

Promote: Women in the Economy (WIE)

Request for Proposals (RFP)

No. KBL-053-DAI-WIE

Packaging Design to two of its selected client business (Soap and Biscuit manufactures)

Issue Date: December 15, 2019

<u>WARNING</u>: Prospective Offerors who have received this document from a source other than Afghanbids.com should report such sources to <u>Hotline@promote-wie.com</u> and refer to Afghanbids.com for information about this opportunity. Any prospective Offeror who fails to register their interest assumes complete responsibility in the event that they do not receive communications prior to the closing date. Any amendments to this solicitation will be issued and posted. DAI/WIE may, at its own discretion, but without being under any obligation to do so, update, amend or supplement the information in the RPF document. Updates will be posted to afghanbids.com. Offerors are encouraged to check the website regularly.

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Synopsis of the RFP

RFP No.	KBL-053-DAI-WIE
Issue Date	December 15, 2019
Title	Packaging Design to two of its selected client business (Soap and Biscuit manufactures
Web address for Submission of Proposals	Afghanbids.com (see instructions for registration below)
Deadline for Receipt of Questions	12:00 PM Kabul time, December 26, 2019
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals	4:00 PM Kabul time, December 29, 2019
Point of Contact	Please enter questions on the opportunity discussion board on Afghanbids.com - DO NOT IDENTIFY YOUR ORGANIZATION ON THE DISCUSSION BOARD
Anticipated Award Type	Firm Fixed Price Purchase Order
Basis for Award	An award will be made based on the Trade Off Method. The award will be issued to the responsible and reasonable offeror who provides the best value to DAI and its client using a combination of technical and cost/price factors

1. Introduction and Purpose

1.1 Purpose

DAI, the implementer of the USAID-funded Women in the Economy (WIE) project invites qualified offerors to submit proposals to provide Packaging Design to two of its selected client business (Soap and Biscuit manufactures as detailed in the Scope of Work.

1.2 Notice Listing Contract Clauses incorporated by reference.

The following contract clauses pertinent to this section are hereby incorporated by reference (by Citation Number, Title, and Date) in accordance with the clause at FAR "52.252-2 CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE" in Section I of this contract. See http://acquisition.gov/far/index.html for electronic access to the full text of a FAR clause. See

http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/aidar_0.pdf for electronic access to the full text of an AIDAR clause.

FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION (48 CFR Chapter 1)

- **52.203-3 GRATUITIES APR 1984**
- **52.203-5 COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES MAY 2014**
- 52.203-7 ANTI-KICKBACK PROCEDURES MAY 2014
- 52.203-8 CANCELLATION, RESCISSION, AND RECOVERY OF FUNDS FOR ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER ACTIVITY MAY 2014
- 52.203-10 PRICE OR FEE ADJUSTMENT FOR ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER ACTIVITY MAY 2014

52.203-17 CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENT TO INFORM EMPLOYEES OF WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS APR 2014

52.215-19 NOTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP CHANGES OCT 1997

52.227-14 RIGHTS IN DATA – GENERAL MAY 2014

AIDAR 48 CFR Chapter 7

752.209-71 ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DISCOVERED AFTER AWARD JUN 1993

752.245-71 TITLE TO AND CARE OF PROPERTY APR 1984

752,7002 TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION JAN 1990

1.3 Objectives

This RFP solicits the services of a Graphics and Packaging Design firm to provide logo design, graphics, artwork, packaging design and visual identity on packaging. The expectation is that DAI/WIE will contract with one firm to:

- Provide 3 creative design options for logo and packaging design for each client's product, including photography, illustration and/or stock photos to best illustrate the product;
- Develop variations on packaging design (see below) for different products, in line with the selected design;
- Provide final production ready files: preparation of complete final art works including all technical information about packaging material and specifications, die lines, graphics files, print specifications, technical constraints, and any other necessary data for print stage; and
- Provide a brand manual which will include logo in colors, logo black/white, color palette
 indication, font indication; each brand manual should not exceed more than 4 pages two
 brand manuals in total.

