



**UNHCR**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

**DATE: 16/07/2019**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2019/022  
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF A SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF  
CALL ACCOUNTING: BILLING AND REPORTING**

**CLOSING DATE AND TIME: 26/08/2019 – 23:59 hrs Geneva Time**

---

**INTRODUCTION TO UNHCR**

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It also has a mandate to help stateless people.

In more than five decades, the agency has helped tens of millions of people restart their lives. Today, a staff over 10,000 people in more than 130 countries continues to help about 60 million persons. To help and protect some of the world's most vulnerable people in so many places and types of environment, UNHCR must purchase goods and services worldwide. For further information on UNHCR, its mandate and operations please see <http://www.unhcr.org>.

**1. REQUIREMENTS**

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Division of Information Systems and Telecommunications, invites qualified service providers to make a firm offer for the establishment of Service Contract for the provision of Call Accounting Services.

**IMPORTANT:**

The Terms of Reference (TORS) are detailed in Annex A of this document.

UNHCR may award a service contract with initial duration of three (3) years, potentially extendable for a maximum of two additional one-year periods (i.e., 3+1+1). The successful bidders will be requested to maintain their quoted price model for the duration of agreement.

The estimated annual requirement of UNHCR is specified in Annex A.

Please note that figures have been stated in order to enable bidders to have an indication of the projected requirements. It does not represent a commitment that UNHCR will purchase a minimum quantity of services. Quantities may vary and will depend on the actual requirements and funds available regulated by issuance of individual Purchase Orders against the Frame Agreement.

Other United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes shall be entitled to the same prices and terms as those contained in the offers of the successful bidders and could form the basis for a Frame Agreement with other UN Agencies.

It is strongly recommended that this Request for Proposal and its annexes be read thoroughly. Failure to observe the procedures laid out therein may result in disqualification from the evaluation process.

Sub-Contracting: Please take careful note of article 5 of the attached General Terms and Conditions (Annex D).

Note: this document is not construed in any way as an offer to contract with your firm.

## **2. BIDDING INFORMATION:**

### **2.1. RFP DOCUMENTS**

The following annexes form integral part of this Request for Proposal:

- Annex A: Terms of Reference (TORs)
- Annex B: UN Supplier Code of Conduct
- Annex C: Vendor Registration Form
- Annex D: UNHCR General Conditions of Contracts for the Provision of Services
- Appendix 1: Monthly Call List Example – Geneva (Fixed)
- Appendix 2: Monthly Call List Example – Geneva (Mobile)
- Appendix 3: Monthly Call List Example – Global WAN (Fixed and VSAT)
- Appendix 4: Technical Response Matrix
- Appendix 5: Financial Response Template

### **2.2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

We would appreciate your informing us of the receipt of this RFP by return e-mail to [hercsik@unhcr.org](mailto:hercsik@unhcr.org) as to:

- Your confirmation of receipt of this RFP
- Whether or not you will be submitting a bid

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Failure to send the above requested information may result in disqualification of your offer from further evaluation.

### **2.3 REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION**

Bidders are required to submit any request for clarification or any question in respect of this RFP by e-mail to Arpad Hercsik Senior Supply Associate at [hercsik@unhcr.org](mailto:hercsik@unhcr.org) and [HQQuery@unhcr.org](mailto:HQQuery@unhcr.org). **The deadline for receipt of questions is 23:59 hrs Geneva time on 01/08/2019.** Bidders are requested to keep all questions concise.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Please note that Bid Submissions are **NOT** to be sent to the e-mail address above. Bid Submissions sent directly to the e-mail address above will result in disqualification of the offer.

UNHCR will reply to the questions received as soon as possible by means of publication on UNGM and UNHCR websites or by email to all invited bidders.

### **2.4 YOUR OFFER**

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Cancellation of Solicitation: UHCR reserves the right to cancel a Solicitation at any stage of the



procurement process prior to final notice of award of a contract.

Your offer shall be prepared in English.

Please submit your offer using the Annexes provided. Offers not conforming to the requested formats may be not taken into consideration.

**IMPORTANT:**

Inclusion of copies of your offer with any correspondence sent directly to the attention of the responsible buyer or any other UNHCR staff other than the submission e-mail address will result in disqualification of the offer. Please send your bid directly to the address provided in the "Submission of Bid" section 2.6) of this RFP.

Your offer shall comprise the following two sets of documents:

- Technical offer
- Financial offer

#### **2.4.1 Content of the TECHNICAL OFFER**

**IMPORTANT:**

No pricing information should be included in the Technical offer. Failure to comply may risk disqualification. The technical offer should contain all information required.

