## 

Rural Rehabilitation

Association for Afghanistan

(RRAA)

**REQUEST FOR QUOTATION**

TO:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **All interested registered Wheat Seed Production Companies.** |  | **Date of issue:** | August,19,2024 |
|  | **File no.:** | RRAA-NPL-CRO-LOGAR-032-B -2024 |
|  | **Contract title:** | Provision of Certified wheat seed for Baraki Barak & Pul-e-Alam districts of Logar Province |
|  | **Closing date:** | September 01, 2024, Time 2:00 PM |
|  | **For further information, please contact the Contracting Authority:** | House #10, street #2, Opposite to Imam-e-Azam Masjid, Deh Naw-Dehbori, District#3, Kabul-Afghanistan.  Contact person:  Hamed Wasil  Tel: +93772630093  Fax: N/A  Email: hamed.wasil@rraa.org.af  For Technical information  Mohammad Kabir Yaqubi  Tel: +93702020718  Email: Kabir.Yaqubi@rraa.org.af |
|  |  | * **Please note that the Quotations may be delivered to the Contracting Authority as hard copies at the above address in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the above File Number and the name of the submitting company.** * **All the quotations will be opened in the presence of the applicants. On September 01, 2024.** * **Tender submission date and Time: September 01, 2024, time 01:00 PM – 02:00 PM** * **Tender opening date and Time: September 01,2024, time 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM, at the above-mentioned address.** | |

RURAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION FOR AFGHANISTAN (RRAA) INVITES YOU TO SUBMIT A QUOTATION FOR THE FOLLOWING GOODS WITH DELIVERY TO THE PROJECT SITE (BARAKI BARAK AND PUL-E-ALAM DISTRICTS OF LOGAR PROVINCE).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Item** | **Description** | Variety | **location** | **QTY** | **Unit** |
| 1 | Certified Wheat Seed | Certified Wheat seed variety of Wahdat 15 with 85% or over 85% germination rate and 98% purity (free from soil, sand, and pest & diseases) produced fresh of this year along with MAIL tag number and last year certificate of receiving foundation seeds from MAIL for certified seeds production. Weight 50 KG Packing in standard /bag along with Supplier logo and verity description on bag. With transportation, loading, and unloading to the project site (distribution sites selected in any 6 zones of Pol-e-Alam).  . | Wahdat-15 | Pul-e-Alam-Logar | 18.75 | MT |
| 2 | Certified Wheat Seed | Certified Wheat seed variety of Solh 18 with 85% or over 85% germination rate and 98% purity (free from soil, sand and pest & diseases) produced fresh of this year along with MAIL tag number and last year certificate of receiving foundation seeds from MAIL for certified seeds production. Weight 50 kg packing in standard bag along with supplier logo and verity description on bag with transportation, loading, and unloading to the project site (distribution sites selected in any 6 zones of Pol-e-Alam). | Solh-18 | Pul e Alam-Logar | 18.75 | MT |
| 3 | Certified Wheat Seed | Certified Wheat seed variety of Wahdat 15 with 85% or over 85% germination rate and 98% purity (free from soil, sand, and pest & diseases) produced fresh of this year along with MAIL tag number and last year certificate of receiving foundation seeds from MAIL for certified seeds production. Weight 50 kg/bag along with Supplier logo and verity description on bag. With transportation, loading, and unloading to the project site. (Distribution sites selected in any 5 zones of Baraki Barak district). | Wahdat-15 | Baraki Barak Logar | 18.75 | MT |
| 4 | Certified Wheat Seed | Certified Wheat seed variety of Solh 18 with 85% or over 85% germination rate and 98% purity (free from soil, sand, and pest & diseases) produced fresh of this year along with MAIL tag number and last year certificate of receiving foundation seeds from MAIL for certified seeds production. Weight 50 kg packing in standard bag with along with supplier logo and verity description on bag with transportation, loading, and unloading to the project site. (Distribution sites selected in any 5 zones of Baraki Barak district). | Solh-18 | Baraki Barak Logar | 18.75 | MT |

## Instructions

1. **Acknowledgment**

Upon receipt of the Request for Quotation please inform the Contracting Authority if you intend to submit a quotation, please respond even if negative.

1. **General**

The goods to be purchased are for use by the Contracting Authority for the Certified wheat seed (Wahdat-15 and Solh -18) according to the above-mentioned specification for the vulnerable farmers in Pul-e-Alam & Baraki districts of Logar province. The intervention is supported by Cordaid; the supplier should submit a quotation for all.

1. **Cost of quotation**

The supplier shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his quotation and the Contracting Authority will not be responsible or liable for these costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding procedure.

1. **Eligibility and qualification requirements**

In the Quotation Submission Form suppliers shall attest that they meet the eligibility criteria. If required by the Contracting Authority, the supplier whose quotation is accepted shall further provide evidence satisfactory to the Contracting Authority of its eligibility through certificates issued by competent authorities in its country of establishment or operation, if such certificates are not available, through a sworn statement.

To give evidence of their capability and adequate resources Suppliers shall provide the information and the documents requested by the Contracting Authority.

1. **Exclusion from award of contracts**

Contracts may not be awarded to Candidates who, during this procedure:

* Are subject to conflict of interest:
* Are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by the Contracting Authority as a condition of participation in the Contract procedure or failing to supply this information.

