

**CRDF GLOBAL
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

Counterproliferation Capacity-Building Trainings

Submission Deadline: October 11, 2021

Summary:

CRDF Global organizes a wide variety of programming centered around the following areas for several trainings to be held January 2021 – September 2023.

- Russian defense sector and associated advanced conventional weapon proliferation networks
- People’s Republic of China (PRC) defense sector and associated advanced conventional weapon proliferation networks
- Deceptive practices in defense procurement by sanctioned defense entities
- Operations of sanctioned private military and security companies
- Foreign technology acquisition practices by the People’s Republic of China
- Ballistic missile acquisition/development by the Islamic Republic of Iran and deceptive maritime operations to transport proliferation-sensitive technology
- Countering DPRK sanctions evasion practices related to illicit maritime shipping, proliferation finance, and trade in prohibited goods that help advance its ballistic missile and WMD programs

As such, CRDF Global requires on-going, flexible, and lasting partnerships with experts in the field.

Scope & Tasks:

SME(s) will develop and deliver training or briefing materials for varied international audiences in government, the private sector, the research sector/academia, and/or civil society. These should aim to build the capacity of these stakeholders to protect sensitive/dual-use technologies from acquisition and misuse; understand their respective roles in the proliferation of advanced conventional weapons; understand deceptive practices in defense procurement by sanction defense entities; understand the detrimental operations of sanctioned private military and security companies; understand foreign technology acquisition practices by the People’s Republic of China; understand ballistic missile acquisition/development by the Islamic Republic of Iran and deceptive maritime operations to transport proliferation-sensitive technology; and/or understand DPRK sanctions evasion practices related to illicit maritime shipping, proliferation finance, and trade in prohibited goods that help advance its ballistic missile and WMD programs.

The selected subject matter expert(s) (hereafter, “SMEs”) would be expected to provide contracted services such as, but not limited to:

1. Development of training agendas, bulleted scripts, and presentations
2. Development of online training recordings (approximately 30 minutes each in duration)
3. Delivery of presentations (approximately 30 minutes each in duration) and attendance during online trainings or workshops (approximately two-hours total)
4. Delivery of presentations (approximately 30 minutes each in duration) on-site during trainings or workshops (two-days each) held in various international locations
5. Delivery of an After-Action Report that summarizes observations, successes, lessons learned, and recommendations for future programming on the relevant topic

Contract for Services:

Following selection, CRDF Global will negotiate a General Services Contract (hereafter “GSC”) with the selected SME(s).

While the GSC is not a guarantee of any work, the selected SME(s) on a GSC can be engaged by CRDF Global staff with an abbreviated selection process. This allows CRDF Global to potentially leverage the partnership with the SME for strategic initiatives, proposal submissions, and programmatic responses to urgent timelines. The GSC will be structured to allow CRDF Global Agreement Officer(s) to issue task orders to the SME upon successful negotiation CRDF’s standard provision and funder terms and conditions/ government flow-down along with the scope of work “SOW” and budget.

The specific duration of the GSC can be negotiated following selection but is expected to be between 2 – 5 years.

The GSC would seek to negotiate and lock in elements of pricing and cost that are agreeable to both parties.

Selection Requirements and Criteria:

Selection will be based on CRDF Global’s evaluation of the Contractor’s ability to meet CRDF Global’s requirements described below, as well as factors such as competitive pricing, quality of proposal, past performance, and other intangible factors. CRDF Global reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, and to negotiate terms of any subsequent agreements at its own discretion.

Key Requirements:

- a) At least ten years of relevant experience conducting research, delivering briefings or training, and/or implementing policy or capacity-building activities in the following areas:
 - Russian defense sector and associated advanced conventional weapon proliferation networks
 - People’s Republic of China (PRC) defense sector and associated advanced conventional weapon proliferation networks
 - Deceptive practices in defense procurement by sanctioned defense entities
 - Operations of sanctioned private military and security companies
 - Foreign technology acquisition practices by the People’s Republic of China
 - Ballistic missile acquisition/development by the Islamic Republic of Iran and deceptive maritime operations to transport proliferation-sensitive technology
 - Countering DPRK sanctions evasion practices related to illicit maritime shipping, proliferation finance, and trade in prohibited goods that help advance its ballistic missile and WMD programs
- b) Willingness and ability to attend and deliver presentations during online trainings
- c) Willingness and ability to attend and deliver presentations during on-site trainings in locations to be determined in South, Central, or Southeast Asia; the Middle East/North Africa; Sub-Saharan Africa; Eastern Europe; and South America

Preferred Requirements:

- An understanding of regional political and cultural dynamics in South, Central, or Southeast Asia; the Middle East/North Africa; Sub-Saharan Africa; Eastern Europe; and South America

