



CRDF GLOBAL
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)
Subject Matter Experts on Private Military Companies and International Law

Summary:

CRDF Global is seeking subject matter experts (SMEs) with extensive knowledge of private military companies/private security service providers (PMCs) and international law, legal obligations, and good practice around the contracting and operation of such entities. In collaboration with other experts identified by CRDF Global, the SME would build, tailor, and deliver training/presentation sessions for government and non-governmental audiences especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, either in person or via online methods such as recorded videos and/or live webinars throughout 2021. If selected, CRDF Global would develop a specific Scope of Work with the contractor.

Contractor Requirements:

The contractor will have extensive experience with research, policy development/implementation, or legal matters pertaining to international laws governing the operation of PMCs, industry standards for professional operations, and procurement and contracting by states, companies, and/or NGOs. The contractor should also be aware of, and able to speak to the political, economic, reputational, and natural resource risks involved in working with prohibited PMCs.

The contractor will have detailed knowledge of international codes of legal obligations and practices on the contracting and operation of PMCs, including:

- **The Montreux Document** on pertinent international legal obligations and good practices for States Related to operations of Private Military and Security Companies During Armed Conflict
- **The International Code of Conduct** for Private Security Service Providers

The contractor should have experience working with the anticipated audiences for these trainings, which will include government officials, financial and other relevant watchdogs, military and law enforcement officials, among other entities.

The following are other preferred areas of contractor knowledge, skills, and experience:

- Specific knowledge of the operation of PMCs in Northern Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa
- Specific knowledge of the activity of Russian-linked PMCs, particularly entities subject to U.S., EU, or other international sanctions
- French language proficiency

Submission Requirements:

Submission must include:

- Statement of Interest and Technical Capabilities
- Proposed hourly labor rate
- CV(s)



- List of recent, relevant experience/past performance and applicable references/past performance
- Any Small or Disadvantaged Business Designations (Veteran Owned, HUB Zone, Women Owned, Disadvantaged Businesses)
- [NAICS Codes](#) (if applicable)

Contractor Selection Criteria:

CRDF Global will select the contractor that provides the best value in terms of overall price and experience. The contractor should have proven experience working with the subject matter area described above. Contractor's with experience with a diversity of audiences and geographies are preferred.

Submission:

Proposals should be submitted to procurement@crdfglobal.org & ctracey@crdfglobal.org. Proposals should be submitted as electronic documents in PDF, Word or Excel format.

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 RFI 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 RFI. CRDF Global may reward, in whole or in part, the proposal at its sole discretion.

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

Hold Harmless. By submitting a response to the RFI, the 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 RFI process and supplier selection.



CRDF Global Proprietary Information. Bidders agree that all non-public information contained in this document and communicated verbally in reference to this RFI by CRDF Global shall be received for the sole discretion and purpose of enabling the supplier to submit an accurate response to this RFI. The information contained in this RFI 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 RFI 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.