1. **Bid Submission Requirement:**

The Supplier shall complete and submit the following document:

1. The attached Quotation Submission Form.
2. Suppliers’ technical specifications.
3. Copies of any registration certificates as required by national legislation or competent authorities including company registration certificates and membership certificates of any relevant professional bodies (Shall only be submitted if you have not delivered to the Contracting Authority before)
4. References that we may contact for further background information on your company. (Shall only be submitted if you have not delivered to the Contracting Authority before)
5. Company profile and 3 years of working experience.
6. 3 similar completion project documents (contracts) during the past 3 years. Please ensure that all shared documents should be cleared for a reference check (email address, name of company, and name of responsible Person).
7. Bid security in the form of a bank guarantees 5% of the total bid value.
8. All tender pages are to be signed and stamped by the supplier.
9. The applicant must mention the duration of delivery from time of signing contract to final delivery to the site.
10. **Price**

The price quoted by the supplier shall not be subject to adjustments on any account except as otherwise provided in the conditions of the Contract.

All prices must be quoted in Afghani (AFN).

***Tax***

Withholding Tax on Subcontractor:

Government withholding Tax: Under Article 72 in the Afghanistan Tax law effective March 21, 2009, RRAA is required to withhold “contractor” taxes from the gross amount payable to all Afghan for-profit subcontractors/vendors with an aggregate amount of AFN 500,000.00 or greater and transfer this to the Ministry of Finance. By this requirement, RRAA shall withhold 2% tax from all gross invoices from subcontractors/vendors under this Agreement with active AISA or Ministry of Commerce License. For subcontractors /vendors without active AISA or Ministry of Commerce license, RRAA shall withhold seven percent 7% “contractor” tax per current Afghanistan Tax law.

1. **Validity**

Quotations shall remain valid and open for acceptance for 14 days from the date of issuance from August 19,2024 – September 01, 2024, at 02:00 PM- Kabul time.

Collection date and time: September 01,2024 time 01:00 PM till 02:00 PM.

Bide Opening date and time; September 01, 2024. Time from 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM in Kabul office ate above-mentioned address. If the mentioned date falls on a holiday, the validity shall be extended to the next working day.

1. **Closing date**

Quotation must be received by the Contracting Authority as specified on page 1 not later than the closing date and time. Any quotations received after that will not be considered.

1. **Award of Contract and Criteria**

The Contracting Authority will award the Contract to the supplier whose quotation has been determined to be substantially responsive to this Request for Quotation (RFQ) and who has offered the lowest evaluated price, provided further that the supplier has the capability and resources to carry out the Contract effectively.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to accept all your quotations, whichever is in its best financial interest.

1. **Signature and entry into force of the Contract.**

Before the expiration of the period of the quotation validity, the Contracting Authority will notify the successful supplier in writing.

Within 2 days of receipt of the Contract, not yet signed by the Contracting Authority, the successful supplier must sign and date the Contract and return it, to the Contracting Authority. On signing the Contract, the successful supplier will become the Contractor, and the Contract will enter into force once signed by the Contracting Authority.

If the successful supplier fails to sign and return the Contract within the days stipulated, the Contracting Authority may consider the acceptance of the quotation to be cancelled without prejudice to the Contracting Authority's right to claim compensation or pursue any other remedy in respect of such failure, and the successful supplier will have no claim whatsoever on the Contracting Authority.

1. **Cancellation for convenience**

The Contracting Authority may for its convenience and without charge or liability cancel the RFQ at any stage.

### Special conditions

**General condition of the contract**

* Supplier is obliged the provide Agriculture inputs as per specifications under approved sample, in case of difference; RRAA has the right to reject the goods.
* Interested Bidder will be required to provide bid security in the form of a bank guarantee amounting to 5% in the name of Rural Rehabilitation Association of Afghanistan (RRAA) of the total bid value, bid security will be returned to unsuccessful bidders after the decision of tender. Tenders without bid security will not be considered.
* The delivery locations are Pul-e-Alam and Baraki Barak districts of Logar province, with at least two distribution points per district.
* The exact distribution points and distribution schedule will be specified before each delivery by the RRAA Project Staff.
* Certified wheat seed must be packed properly (originally packed by the producer) per quantity with its specification; damaged packages/bags will be rejected.
* Supplier is obliged to make ready the required quantities of Agriculture inputs on time for distribution.
* Supplier is responsible for replacing every good, that does not match the quality standard according to the specifications within one working day free of charge.
* The prices, as submitted by the supplier in the tender, remain unchanged until the contract expires.
* Supplier is responsible for the safety and security of his staff and goods until the end of the handover to the RRAA staff. RRAA will not bear any responsibility for loss or damage.
* Supplier is responsible for covering all costs arising from the transportation, loading, and offloading as per specification during the tendering process, and any other charges until completion of the distribution of items to beneficiaries.
* Amendments to this contract shall be agreed upon between the two parties and confirmed by a signed document by both sides if required.
* Certified wheat seeds must have tags and certification labels (original).
* Certified wheat seed must have a high germination capacity (with 85% or over 85% germination rate).
* Certified wheat seed must be the product of the year 2024.
* Certified wheat seed should be from a reliable source (Certified Seed production company)
* Participating companies should have at least 3 years of working experience with national and international organizations as well they should have at least 3 similar contracts with institutions.
* The participating company's work permit must not expire.
* The participating company is not the winner by paying the lowest price, but those participating company will succeed which have quoted a standard price and good quality.
* Participating company documents must be stamped and signed.
* The participating company must provide a guaranteed letter from germination to harvest.
* The participating company must have an active centre and standard stock for the protection of certified wheat seed.
* The winning company should transfer all the goods to the project site/distribution point according to the plan will be shared with the technical staff of the project.

1. **Scope of Supply**

The subject of the contract is the supply and delivery of all mentioned goods to the project site (Pul-e-Alam & Baraki Barak districts of Logar Province) supplies described in the Price and Technical Data Form.

