integration of CVE, CMM, and DRG principles into development work in other sectors such as resilience, education, or health. Specifically, s/he will provide expert advice to the USAID/Cameroon Country Representative and the RPGO Director at USAID/West Africa on policy and program activity design and implementation. Consequently, the Sr. PMS must have an increasing knowledge of CVE, CMM, and DRG literature and programming approaches in general, and increasing knowledge of how those approaches have, or can be, applied in Cameroon. They will coordinate closely with the RPGO Collaboration, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) Advisor based in Accra to engage in CLA activities.

Provides valuable Cameroon-specific context on key political, cultural, or social issues affecting efforts to counter violent extremism. Advises on political matters regarding the Cameroonian administration and senior leadership and recommends approaches for engaging with Cameroon government officials and counterparts.

Assists in coordinating the efforts of CVE, CMM, and/or DRG technical specialists in conducting sector analyses of concepts and systems, and investigations of highly unstructured and interconnected problems involving controversial and complex political and social issues. Knowledge acquisition facilitated by the Sr. PMS will serve as the basis for substantive changes in the organization and administration of CVE, CMM, and/or DRG programs. The Sr. PMS organizes and leads site visits to assess the situation and monitor project activities in various regions of the country as relevant to the USAID CVE, CMM, and DRG portfolio.

3. Program Design (10%)

Research potential new areas of program intervention and drafts concept papers, activity designs and related technical, policy, procurement, gender, and budgetary analyses required to implement agreed upon approaches to meet CVE, CMM, and DRG challenges.

Undertakes key design tasks, including leading assessments and evaluation teams to capture lessons learned, assessing both gaps and opportunities at the intervention level, identifying various organizations that could serve as change-agents, at the local, national, and regional level, ensuring appropriate program/project design processes are followed, and finally evaluating project proposals for award.

The contractor is eligible for temporary duty (TDY) travel to the United States, or to other Missions abroad, to participate in the "Foreign Service National" Fellowship Program, in accordance with USAID policy.

3. Supervision Received

The Sr. PMS will be based in Yaoundé, Cameroon and work under the supervision of the USAID/Cameroon Country Representative. The incumbent will receive annual performance evaluations written by the USAID Cameroon Country Representative or their designee. The Sr. PMS is expected to exercise considerable independent judgment and initiative. Such initiative is critical to the success of the assignment and includes maintaining professional relationships with high-level government dignitaries. Overall management of the office takes place in a collaborative team environment, with the Sr. PMS participating fully with the team. Specific work plans and anticipated results are developed in consultation with the USAID/Cameroon Country Representative. The Sr. PMS performs assignments independently, providing advice to others involved in the management of CVE, CMM, and DRG activities in Cameroon, and in the development, design, and drafting of the acquisition and assistance instruments related to these types of activities for USAID/Cameroon and USAID/West Africa. The work is reviewed in terms of achievement of established milestones, and the appropriateness of program/project activity focus.

4. Supervision Exercised: None

12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

In order to be considered for the position, a candidate must meet the Minimum Qualifications. Applications will be pre-screened and only those that meet the Minimum Qualifications will be considered. These are the minimum qualifications necessary to be considered for the position:

a. Education: A minimum of a bachelor's degree in law, political science, international relations, public administration/public policy, political economy, international development, international

relations, or other related social science field is required. Additional coursework, including post-graduate studies in similar fields is required.

b. Prior Work Experience: A minimum of five years of professional work experience is required, including a minimum of 5 years of experience working in the democracy, rights and governance or related field, such as conflict prevention, countering violent extremism, civil society development and others. Demonstrated work experience in providing analysis and advice on complex programming issues, managing project activities for international organizations, using complex information technology systems to monitor and evaluate projects and results, and tracking budget execution and documentation is required. The candidate with a steady progression over time of increasing responsibilities in related work is required.

c. Language Proficiency: Language Proficiency: Level 4 English and French both oral and written is required.