1.4 Statement of Work

A detailed Scope of Work (SOW) is provided in Attachment A.

1.5 Project Deliverables

Deliverables for each release order under this program will be:

N	0.	Description	Due Date

1	Inception Report:			
	Include detailed timeline for delivery of the following:			
	 Preliminary packaging design options for each businesses including photography illustration and/or stock photos to best illustrate the product; 			
	II. Adaptation of master design for both selected businesses' variants; and	Within two weeks of signing contract		
	III. Final print ready files complete with final art works including all technical information about die-cuts, color combinations, font types, technical constraints, and any other necessary data for print stage.			
2	Preliminary logos and packaging designs:			
	Provide 3 creative design proposals for logos and product packaging designs for each business, in close consultation with the business owners. Business owners must select and approve one final direction, so close collaboration is necessary to achieve this deliverable.	Within six weeks of signing contract		
3	Adaptation of Selected Designs for Product Variants:			
	Provide declination or adaptation of approved designs on all product variants.			
	Soap:			
	Nine soap labels: (Lavender, Saffron, Charcoal, Cumin, Aloe Vera, Marigold, Tumeric & Black Seed, Rose and Cucumber).	Within Nine weeks of signing contract		
	For the label and box KLDs - please refer to illustrations in Annexes 1 and 2			
	Biscuit:			
	Two labels (Oreo-type and Kids biscuit). For biscuit label KLDs - please refer to illustrations in Annex 3 and 4			

4 Provide final print/production ready files:

Provide complete final art works, pre-flight checks completed, licenses for all stock photography for fonts if necessary, and any other necessary data for print stage.

Artwork deliverables must comply with the artwork requirements specified in Annex 5 or it will not be accepted as a deliverable.

Provide a brand manual which will include logo in colors, logo black/white, color palette indication, font indication; each brand manual should not exceed more than 4 pages – 2 brand manuals in total.

Within eleven weeks of signing contract

Refer to Attachment A, Scope of Work for Services, for a complete description of required services.

1.6 Project Timeframe

The Period of Performance of the Firm Fixed Price Purchase Order will be 11 weeks from the date of contract execution with successful bidder.

1.7 1.7 Issuing Office

The Issuing Office noted in the above synopsis is the sole point of contact at DAI for purposes of this RFP. Any prospective offeror who fails to register their interest on Afghanbids.com assumes complete responsibility in the event that they do not receive direct communications (amendments, answers to questions, etc.) prior to the closing date.

1.8 Type of Award Anticipated

DAI anticipates awarding a Firm Fixed Price Purchase Order resulting from this RFP.

A Firm Fixed Price Purchase Order is: An award for a total firm fixed price for the provision of specific services, goods, or deliverables and is not adjusted if the actual costs are higher or lower than the fixed price amount. Offerors are expected to include all costs, direct and indirect, into their total proposed price.

2. General Instructions to Offerors

2.1 General Instructions

"Offeror", "Vendor", and/or "Bidder" means a firm proposing the work under this RFP. "Offer" and/or "Proposal" means the package of documents the firm submits to propose the work.

Proposal submission:

Offerors who wish to submit a proposal should register on www.afghanbids.com and add the project on their watch list. Proposals must be uploaded on www.afghanbids.com before the closing date. Offers received after the closing date will not be considered. Technical and Cost proposals must be submitted in one PDF file with a blank page separating the two sections. If you have difficulty registering, please email admin_awle@promote-wie.com immediately, or call AfghanBids help desk at +93 (0) 728 898 202. DO NOT SEND OFFERS TO THIS EMAIL ADDRESS AS THEY WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. The technical person answering this number can only help you with registration problems or with problems uploading files. This is an IT person, and he is not

authorized or able to answer questions regarding the RFP. Questions about the RFP should be posted on the opportunity discussion board in AfghanBids.

Use of AfghanBids:

Offerors who do not upload their proposals before 16:00 Kabul time on or before the closing date will not be able to submit their proposals after the bid closes. Also keep in mind that on slower internet connections, large proposal files may take a long time to upload. Package your proposal properly to reduce the file size (save as a single PDF file, using the save as dialogue in Word, and select Minimum Size).