1. **After-sales Service**

The supplier must guarantee wheat seed germination, purity, as per the mentioned specifications.

**B.3. Minimum Eligibility Criteria**

The supplier must complete the following documents to be eligible for this procurement process:

1. Accept RRAA General Terms and Conditions and Code of Conduct
2. Attached is a Valid Business License /AISA certificate.
3. Complete the RFQ sign and stamp (each page)
4. At least 3 references to be provided /3 similar completion project documents during the past 3years.
5. Guaranty letter separately on company letterhead signed and stamped.
6. The applicant must mention the duration of delivery from time of signing contract to final delivery to the site.
7. All registered wheat seed production companies are eligible to apply.
8. Bid security in the form of a bank guarantees 5% of the total bid value.

**B.4. Payment**

Payment shall be made in the form of bank transfer/Cheque within 30 working days after acceptance of delivery and subsequent acceptance of the bellow documents to the RRAA -Procurement Department.

1. Invoice (one original)
2. Proof of delivery Waybill.
3. Guaranty letter.
4. Relevant certificates.

**QUOTATION SUBMISSION FORM**

**Price schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Item | Description | Variety | Location | Quantity/Unit | Unit Price | Total |
| 1 | Certified Wheat Seed | Certified Wheat seed variety of Wahdat 15 with 85% or over 85% germination rate and 98% purity (free from soil, sand, and pest & diseases) produced fresh of this year along with MAIL tag number and last year certificate of receiving foundation seeds from MAIL for certified seeds production. Weight 50 KG Packing in standard /bag along with Supplier logo and verity description on bag. With transportation, loading, and unloading to the project site (distribution sites selected in any 6 zones of Pol-e-Alam). | Wahdat-15 | Pul-e- Alam Logar | 18.75-MT |  |  |
| 2 | Certified Wheat Seed | Certified Wheat seed variety of Solh 18 with 85% or over 85% germination rate and 98% purity (free from soil, sand, and pest & diseases) produced fresh of this year along with MAIL tag number and last year certificate of receiving foundation seeds from MAIL for certified seeds production. Weight 50 kg packing in standard bag along with supplier logo and verity description on bag with transportation, loading, and unloading to the project site (distribution sites selected in any 6 zones of Pol-e-Alam). | Solh-18 | Pul-e- Alam Logar | 18.75-MT |  |  |
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| 4 | Certified Wheat Seed | Certified Wheat seed variety of Solh 18 with 85% or over 85% germination rate and 98% purity (free from soil, sand, and pest & diseases) produced fresh of this year along with MAIL tag number and last year certificate of receiving foundation seeds from MAIL for certified seeds production. Weight 50 kg packing in standard bag along with supplier logo and verity description on bag with transportation, loading, and unloading to the project site (distribution sites selected in any 6 zones of Pol-e-Alam). | Solh-18 | Baraki Barak | 18.75-MT |  |  |
| 5 | **Total With Tax** | | | | | |  |
| 6 | **Tax (2%...........)** | | | | | |  |
| 7 | **Total without tax** | | | | | |  |

**Note:** The cost should include all the taxes and transportation to the project site.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Information to be entered by the supplier in the below columns** |
| Please state the name of the Company |  |
| Company Address |  |
| **Responsible /Director name** |  |
| Company Address. |  |
| **Company Email Address** |  |
| Company Phone/Mobile # |  |
| Duration of delivery from time of contract to final delivery to the distribution site | days |
| **Technical specification** |  |
| A complete technical description is attached (Y/N) |  |
| **References** |  |
| A reference list is attached (shall only be submitted if the supplier has not delivered to the Contracting Authority before) |  |
| **CSR information** |  |
| Does your company have CSR-related policies in place – e.g., health and safety policy, HR policy, staff policy, energy policy, climate policy, or is a member of Global Compact? Please state which policies. |  |
| Is your company e.g., **ISO** 26000/50001/14000 certified or SA8000 certified? Please state which. |  |
| Does your company have a Code of Conduct? |  |

Suppliers are requested to complete the following form.

The following technical specifications are provided in the format of a checklist. They are compulsory as the minimum standard and will be the only basis for the Contracting Authority to assess the technical compliance of the equipment presented in the quotations. Deviations from the specifications may be considered only if deemed to be in the best interest of the Contracting Authority.

**technical data form**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item no.:** | **Parameter** | **Characteristics (Contracting Authorities minimum requirement)** | **Comply (Y / N)** | **Deviations, if any, to be described in this column** |
| **1** | **Description** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Specifications** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **(Option: Certificates)** | (Option: Please specify and enclose any quality accreditation - ISO 9000 2000 or equivalent held by the manufacturer of the offered products) |  |  |
| **2** | **Guaranty** | Mentioned the duration |  |  |
| **3** | **Warranty** | Mentioned the duration |  |  |

Manufacturers’ names, catalogue numbers, and model designations appearing in the list are for reference only. Quotations for other equipment that is equal in function, quality, and performance to that list will be given full consideration.

Do you accept RRAA General Terms and Conditions and Code of Conduct? Yes 󠅾󠅾 No 󠅾󠅾

After having read this Request for Quotation following goods on behalf of my company/business, I hereby:

* Accept, without restrictions, all the provisions in the Request for Quotation including General Terms and Conditions for Supply Contracts with annexes.
* Provided that a contract is issued by the Contracting Authority we hereby commit to furnish any or all items at the price offered and deliver same to the designated points within the delivery time stated above.
* Certify and attest that we meet the eligibility criteria stated in the Instructions.
* Certify and attest compliance with the Code of Conduct for Contractors.

