

CRDF GLOBAL
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: SMR Expertise – Organizations

Deadline: January 30, 2026 (11:59 PM ET)

Summary:

CRDF Global is seeking organizations to provide subject matter expertise and implementation support across a number of topic areas for ongoing and future projects under the Foundational Infrastructure for Responsible Use of Small Modular Reactor Technology (FIRST) program as well as other programs funded by the U.S. Department of State. Under these programs, CRDF Global engages partner countries worldwide seeking to build or expand their nuclear energy programs to meet energy needs consistent with the highest nuclear security, safety, and nonproliferation standards. Eligible organizations include but are not limited to colleges and universities, research institutions, private consulting firms, professional and technical associations, and non-profit organizations with a focus on one or more of the technical areas referenced below.

If you are seeking to apply as an *individual* rather than as an institution, please see the separate **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: SMR Expertise – Individuals**.

Scope:

Subcontracted organizations (Contractors) will work with CRDF Global to lend subject matter expertise, provide access to academic/technical courses and/or provide access to facilities, and/or assist partner academic and technical institutions to enhance their instructional programs. This support will enable the successful delivery of program engagements that will enable partner countries to safely and responsibly develop or advance civil nuclear energy programs leveraging small modular reactor (SMR) or other advanced reactor technologies. Contractors will work under the close operational supervision of CRDF Global and the U.S. Department of State to provide varied **types of support**, across one or more **technical areas**, during **program engagements**.

Types of Support (include but are not limited to the following):

- Development and delivery of presentations, case studies, exercises, and technical material
- Facilitating and/or contributing to technical discussions
- Designing and conducting pre-feasibility studies, site assessments, and/or other studies/analysis
- Hosting international civil nuclear energy visitors during study tours and/or technical site visits
- Partner with universities, technical institutions, and/or ministries to review and enhance nuclear engineering program curricula, technical training/certification instruction, and/or develop novel tools and materials as part of nuclear workforce development efforts.
- Providing consultative services

Technical Areas (include but are not limited to the following):

- Regulatory development and licensing for advanced nuclear reactors
- Nuclear technology assessment and selection
- SMR site selection and characterization
- Nuclear workforce development
- Nuclear stakeholder engagement
- SMR financing and localization
- Spent fuel and waste management
- Nuclear security
- Nuclear safety
- Nuclear nonproliferation
- Nuclear energy as part of the energy mix
- Compliance with international treaties and obligations

- Probabilistic risk assessment
- Digital instrumentation and control
- Emergency response design
- Nuclear knowledge management

Program Engagements (include but are not limited to the following):

- Workshops and trainings
- Conferences
- Online courses and webinars
- Meetings
- Study tours and site visits
- Academic partnerships
- Technical consultancies

Tasks and Deliverables:

Applicants should indicate the Tasks/Types of Support for which they would like to be considered by using the attached Nuclear SME Checklist.

Task One: Provide Subject Matter Expertise to develop and deliver presentations, case studies, exercises, and/or technical material during workshops, trainings, conferences, online courses, webinars, meetings, study tours, and/or site visits.

The Contractor will provide subject matter expert(s) to develop engagement materials, such as written presentations, case studies, and leave-behind resources, which will be submitted to CRDF Global at least 10 business days before the scheduled start of the engagement. The Contractor will also provide input on documents including but not limited to engagement agendas and evaluation materials. The Contractor will participate in coordination calls and email communication as requested. Depending on the structure and dates of the engagement, the Contractor will serve as an expert either in-person or remotely (e.g. via web-conferencing). If in-person, the Contractor will travel internationally or domestically to the site of the engagement. The Contractor will deliver materials developed on identified topics, answer participants' questions, and facilitate discussions during each engagement they are tasked to support. If in-person, the Contractor should expect to arrive one day prior to the engagement and depart the day following the engagement. If virtual, the Contractor should expect to join each session at least 30 minutes early and stay after the session for a 30-minute debrief.

