Digital Square Fact-Finding Questions

RFA #2022-020: Development and Implementation of the Zanzibar Health Interoperability Layer

RFA section	Section clause	Question	Response
III. Project Background	B. Proposed Project Timeline "PATH anticipates that subawards will be four months from the effective date and end by September 2022."	Please confirm that PATH anticipates extending the contract with subawards.	The contract is expected to be for four months from the effective date and end by September 2022. PATH may consider extending the contract if there will be critical factors that necessitate that. The decision to extend the contract will be made jointly by the project funder, PATH, the Ministry of Health (MOH), and the vendor that will be selected.
IV. Scope of Work and Deliverables	2.b. "Support the connection of existing priority systems to the health interoperability layer to support health sector priorities, e.g., HIV, malaria, reproductive and child health, and supply chain."	Is there a list of existing priority systems that it is intended to interface to during the course of the implementation of the ZHIL?	There are no priority systems but rather priority areas, as indicated in the RFA. These may include HIV, malaria, reproductive and child health, and the supply chain. There are systems used to support such areas including the Health Management Information System (HMIS) built on DHIS2, electronic logistics management information system (eLMIS), and the human resources for health information system (iHRIS).
		How many solutions shall be integrated?	MOH expects to start implementing use cases and connecting 4-5 systems including eLMIS, DHIS2, and a planning

			and reporting system that is currently under development.
	3.b. "Provide regular mentorship and engagement of the software development team during development and configuration of integration use cases. " B. Deliverables 2. "List of initial interoperability use cases to be implemented based on existing systems. "	In your RFA there is repeated mentioning of interoperability use cases, can you please provide some examples?	An interoperability use case defines the source system, destination system, and the type and frequency of data exchanged through the interoperability layer. Use cases and the requirements will be co-created collaboratively by MOH, PATH, the ZHIL implementation vendor, and other stakeholders.
	1.b. "Develop software requirements for ZHIR."	Is there a difference between ZHIL (Zanzibar Health Interoperability Layer) and ZHIR? If yes, please provide a definition for the acronym ZHIR, as we couldn´t find one in the RFA.	There is no difference. ZHIR was a typo; the correct term is ZHIL (Zanzibar Health Interoperability Layer).
	3.a. "Develop training plan and provide training to the software development team working in the health sector on all technical aspects of the health information mediator." 4.d. "Develop training, support, and technical operations materials that will support implementation and user training, facilitate the ability of technical users and administrators to troubleshoot and operate the different health information mediator technologies, processes, and procedures as required. This includes administrator, technical user, and end-user guides."	How many and which users shall be trained? Are there any prequalifications?	*Number of staff:* Users to be trained will primarily be staff from MOH's ICT unit. MOH may recommend users from other departments or agencies, especially those who are managing source and destination systems. The anticipated number of users or "technical staff" to be trained may be between 10-20 or more, depending on what MOH needs. *Users' qualifications:* - Staff with ICT and information systems knowledge and skills. - Staff with knowledge of MOH business processes.
VI. Application Requirements – Technical		Are open-source solutions preferred or can a proprietary solution be proposed as well?	A proprietary solution may be considered but MOH prefers to use a solution that may qualify to be amongst the digital public goods as described here.
V. Application Requirements – Cost		Is there any information on the estimated budget and preferred licensing models?	There is no set budget figure or preferred licensing model. PATH will compare the proposed prices to

				historical prices paid for the same or similar services and the independent government cost estimate.
		Are there any payment milestones foreseen?		PATH will use standard payment milestones for similar engagements, as per organization policies. During the contracting phase, the selected vendor may propose different payment milestones with clear justification.
		Is maintenance and support part of the contract? If yes, for which duration and to which extent?		The initial contract will only be awarded for the period of four months from the effective date and end by September 2022. PATH may consider awarding a separate support and maintenance contract beyond the initial contract period.
		Can you please share more information about planned/available infrastructure which is necessary for ZHIL installation? Also,can you please share planned/available support resources for ZHIL?		As described in the "Vision and requirements" section of the RFA, it is expected that the selected vendor will provide guidance and requirements that would lead to final selection of the platform to be used for the ZHIL development. MoH and PATH will be responsible for ensuring recommended infrastructure is made available for the ZHIL installation and implementation.
Section V	Special Note on Indirect Costs	How can non-US companies provide indirect costs?		If the partner has a current approved NICRA, PATH will approve this rate. If not, a partner must present a proposal justifying an indirect rate that is charged across all the entity's programs. This would include (a) a schedule of the proposed rate + base against which it will be charged; this needs to be reviewed and approved by an auditor (b) past 3 years audited financial statements (c) cost allocation statement of what is funded by direct costs and what is funded by the indirect costs or auditor's confirmation that systems are

			set up to ensure there is no double booking of costs.
Shortlisting of companies	Award procedure	Will there be shortlisted companies?	Yes, depending on the number of applicants and nature of proposals received, PATH may consider shortlisting up to three companies who may be engaged in the second round of presentation or/and demonstration.
	Website	We were not able to access the website: digitalsquare.org. Could you please verify if the website is available?	All responses and follow-up information will be made available on this website: https://digitalsquare.org/solicitations.
	Eligibility criteria	We couldn't find any eligibility criteria, could you please specify?	The application is open to any company. PATH will evaluate applications as per information issued on the *"VI. Application Requirements – Technical"* and *"VIII. Application Evaluation Criteria"* of the RFA. ***Note:*** Before the contract is awarded, PATH will conduct a due diligence check.
General queries		Who will be the contractual partner?	PATH will be the contractual partner.
		Who will be the technical counterpart? (MOH or PATH?)	PATH will be the first-level technical counterpart working in close collaboration with the MOH's ICT department.
		Will it be turnkey contract or framework contract?	The contract will be turnkey. It is expected that at the end of the contract performance period, the ZHIL will be ready for use with a complete configuration of all use cases to be agreed upon.