This declaration will be confirmed in the Contract and misrepresentation will be regarded as grounds for termination.

Signature and stamp:

Signed by:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **The Contractor** |  |
| Name of the company: |  |
| Address: |  |
| Telephone no: |  |
| E-mail: |  |
| Name of contact person: |  |
| Date: |  |

**General Terms and Conditions for supply contracts.**

**DEFINITIONS**

In these general terms and conditions, the terms:

1. “Purchase Order “and “Contract” are used interchangeably and cover also “purchase contract” and/or “supply contract” or any other contract, whichever its denomination, to which these general terms and conditions are made applicable,
2. “Seller” and “Contractor” are used interchangeably and shall also cover the term “Supplier” used in any contract as defined above.
3. “Buyer” and “Contracting Authority” are used interchangeably.
4. “Goods” and “supplies” are used interchangeably, to designate the supplies object of the Contract as defined above.
5. The Contracting Authority’s “partners” are the organizations to which the Contracting Authority is associated or linked.

**1. Delivery terms**

Notwithstanding any Incoterm 2010 used in a purchase order or similar document, it is the responsibility of the Seller to obtain any export license or other governmental authorization for export.

**2. PAYMENT**

2.1 Payment will be as indicated in the purchase order. Unless otherwise stated in the purchase order, payment terms will be 30 days from receipt of goods and relevant documentation. Payments will only be made by cheque or bank transfer to the Supplier company bank account.

2.2 Payment made by the Contracting Authority does not imply any acceptance of Goods or related services. Unless otherwise stated in the purchase order, prices are fixed.

**3. INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE GOODS**

3.1. All Goods shall be subject to inspection and testing by the Contracting Authority or its designated representatives, to the extent practicable, at all times and places, including the period of manufacture and, in any event, before formal acceptance by the Contracting Authority.

3.2. Neither the carrying out of any inspections of the Goods nor any failure to undertake any such inspections shall release the Seller of any of its warranties or the performance of any obligations under the Contract.

3.3. The Goods shall be taken over by the Contracting Authority when they have been delivered to the final destination by the Contract, have satisfactorily passed the required tests, or have been successfully installed and commissioned as the case may be, and a certificate of acceptance has been issued.

3.4. Under no circumstances shall the Contracting Authority be required, or deemed to, accept any Goods that do not conform to the specifications or requirements of the Contract. The Contracting Authority may condition acceptance of the Goods to the successful completion of acceptance tests. In no case shall the Contracting Authority be obligated to accept any Goods unless and until the Contracting Authority has had a reasonable opportunity to (i) inspect the Goods following their delivery at the final destination, (ii) proceed with and complete satisfactory tests, or (iii) be satisfied with installation and commissioning of the equipment, as the case may be, and whichever is the latest. Payment by the Contracting Authority does not imply acceptance of the Goods.

3.5. If the Contracting Authority fails to issue an acceptance certificate within 45 days from actual delivery of the Goods at the final destination, successful completion of the tests, successful installation, and commissioning, whichever is the latest, the Contracting Authority shall be deemed to have issued the acceptance certificate on the last day of those 45 days. The issue of the acceptance certificate shall not release the Seller of any of its warranties under the Contract, including those of Article 4.

3.6. Notwithstanding any other rights of, or remedies available to, the Contracting Authority under the Contract, in case any of the Goods are defective or otherwise do not conform to the Contract, the Contracting Authority may, at its sole option, reject or refuse to accept the Goods, and the Seller shall promptly proceed by article 4.3.

**4. WARRANTY OBLIGATIONS**

4.1. Without limitation of any other warranties stated in or arising under the Contract, or resulting from statutory rights under applicable product liability law, the Seller warrants and represents that:

1. the Goods, including all packaging and packing thereof, conform to the specifications of the Contract, are fit for the purposes for which such Goods are ordinarily used and for the purposes expressly made known to the Seller, and shall be of even quality, free from faults and defects in design, material, manufacture, and workmanship under normal use in the conditions prevailing in the country of destination.
2. that the Goods are securely contained, packaged, and marked, taking into consideration the mode(s) of shipment in a manner to protect the Goods during delivery to their ultimate destination.
3. if the Seller is not the original manufacturer of the Goods, the Seller shall provide the Contracting Authority with the benefit of all manufacturers’ warranties in addition to the present warranties.
4. the Goods are of the quality, quantity, and description required by the Contract.
5. the Goods are new and unused; and
6. the Goods are free from any right of claim by any third party and unencumbered by any title or other rights, including any liens or security interests and claims of infringement of any intellectual property rights, including, but not limited to, patents, trademarks, copyright, and trade secrets.

4.2. Unless provided otherwise in the Contract, all warranties shall remain fully valid for one year after acceptance of the Goods by the Contracting Authority.

4.3. During any period in which the Seller’s warranties are effective, upon notice by the Contracting Authority that the Goods do not conform to the requirements of the Contract, the Seller shall promptly and at its own expense correct such non-conformities or, in case of its inability to do so, replace the defective Goods with goods of the same or better quality or fully reimburse the Contracting Authority for the purchase price paid for the defective goods including freight costs to the final destination. The Seller shall pay all costs relating to the repair or return of the Goods as well as the costs relating to the delivery to the final site of any replacement goods to the Contracting Authority. If having been notified by any means, the Seller fails to remedy the defect within 30 days, the Contracting Authority may proceed to take such remedial action as may be necessary, at the Seller’s risk and expense and without prejudice to any other rights which the Contracting Authority may have against the Seller under the Contract.