Proposal Requirements:

Each proposal must include:

1. Statement of Interest and Technical Capabilities
 - Detailed description of the services offered in correlation with the RFP Subject Matter Expertise detailed under **Scope and Tasks**
 - List of recent experiences working with US Government and/or CRDF Global programming
 - Resumes (no more than 2 pages) of key contact(s)/project lead(s)
2. Cost proposal (recommended, but optional)
 - Description of the pricing and cost factors (e.g. hourly rates, fixed-cost pricing on standard services, and etc), that the SME would be willing to negotiate under the GSC.
3. Completion & online submission of CRDF Global's Contractor Data Form
4. *[Required for US-based orgs only]:*
 - Any Small or Disadvantaged Business Designations (Veteran Owned, HUB Zone, Women Owned, Disadvantaged Businesses)

RFP Timetable:

CRDF Global reserves the right to make changes to the RFP Timetable without providing explicit notification ahead of time.

September 27, 2021:	RFP Posted & Live
October 2, 2021:	RFP Questions Due
October 6, 2021:	RFP Questions & Answers Released
October 11, 2021:	RFP Submission Due

Proposal Submission:

Proposals must be submitted as electronic documents in PDF, Word or Excel format. Proposals should be submitted to reta@crdfglobal.org no later than October 11, 2021 at 5 pm. CRDF Global reserves the right to disqualify any proposal submitted after the submission deadline.

The subject line of the email must read:

CRDF Global RFP Submission_ Counterproliferation Capacity-Building Trainings

Background:

Founded in 1995, CRDF Global is an independent nonprofit organization that promotes international scientific and technical collaboration through grants, technical resources, training, and services. Based in Arlington, Virginia with offices in the Eurasia and MENA regions, CRDF Global works with more than 40 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, Eurasia, and Asia. We specialize in bringing isolated scientific communities into the scientific mainstream through a variety of science engagement and capacity-building programs. CRDF Global encourages science cooperation between countries where official relations are strained.

More information is available at www.crdfglobal.org.

Solicitation Terms & Conditions:

Right to Select Suppliers. CRDF Global reserves the right to negotiate with and select all qualified suppliers at its own discretion and is not obligated to inform suppliers of the methods used in the selection process. CRDF Global reserves the right to dismiss any and/or all suppliers from the bid process and reject any and/or all proposals.

Obligation. This RFP does not bind nor obligate CRDF Global in any way. CRDF Global makes no representation, either expressed or implied, that it will accept or approve in whole or in part any proposal submitted in response to this RFP. CRDF Global may reward, in whole or in part, the proposal at its sole discretion.

Notification. CRDF Global will notify bidders following completion of the evaluation process, as to whether or not bidders have been awarded the contract. The only information regarding the status of the evaluation of proposals that will be provided to any inquiring bidder shall be whether or not the inquiring bidder has been awarded the contract. CRDF Global may, at its sole discretion, inform any inquiring bidder of the reason(s) as to why it was not awarded the contract.

Binding Period. Following the due date of submission of this Proposal, the pricing included in this RFP shall be binding upon the supplier for the duration of the contract.

Hold Harmless. By submitting a response to the RFP, bidder agrees that CRDF Global has sole discretion to select any and/or all suppliers. During or following the conclusion of this process, bidders waive their rights to damages whatsoever attributable to the selection process, materials provided, supplier selection, or any communication associated with the RFP process and supplier selection.

Transfer to Final Contract. The terms and conditions of the RFP, including the specifications and the completed proposal, will become at CRDF Global's sole discretion, part of the final contract (the "Agreement") between CRDF Global and the selected bidder. In the event that responses to the terms and conditions will materially impair a bidder's ability to respond to the RFP, bidder should notify CRDF Global in writing of the impairment. If bidder fails to object to any condition(s) incorporated herein, it shall mean that bidder agrees with, and will comply with the conditions set forth herein.

Exceptions. Any exceptions to the terms and conditions or any additions, which bidder may wish to include in the RFP should be made in writing and included in the form of an addendum to the applicable Section in the RFP.

CRDF Global Proprietary Information. Supplier agrees that all non-public information contained in this document and communicated verbally in reference to this RFP by CRDF Global shall be received for the sole discretion and purpose of enabling the supplier to submit an accurate response to this RFP. The information contained in this RFP and disclosed during the course of negotiations and communications are proprietary in nature and under no circumstances to be disclosed to a third party without prior written consent from CRDF Global.

Supplier Proprietary Information. Information contained in the response to this RFP will be considered proprietary in nature if marked "confidential" or "proprietary". Such marked documents will not be disclosed to third parties outside CRDF Global with the exception of retained consultants under contractual confidentiality agreements.