

March 4th, 2025

Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC) - EMN-2022-BR-008 RFQ-BRIC-001-2025 Question and Answers (Q&A)

Question	Answers
Can you provide more details about the Project Implementation Firm's scope of work and how the Project Management role is expected to integrate with their activities? Are there clear lines of responsibility to avoid overlap?	The Project Implementator will be tasked with carrying out the actual implementation of the project, managing day-to-day operations, and ensuring the successful execution of all project components as designed, including outreach and engagement, needs assessment, POC identification, providing C&CB and Technical Assistance activities, etc. The PM will be expected to ensure strategic implementation, stakeholder coordination, support project design, and that all activities outlined in the scope of work are executed efficiently, on time, and in alignment with project objectives. Should this procurement activity be executed, the PM will be expected to act as the OMB's representative as it relates to the BRIC Readiness Program.
Are there existing templates or guidelines for these training materials that need to be considered?	Materials previously generated by FEMA and COR3 should be contemplated, however while the PM is expected to provide support for Capacity Building activities, they will not be expected to be lead the actual development of training materials/
Is the Project Manager expected to lead the technical development of the BRIC database, or will there be a dedicated IT team? What specific responsibilities fall under "support" for this task?	PM will be expected to collaborate with the Project Implementator on the development of the BRIC database. The specific definition of "support" will be further defined during the design phase of the program.
Is there a preferred pricing structure (e.g., fixed price, time and materials, blended rates)? Are there limits or guidelines for billable expenses, particularly for travel and overhead?	There is no preferred pricing structure, however respondents should make all efforts to include sufficient information so that the OMB may obtain a full understating as to how they arrived at the proposed price. Also, in the event that the respondent proposed that a portion of the activities to be conducted will not be paid for with funds provided by the BRIC program, this should be duly explained. Regarding any travel cost and overhead expenses, these should already be contemplated in the cost proposal. The OMB will not pay for any costs which are considered as variable and are not already pre-identified in the cost proposal.

Can you clarify the scoring system for local participation? For example, what percentage of points is allocated for involving local parties, and how is "significant participation" defined?	 Full points will be provided for duly registered domestic entities; however points may be deducted in the case that a foreign party has any significant role in the activities to be conducted as per the quote (50% or more). In the case of foreign entities, points may be provided if they include significant participation form duly registered domestic entities. Participation will be gauged on the percentage of involvement in proposed activities and the amount of funds that will flow to a domestic entity vs a foreign entity. Also, the level of participation will be gauged on a case-by-case basis in alignment with the previously provided information.
Are all compliance documents required at the submission stage, or only upon contract award? Specifically, documents like the Sworn Statement regarding criminal conduct and the Certification of Compliance from ASUME.	No, this section of the RFQ was intended to provide an accurate representation of some of the documents that will be required in the event of contract being generated in response to the RFQ process.
Do subcontractors also need to provide all the compliance certifications listed for the prime contractor, or is a subset sufficient?	Subset would be sufficient.
Are there predefined milestones and deadlines for the PR BRIC Readiness Program, or will the Project Manager be responsible for establishing the project timeline in collaboration with OMB and COR3?	The PM will be responsible for establishing the project timeline in collaboration with OMB and COR3. The only deadline to keep in mind for the time is the end date for the grant which is November 2, 2026.
Will the Project Manager be responsible for approving reimbursement requests, or is the role limited to administrative support and ensuring compliance with guidelines?	Role will be limited to administrative support and ensuring compliance with guidelines.
Does OMB have an anticipated budget for this contract?	No, however we ask that all proponents consider applicable Small Purchase guidelines as per the 2 CFR 200.
Please clarify the identity and role of the "firm" in the second bullet "Collaborate with firm which will be in charge of the overall design and implementation of the PR BRIC Readiness Program. "	The Firm will be responsible for the end-to-end execution of the PR BRIC Readiness Program. This firm will oversee project implementation, ensuring adherence to timelines, deliverables, and compliance with federal regulations, including 2 C.F.R. Part 200. This firm will manage the program's operational aspects, including database development, capacity-building (C&CB) and technical assistance (TA) training to municipalities, state agencies, and PNPs, stakeholder coordination, and grant readiness support. Additionally, the firm will support the identification and development of hazard mitigation projects for future BRIC

