

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – RFP Services

Ref: WIN/013/002

(Please quote this UNESCO reference in all correspondence)

Date 03/09/2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are invited to submit an offer for Consultancy Services' in accordance with the present solicitation document.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) consists of this cover page and the following Annexes:

Annex IInstructions to OfferorsAnnex IIGeneral Conditions of ContractAnnex IIITerms of Reference (TOR)Annex IVProposal Submission FormAnnex VPrice Schedule Form

Your e-mail proposal comprising of technical proposal and financial proposal, in two separate files, must be sent to the following dedicated e-mail address **no later than 23/09/2013 at 12:00 hours**.

y.filali-Meknassi@unesco.org

without any copy to any other e-mail addresses. Offers addressed at any other e-mail accounts will be disqualified

(To be noted that all files together not to exceed 7 Mo)

This letter is not to be construed in any way as an offer to contract with your firm/institution. Your proposal could, however, form the basis for a contract between your company and UNESCO.

You are requested to acknowledge the receipt of this letter and to indicate whether or not you will be submitting a proposal. For this purpose, and for any requests for clarification, please contact Youssef Filali-Meknassi.

For and on behalf of UNESCO UNESCO Office in Windhoek Cluster Office to Angola, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland: Youssef Filali-Meknassi, Programme Specialist

ANNEX I – Instructions to Offerors

These instructions contain general guidelines and instructions on the preparation, clarification, and submission of Proposals.

A. INTRODUCTION

1. General

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to invite Sealed Proposals for professional services to be provided to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - UNESCO.

Offerors should not be associated, or have been associated in the past, directly or indirectly, with a firm or any of its affiliates which have been engaged by UNESCO to provide consulting services for the preparation of the Terms of Reference, and other documents to be used for the procurement of services to be purchased under this Request for Proposal.

2. Cost of Proposal

The Offeror shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the Proposal and UNESCO will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the solicitation.

B. SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS

3. Contents of Solicitation Documents

Proposals must offer services for the total requirement. Proposals offering only part of the requirement will be rejected. The Offeror is expected to examine all corresponding instructions, forms, terms and specifications contained in the Solicitation Documents. Failure to comply with these documents will be at the Offeror's risk and may affect the evaluation of the Proposal.

4. Clarification of Solicitation Documents

A prospective Offeror requiring any clarification of the Solicitation Documents may notify UNESCO in writing at the organisation's mailing address or fax or email number indicated in the RFP. UNESCO will respond in writing to any request for clarification of the Solicitation Documents that it receives earlier than two weeks prior to the deadline for the submission of Proposals. Written copies of the organisation's response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) may be sent to all prospective Offerors that have received the Solicitation Documents.

5. Amendments of Solicitation Documents

At any time prior to the deadline for submission of Proposals, UNESCO may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective Offeror, modify the Solicitation Documents by amendment.

All prospective Offerors that have received the Solicitation Documents will be notified in writing of all amendments to the Solicitation Documents.

In order to afford prospective Offerors reasonable time in which to take the amendments into account in preparing their offers, UNESCO may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of Proposals.

C. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS

The offers received must include information in sufficient scope and detail to allow UNESCO to consider whether the company has the necessary capability, experience, expertise, (financial strength) and the required capacity to perform the services satisfactorily.

6. Language of the Proposal

The Proposals prepared by the Offeror and all correspondence and documents relating to the Proposal exchanged by the Offeror and UNESCO shall be written in English. Any printed literature furnished by the Offeror may be written in another language so long as accompanied by a translation

of its pertinent passages in which case, for purposes of interpretation of the Proposal, the language as stated in the Solicitation Documents applies.

7. Documents Comprising the Proposal

The Proposal shall comprise the following components:

- a) Proposal submission form;
- b) Operational and technical part of the Proposal, including documentation to demonstrate that the Offeror meets all requirements;
- c) Price schedule, completed in accordance with clauses 8 & 9;

8. Proposal Form - Presentation of the technical proposal

The Offeror shall structure the technical part of its Proposal as follows:

8.1. Proposed Approach, Methodology, Timing and Outputs

This section should demonstrate the Offeror's responsiveness to the TOR and include detailed description of the manner in which the firm/institution would respond to the TOR, addressing the requirements, as specified, point by point. You should include the number of person-working days in each specialization that you consider necessary to carry out all work required.