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

The Government may award a contract without discussions with offerors in accordance with [FAR 52.215-1](#). The CO reserves the right at any point in the evaluation process to establish a competitive range of offerors with whom negotiations will be conducted pursuant to [FAR 15.306\(c\)](#). In accordance with [FAR 52.215-1](#), if the CO determines that the number of offers that would otherwise be in the competitive range exceeds the number at which an efficient competition can be conducted, the CO may limit the number of offerors in the competitive range to the greatest number that will permit an efficient competition among the most highly rated offers. The FAR provisions referenced above are available at <https://www.acquisition.gov/browse/index/far>.

The evaluation and selection criteria of the selected candidate will be based on a review of his/her qualifications, work experience, knowledge, skills and abilities, and level of language required. The applicants who obtain the highest score based on the criteria defined will be interviewed and may also be required to pass a written test (depending on the TEC Chairperson's decision). The security clearance and medical clearance is required for the top-ranking candidate, after conducting and receiving the positive reference checks.

The following factors will be the basis for the evaluation of applications meeting the required minimum qualifications. All applications will be evaluated based on the documentation submitted with the application. USAID reserves the right to contact your previous employers for relevant information concerning your performance and may consider such information in its evaluation. The highest-ranking applicants may be selected for a written text and/or interview as part of the selection process.

1. Work Experience (35 POINTS): To qualify for the position, candidates must meet the following work experience criteria:

- A minimum of seven years of professional work experience is required, including a minimum of 5 years of experience working in the democracy, rights and governance or related field, such as conflict prevention, countering violent extremism, civil society development and others.
- Demonstrated work experience in providing analysis and advice on complex programming issues, managing project activities for international organizations, using complex information technology systems to monitor and evaluate projects and results, and tracking budget execution and documentation is required.

2. Technical Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (30 POINTS): To qualify for the position, candidates must meet the following technical knowledge, skills, and abilities criteria:

- A strong degree of understanding of program principles, concepts, practices, methods, and techniques of development assistance in general and preventing/countering violent extremism (P/CVE), conflict prevention and response, and/or democracy, human rights, and governance (DRG) in particular, is required.
- Demonstrated understanding of procedures, regulations, and policies typical to a large international organization or government agency such as USAID is required, as is a detailed and broad knowledge of development and political issues in Cameroon.
- The Sr. PMS should have familiarity with P/CVE, conflict prevention and response, and/or DRG stakeholders in Cameroon including, but not limited to international and local NGOs, international donors, and the Government of Cameroon.
- The Sr. PMS must be able to work in a highly demanding environment and be capable of handling tasks with varying deadlines; must have good teamwork skills and strong interpersonal skills; must be able to communicate complex and difficult policy and programmatic issues in a manner that is clear to knowledgeable laypersons without oversimplifying; and, must be able to maintain and adhere to high standards of professional conduct.
- The selected candidate must demonstrate the ability to manage and coordinate activities to achieve an operational unit's objectives through demonstrated work experience.
- The ability to do basic financial analysis and budgeting is also required.
- Versatility in the use of computer software, especially Microsoft Word and Excel, is required.

3. Communication/Language Proficiency Skills (20 Points): To qualify for the position, candidates must meet the following communication/language proficiency criteria:

- Fluency in French (level IV) and English (level IV) for both oral and written communication is required. Candidates may be tested to establish the level of proficiency in both languages.

4. Education (15 POINTS): To qualify for the position, candidates must meet the following education criteria:

- A Bachelor's degree in law, political science, international relations, public administration/public policy, political economy, international development, international relations, or other related social science field is required.

Maximum Evaluation Score: 100 Points

After the closing date for receipt of applications, all applications will initially be screened for conformity with minimum requirements and a shortlist of applicants developed. Applications from candidates which do not meet the required selection criteria will not

be scored.

A committee will be convened to review the shortlisted applications and evaluate them in accordance with the evaluation criteria. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. No response will be sent to unsuccessful applicants.

USAID reserves the right to interview only the highest ranked applicants in person or by phone OR not to interview any candidate.

The Agency retains the right to cancel or amend the solicitation and associated actions at any stage of the recruitment process.

Reference checks will be conducted by Human Resources only for the successful candidate. If a candidate does not wish USAID to contact a current employer for a reference check, this should be stated in the application Letter.

IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Eligible Offerors are required to complete and sign the offer from AID 309-2 (OFFEROR INFORMATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS WITH INDIVIDUALS) which is available at the following link:

<https://www.usaid.gov/documents/offeror-information-personal-services-contracts-individuals-aid-309-2> or <https://www.google.com/search?q=usaid+aid+309-2> and upload it during the application process.

Offerors must also upload a signed cover letter and a resume or CV.

Offerors must attach a two-page supplementary document with written responses to the Evaluation Factors listed under Section III.

Submit relevant educational certificate(s) and work permit or residency permit.

Offers must be received by the closing date and time of August 21, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. Accra time and submitted via email to acpersonnel@usaid.gov

Offeror submissions must clearly reference the Solicitation number on all offeror submitted documents which must be in English.

V. LIST OF REQUIRED FORMS PRIOR TO AWARD

The Contracting Officer (CO) will provide instructions about how to complete and submit the following forms after an offeror is selected for the contract award:

1. Medical History and Examination Form (Department of State Forms)
2. Security Clearance
3. Fingerprint Card (FD-258)

Please be advised that, upon award, the contractor will be required to follow the Mission policies and/or directives from the U.S. Department of State regarding COVID-19 requirements.

VI. BENEFITS/ALLOWANCES

As a matter of policy, and as appropriate, a CCNPSC is normally authorized the following benefits and allowances:

1. BENEFITS:
 - a. Health Insurance
 - b. Annual Salary Increase (if applicable)
 - c. Annual and Sick leave
 - d. Annual Bonus
 - e. Salary Advance (0% interest)
 - f. Social Security Contributions
 - g. Local and American Holidays
 - h. Social Security Contribution
2. ALLOWANCES (as applicable):
 - a. Miscellaneous Allowance

VII. TAXES

The Mission emphasize to its employees the fact that they are obliged to observe Cameroonian Laws, including those concerning income and related tax obligations. Payment of such taxes is a matter between the individual employee and the Cameroonian Government. In the absence of a specific international agreement, the U.S. Government will not withhold local taxes from an employee's salary in accordance with Mission policy and local labor laws.

VIII. USAID REGULATIONS, POLICIES AND CONTRACT CLAUSES PERTAINING TO PSCs

USAID regulations and policies governing CCNPSC awards are available at these sources:

1. **USAID Acquisition Regulation (AIDAR), Appendix J**, “Direct USAID Contracts With a Cooperating Country National and with a Third Country National for Personal Services Abroad,” including **contract clause “General Provisions,”** available at https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/aidar_0.pdf
2. **Contract Cover Page form AID 309-1** available at <https://www.usaid.gov/forms>. Pricing by line item is to be determined upon contract award as described below:

LINE ITEMS

| ITEM NO (A) | SUPPLIES/SERVICE S (DESCRIPTION) (B) | QUANTI TY (C) | UN IT (D) | UNIT PRIC E (E) | AMOUN T (F) |
|-------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--|
| 0001 | Compensation, Fringe Benefits and Other Direct Costs (ODCs) - Award Type: PSC-CCN - Product Service Code: <i>R497</i> - Accounting Info: 624-MOD-21-PF-021 | 1 | LOT | \$ _TB _D_ | \$ _TBD at Award after negotiation s with Contractor — |

1. Acquisition & Assistance Policy Directives/Contract Information Bulletins (**AAPDs/CIBs**) for Personal Services Contracts with Individuals available at <http://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/aapds-cibs>
2. **Ethical Conduct.** By the acceptance of a USAID personal services contract as an individual, the contractor will be acknowledging receipt of the “**Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch**,” available from the U.S. Office of Government Ethics, in accordance with **General Provision 2** and **5 CFR 2635**. See <https://www.oge.gov/web/oge.nsf/OGE%20Regulations>
3. The PSC Ombudsman serves as a resource for any Personal Services Contractor who has entered into a contract with the United States Agency for International Development and is available to provide clarity on their specific contract with the Agency. Please visit our page for additional information: <https://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/personal-service-contracts-ombudsman>.
4. The PSC Ombudsman may be contacted via: PSCOmbudsman@usaid.gov.

END OF SOLICITATION