4.4. The Seller shall indemnify and hold harmless the Contracting Authority from and against all suits, actions, or administrative proceedings, claims, and demands from third parties, losses, damages, costs, and expenses of any nature, including legal fees, and expenses, which the Contracting Authority may suffer as a result of any infringement by the Seller of the warranties specified in article 4.1.

**5. AFTER-SALES SERVICE**

The Seller shall be able to handle requests from the Contracting Authority for technical assistance, maintenance, service, and repairs of the Goods supplied.

**6. Liquidated damages for delay**

Subject to force majeure, if the Seller fails to deliver any of the Goods or to perform any of the services within the period specified in the Contract, the Contracting Authority may, without prejudice to any other rights and remedies, deduct from the total price stipulated in the Contract an amount of 2.5% of the price of such goods for each commenced week of delay.

However, the ceiling of these penalties is 10% of the total Contract price.

**7. Force Majeure**

Neither Party shall be considered to be in default nor breach of its obligations under the Contract if the performance of such obligations is prevented by any event of force majeure arising after the date the Contract becomes effective.

For this Article, the term "force majeure" means strikes, lock-outs or other industrial disturbances, acts of the public enemy, wars whether declared or not, blockades, insurrection, riots, epidemics, landslides, earthquakes, volcanic activity, storms, lightning, unseasonal floods, washouts, civil disturbances, explosions and any other similar unforeseeable events which are beyond the Parties' control and cannot be overcome by due diligence.

If either Party considers that any circumstances of force majeure have occurred which may affect the performance of its obligations, it shall promptly notify the other Party and the Contracting Authority, giving details of the nature, the probable duration, and the likely effect of the circumstances. Unless otherwise directed by the Contracting Authority in writing, the Seller shall continue to perform its obligations under the Contract as far as is reasonably practicable and shall employ every reasonable alternative means to perform any obligations that the event of force majeure does not prevent it from performing. The Seller shall not employ such alternative means unless directed to do so by the Contracting Authority.

**8. Termination For Convenience**

The Contracting Authority may, for its convenience and without charge, cancel all or any part of the Contract. If the Contracting Authority terminates this Contract in whole or in part upon written notice to the Seller, the Contracting Authority shall be responsible for the actual costs incurred by the Seller as a direct result of such termination which is not recoverable by either (i) the sale of the goods affected to other parties within a reasonable time, or (ii) the exercise by the Seller, in a commercially reasonable manner, of other mitigation measures. Any claim by the Seller for such actual costs shall be deemed waived by the Seller unless submitted in writing to the Contracting Authority within thirty (30) calendar days after the Contracting Authority notified the Seller of the termination.

**9. VARIATIONS**

The Contracting Authority may at any time by written instruction vary the quantities of the Goods by 25 percent above or below the original Contract price. The Contracting Authority may also order variations including additions, omissions, substitutions, changes in quality, form, character, and kind of the Goods, related services to be provided by the Seller, as well as method of shipment, packing, place of delivery and sequence and timing of delivery. No order for a variation may result in the invalidation of the Contract, but if any such variation causes an increase or decrease in the price of or the time required for performance under this Contract, and except where a variation is necessitated by a default of the Seller, an equitable adjustment shall be made in the Contract price or delivery schedule, or both, and the Contract shall be amended by way of an addendum. The unit prices used in the Seller’s tender or quotation shall apply to the quantities procured under the variation.

**10. Applicable Law and disputes**

The Contract is governed by and shall be construed by the laws of the country of establishment of the Contracting Authority.

Any dispute or breach of contract arising under this Contract shall be solved amicably if possible. If not possible and unless provided otherwise in the Contract, it shall be submitted to, and settled by, the competent court in the country of establishment of the Contracting Authority, by the national law of that country.

**11. REMEDIES FOR DEFAULT**

11.1. The Seller shall be considered in default under the Contract if:

* he fails to deliver any or all the Goods within the period specified in the Contract.
* he fails to perform any other obligations under the Contract.
* his declarations in respect of his eligibility (article 15) and/or in respect of Article 13 (Child labor and forced labor) and Article 14 (Mines), appear to have been untrue or cease to be true.
* he engages in the practices described in article 16 (corrupt practices).

11.2. Upon the occurrence of an event of Seller’s default, and without prejudice to any other rights or remedies of the Contracting Authority under the Contract, the Contracting Authority shall be entitled to one or several of the following remedies:

* liquidated damages for delay under Article 7.
* any of the remedies specified in article 4.3.
* refuse to accept all or part of the Goods.
* general damages.
* termination of the Contract.

11.3. Upon termination of the Contract by the Contracting Authority under this article, the Seller shall follow the Contracting Authority’s instructions for immediate steps to end in a prompt and orderly manner the performance of any obligations under the Contract, in such a way as to reduce expenses to a minimum. The Contracting Authority shall have no other liability than paying the Seller the goods which have already been accepted by Article 3, and shall be entitled to deduct from any such sums:

- Any liquidated or general damages due by the Seller.

- and/or any sums due by the Seller under article 4.3.

- and/or any excess cost occasioned by a replacement procurement

From other sources.

The Contracting Authority shall also be entitled to call any pre-financing or performance guarantee provided by the Seller under the Contract.

**12. Officials**

The Seller warrants that no official of the Contracting Authority and/or its partner has received or will be offered by the Seller any direct or indirect benefit arising from this Contract.

**13. Child labor and forced labor**

The Seller warrants that it and its affiliates comply with the UN *Convention on the Rights of the Child* - UNGA Doc A/RES/44/25 (12 December 1989) with Annex – and that it or its affiliates has not made or will not make use of forced or compulsory labor as described in the *Forced labor Convention* and in *the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention 105* of the International Labour Organization. Furthermore, the Seller warrants that it, and its affiliates, respect and uphold basic social rights and working conditions for their employees.