For assessment of your understanding of the requirements please include any assumptions as well as comments on the data, support services and facilities to be provided by the beneficiary as indicated in the Statement of Requirements/TOR, or as you may otherwise believe to be necessary.

8.3. Proposed Personnel

In this section, the offeror should reflect the project staffing including the work tasks to be assigned to each staff member as well as their qualifications with reference to practical experience relating to specialization area of the project for each proposed staff. The complete CV's of proposed staff is to be submitted.

If applicable, this staffing proposal should be supported by an organigram illustrating the reporting lines, together with a description of such organization structure.

The technical part of the Proposal should not contain any pricing information whatsoever on the services offered. Pricing information shall be separated and only contained in the appropriate Price Schedule.

It is mandatory that the Offeror's Proposal numbering system corresponds with the numbering system as provided in the TOR. All references to descriptive material and brochures should be included in the respective paragraph, though material/documents themselves may be provided as annexes to the Proposal/response.

9. Price Proposal

The Offeror shall indicate on an appropriate Price Schedule, an example of which is contained in the Price Schedule sheet, the prices of services it proposes to supply under the contract, if selected.

10. Proposal currencies

Your separate price envelop must contain an overall quotation in a single currency. All prices shall be quoted in US dollars or EUR.

11. Period of validity of proposals

Proposals shall remain valid for ninety (90) days after the date of Proposal submission prescribed by UNESCO, pursuant to the deadline clause. A Proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by UNESCO on the grounds that it is non-responsive.

12. Format and signing of proposals

The Offeror shall prepare two copies of the Proposal, clearly marking each "Original" and "Copy" as appropriate. In the event of any discrepancy between them, the original shall govern. The two copies of the Proposal shall be typed and shall be signed by the Offeror or a person or persons duly authorised. A Proposal shall contain no interlineations, erasures, or overwriting except, as necessary to correct errors made by the Offeror, in which case such corrections shall be initialled by the person or persons signing the Proposal.

13. Payment

In full consideration for the complete and satisfactory performance of the services of the contract, UNESCO shall effect payments to the Contractor within 30 days after receipt and acceptance of the invoices submitted by the contractor for services provided.

D. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

14. Sealing and marking of proposals

Not applicable. E-mail offers are requested. Please refer to instructions on the cover page.

15. Deadline for submission of proposals

Proposals must be received on or before the date and time specified on the cover page of these Solicitation Documents.

UNESCO may, at its own discretion extend this deadline for the submission of Proposals by amending the solicitation documents in accordance with clause *Amendments of Solicitation Documents*.

16. Late Proposals

Any Proposal received by UNESCO after the deadline for submission of proposals, pursuant to clause *Deadline for the submission of proposals*, will be rejected.

17. Modification and withdrawal of Proposals

The Offeror may withdraw its Proposal after the Proposal's submission, provided that written notice of the withdrawal is received by UNESCO prior to the deadline specified in the RFP. Proposals may not be modified or withdrawn after that time.

E. OPENING ANDEVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

18. Opening of proposals

UNESCO representatives will open all Proposals after the deadline for submissions and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the organization.

19. Clarification of proposals

To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of Proposals, UNESCO may at its discretion, ask the Offeror for clarification of its 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 permitted.

20. Preliminary examination

UNESCO will examine the Proposals to determine whether they are complete, whether any computational errors have been made, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the Proposals are generally in order.

Prior to the detailed evaluation, UNESCO will determine the substantial responsiveness of each Proposal to the Request for Proposals (RFP). For purposes of these Clauses, a substantially responsive Proposal is one, which conforms to all the terms and conditions of the RFP without deviations. The determination of a Proposal's responsiveness is based on the contents of the Proposal itself without recourse to extrinsic evidence.

A Proposal determined as not substantially responsive will be rejected by UNESCO.

21. Evaluation and comparison of proposals

A two-stage procedure will be used in evaluating the proposals, with evaluation of the technical component being completed prior to any price component being opened and compared. The Price Component will be opened only for submissions that passed the minimum score of 70 % of the total points obtainable for the technical evaluation.