Late offers will be rejected except under extraordinary circumstances at DAI's discretion. No hardcopy proposals shall be accepted.

Give yourself plenty of time to upload your file.

Clarification and Amendment of RFP Documents:

Offerors may request clarifications on the RFP document on the discussion board on www.afghanbids.com not later than the Discussion End Date listed above. DAI/WIE will answer questions posted by Offerors before the deadline, and will provide answers to all Offerors simultaneously on the discussion board. No questions will be answered over the phone or in person.

Cover Page and Markings:

The cover page for your offer should be on your company letterhead and MUST contain the following information:

- **1.** Project or Title: (from the front page of this RFP document)
- **2.** Bid Reference Number: (from the front page of this RFP document)
- **3.** Company Name:
- **4.** Company Address:
- **5.** Name of Company's authorized representative:
- **6.** Telephone No, Cellular Phone #, Email address:
- **7.** Company Type of Registration and Registration Number:
- **8.** Validity Period: The Offeror will certify a validity period of 90 days for the prices proposed.
- **9.** Payment terms: Payment terms will be NET 30 upon receipt and approval of an invoice.
- 10. Acceptance of Tax Withholding Statement and TIN
- **11.** Signature, date and time

Eligibility Requirements:

Local firms and local NGOs organized and operating in Afghanistan are eligible to submit a proposal in response to this RFP. Firms and NGOs must have a valid Afghan business license or registration to be eligible for award.

Offerors wishing to respond to this RFP must submit proposals, in English, in accordance with the following instructions. Offerors are required to review all instructions and specifications contained in this RFP. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. If the solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions not modified in the amendment shall remain unchanged.

Issuance of this RFP in no way obligates DAI to award a subcontract or purchase order. Offerors will not be reimbursed for any costs associated with the preparation or submission of their proposal. DAI shall in no case be responsible for liable for these costs.

The submission to DAI of a proposal in response to this RFP will constitute an offer and indicates the Offeror's agreement to the terms and conditions in this RFP and any attachments hereto. DAI reserves the right not to evaluate a nonresponsive or incomplete proposal.

Note - Organizations included in the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-Procurement Programs are not eligible for Federal awards.

3. Instructions for the Preparation of Proposals

Proposals must be organized into sections corresponding to the sections presented in **Technical Evaluation Criteria**, and numbered accordingly. Please stay in the page limits given below. Only include the requested information and avoid submitting extra content. **Any pages exceeding the page limitation for each section of the proposal will not be evaluated**.

3.1 Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria. Points will also reflect the overall presentation of the proposal, which should be clear, concise, well organized, and well written. Most importantly, proposals should address all the requirements listed in this RFP. It is recommended that Offerors do not waste valuable space limitations by including copy-paste excerpts from Offeror's brochure, organization chart, founder/owner profiles, this RFP, etc. if these are not directly relevant to accomplishing the scope of work. Concise proposals are preferred. Proposals may be under the page limitation.

[1] Technical and management approach: 2-page limit; total points 40

The design proposal should describe the offeror's plan for accomplishing the Statement of Work.

Offerors must explain their technical capabilities and their approach to completing the work stipulated, within given time period. Please explain how you will work with client companies to build the company's brand and produce a logo and artwork that best positions the product. List the design and artwork applications used in your company, and that will be used for this project. (Example Adobe Creative Suite, Photoshop, etc.)

[2] Offeror's past performance and references: 4-page limit (not including samples of previous work): total points 60

The proposal must provide a detailed account of the offeror's record in implementing similar activities/services to those outlined in the Statement of Work. The offeror should also provide:

- Best example of ready to print artwork of product packaging (food packaging example would be good) in PDF and AI (Adobe Illustrator) file version (complete with all layers: colors, fonts, diecuts etc.)
- 2. Example of a brand manual (logo design, logo application, etc.)

3.2 Cost/Price Proposals

The Offeror shall submit a Cost Proposal, which is separate from the Technical Proposal. In the final PDF proposal copy, please make sure you separate the technical and cost proposals by one blank

page and that you do NOT include any cost information in the technical portion. Technical and Cost proposals are evaluated independently.