	funding rounds, assist with grant readiness efforts, and ensure proper financial management and reporting. The Project Manager will work closely with this firm to facilitate collaboration, track progress, and ensure program objectives are met effectively.
ll this contract provide services only for the FY 2022 BRIC grant award and readiness initiatives or will services encompass prior and/or future grant program services?	For clarification, with the RFQ the OMB is seeking quotes from duly qualified Respondents that can provide professional services in connection with the PR BRIC Readiness Program. As the OMB is soliciting quotes, they are not under any obligation to enter into a contract with any of the respondents. Regarding the services to be provided, the expectation is for the services to encompass any activities that are solicited in relation to the implementation of the BRIC grant award and readiness initiatives.
The second sub-bullet lists a "Project Implementation Firm". Please clarify the role of this firm and who the firm is.	This firm has not been selected. The PM is expected to act as the OMB's representative as it relates to the BRIC Readiness program and collaborate with the Project Implementation Firm. The Project Implementation Firm will be tasked with carrying out the actual implementation of the project, managing day-to-day operations, and ensuring the successful execution of all project components as designed, including outreach and engagement, needs assessment, POC identification, providing C&CB and Technical Assistance activities, Training materials development etc.
What is the anticipated award date for this RFP?	As this is a Request for Quotes, there will be no pre-established date to make an award in response to this process. As per section 7.1 of the RFQ: "This RFQ is a solicitation for quotes only. It is not intended as an offer to enter a contract or a promise to engage in any formal bidding or negotiations. At its sole discretion, the OMB may accept or reject any or all submissions in response to this RFQ."
Please confirm submissions should be submitted by email by 11:59pm on Wednesday, March 5, 2025.	As per section 4.4 of the RFQ, submissions should be received by 11:59 pm on Tuesday, March 5 of 2025.
The RFP states that proposals should be submitted by email. Please clarify whether there is a file size limitation for rfp@ogp.pr.gov to ensure Proponents can successfully submit proposals.	The OMB has a file size limit of 25mb. Should the respondents expect to exceed this file size limitation, they should make all efforts to send a zip file or get in contact with OMB before the deadline so that can discuss any alternatives.

Will OMB provide point values or scoring metrics for the criteria listed? If not, what method will OMB use to compare the quotes and what criteria will it prioritize?	While the criteria listed on the RFQ will be used for the evaluation, specific point values or a scoring metric will not be provided at this time. The OMB will utilize a Best Value Comparison approach to assess quotes, ensuring that the selected respondent offers the best combination of qualifications, experience, approach, and cost-effectiveness. This approach will ensure that, in the event of a selection being made, the respondent will be the one that offers the best overall value to the government, balancing technical competency and cost-effectiveness
What is the period of performance for the contracted services? Are there any provisions for contract renewal or extension?	The period is expected to be in line with the end date for the grant (November 21, 2026).
Please clarify if proponents are allowed to submit a separate redacted copy of the proposal.	The respondent may at its discretion submit redacted copies, however we ask that all respondents refer to section 7.2 for further guidance.
Can OMB provide a sample contract for this RFP?	No, the OMB has opted to not provide sample contracts at this time. Any sample will be shared with the corresponding entity should the OMB decide to enter into a contract with any of the respondents.
Is this amount of the budget assigned to this RFQ for Project Management Services?	No, \$2,000,000 is the full amount appropriated for the program (State and Federal).
What is the budgeted amount for this RFQ?	There is no specific amount which is budgeted for this RFQ in the event of a proponent being selected. However, respondents should consider the Small Purchase thresholds as per applicable 2 CFR guidelines.
The last bullet from section 1. Objective says, "Comply with applicable federal, state, Commonwealth, and foreign laws and regulations governing projects initiated or supported by the Commonwealth and/or the US Government." What foreign laws and regulations?	This was included as a general statement to ensure that any quotes contemplate any applicable regulations as the case may be depending on the respondents situation.
Under section 3.1. Scope of Work (SOW), sub-bullet ninth says, "Support the Government Parties in the development of BRIC Database and Grant Readiness Information." Does the Responder need to follow the FSRPO framework?	The PR BRIC Readiness program is a key component of the framework. Respondents do not need to consider this for the time being.
Is the Responder team expected to take training on the framework and/or receive documentation of it?	No.

Are the Project Management Services also including IT software and database development?	No, the services are not expected to include IT software development. Regarding the database development, the PM is expected to collaborate with the Project Implementator. The need for any specific IT services will be defined in the design phase of the project.
Is the support limited to providing information to feed the database?	Support may include the design and development of the database in coordination with the Project Implementation firm.
Does this "development" include the technical activities of defining, designing, implementing, and supporting the database and its maintenance application?	While the need for the development of an application may arise, the OMB is not contemplating it at this moment.
Are the Project Management Services also including IT software and database development?	No, however support may include support in the development of the database. At this moment, the OMB is not considering any specific IT services.
Are these services, "training and support," part of the Respondent's responsibilities for IT software and database development?	The services should not contemplate any IT development.
Can you confirm that the Responder will be a "user" and will not engage in IT software and database development or be responsible for following the appropriate PRITS policies and standards?	This is a general requirement for any entity that enters into a contract with an agency of the Government of Puerto Rico. It was not intended to be used as guidance for the activities included in the RFQ.