**14. Mines**

The Seller warrants that it and its affiliates are NOT engaged in any development, sale, or manufacture of anti-personnel mines and/or cluster bombs or components utilized in the manufacture of anti-personnel mines and/or cluster bombs.

**15. Ineligibility**

By signing the purchase order, the Seller certifies that he is NOT in one of the situations listed below:

1. He is bankrupt or being wound up, is having his affairs administered by the courts, has entered an arrangement with creditors, has suspended business activities, is the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations.
2. He has been convicted of an offence concerning his professional conduct by a judgment that has the force of res judicata.
3. He has been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means that the Contracting Authority can justify.
4. He has not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which he is established or with those of the country of the Contracting Authority or those of the country where the Contract is to be performed.
5. He has been the subject of a judgment that has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, or any other illegal activity.
6. Following another procurement procedure carried out by the Contracting Authority or one of their partners, he has been declared to be in serious breach of contract for failure to comply with his contractual obligations.

**16. Corrupt practices**

The Seller and his personnel shall refrain from performing, condoning, or tolerating any corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, or coercive practices, whether such practices are about the performance of the Contract or not. “Corrupt practice” means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do any act about the Contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority, or for showing favour or disfavour to any person in relation to the Contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority.

The payments to the Contractor under the Contract shall constitute the only income or benefit the Seller may derive in connection with the Contract and neither he nor his personnel shall accept any commission, discount, allowance, indirect payment, or other consideration in connection with, or relation to, or discharge of, his obligations under the Contract.

Transactions are undertaken with due consideration to the arm's length principle (ALP) in that the parties to transactions are independent and on an equal footing.

The execution of the Contract shall not give rise to unusual commercial expenses. Unusual commercial expenses are commissions not mentioned in the Contract or not stemming from a properly concluded contract referring to the Contract, commissions not paid in return for any actual and legitimate service, commissions remitted to a tax haven, commissions paid to a recipient who is not clearly identified, or commission paid to a company which has the appearance of being a front company.

**17. Discretion and confidentiality**

The Seller shall treat all documents and information received in connection with the contract as private and confidential, and shall not, save in so far as may be necessary for the purposes of the performance thereof, publish or disclose any particulars of the contract or the project without the prior consent in writing of the Contracting Authority. It shall refrain from making any public statements concerning the project or the delivery without the prior approval of the Contracting Authority.

**18. CHECKS AND AUDITS**

The Seller shall permit the Contracting Authority or its representative to inspect, at any time, records including financial and accounting documents and to make copies thereof and shall permit the Contracting Authority or any person authorized by it, including its Back Donors, at any time, to have access to its financial accounting documents and to audit such records and accounts both during and after the implementation of the Contract. In particular, the Contracting Authority may carry out whatever documentary or on-the-spot checks it deems necessary to find evidence in case of suspected unusual commercial expenses.

**19. LIABILITY**

Under no circumstances or for no reason whatsoever will the Back Donor entertain any request for indemnity or payment directly submitted by the Contracting Authorities Contractors.

**20. ELECTRONIC SCREENING**

RRAA may be required to verify the identity of its suppliers/contractors and to check that its suppliers/contractors have not been involved in illegal activities. RRAA reserves the right to use electronic screening tools for this purpose.

By signing the Contract, the Contractor (or, if a joint venture or consortium, any member thereof) certifies that he and/or his affiliates are not in one of the situations listed below:

1. They are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administrated by courts, have entered into an agreement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning house matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations.
2. They have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment that has the force of *res judicata.*
3. They have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means that the Contracting Authority can justify.
4. They have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the Contracting Authority or those of the country where the Contract is to be performed;
5. They have been the subject of a judgment that has the force of *res judicata* for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, or any other illegal activity;
6. Following another procurement procedure or grant award procedure financed by the European Community budget or another donor, or following another procurement procedure carried out by the Contracting Authority or one of its partners, they have been declared to be in serious breach of Contract for failure to comply with their Contractual obligations.

**60. CHECKS AND AUDITS**

For checks and audits, the Contractor shall permit the Contracting Authority and the Engineer to inspect, at any time, the records including financial and accounting documents and to make copies thereof and shall permit the Contracting Authority, the Engineer, or any person authorized by them, including USAID, the European Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office and the Court of Auditors in case the Contract is financed by USAID or the European Community budget, at any time, to audit such records and accounts both during and after the execution of the Works. These inspections may take place up to 7 years after the final payment. The Contracting Authority and the Engineer may carry out whatever documentary or on-the-spot checks it deems necessary to find evidence in case of suspected unusual commercial expenses.

**61. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

**61.1.** The parties shall make every effort to settle amicably any dispute, which may arise between them. Once a dispute has arisen, the parties shall notify each other in writing of their positions on the dispute and any solution, which they consider possible. If either party deems it useful, the Parties shall meet and try and settle the dispute. A party shall respond to a request for amicable settlement within 30 days of such a request. The maximum period laid down for reaching such a settlement shall be 120 days from the commencement of the procedure. Should the attempt to reach an amicable settlement fail or a party fails to respond in time to requests for a settlement, either party shall be free to proceed to the next stage of the dispute‑settlement procedure by notifying the other.

61.2. If no settlement is reached within 120 days of the start of the amicable dispute‑settlement procedure, each party may seek:

a) either a ruling from a national court

b) or an arbitration ruling by the Contract.