Please use the budget sample provided in Attachment C.

Cost proposal must be presented in local currency; no other currency calculations will be accepted. Also, once bids are received, WIE may request that bidders submit cost proposals in Excel format including formulas if the cost structure is not clearly presented in the proposal budget. Please keep budget spreadsheets on file until after awards are announced. Awardees are required to include supporting "budget notes" as assumption narratives and method of calculation are required in sufficient detail to allow a complete analysis of each cost element.

Marks for the cost criteria will be evaluated separately and DAI will consider factors including cost effectiveness, cost control and cost realism. While WIE believes in cost savings, budgets should be realistic and value for the services should be clearly demonstrated.

*Note to bidders: You may not propose a fee or profit that is a fixed percentage of total costs. Cost plus percentage of cost type contracts are not permitted. A fixed completion fee of a set amount is acceptable, and may be split into payments across deliverables if desired. However, this must be a fixed cost item and not a percentage of costs.

4. Best and Final Offers and Negotiations

DAI/WIE may proceed directly to making a subcontract award once proposals are evaluated, or to further competitive bidding and negotiation. If after the initial submission it is determined that two more Offerors are close to one another within competitive range but there is no clear winner, DAI/WIE can proceed to a best and final offer (BAFO) round. Offerors in competitive range will then be given a short time period to modify or revise both technical and cost proposals. DAI/WIE may advise a bidder on what needs improvement, whether it is technical approach, staffing, or a budget line item.

WIE can accept the terms of any submitted proposal, but final subcontract negotiations can take place directly after an award and before a subcontract is signed. If final negotiations fail or if the winning firm cannot meet any of their commitments (for example, proposed key personnel are not available), DAI/WIE can award a subcontract to the second best proposal.

DAI may award to an Offeror without discussions. Therefore the initial offer **must contain the Offeror's best price and technical terms.**

5. Basis of Award

5.1 Best Value Determination

DAI/WIE anticipates that the basis for award will be the Trade Off Method. The award will be issued to the responsible and reasonable offeror who provides the best value to DAI and its client using a combination of technical and cost/price factors.

To determine which proposals are technically acceptable, proposals will be evaluated on the criteria specified in Section 3.1. The relative importance of each individual criterion is indicated by the number of points assigned, totalling 100 points. Offerors should note that these criteria serve to: (a) identify the significant factors which Offerors should address in their proposals, and (b) set the standard against which all proposals will be evaluated.

The cost proposal will be evaluated according to reasonableness, accuracy, and completeness. For the purposes of evaluation, all evaluation factors other than cost/price, when combined, are approximately equal to cost/price.

5.2 Responsibility Determination

DAI will not enter into any type of agreement with an Offeror prior to ensuring the Offeror's responsibility. When assessing an Offeror's responsibility, the following factors are taken into consideration:

- 1. Provide evidence of the required AISA licenses to operate in Afghanistan.
- 2. Evidence of a DUNS number (explained below and instructions contained in Attachment D).
- 3. The source, origin and nationality of the products or services are not from a Prohibited Country (explained below).
- 4. Having adequate financial resources to finance and perform the work or deliver goods or the ability to obtain financial resources without receiving advance funds from DAI.
- 5. Ability to comply with required or proposed delivery or performance schedules.
- 6. Have a satisfactory past performance record.
- 7. Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics.
- 8. Have the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls and technical skills.
- 9. Have the necessary production, construction and technical equipment and facilities if applicable.
- 10. Be qualified and eligible to perform work under applicable laws and regulations.

6. Inspection & Acceptance

The designated DAI Project Manager will inspect from time to time the services being performed to determine whether the activities are being performed in a satisfactory manner, and that all equipment or supplies are of acceptable quality and standards. The vendor shall be responsible for any countermeasures or corrective action, within the scope of this RFP, which may be required by the DAI Chief of Party as a result of such inspection.

7. Compliance with Terms and Conditions

7.1 General Terms and Conditions

Offerors agree to comply with the general terms and conditions for an award resulting from this RFP. The selected Offeror shall comply with all Representations and Certifications of Compliance listed in Attachment G.