The Terms of Reference (TORs) of the services requested by UNHCR can be found in **Annex A**. Clearly state and disclose any discrepancies with the specifications given.

Your technical offer should be concisely presented and structured in the following order to include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information:

- **Description of the company and the company's qualifications**

A description of your company with the following documents: company profile, registration certificate and last audit reports:

- Year founded;
- If multi location company, specify headquarters location;
- Number of similar and successfully completed projects;
- Number of similar projects currently underway;
- Total number of clients;

Include any information that will facilitate our evaluation of your company's substantive reliability, financial and managerial capacity to provide the services.

- **Understanding of the requirements for services, proposed approach, solutions, methodology and outputs**

Any comments or suggestions on the TOR, as well as your detailed description of the manner in which your company would respond to the TOR:

- A description of your organization's capacity to provide the services;
- A description of your organization's experience in the supply of these services.
- Compliance to the requirements, bidders responders are requested to follow the response content structure described in section 5 of the TOR.

- **Vendor Registration Form:** If your company is not already registered with UNHCR, you should complete, sign and submit with your technical proposal the Vendor Registration Form (**Annex C**).

- **UNHCR General Conditions for Provision of Services:** Your technical offer should contain your acknowledgement of the UNHCR General Conditions for Provision of Services by signing **Annex D**.

**However, please note that submitting an offer is deemed as full acceptance of UNHCR's General Conditions for Provision of Services.**

#### **2.4.2 Content of the FINANCIAL OFFER**

Your separate **Financial Offer** must contain an overall offer in a single currency, either in US Dollars, Euros or in the currency of your company's country.

The financial offer must cover all the services to be provided (price "all inclusive").

- a) Bidder Notes
- b) Implementation Fees
- c) Recurring Fees
- d) Termination Fees

The Financial Offer is to be submitted as per the Financial Response Template (Appendix 5). Bids that have a different price structure may not be accepted.

UNHCR is exempt from all direct taxes and customs duties. With this regards, price has to be given without VAT.

You are requested to hold your offer valid for **90** days from the deadline for submission. UNHCR will make its best effort to select a company within this period. UNHCR's standard payment terms are within 30 days after satisfactory implementation and receipt of documents in order.

The cost of preparing a bid and of negotiating a contract, including any related travel, is not reimbursable nor can it be included as a direct cost of the assignment. Any activity undertaken or expenses incurred in preparation of a contract before an actual contract is signed shall be borne by the Bidder. An advance notice or information of award is not to be considered as a contract.

UNHCR will not provide any advance payments or payments by letter of credit. The standard payment terms are by bank transfer net thirty (30) days after acceptance of contractor's invoice and delivery of the goods to the and/or acceptance by UNHCR of the services.

#### **2.5 BID EVALUATION:**

Each proposal from a Bidder will be considered separately and independently. Bidders shall submit a complete proposal for each solicitation in which they wish to participate. References to previous or on-going proposals will be not considered. Award of a previous contract with UNHCR will not be considered in itself as a preference or guarantee for the award of future solicitations on the same subject.

##### **2.5.1 Supplier Registration:**

The qualified supplier(s) will be added to the Vendor Database after investigation of suitability based on the submitted Vendor Registration Form and supporting documents. The investigation involves consideration of several factors such as:

- Financial standing;
- Core business;
- Track record;



- Contract capacity.

Failure to provide the abovementioned documentation, might lead to disqualification.

## 2.5.2 Technical and Financial evaluation:

For the award of this project, UNHCR has established evaluation criteria which govern the selection of offers received. Evaluation is made on a technical and financial basis. The percentage assigned to each component is determined in advance as follows:

The **Technical offer** will be evaluated using inter alia the following criteria and percentage distribution: **70%** from the total score:

Company Qualifications	10%
Requirements Match	15%
Call Reporting, Support and Delivery	30%
Implementation and Transition	15%
Total Technical	70%

The Technical offer score will be calculated according to the percentage distribution for the technical and financial offers.

The cut-off point for submissions to be considered technically-compliant will be **60% out of the 70%, or 42 out of the 70 points.**

### **Clarifications of Proposals:**

To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of proposals UNHCR may at its discretion ask the Bidder for clarification about the content of the proposal. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing and no change in price or substance of the proposal shall be sought, offered or accepted.

The **Financial offer** will use the following percentage distribution: **30%** from the total score.

