

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Issue Date:	September 20, 2024
Questions Submission Due Date:	October 10 at 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time
Proposal Submission Due Date:	October 16 at 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time
Applicants:	Restricted to applicants owned and operated in the Dominican Republic

Subject: Consultancy: Baseline Survey for the Dominican Republic Supply Chain Activity Questions and Answers

To All Prospective Offerors:

International Development Group Advisory Services, LLC (International Development Group LLC or IDG) is soliciting proposals from qualified local organizations to provide technical services as described in this solicitation. This procurement will require a formal technical and cost proposal submission as outlined by the Request for Proposal (RFP). This procurement will be conducted through a full and open competition process under which any type of organization is eligible to compete. The USAID Dominican Republic Supply Chain Investment Activity anticipates awarding a firm fixed price agreement with an estimated period of performance of four (4) months from the date of award as a result of this solicitation. Competition under this procurement will be limited to local organizations.

IDG received the following questions from prospective organizations. To ensure fair competition, IDG is sharing the questions and answers below:

Q: Should the entire proposed team be fully bilingual, or would it be sufficient to write in English the results of the research?

A: Having broader language skills provides access to more information and enhances overall qualifications and exposure. That said, it is not crucial for all team members to speak English, as long as the project manager and supervisors do. However, given equal qualifications, a fully English-speaking team would be preferred in a selection process.

Q) I'm unclear on the intended audience of the survey, as outlined in objective 1. Please confirm whether the survey is intended for Free Trade Zones companies only, or for Free Trade Zones and SMEs. Or is it intended to carry out more than one survey, one for Free Trade Zones and another for SMEs?

The baseline should be carried out in free trade zones located in the metropolitan and suburban areas of Santo Domingo and Santiago. Tentatively, these may include PIISA in San Cristóbal, Las Américas, Corporación de Zonas Francas de Santiago, among others.

It is also necessary to conduct a survey for SMEs, since the project seeks to include the linkage of these with the free trade zones.

Q) Please confirm whether these indicators are the same as those in Annex F. Please confirm whether these indicators are the ones for which a strategy should be developed.

Yes. These are the baseline indicators are those included in Annex F.

Q) Could you please clarify what is meant by 'Y'?

Y is to indicate that there is another objective. That is, objective 2.

Q) With regard to the demographic focus, would you like the survey to be exclusively for youth (10-29 years old), women and other vulnerable populations, or would you prefer to include a question in the survey to determine if part of the sample belongs to a vulnerable group?

The survey is not intended to be exclusively for youth (10-29 years old), women, and other vulnerable populations, but these groups should be represented in the survey sample.

Q) Please advise whether you would like a field survey to be conducted as part of the Baseline Survey for the Supply Chain Activity in the Dominican Republic consultancy.

Yes, a field survey is intended.

Q: We would like to know if it is possible for you to reconsider this application period so that it can take place after the Christmas and New Year holidays.

A: Estimated dates are provided in the solicitation. Final timeline and dates will be agreed with the contractor upon implementation.

Sincerely,
Dominican Republic Supply Chain Investment Procurement Team