The technical proposal is evaluated on the basis of its responsiveness to the Terms of Reference (TOR).

OPTION 2 – HIGHEST TOTAL SCORE OF WEIGHTED TEHCHNICAL AND FINANCIAL CRITERIA

The price proposal of all offerors, who have attained minimum 70 % score in the technical evaluation, will be compared. The contract will be awarded to the offeror that receives the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria as specified below.

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form							
Sample: Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Points	Name of Firm / Institution				
		Obtainable	А	В	С		
1.	Expertise of Firm / Institution submitting Proposal	350					
2.	Proposed Work Plan and Approach	250					
3.	Personnel	100					
	Sub-total for Technical Evaluation	700					

Financial Proposal Evaluation Form

		Points	Name of Firm / Institution			
Sam	Sample: Summary of Financial Proposal		А	В	С	
	Financial Proposal	300				
	Sub-total for Financial Evaluation	300				

Evaluation of the price proposals (of all Offerors who have attained minimum 70 % score in the technical evaluation) will be based on the weight scoring method as follows:

- Financial proposals are opened and list of prices is prepared, where the lowest price is ranked as the first one (receiving highest amount of points) and the most expensive as the last one (receiving the least amount of points).
- Lowest price is given maximum points (e.g. 300), for other prices the points are assigned based on the following formula: [Amount of points = lowest price/other price * total points obtainable for financial proposal] An example:
- Offeror A lowest price ranked as 1^{st} in the amount of USD 10,000 = a Offeror B second lowest price ranked as 2^{nd} in the amount of USD 15,000 = b
- Points assigned to A = 300 & Points assigned to B = 200 (following formula: a/b * 300 i.e. 10,000/15,000 * 300 = 200 points)

Option 2: Combined Technical and Financial Evaluation Form

Sample: Summary of Financial Proposal Evaluation Forms		Points	Name of Firm / Institution				
		Obtainable	А	В	С	D	
	Sub-total Technical Proposal	700					
	Sub-total Financial Proposal	300					
	Total 1000						

F. AWARD OF CONTRACT

22. Award criteria. award of contract

UNESCO reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, and to annul the solicitation process and reject all Proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Offeror or any obligation to inform the affected Offeror or Offerors of the grounds for such action.

Prior to expiration of the period of proposal validity, UNESCO will award the contract to the qualified Offeror whose Proposal after being evaluated is considered to be the most responsive to the needs of the organisation and activity concerned.

23. Purchaser's right to vary requirements at time of award

UNESCO reserves the right at the time of award of contract to vary the quantity of services and goods specified in the RFP.

ANNEX II – General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services

1. LEGAL STATUS

The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor vis-à-vis UNESCO. The Contractor's personnel and sub-contractors shall not be considered in any respect as being the employees or agents of UNESCO.

2. SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS

The Contractor shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any authority external to UNESCO in connection with the performance of its services under this Contract. The Contractor shall refrain from any action, which may adversely affect UNESCO or the United Nations and shall fulfill its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of UNESCO.

3. CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES

The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under this Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of this Contract, respect the local customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

4. ASSIGNMENT

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make other disposition of this Contract or any part thereof, or any of the Contractor's rights, claims or obligations under this Contract except with the prior written consent of UNESCO.

5. SUB-CONTRACTING

In the event the Contractor requires the services of sub-contractors, the Contractor shall obtain the prior written approval and clearance of UNESCO for all sub-contractors. The approval of UNESCO of a sub-contractor shall not relieve the Contractor of any of its obligations under this Contract. The terms of any sub-contract shall be subject to and conform with the provisions of this Contract.

6. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

The Contractor warrants that no official of UNESCO has received or will be offered by the Contractor any direct or indirect benefit arising from this Contract or the award thereof. The Contractor agrees that breach of this provision is a breach of an essential term of this Contract.

7. INDEMNIFICATION

The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless, and defend, at its own expense, UNESCO, its officials, agents, and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents or sub-contractors, in the performance of this Contract. This provision shall extend, inter-alia, to claims and liability in the nature of workmen's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents, servants or sub-contractors. The obligations under this Article do not lapse upon termination of this Contract.