The financial component will be analyzed only for those suppliers that pass the technical evaluation.

The maximum number of points will be allotted to the lowest price offer that is opened and compared among those invited firms. All other price offers will receive points in inverse proportion to the lowest price; e.g.,  $[\text{total Price Component}] \times [\text{US\$ lowest}] \div [\text{US\$ other}] = \text{points for other supplier's Price Component}$ .

For evaluation purposes only, the offers submitted in currency other than US Dollars will be converted into US Dollars using the United Nations rate of exchange in effect on the date the submissions are due.

## 2.6 **SUBMISSION OF BID:**

**Bids should be submitted by file upload to eTenderBox, the online bid registration tool of UNHCR.**

The eTenderBox can be accessed via the following URL: <http://etenderbox.unhcr.org>

In order to use eTenderBox, registration on the website is required. This registration is exclusively for eTenderBox and does not replace any other registrations for UNHCR

applications. One Supplier should have only one registered email account in the system. Therefore, the Supplier must use only one eTenderBox account for managing its offers to UNHCR. In case the password is forgotten, that account cannot be used anymore and new registration is required. Registration Guide and User Manual of eTenderBox are available at the above URL.

**IMPORTANT:**

The Technical and Financial offers shall be clearly separated by uploading them to the appropriate category in the system. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

Allowed extensions for files to upload are .doc, .docx, .xls, .xlsx, .rtf, .png, .jpg, .jpeg, .pdf, .txt, .zip, .ppt, .pptx, .bmp, .rar, .gif, .tif and .tiff. Executable files (.exe, .bat, .cmd...etc.) should not be uploaded. The maximum size limit per file is **10MB**.

Uploaded files can be amended by the Supplier while the tender is open. The selected files for upload are submitted when the 'Save & Submit' button is clicked on. Therefore, this button has to be clicked before the deadline expires. If done so, the selected files will be submitted and uploaded successfully even if the deadline expires during the file upload. It is the Supplier's responsibility to ensure that all files of the final offer are submitted by the tender expiration deadline.

Once the deadline for submission is expired, the bid will be automatically closed after which the uploaded files can be reviewed but options for additional upload and deletion of previously uploaded files are not available anymore. In order to ensure the safe submission of the full and final offer, it is recommended to have all files uploaded well before the tender deadline.

In case of technical query/issue regarding the eTenderBox, please send an email to the following helpdesk email address: [hqsmsbid@unhcr.org](mailto:hqsmsbid@unhcr.org)

**Deadline: 26/08/2019, 23:59 hrs (Geneva, CH, time).**

**IMPORTANT:**

Any bid received after this date or sent to another UNHCR address may be rejected. UNHCR may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of bids, by notifying all prospective bidders simultaneously.

**IMPORTANT:**

The Financial offer will only be opened for evaluation if the supplier's technical part of the offer has passed the test and has been accepted by UNHCR as meeting the technical specifications.

## **2.7 BID ACCEPTANCE:**

UNHCR reserves the right to accept the whole or part of your bid, or allow split or partial awards on this project.

UNHCR may at its discretion increase or decrease the proposed content when awarding the contract and would not expect a significant variation of the rate submitted. Any such increase or decrease in the contract duration would be negotiated with the successful bidder as part of the finalization of the Purchase Orders for Services.

UNHCR may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of bids, by notifying all prospective suppliers in writing. The extension of the deadline may accompany a



modification of the solicitation documents prepared by UNHCR at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective supplier.

Please note that UNHCR is not bound to select any of the firms submitting bids and does not bind itself in any way to select the firm offering the lowest price. Furthermore, the contract will be awarded to the bid considered most responsive to the needs, as well as conforming to UNHCR's general principles, including economy and efficiency and best value for money.

## **2.8 CURRENCY AND PAYMENT TERMS FOR PURCHASE ORDERS**

Any Purchase Order (PO) issued as a result of this RFP will be made in the currency of the winning offer(s). Payment will be made in accordance to the General Conditions for the Provision of Goods and Services and in the currency in which the PO is issued. Payments shall only be initiated after confirmation of successful completion by UNHCR business owner.

## **2.9 UNHCR GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACTS FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES**

Please note that the General Conditions of Contracts (**Annex D**) will be strictly adhered to for the purpose of any future contract. The Bidder must confirm the acceptance of these terms and conditions in writing.



Fabrizio Bertora  
Chief of Section. HQ Procurement  
Division of Emergency, Security and Supply