| Issue Date: | **November 01, 2023** |
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| **Response Submission Due Date:** | **November 10, 2023 at 23:59 EST** |

**Subject:     USAID Indo-Pacific Opportunity Project (IPOP) Vessel Greening Activity – Request for Information for Vessel Modeling and Testing**

All Prospective Offerors:

International Development Group Advisory Services, LLC (International Development Group LLC or IDG) is implementing a Vessel Greening Activity under the Indo-Pacific Opportunity Project (IPOP) Activity, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). As part of that process, we intend to seek proposals for services related to vessel modeling and testing. IDG is soliciting responses from qualified organizations interested in providing these services in preparation of that tender. This is a request for information (RFI) that is intended to receive comments and projected costs on the questions included.

This is an RFI and not a Request for Proposals (RFP). Please do not prepare a proposal in response to this RFI as the terms of reference are not finalized. Responses will be held confidential.

All responses must be submitted electronically to procurement@internationaldevelopmentgroup.com on or before the due date stipulated above.

Thank you for your interest in working with IDG.

Sincerely,

IDG Procurement Team

# A.1 Background and Introduction

## Overview of the Indo-Pacific Opportunity Project

The United States, through its Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS), is committed to improving its economic relationship with the Indo-Pacific and ensuring the region is open, connected, prosperous, resilient, and secure. The Indo-Pacific Opportunity Project (IPOP) is a 4-year activity supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and designed to address economic objectives under the IPS. It aims to create inclusive and sustainable economic growth, encourage regional cooperation, promote good governance, and improve the management of institutions. IPOP's four main objectives are: (1) Improve Trade & Investment Policy & Capacity, (2) Strengthen Ability to Implement Sustainable & High-Quality Infrastructure Projects, (3) Improve Macroeconomic & Fiscal Policy, and (4) Strengthen Democratic Systems to Oversee Public Financial Management.

## Overview of the Vessel Greening Activity

The activity will develop a vessel fleet upgrading program focused on developing an efficient, safe, and clean inland vessel fleet, including the financing schemes for implementation. The activity will maintain a technical assistance component (model design and testing of standardized and modular solutions) and the assessment of potential financing models for construction and implementation of the designed inland vessels. As a result of this activity, modern vessels will have fewer waste spills and lower emissions (greenhouse gases and air pollutants).

Improved IWT connectivity will enable access for urban and rural communities to safe and clean transport means. With improved ferry operations and facilities at landing sites and jetties (toilets, lights, waiting areas), the regional waterway system will become safer for all users, including women, youth, and those with disabilities. The local shipping industry will grow, which will create direct and indirect economic impacts.

## Purpose of the RFI and Overview of the Requirement:

IDG, under the IPOP Vessel Greening Activity, is supporting the design and marketability of (up to 4 types of) green vessels by supporting their design and testing, as well as a marketing/purchase viability plan so that companies can/will invest in these vessels. IDG currently has an RFP out for the vessel design. However, testing requires specific types of facilities. IDG wants to understand what types of facilities and capabilities are available, and at what timeline and cost. Additionally, the project aims to increase the capacity of local experts; information on companies' ability to host foreign delegates for such a purpose is requested.

## A.2 RFI Questions

IDG is interested in hearing from potential bidders on the questions below. Potential bidders may respond to all or part of the questions:

1. Do you have experience designing shallow draft/inland water vessels? If so, could you please briefly confirm the number and describe the types of vessels?

2. Do you conduct hull optimization for shallow draft vessels designed by other companies? If so, approximately how many have you completed?

3. Do you have the capability to conduct scale model testing?

4. What facilities do you have for scale model testing?

5. Have you conducted scale model testing for shallow draft vessels? If so, could you please briefly describe the process that you use and estimate the number of scale model tests you have completed?

6. Do you have the capability to conduct computerized fluid dynamic modeling on shallow draft vessel hulls, propulsion systems, and appendages?

7. What kind of software do you use for CFD modeling?

8. Have you ever hosted knowledge exchanges or trainings at your facility for foreign delegates? Would you be open to hosting a few researchers from a foreign country for up to two weeks to train them on how to conduct CFD modeling of shallow draft vessel appendages and scale model testing? What would you envision this program looking like?

9. From start to finish, including construction of the scale model, how long does it take on average to conduct scale model testing?

10. Could you please provide a rough cost estimate for (i) CFD modeling of four vessels at the concept and detailed design stages, (ii) scale model testing of four shallow draft vessels, and (iii) a two-week training program for two foreign delegates (expenses of the delegates to be paid separately)

## A.3 RFI Response Instructions

All responses must be in English.

Please respond in no more than five (5) pages, with size 12 font, single spaced, with standard one-inch margins.

Please send your responses in PDF to [procurement@internationaldevelopmentgroup.com](mailto:procurement@internationaldevelopmentgroup.com) by the date listed above.