8. INSURANCE AND LIABILITIES TO THIRD PARTIES

The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the execution of this Contract. The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain all appropriate workmen's compensation insurance, or its equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury or death in connection with this Contract. The Contractor shall also provide and thereafter maintain liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for death or bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising from or in connection with the provision of services under this Contract or the operation of any vehicles, The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain all appropriate workmen's compensation insurance, or its equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury or death in connection with this Contract or the operation of any vehicles, boats, airplanes or other equipment owned or leased by the Contractor or its agents, servants, employees or sub-contractors performing work or services in connection with this Contract. Except for the workmen's compensation insurance, the insurance policies under this Article shall:

8.1 Name UNESCO as additional insured;

8.2 Include a waiver of subrogation of the Contractor's rights to the insurance carrier against UNESCO;

8.3 Provide that UNESCO shall receive thirty (30) days written notice from the insurers prior to any cancellation or change of coverage8.4 The Contractor shall, upon request, provide UNESCO with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this Article.

9. ENCUMBRANCES/LIENS

The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file or to remain on file in any public office or on file with UNESCO against any monies due or to become due for any work done or materials furnished under this Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor.

10. TITLE TO EQUIPMENT

Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNESCO shall rest with UNESCO and any such equipment shall be returned to UNESCO at the conclusion of this Contract or when no longer needed by the Contractor. Such equipment, when returned to UNESCO, shall be in the same condition as when delivered to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear. The Contractor shall be liable to compensate UNESCO for equipment determined to be damaged or degraded beyond normal wear and tear.

. COPYRIGHT, PATENTS AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS

UNESCO shall be entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights including but not limited to patents, copyrights, and trademarks, with regard to products, or documents and other materials which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequence of or in the course of the execution of this Contract. At UNESCO's request, the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring them to UNESCO in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law

2. USE OF NAME, EMBLEM OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF UNESCO OR THE UN

The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public the fact that it is a Contractor with UNESCO, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of UNESCO, or any abbreviation of the name of UNESCO in connection with its business or otherwise.

13. CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

Drawings, photographs, plans, reports, recommendations, estimates, documents and all other data compiled by or received by the Contractor under this Contract shall be the property of UNESCO, shall be treated as confidential and shall be delivered only to UNESCO authorized officials on completion of work under this Contract. The Contractor may not communicate at any time to any other person, Government or authority external to UNESCO, any information known to it by reason of its association with UNESCO; which has not been made public except with the authorization of UNESCO; nor shall the Contractor at any time use such information to private advantage. These obligations do not lapse upon termination of this Contract.

14. FORCE MAJEURE; OTHER CHANGES IN CONDITIONS

Force majeure, as used in this Article, means acts of God, war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, or other acts of a similar nature or force, which are beyond the control of the Parties. In the event of and as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting force majeure, the Contractor shall give notice and full particulars in writing to UNESCO, of such occurrence or change if the Contractor is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract. The Contractor shall also notify UNESCO of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event, which interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of this Contract. The notice shall include steps proposed by the Contractor to be taken including any reasonable alternative means for performance that is not prevented by force majeure. On receipt of the notice required under this Article, UNESCO shall take such action as, in its sole discretion, it considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the Contractor of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform its obligations under this Contract. If the Contractor is rendered permanently unable, wholly, or in part, by reason of force majeure to perform its obligations and meet its

responsibilities under this Contract, UNESCO shall have the right to suspend or terminate this Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 15, "Termination", except that the period of notice shall be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days.

15. TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this Contract for cause, in whole or in part, upon thirty days notice, in writing, to the other party. The initiation of arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 16 "Settlement of Disputes" below shall not be deemed a termination of this Contract. UNESCO reserves the right to terminate without cause this Contract at any time upon 15 days prior written notice to the Contractor, in which case UNESCO shall reimburse the Contractor for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination. In the event of any termination by UNESCO under this Article, no payment shall be due from UNESCO to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed in conformity with the express terms of this Contract. The Contractor shall take immediate steps to terminate the work and services in a prompt and orderly manner and to minimize losses and further expenditures. Should the Contractor be adjudged bankrupt, or be liquidated or become insolvent, or should the Contractor make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or should a Receiver be appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, UNESCO may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy it may have, terminate this Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform UNESCO of the occurrence of any of the above events.

16. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

16.1 Amicable Settlement

The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of, or relating to this Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof. Where the parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules then obtaining, or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the parties.

16.2 Arbitration

Unless, any such dispute, controversy or claim between the Parties arising out of or relating to this Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof is settled amicably under the preceding paragraph of this Article within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party's request for such amicable settlement, such dispute, controversy or claim shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining, including its provisions on applicable law. The arbitrat tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration as the final adjudication of any such controversy, claim or dispute.

17. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Nothing in or relating to this Contract shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of UNESCO.

18. TAX EXEMPTION

18.1 Section 7 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations provides, inter-alia, that UNESCO, is exempt from all direct taxes, except charges for public utility services, and is exempt from customs duties and charges of a similar nature in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use. In the event any governmental authority refuses to recognize the UNESCO exemption from such taxes, duties or charges, the Contractor shall immediately consult with UNESCO to determine a mutually acceptable procedure.

18.2 Accordingly, the Contractor authorizes UNESCO to deduct from the Contractor's invoice any amount representing such taxes, duties or charges, unless the Contractor has consulted with UNESCO before the payment thereof and UNESCO has, in each instance, specifically authorized the Contractor to pay such taxes, duties or charges under protest. In that event, the Contractor shall provide UNESCO with written evidence that payment of such taxes, duties or charges has been made and appropriately authorized.

19. CHILD LABOUR

19.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it, nor any of its suppliers is engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including Article 32 thereof, which, *inter-alia*, requires that a child shall be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

19.2 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNESCO to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to UNESCO.

20. MINES

20.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it nor any of its suppliers is actively and directly engaged in patent activities, development, assembly, production, trade or manufacture of mines or in such activities in respect of components primarily utilized in the manufacture of Mines. The term "Mines" means those devices defined in Article 2, Paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of Protocol II annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 1980.

20.2 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNESCO to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind of UNESCO.

21. OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW

The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the terms of this Contract.

22. AUTHORITY TO MODIFY

No modification or change in this Contract, no waiver of any of its provisions or any additional contractual relationship of any kind with the Contractor shall be valid and enforceable against UNESCO unless provided by an amendment to this Contract signed by the authorized official of UNESCO.

23. SECURITY

The responsibility for the safety and security of the Contractor and its personnel and property, and of UNESCO property in the Contractor's custody, rests with the Contractor.

The Contractor shall:

(a) put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the services are being provided;

(b) assume all risks and liabilities related to the Contractor's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

UNESCO reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of this contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Contractor shall remain solely responsible for the security of its personnel and for UNESCO property in its custody.

24. ANTI-TERRORISM

The Contractor agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the UNESCO funds received under this Contract are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNESCO hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via:

http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Contract.

ANNEX III – Terms of Reference (TOR)

BACKGROUND: Responding to the urgent need for action in Africa stressed by the 4th Annual International Conference on ICT for Africa (2012), the 23rd Annual Teaching and Learning Innovations Conference (2010), the Information Economy Report 2012 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the fact that all these conferences and report underlined that the time has now come for Africa to adopt open software to make Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) accessible to all to support development and help to build a sustainable future, UNESCO launched in 2012-2013 the Hydro Open-source software Platform of Experts (HOPE) initiative.

Free and/or Open Source Software (FOSS) offers benefits for people in developing countries including facilitating access to and increasing ownership of ICT for Human Development. The Free and/or Open Source Software model provides alternative tools to the commercial specialized engineering software in the field of hydrology (e.g. water resources, rivers and groundwater; urban water modeling and GIS, collection systems, water distribution, flooding, wastewater treatment).

OVERALL OBJECTIVES: Member States/Institutions (Universities, Colleges, Water Departments)/People (Water professionals, Students, etc.) are developing (innovation)/using Open-Source Software in the effective management of water resources in their respective countries.

Through its institutional capacity building projects, UNESCO will strengthen water sector organizations and develops professional training and research to provide assistance in setting up and maintaining national and regional knowledge networks. The aim is to stimulate cooperation in research and development of Hydro Free and/or Open-source software to increase scientific outputs, and to enhance their dissemination.

