Questions and Responses for RFP No. USAID-AN-072

Please find below a list of questions submitted and corresponding responses in connection with RFP No. USAID-AN-072.

1. I am writing on behalf of a team of National Consultants with extensive experience in research and development, elaboration of public policies and strategic plans across various sectors in Timor-Leste. These include research on Nutrition Sensitive Value Chain Development in Timor-Leste, development of Trade Invests' Strategic Plan and SERVE's roadmap of implementation of electronic business registration, Ministry of Agriculture Strategic Plan 2021-2025, and Strategic Plan of Anti-Corruption Commission (PECAC) 2021-2025), among others.

I understand you that you are looking for a registered firm to work with you in this project. However, I would like to ask you give us an opportunity to also participate in this project. We are really interested in this project and would be able to meet the expectations of your organization. Please let me know, if you are able to accommodate our team in your research for a team to work with you in this project.

- a. <u>**Response</u>**: We will award a single fixed-price contract for the complete scope of work and all associated deliverables specified in the RFP. Established consulting firms that have a pool of qualified consultants are welcome to submit a consolidated application. If a consultancy firm is awarded, the single selected contractee will be responsible for the timely completion of all deliverables, including all coordination and management of consultants required to complete the specified deliverables.</u>
- 2. [Our organization] is one of the longstanding research organizations in the country, having worked with numerous USAID grantees in the past, including the US State Department for its political polls. Yet, as a legal and accredited organization, [our organization] has registered with the Ministry of Justice and equipped all legal documents as evidence. Yet, as [our organization] is paid by each of the projects we perform, we do not have sustainable funding support from any entities. Therefore, [our organization] was not at all obligated by any laws to have an audited report nor any financial statements and/or profit and loss statement. Additionally, over the last 4 years [our organization] has not received any project. Therefore, providing these documents is not feasible to [our organization] at this time. Given this condition, is [our organization] still eligible to apply?
 - a. <u>Response</u>: Yes, you may still apply to this opportunity. However, please include the above clarifications in your proposal as well as your certificate of registration to demonstrate that you are legally allowed to operate in country. Please also ensure you complete Attachment 3 from the RFP that outlines your organization's past performance and specify the previous projects and total contract value of each of those projects.