Anticipated Task One Deliverables:

- Draft materials submitted to CRDF Global at least 20 business days prior to the start of the engagement which the SME is supporting.
- Final materials addressing CRDF Global comments submitted at least 10 business days prior to the start of the engagement which the SME is supporting.
- Input on agendas and evaluation materials for the engagement which the SME is supporting.
- Participate in bi-weekly coordination calls and email communications as requested by CRDF Global.
- Materials delivered during the engagement which the SME is supporting.
- Answers provided to questions asked by participants during the engagement which the SME is supporting.
- Brief final report using the CRDF Global-provided template submitted 5 business days following the engagement.

Task Two: Provide Subject Matter Expertise to facilitate and/or contribute to technical discussions during workshops, meetings, study tours, and/or site visits.

The Contractor will draw on their technical expertise to actively facilitate or substantively contribute to discussions with varied international civil nuclear partner representatives from the public, private, and/or academic sectors. They will

help guide dialogue, clarify complex issues, and ensure that information shared is accurate, relevant, and aligned with engagement objectives. By applying their specialized knowledge, the Contractor will enhance the quality and effectiveness of engagement sessions, fostering increased awareness, informed decision-making, and productive engagement among participating stakeholders. Depending on the structure and dates of the engagement, the Contractor will serve as an expert either in-person or remotely (e.g. via web-conferencing). If in-person, the Contractor will travel internationally or domestically to the site(s) of the engagement.

Anticipated Task Two Deliverables:

- Input on agendas and evaluation materials for the engagement which the SME is supporting.
- Participation in bi-weekly coordination calls and email communications as requested by CRDF Global.
- Facilitate or participate in the engagement sessions.
- Brief final report using a CRDF Global-provided template submitted no later than 5 business days following the engagement.

Task Three: Provide Subject Matter Expertise to design and conduct studies and/or assessments

The Contractor will subject matter expert(s) to design and conduct pre-feasibility studies, site and environmental assessments, nuclear technology evaluations, regulatory and licensing preparedness analyses, financial and economic planning, safety and risk appraisals, and/or other technical advisory services deemed necessary to support international civil nuclear partners with comprehensive early-phase nuclear program development. Requirements will be determined by CRDF Global. CRDF Global will provide the Contractor with information on the partner country(ies), agency(ies), company(ies), and/or site(s) of interest including contact information and any relevant direction.

Anticipated Task Three Deliverables:

- Initial plan based on the requirements provided by CRDF Global.
- International travel if required to site(s) of engagement, meetings, and/or assessments.
- Materials provided to CRDF Global at least 10 business days prior to external dissemination with international partners.
- Participate in biweekly coordination calls and email communications as requested by CRDF Global.
- Quarterly interim reports (for projects lasting over three months)
- Final report using a CRDF Global-provided template submitted no later than 10 business days following completion of a final project milestone.

Task Four: Provide consultative services to international civil nuclear partners

The Contractor will identify subject matter expert(s) to advise international civil nuclear partner representatives from the public, private, and/or academic sectors within their technical area(s) of expertise. The consulting services provided should assist international partners in improving decision making capacity, developing effective nuclear energy plans, strengthening technical understanding, supporting alignment with international standards, advancing national or institutional preparedness, improving academic or technical workforce development programs, enhancing stakeholder engagement approaches, strengthen financial planning capacity/evaluate financing options, or generate similar outcomes. CRDF Global will provide the Contractor with the specific scope of work, contact information for international partners, and any relevant direction. During consulting, the Contractor may be requested to develop or review technical materials, briefing documents, or similar content. Consulting may take place either in-person or remotely (e.g. via web-conferencing). If in-person, the Contractor will travel internationally or domestically to the site(s) of the engagement.

Anticipated Task Four Deliverables:

- Initial consulting plan based on the requirements provided by CRDF Global.
- International travel if required to site(s) of engagement.
- Materials provided to CRDF Global at least 10 business days prior to external dissemination with international partners.
- Participate in biweekly coordination calls and email communications as requested by CRDF Global.