HOPE is also a new approach to research that is more integrative, international and solutions-oriented. It links high-quality focused scientific research to new policy-relevant interdisciplinary efforts for global sustainability based on scientific evidence needed to provide essential targets for societies.

OUTPUTS: These efforts and commitments will reinforce the determination of the African Union Member States to accelerate the translation into action, at the national, sub-regional and regional levels of the African Water Vision 2025 and the Sharm El Sheikh commitments on Water and Sanitation. UNESCO's HOPE contributes equally to the reinforcement of <u>Technical and Vocational Education and</u> <u>Training</u> (TVET); preparing people for green jobs that particularly contribute to preserving the environment while improving human well-being and social equity.

In particular, the HOPE main outputs are:

OUT-1: Appropriate Platform infrastructures and, or facilities for hosting open-source software for water management (the HOPE Platform) are in place, operational, well maintained, and their correct use actively promoted [Hardware];

OUT-2: Policies: procedures, rules and regulations for the development, contribution/selection and acceptance, maintenance and use of the open-source software for water management (OSSWWM); Plus: A collection of suitable OSSWWM is in place and actively promoted [Software];

OUT-3: People in the water sector in Africa have increased awareness, knowledge and skills in the use of open-source software for water management (the HOPE Platform). [Human ware];

OUT-4: The HOPE initiative is efficiently and effectively managed. [Management]

INPUTS:

Partner institutions provide expertise and guidance, such as capacity building workshops and technical assistance. The UNESCO's HOPE network and communities of practice provide linkages to leading technologists, from government CEOs to field-based innovators, to consult and consider pressing development challenges.

UNESCO's HOPE partners bring many technology solutions to the table and facilitate, at this stage, the application of these tools, from ideation to incubation. The platform as a support for users plays an important role as a practical instrument for development as its free and open aspirations make it a natural component of development efforts in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the African countries.

The main activities (= INPUTS) are:

ACT-1: Procure new infrastructures/facilities and/or expand/renew/agree on use of existing ones; and operate and maintain these as necessary [Hardware].

ACT-2: Develop, adopt and operate appropriate policies for open-source software for water management [Software].

ACT-3: Organize appropriate awareness and training programmes for effectively using OSSWWM [Human ware].

ACT-4 Undertake planning, HRM, PR, mobilization of funding, implementation of programmes, and projects; and monitor and evaluate (M&E) implementation of HOPE. [Management].

CHALLENGES:

A terrible need exists for specialized software in engineering. Indeed, affordable specialized software in engineering, as most of software applications are not accessible for low-income and middle-income economies and increases the digital divide, the gaps and barriers the world, especially when it comes to the engineering curricula.

To solve real and local problems, hydrologists are constantly creating innovative mathematical models to manage water in an effective way. But for the models to be effective themselves, they should be easy to use and be able to handle massive data sets. However, this last step requires sophisticated software infrastructure, which may take years to build and expensive to get.

The main challenge of the HOPE initiative is "getting prices right" and "Getting capacities right" in the water sector for the sustainable progress of developing countries.

MAJOR TASKS FOR THE CONSULTANT(S):

Main line of action (MLA) 5, paragraph "17" of the 36C/5 (The 2012 – 2013 Programme and Budget of UNESCO), states: Effective water management strengthened through improved knowledge base and scientifically sound policy guidance for urban areas, arid and semi-arid zones and groundwater resources and aquifer systems and paragraph "18" of the 36C/5 (The 2012 – 2013 Programme and Budget of UNESCO), states: Water-related education capacities reinforced at all levels, with an emphasis on Africa and gender. The objectives are to improve regional and national networking on knowledge management and capacity-building, mobilizing science for the sustainable use of natural resources and provide advice to Member States (MS) for promoting education.

