

**CRDF GLOBAL
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Deadline: October 30, 2025

Summary:

CRDF Global is seeking subject matter expert(s) (SMEs) with advanced expertise in sanctions compliance, proliferation finance, and counter illicit finance to support the implementation of a project, funded by U.S. State Department's Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR), that will include a series of sanctions compliance and risk management trainings for financial sector of partner countries. Selected SME(s) will deliver targeted workshops and tailored consultations designed to strengthen the capacity of financial institutions, corporations, and regulatory agencies in high-risk jurisdictions to detect, prevent, and disrupt sanctions evasion activities by state proliferators. Through expert-led presentations, interactive case studies, and facilitated discussions, SMEs will help participants apply sanctions regulations, identify illicit financial flows, and embed compliance mechanisms within institutional frameworks. The project will include ten (10) regional or bilateral one-day workshops and up to forty (40) in-person or virtual one-on-one consultations delivered between January and November 2026. Workshops will draw upon real-world enforcement examples and typologies of sanctions evasion linked to Russia's war in Ukraine and PRC proliferation financing schemes. The project will also incorporate trade data and/or sanctions screening tools, with access provided to participants as part of CTR-funded capacity-building support.

Scope:

The Contractor will join a team of subject matter experts to deliver up to ten (10) in-person one-day workshops across priority partner countries for at least 300 total (approximately 30 participants per training) representatives from financial institutions, corporations, and regulatory bodies on detecting and disrupting sanctions evasion by state proliferators and boosting risk management practices in partner countries in Europe and Asia. Trainings will focus on strengthening compliance frameworks, enhancing financial and trade due diligence, and integrating sanctions detection methodologies to prevent illicit financial and supply chain activity supporting WMD programs. In addition, the SME will provide up to forty (40) targeted in-person or virtual one-on-one consultations with select institutions to apply workshop concepts, review internal compliance processes, and improve sanctions enforcement practices in line with U.S. and international regulations.

Tasks and Deliverables:

CRDF Global is seeking SME(s) that can implement the entire project or specific components of the deliverables that best align with the SME(s)' expertise and past experience.

CRDF Global will consider proposals from both individual experts and institutional teams capable of supporting the following tasks and deliverables:

1. Aid in the identification of and communication with key stakeholders, including financial institutions, regulatory bodies, and compliance associations, throughout the project term (12 months);
2. Develop content for and deliver up to ten (10) one-day regional and bilateral workshops across priority partner countries in Europe and Asia to train approximately 300 total participants (around 30 per training) on detecting and disrupting sanctions evasion by state proliferators, strengthening risk management, KYC/KYCC practices;
3. Provide up to forty (40) one-on-one virtual or in-person consultations with financial institutions, corporations, and regulators to strengthen sanctions compliance frameworks, enhance risk-based monitoring, and apply best practices tailored to local jurisdictions (*Note: in-person consultations will take place only following in-person workshops and will not require standalone international trips to locations of financial institutions*);

4. Attend bi-weekly and ad-hoc coordination calls as needed through the end of the project period (no later than December 2026);
5. Submit an After Action Report summarizing workshop outcomes, key observations, successes, lessons learned, and recommendations for future programming to support sustained sanctions enforcement capacity.

Contractor Requirements:

At least five years of relevant experience conducting research, delivering briefings or trainings, and/or implementing policy or capacity-building activities related to sanctions enforcement, counterproliferation finance, or illicit network disruption involving state.

Knowledge of the following subject matter areas:

1. Methods used by state proliferators and associated entities to facilitate and conceal sanctions evasion through complex corporate structures, offshore jurisdictions, trade intermediaries, and third-party enablers.
2. Application of financial intelligence, trade data analysis, and sanctions screening tools to identify evasion networks, front companies, and proliferation financing activities linked to proliferator states' defense-industrial base and illicit dual-use technology procurement.
3. Use of corporate registries, beneficial ownership data, and trade or maritime records to trace high-risk actors and transactions connected to sanctioned entities.
4. U.S. and international legal frameworks governing sanctions and export controls, including authorities under Executive Orders 14024 and 14114, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Entity List, Treasury's Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List, and related EU/UK sanctions mechanisms.
5. Trends and emerging threats related to proliferator states' sanctions evasion activities, including typologies in financial, logistics, maritime, and energy sectors.
6. Experience working with or advising Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), AML/CFT bodies, export control agencies, law enforcement, or compliance officers to strengthen institutional risk management and enforcement capacity.
7. Familiarity with suspicious transaction reporting, sanctions screening processes, and compliance systems within financial and corporate sectors.
8. Familiarity with developing and maintaining correspondent banking relationships.
8. Experience developing and sustaining public-private partnerships and peer networks to enhance sanctions compliance collaboration.
9. Demonstrated experience conducting both in-person and virtual capacity-building workshops and trainings for international audiences.
10. Familiarity with trade data platforms, sanctions screening software, and analytical tools used to detect high-risk transactions or entities.
11. **SMEs who do not currently have access to trade data or sanctions screening tools are still encouraged to submit proposals, as CRDF Global will provide CTR-funded licenses for use during the project.**