- Quarterly interim reports (for projects lasting over three months)
- Final report using a CRDF Global-provided template submitted no later than 10 business days following completion of a final project milestone.

Task Five: Host international civil nuclear energy visitors during study tours and/or technical site visits

The Contractor will provide support to CRDF Global to host delegations of visiting civil nuclear energy stakeholders during study tours or technical site visits. Study Tours may range in duration from three to ten business days; Site Visits may range in duration from one hour to two business days. Visitors may represent international government, industry, or academia. This support may include leading or contributing to the design of the study tour/site visit itinerary or agendas; organizing meetings and sessions with Contractor subject matter experts, faculty, and/or other relevant external stakeholders within government, industry, or academia; allowing visitors to observe ongoing courses, training sessions, and/or other activities at the Contractor's facilities; and/or providing access to and/or tours of relevant Contractor facilities during visits (e.g. classrooms, control room simulators, research or technical facilities).

Anticipated Task Five Deliverables:

- Input into study tour itinerary at least 25 business days prior to study tour.
- Development of, or input into, site visit and/or meeting agendas including brief biographical information of any participating U.S. stakeholders from government, academia, and/or industry at least 20 business days prior to study tour.
- Drafts of any presentation materials submitted to CRDF Global at least 20 business days prior to the start of the study tour and/or site visit.
- Final materials addressing CRDF Global comments submitted at least 10 business days prior to the start of the study tour and/or site visit.
- Participate in bi-weekly coordination calls and email communications as requested by CRDF Global.
- Brief final report using a CRDF Global-provided template submitted no later than 5 business days following the study tour and/or site visit.

Task Six: Partner with universities, technical institutions, and/or ministries to review and enhance nuclear engineering program curricula, technical training/certification instruction, and/or develop novel tools and materials as part of nuclear workforce development efforts

The Contractor will provide support to CRDF Global to design and deliver academic partnership programming with universities, technical institutions, and/or ministries focused on creating and/or enhancing nuclear engineering programs and/or technical training/certification programs. This may include reviewing and making recommendations to enhance academic curricula, technical instruction, and/or associated materials; developing, contributing to, and/or delivering joint nuclear engineering courses or technical training remotely with partner institutions; providing support to partner institutions on institutional approvals and/or accreditation processes; hosting faculty or students for a duration of one week to six weeks; or other efforts to enable partner institutions to support a nuclear workforce capable of deploying, operating, and sustaining civil nuclear energy based on advanced reactor technologies.

Anticipated Task Six Deliverables:

- Reviews, recommendations, and edits on academic curricula, technical instruction, and/or associated materials provided to CRDF Global based on a schedule to be developed with CRDF Global.
- For remote joint nuclear engineering course or technical training delivery, provide materials to CRDF Global at least 20 business days prior to each course/training session.
- Final materials addressing CRDF Global comments submitted at least 10 business days prior to the start of each course/training session.
- Reviews, recommendations, and edits on partner institution plans for institutional approvals and/or accreditation processes provided to CRDF Global based on a schedule to be developed with CRDF Global.
- Participate in bi-weekly coordination calls and email communications as requested by CRDF Global.
- Facilitate or participate in the engagement sessions.

- Brief final report using a CRDF Global-provided template submitted no later than 5 business days following the engagement.

Contractor Requirements:

- Proven experience working in the nuclear energy sector (public sector, private sector, or academic sector) on areas such as Nuclear security and nonproliferation; Nuclear safety and licensing for advanced reactors; Site selection and characterization; Workforce development; Stakeholder engagement; Preparation for SMR financing; Understanding the role of nuclear in the energy mix; Technology assessment and selection; Planning for spent fuel and waste management; or Compliance with relevant international treaties and obligations.
- Proven experience providing subject matter expertise with nuclear energy stakeholders through trainings, workshops, webinars, meetings, studies, assessments, study tours, site visits, academic programming, and/or consulting.
- For Tasks requiring travel: the ability for Contractor experts to travel domestically or internationally, depending on the engagement.

