

Clarification Questions for Comprehensive Country-Level/Regional Safety and Security Assessments (US-RQ-1584)

1. Proposal Submission

- Can you confirm whether proposals should be uploaded as one combined document (technical + financial) or as separate files? **Proposals can be uploaded as separate files or as one combined document, based on the bidder's preference.**
- Are there any specific file naming conventions required in the Procurement Portal? **There is no specific naming convention required. However, bidders are encouraged to include their organization's name at the beginning of each file. For example: Bidder'sName_Technical_Proposal.pdf.**

1. Number of Assessments

- Can Ipas confirm whether exactly six (6) country-level and one (1) regional assessment are expected during the contract term, or if additional assessments may be requested? **We are planning for the 6 country-level assessments and 1 regional assessment.**
- If additional assessments are anticipated, should we include a per-assessment pricing option? **The inclusion of a per-assessment pricing option would be welcome.**

3. Scope of Regional Assessment

- Is the East Africa regional assessment intended to synthesize findings from Kenya and Uganda assessments, or will it require additional, standalone field activities? **Ipas has offices and staff in Kenya and Uganda; therefore, we would anticipate the assessment having an emphasis on these countries. We routinely travel and work with partners in Somalia, South Sudan, and Tanzania, and would like to see a more "topline" review of those.**

4. On-Site vs. Remote Assessments

- Can Ipas confirm which country assessments are expected to be conducted in-person versus remotely? **Kenya and Uganda (regional), Burundi, Chad, DRC, Mauritania, Nigeria, and Bolivia will be conducted in person. Three top-line assessments (remote) will be conducted for Somalia, South Sudan, and Tanzania.**
- For in-country assessments, should we plan for physical site visits, or will remote interviews suffice? **Physical site visits would be encouraged. The RFP encouraged bidders to utilize local consultants, where practicable.**

5. Access to Ipas Documentation

- Will Ipas provide internal security policies, SOPs, and training records to inform the assessments? **Yes.**
- If yes, when and how will these documents be shared? **At the start of the engagement.**

6. Level of Effort (LOE)

- Does Ipas have an estimated number of days or LOE per assessment that bidders should use for pricing and resource planning? **Ipas has developed internal estimates for budgeting purposes; however, no fixed number of days or level of effort (LOE) per assessment has been prescribed. We encourage bidders to propose an LOE they consider appropriate based on their understanding of the scope, methodology, and deliverables outlined in the RFP. The proposed LOE should be clearly justified in both the technical and**

financial proposals and reflect your team's capacity to deliver quality results within the proposed timeline. Ipas will evaluate proposals based on the overall value, approach, and rationale provided

7. Stakeholder Engagement

- Will Ipas facilitate introductions to local stakeholders and staff, or should the bidder independently coordinate these interviews? Yes, Ipas will facilitate introductions to our team leads in country who will further facilitate additional introductions/interviews.

8. Data Ownership

- Will the contractor be allowed to retain anonymized data or methodologies for internal learning purposes, or will all outputs and data remain the sole property of Ipas? All outputs and data would remain the property of Ipas.