62. Assignment of rights and obligations by the contracting authority

###### The contracting authority reserves the right to transfer and assign to any of its partners, or another beneficiary, any right and any obligation the contracting authority has against the contractor under the contract.

**63. ELECTRONIC SCREENING**

RRAA may be required to verify the identity of its suppliers/contractors and to check that its suppliers/contractors have not been involved in illegal activities. RRAA reserves the right to use electronic screening tools for this purpose.

**Code of conduct for contractors Ethical principles and standard**

**By this Code of Conduct**, the Contracting Authority applies ethics to procurement. We expect our contractors to act socially and environmentally responsibly and actively work for the implementation of the standards and principles in this Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct applies to all our contractors who supply goods, services and works to our operations and projects.

This Code of Conduct and its related principles and standards are based on recommendations from the Norwegian Initiative for Ethical Trade (IEH)[[1]](#footnote-2), the UN Global Compact principles,[[2]](#footnote-3) and ECHO’s Humanitarian Aid Guidelines for Procurement 2011[[3]](#footnote-4).

**General Conditions**

The Code of Conduct defines the ethical requirements and standards for our contractors, whom we expect to sign and respect the Code of Conduct and work actively towards the implementation hereof. By signing the Code of Conduct contractors agree to place ethics central to their business activities.

The provision of the ethical standards constitutes minimum rather than maximum standards. International and national laws shall be complied with, and where the provisions of law and the Contracting Authority’s standards address the same subject, the highest standard shall apply.

It is the responsibility of the contractor to assure that their contractors and subcontractors comply with the ethical requirements and standards outlined in this Code of Conduct.

The Contracting Authority acknowledges that implementing ethical standards and ensuring ethical behaviour in our supply chain is a continuous process and a long-term commitment for which we also have a responsibility. In order to achieve high ethical standards for procurement we are willing to engage in dialogue and collaboration with our contractors. In addition, we expect our contractors to be open and willing to engage in dialogue with us to implement ethical standards for their businesses.

Unwillingness to cooperate or serious violations of the Code of Conduct will lead to the termination of contracts.

**Human Rights and Labour Rights**

Contractors must at all times protect and promote human- and labor rights and work actively to address issues of concern. As a minimum, they are obliged to comply with the following ethical standards:

* *Respect for Human Rights* (UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

The basic principles of Universal Human Rights are that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of the person. Contractors must not flaunt their responsibility to uphold and promote the Human Rights of employees and the community in which they operate.

* *Nonexploitation of Child Labour* (UN Child Convention on the Rights of the Child, and ILO Convention C138 & C182)

Contractors must not engage in the exploitation of child labor*[[4]](#footnote-5)* and contractors must take the necessary steps to prevent the employment of child labor. A child is defined as a person under the age of 18 and children shall not be engaged in labor that compromises their health, safety, mental and social development, and schooling. Children under the age of 15 (in developing countries 14) may not be engaged in regular work, but children above the age of 13 (in developing countries 12) can be engaged in light work if it does not interfere with compulsory schooling and is not harmful to their health and development.

* *Employment is freely chosen* (ILO Convention C29 & C105)

Contractors must not make use of forced or bonded labor and must respect workers' freedom to leave their employer.

* *Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining* (ILO Convention C87 & C98)

Contractors must recognize workers' right to join or form trade unions and bargain collectively and should adopt an open attitude towards the activities of trade unions (even if this is restricted under national law).

* *Living wages are paid* (ILO convention C131)

As a minimum, national minimum wage standards or ILO wage standards must be met by contractors. Additionally, a living wage must be provided. A living wage is contextual, but must always meet basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, health care, and schooling and provide a discretionary income[[5]](#footnote-6) - which is not always the case with a formal minimum wage.

* *No discrimination in employment* (ILO Convention C100 & C111 and the UN Convention on Discrimination against Women)

Contractors must not practice discrimination in hiring, salaries, job termination, retirement, and access to training or promotion - based on race, national origin, caste, gender, sexual orientation, political affiliation, disability, marital status, or HIV/AIDS status.

* *No harsh or inhumane treatment of employees*

The use of physical abuse, disciplinary punishment, sexual abuse, the threat of sexual and physical abuse, and other forms of intimidation may never be practiced by contractors.

* *Working conditions are safe and hygienic* (ILO Convention C155)

Contractors must take adequate steps to provide safe and hygienic working environments. Additionally, worker safety must be a priority, and adequate steps must be taken to prevent accidents and injury to health associated with or occurring in the course of work.

* *Working hours are not excessive* (ILO Convention C1 & C14)

Contractors must ensure that working hours comply with national law and international standards. A working week of 7 days should not exceed 48 hours and employees must have one day off per week. Overtime shall be compensated, limited, and voluntary.

* *Regular employment is provided* (ILO Convention C143)

All Work performed must be based on a recognized employment relationship established through international conventions and national law. Contractors must protect vulnerable group’s regular employment under these laws and conventions and must provide workers with a written contract.

* *Condition outside the workplace*

*Property rights and traditional use of resources*

In case of conflicts with local societies about the use of land or

other natural resources, the parties, through negotiations

secure respect for individual and collective rights to areas and

resources based on custom/practice. This also applies to cases.

where the rights are not formalized.

*Marginalized groups*

The production and sourcing of raw materials for production

must not contribute to harm the livelihood of the marginalized.

groups, e.g. by occupying large land areas or other natural

resources the groups in question are dependent on.

**International Humanitarian Law**

Contractors linked to armed conflicts or operating in armed conflict settings shall respect civilian rights under International Humanitarian Law and not be engaged in activities that directly or indirectly initiate, sustain, and/or exacerbate armed conflicts and violations of International Humanitarian Law[[6]](#footnote-7). Contractors are expected to take a ‘do no harm’ approach to people affected by armed conflict.