Proposal Requirements:

- Nuclear SME Checklist ([click here to download](#))
 - Must indicate by checking the respective boxes the **Type of Support** for which you wish to be considered, the **Technical Areas** which you are qualified to cover, and the **Program Engagements** for which you wish to be considered.
- Statement of Interest and Technical Capabilities
 - Must include specific areas of expertise, experience/past performance, capabilities, and qualifications associated with the **Types of Support**, **Technical Areas**, and **Program Engagements** indicated in the Checklist.
- CV(s) or brief biographies (e.g. 3-5 sentences) of Contractor subject matter experts, faculty, or personnel proposed.
- Cost proposal
 - Must include proposed hourly rate of the subject matter experts, faculty, or personnel proposed.
 - Must include any proposed institutional indirect rate.
 - If proposed hourly rate will differ by Type of Support, please explain
- Any Small or Disadvantaged Business Designations (Veteran Owned, HUB Zone, Women Owned, Disadvantaged Businesses)
- [NAICS Codes](#): 541620 Environmental Consulting Services - Small Business Threshold \$19 million
541690 Other Scientific and Technical Consulting Services - Small Business Threshold \$19 million

Timetable:

January 5: RFP Questions due
January 9: RFP Questions & Answers released
***January 30:* RFP Submissions due**
March 15+: Contract start date (may vary)

Contractor Selection Criteria:

CRDF Global will select the contractor that provides the best value in terms of level of experience, potential contributions to the program, and overall price/cost for the following:

- Experience working in the nuclear energy sector (public sector, private sector, or academic sector) on technical areas including regulatory development and licensing for advanced nuclear reactors, nuclear technology assessment and selection, SMR site selection and characterization, nuclear workforce development, nuclear

stakeholder engagement, SMR financing and localization, spent fuel and waste management, nuclear security, nuclear safety, nuclear nonproliferation, and/or compliance with international treaties and obligations.

- Experience with development and delivery of presentations, case studies, exercises, and technical material, facilitating and/or contributing to technical discussions, designing and conducting pre-feasibility studies, site assessments, and/or other studies/analysis, and/or providing consultative services.
- Experience providing subject matter expertise to nuclear energy stakeholders through workshops and trainings, conferences, online courses and webinars, meetings, study tours and site visits, and/or technical consultancies.
- Experience working with non-U.S. civil nuclear energy stakeholders in government, academia, and/or the private sector.

Selection Criteria and Evaluation Methods

Evaluation Factors

1. Qualifications (40%)
 - a. The Contractor's credentials related to the technical areas within industry, the public sector, and/or academia. Consideration will be given to the length of time working in these areas, breadth and depth of expertise, and relevant capabilities.
2. Past Performance (30%)
 - a. The Contractor's level of experience will be evaluated based on the CVs/bio sketches of the experts involved with similar activities.
3. Price/Cost (30%)
 - a. Price will be evaluated for reasonableness, fairness, and alignment with the proposed scope of work. The project seeks a balance between competitive pricing and technical merit.

Evaluation Methods:

- Best Value Trade-Off: Successful proposals will be selected based on both technical and price factors, weighing them to determine which offer represents the best value. Technical factors, such as experience, qualifications, and past performance, may be more heavily weighted than price. CRDF Global reserves the right to select a higher-priced proposal if it offers superior technical benefits or overall value. CRDF Global retains full discretion to contract for all, some, or none of the activities included in any proposal submitted under this RFP.

Evaluation Scoring Methodology

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following scoring system:

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

Submission:

Proposals should be submitted to procurement@crdfglobal.org and bking@crdfglobal.org. Proposals should be submitted as electronic documents in PDF, Word or Excel format. Proposals must include **"SMR RFP Submission 2026: [Institution's Name]"** in the subject line of your email.

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; 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 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.