Proposal Requirements:

- Statement of Interest and Technical Capabilities
- Cost proposal
- CV(s)
- List of recent experience in the RFP Subject Matter area and applicable references/past performance
- Any Small or Disadvantaged Business Designations (Veteran Owned, HUB Zone, Women Owned, Disadvantaged Businesses)
- [NAICS Codes:](#)
 - 541620 Environmental Consulting Services- Small Business Threshold \$15 million
 - 541690 Other Scientific and Technical Consulting Services – \$15 million

Timetable:

October 20, 2025 :RFP Questions due

October 23, 2025 :RFP Questions & Answers released

October 30, 2025: RFP submissions due

November 10, 2025: Contract start date

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 sanctions regulations, identify illicit financial flows, and embed compliance mechanisms within institutional frameworks.

CRDF Global prioritizes a safe and collaborative work environment in which diversity, equity, and inclusion is championed and discussed. CRDF Global provides equal employment opportunities to all qualified individuals without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity, national origin, protected veteran, or disabled status. We are dedicated to creating and maintaining a respectful work environment that is safe, engaging, and comfortable for all.

CRDF Global pledges to prioritize sponsorship of diverse events and panels of experts whenever possible.

Selection Criteria and Evaluation Methods:

Evaluation Factors

1. Technical Approach
2. Key Personnel and Qualifications
3. Management Approach
4. Price/Cost
5. Small Business Utilization (if applicable):
6. Risk Management

Evaluation Methods

7. Best Value Trade-Off:

Evaluation Scoring Methodology:

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following scoring system:

8. Excellent (5): Exceeds all requirements and offers superior benefits.
9. Good (4): Meets all requirements with some additional value.
10. Acceptable (3): Meets all minimum requirements.
11. Marginal (2): Meets some requirements but has deficiencies.
12. Unacceptable (1): Fails to meet requirements.

Basis for Award:

The award will be made to the offeror whose proposal provides the best value to the government, considering both technical and price factors. The government reserves the right to make an award to other than the lowest-priced offeror if a higher-priced offeror demonstrates superior technical capabilities.

Submission:

Proposals should be submitted to procurement@crdfglobal.org with CC to Mr. Massoud Ahmad (mahmad@crdfglobal.org) and Mr. Habib Shafaq (hshafaq@crdfglobal.org) no later than 5:00 pm EST on Thursday, October 30, 2025. Proposals should be submitted as electronic documents in PDF, Word or Excel format.

Background:

CRDF Global is an independent nonprofit organization founded in 1995 in response to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the threat of large-scale proliferation of weapons technology from the region. With support authorized by the Nunn-Lugar Act of 1991 and the Freedom Support Act of 1992, as well private foundation contributions, CRDF Global embarked on bolstering the global scientific community and fostering alternatives to weapons research.

In the past 30 years, our work has expanded to address ever-changing global concerns, but our commitment to ensuring the success of our partners remains the same. We are a leading provider of flexible logistical support, program design and management, and strategic capacity building programs in the areas of higher education, CBRNE security and nonproliferation, border security, cybersecurity, global health, technology entrepreneurship, and international professional exchanges.

With offices in Arlington, VA; Kyiv, Ukraine; Almaty, Kazakhstan; Manila, Philippines; Warsaw, Poland and Amman, Jordan, CRDF Global's diverse staff and networks of local community and government stakeholders deliver tailored programs that meet specific regional needs in over 100 countries across the globe.

Vision Statement:

Our world, healthy, safe, and sustainable.

Mission Statement:

Safety, security, and sustainability through science, innovation, and collaboration.

Values:

We do the right thing.

We care about each other and the people we work with.

We work together to deliver excellence

CRDF Global provides equal opportunities to all qualified individuals without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran, or disabled status. We are committed to prioritizing an inclusive and collaborative space in which diversity and equity is discussed, championed, and supported. We acknowledge and honor the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals. We pledge ourselves to creating and maintaining an environment that respects diverse traditions, heritages, and experiences.

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.