Additionally, Contractors shall not be engaged in any other illegal activity.

**Involvement in Weapon Activities**

The Contracting Authority advocates for the Ottawa Convention against landmines and the Convention on Cluster Munitions against cluster bombs. Contractors shall not engage in any development, sale, or manufacturing of anti-personnel mines, cluster bombs or components, or any other weapon that feeds into violations of International Humanitarian Law or is covered by the Geneva Conventions and Protocols.

**Protection of the Environment**

The Contracting Authority wishes to minimize the environmental damages applied to nature via our procurement activities and we expect our suppliers and contractors to act in an environmentally responsible manner. This involves respecting applicable national and international environmental legislation and acting in accordance with the Rio Declaration.

As a minimum contractors should address issues related to proper waste management, ensuring recycling, conservation of scarce resources, and efficient energy use.

**Anti-Corruption**

Corruption is by the Contracting Authority defined as the misuse of entrusted power for private gain and it includes bribery, fraud, embezzlement, and extortion. The Contracting Authority holds a great responsibility to avoid corruption and ensure high standards of integrity, accountability, fairness, and professional conduct in our business relations. Contractors are expected to have the same approach by undertaking good and fair business ethics and practices, taking action to prevent and fight corruption, and abiding by international conventions as well as international and national laws. To fight corruption and promote transparency, contractors who are confronted with corrupt practices are advised to file a complaint in the RRAA Complaint Mechanism[[7]](#footnote-8).

A contractor’s involvement in any form of corrupt practice during any stage of a selection process, about the performance of a contract, or in any other business context is unacceptable and will lead to the rejection of bids or termination of contracts.

**Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**

Contractors, their staff, sub-contractors, and any other personnel engaged by the contractor, must not:

1. Sexually exploit or sexually abuse any individual.
2. Engage in any sexual activity with a child or children regardless of the age of majority or age of consent locally. A child is defined as being below 18 years of age. Mistaken belief in the age of a child is not a defence.
3. Act in ways that may place a child at risk of abuse, including not giving due consideration to assessing and reducing potential risks to children as a result of implementing activities. Behaviours and actions that are prohibited include but are not limited to, using inappropriate language or behaviour when dealing with a child or children, bullying, and harassing a child verbally or physically, physical punishment, and exposing a child to pornography including online grooming and trafficking. Whenever possible avoid being alone with a child.
4. Consume, purchase, sell, possess, and distribute any forms of child pornography.
5. Exchange money, employment, goods, or services for sex, including sexual favours or other forms of humiliating, degrading, or exploitative behaviour. This includes the buying of or profiting from sexual services as well as the exchange of assistance that is due to right holders for sexual favours.
6. Exploit the vulnerability of any target group in the context of development, humanitarian, and advocacy work, especially women and children, or allow any person/s to be put into compromising situations. Never abuse a position to withhold development or humanitarian assistance or give preferential treatment; in order to solicit sexual favours, gifts, payments of any kind, or advantage.
7. Engage in sexual relationships with members of crisis-affected populations given their increased vulnerability and since such relationships are based on inherently unequal power dynamics and undermine the credibility and integrity of aid work.

**List of International Conventions and Treaties covered by this Code of Conduct for Contractors**

* + UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948; *http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml*
  + Un Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, 2011.

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR\_EN.pdf

* + Geneva Conventions I-IV, 1949, and additional Protocols.

http://www.icrc.org/eng/war-and-law/treaties-customary-law/geneva-conventions/index.jsp

* + ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 1998; *http://www.ilo.org/declaration/lang--en/index.htm* and *http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms\_095898.pdf*
  + UN Child Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1990; *http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc.htm*
  + C182, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C182*
  + C138, Minimum Age Convention, 1973; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C138*
  + C87, Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C087*
  + C98, Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C098*
  + C29, Forced Labour Convention, 1930; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C029*
  + C105, Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C105*
  + C131, Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C131*
  + C100, Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C100*
  + C111, Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C111*
  + The UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 1979; *http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/econvention.htm*
  + C1, Hours of Work (Industry) Convention, 1919; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C001*
  + C14, Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C014*
  + C143, Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C143
  + C155, Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981; *http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C155*
  + The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992; *http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=78&ArticleID=1163&l=en*
  + The Ottawa Convention, 1997; *http://www.apminebanconvention.org/fileadmin/pdf/mbc/text\_status/Ottawa\_Convention\_English.pdf*
  + The Convention on Cluster Munitions, 2007; *http://www.clusterconvention.org/files/2011/01/Convention-ENG1.pdf*

1. 1.http://etiskhandel.no/noop/search.php?l=no&query=Guidelines+for+procurement [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. 2.http://www.unglobalcompact.org/AboutTheGC/TheTenPrinciples/

   index.html [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. 3. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/partners/humanitarian\_aid/procurement\_guidelines\_en.htm [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. 4. The definition of Child Labour can be found at: http://www.unglobalcompact.org/AboutTheGC/TheTenPrinciples/principle5.html and http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C138 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. 5. Discretionary income is the amount of an individual's income that is left for spending, investing, or saving after taxes and personal necessities (such as food, shelter, and clothing) have been paid. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. 6.This includes pillage/looting which is the unlawful taking of private property for personal or private gain based on force, threats, intimidation, pressure and through a position of power accomplished due to the surrounding conflict. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. 7. http://www.kirkensnodhjelp.no/en/About-RRAA/About-RRAA/Accountability-Commitments/RRAAs-complaints-handling-system/ [↑](#footnote-ref-8)