More specifically, the contractor shall undertake the following tasks:

- Design a software nomination form (including specific information software name, type of software, description of software, organization history in the area of software development, thematic areas in which the software is used, etc.);
- Submit the standardized information received through the submitted software nomination form to the consultative expert working group for evaluation;
- Bring together all the information about each Hydro Open-source software approved as part of the HOPE kit including those in the software nomination form (e.g. Software Name, type of software, description of software, organization history in the area of software development, thematic areas in which the software is used);
- Design a PDF portfolio with all the information related to each Hydro Open-source software approved as part of the HOPE kit (e.g. Software Name, type of software, description of software, organization history in the area of software development, thematic areas in which the software is used) and submit to validation to the Steering Committee and the Consultative Expert Working Group;
- Design, from the PDF previously validated, a HOPE Initiative portfolio on a flipbook, format easy to use and accessible with and without an Internet connection;

DVD that includes the HOPE Initiative portfolio and all the produced documents:

- 1. The HOPE Initiative concept note;
- 2. The software nomination form;
- 3. The HOPE_ Initiative software score sheet;

- 4. The TORs of the Steering Committee and the Consultative Expert Working Group; And
- 5. The Launch of the HOPE Initiative report;
- 6. And the executable files of the approved Hydro Open-source software part of the HOPE kit

DELIVERABLES:

Submit the software nomination form;

Submit a PDF portfolio with all the information related to each Hydro Open-source software approved as part of the HOPE kit (e.g. Software Name, type of software, description of software, organization history in the area of software development, thematic areas in which the software is used);

Submit all the flipbook files;

Submit a DVD that includes the HOPE Initiative portfolio and all the produced documents:

- 1. The HOPE Initiative concept note;
- 2. The software nomination form;
- 3. The HOPE Initiative software score sheet;
- 4. The TORs of the Steering Committee and the Consultative Expert Working Group; And
- 5. The Launch of the HOPE Initiative report;
- 6. And the executable files of the approved Hydro Open-source software part of the HOPE kit.

ANNEX IV – Proposal Submission Form

TO: UNESCO

To form an integral part of your technical proposal

Dear Sir / Madam,

Having examined the Solicitation Documents, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, we, the undersigned, offer to provide Professional Services for the sum as may be ascertained in accordance with the Price Schedule attached herewith and made part of this Proposal.

We undertake, if our Proposal is accepted, to commence and complete delivery of all services specified in the contract within the time frame stipulated.

We agree to abide by this Proposal for a period of 90 days from the Proposal Closing Date as stipulated in the Solicitation Documents, and it shall remain binding upon us and may be accepted at any time before the expiration of that period.

We understand that you are not bound to accept any Proposal you may receive.

Name of Bidder:

Address of Bidder:

Authorised Signature:

Name & title of Authorised Signature:

Date:

ANNEX V – Price Schedule Form

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. The Bidder is asked to prepare the Price Schedule as a separate envelope from the rest of the RFP response as indicated in paragraph 14 (b) of the Instructions to Offerors.

2. All prices/rates quoted must be exclusive of all taxes, since the UNESCO is exempt from taxes as detailed in Annex II, Clause 18.

3. The Price Schedule must provide a detailed cost breakdown. Provide separate figures for each functional grouping or category. If the contractor is required to travel in order to perform the work described in the TOR, a lump sum must be included in the total amount or to be listed separately. No travel shall be reimbursed.

4. It is the policy of UNESCO not to grant advance payments except in unusual situations where the potential contractor whether a private firm, NGO or a government or other entity, specifies in the proposal that there are special circumstances warranting an advance payment. UNESCO, at its discretion, may however determine that such payment is not warranted or determine the conditions under which such payment would be made.

Any request for an advance payment is to be justified and documented and must be submitted with the financial proposal. This justification shall explain the need for the advance payment, itemise the amount requested and provide a time-schedule for utilisation of said amount.

Financial Proposal / Price Schedule Request for Proposal Ref:								
Tota	I Financial Proposal [currency/an	nount]:						
Date	of Submission:							
Auth	Authorized Signature:							
	Description of Activity/Item	No of Consultants	Rate per Day [currency/ amount]	No of man- days	Total [currency/amount]			
1.	Remuneration							
1.1	Services at Home Office							
1.2	Services on site							
Desc	cription of Activity/Item	No of Consultants	Rate per Day [currency/ amount]	No of man- days	Total [currency/amount]			
2.	Other Expenses							
2.1	Travel							
2.2	Per Diem Allowances							
2.3	Communications							
2.4	Reproduction and Reports							
2.5	Equipment and other items							
2.6	Others (please specify)							