7.2 Government Withholding Tax for Afghan Based Companies

Pursuant to Article 72 of the Afghanistan Income Tax Law, DAI is required to withhold taxes from the gross amounts payable to all Afghan for-profit vendors/vendors. In accordance with this requirement, DAI will withhold two percent (2%) tax from the entity's gross invoices if the entity is in possession of an active business license issued by any of the following entities -Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA), the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), Ministry of Information and Culture, Ministry of Education or Ministry of Public Health.

If the entity provides services contrary to approved by-laws or it does not possess a business license issued by any of the aforementioned public entities, but possesses licenses issued by other local or national government entities or municipalities, DAI shall withhold seven percent (7%) "Contractor" taxes on the gross amount payable. In either case, this tax is withheld by DAI from the gross amount payable to the awarded entity and subsequently remitted to the Ministry of Finance. DAI will maintain records of all of such remittances.

Before the signing of this Agreement, the vendor will provide a copy of the organization's legal registration document (AISA or Ministry Registration) and TIN (Tax Identification Number). Amounts deducted from the invoices will be forwarded to the Ministry of Finance (MOF) Tax Division credited to the firm's TIN. Records of payments to the MOF shall be maintained on file with DAI/WIE.

7.3 Source and Nationality

The contractor may supply any goods or services manufactured in or shipped from the Geographic Code. 937 (Local Procurement is therefore approved, and the list of excluded countries may be viewed at https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1876/310mab.pdf).

DAI must verify the source and nationality of goods and services and ensure (to the fullest extent possible) that DAI does not procure any goods or services from prohibited countries listed by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) as sanctioned countries. OFAC sanctioned countries may be searched within the System for Award Management (SAM) at www.SAM.gov. The current list of countries under comprehensive sanctions include: Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria. Goods may not transit through or be assembled in comprehensive sanctioned origin or nationality countries nor can the vendor be owned or controlled by a prohibited country. DAI is prohibited from facilitating any transaction by a third party if that transaction would be prohibited if performed by DAI.

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, Offerors confirm that they are not violating the Source and Nationality requirements of the goods or services being offered and that the goods and services comply with the Geographic Code and the exclusions for prohibited countries outlined above.

7.4 Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)

There is a mandatory requirement for your organization to provide a DUNS number to DAI. The Data Universal Numbering System is a system developed and regulated by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) that assigns a unique numeric identifier, referred to as a "DUNS number" to a single business entity. Without a DUNS number, DAI cannot deem an Offeror "responsible" to conduct business with and therefore, DAI will not enter into a subcontract/purchase order or monetary agreement with any organization. The determination of a successful offeror/applicant resulting from this RFP/RFQ/RFA is contingent upon the winner providing a DUNS number to DAI. Offerors who fail to provide a DUNS number will not receive an award and DAI will select an alternate Offeror.

All U.S. and foreign organizations which receive first-tier subcontracts/ purchase orders with a value of \$30,000 and above are required to obtain a DUNS number prior to signing of the agreement. Organizations are exempt from this requirement if the gross income received from all sources in the previous tax year was under \$300,000. DAI requires that Offerors sign the self-certification statement if the Offeror claims exemption for this reason.

For those required to obtain a DUNS number, WIE Procurement can provide instructions/assistance for obtaining a DUNS Number.

For those not required to obtain a DUNS number, see Attachment E: Self Certification for Exemption from DUNS Requirement

7.5 Vetting Procedure

On December 05, 2012 USAID/Afghanistan notified that Recipients/Contractors receiving USAID funding must be vetted for any lower-tier contracts valued over \$25,000. This notice is effective January 1, 2013. Any Offeror receiving an award from WIE must submit vetting documentation and receive an eligibility notice before WIE can issue a final contract or purchase order. The vetting is not done by WIE but by the Vetting Support Unit of USAID, and may take several weeks. DAI/WIE will assist awardees with the procedure once a winning proposal is selected.

In addition to vetting, WIE may carry out reference checks and due diligence on any information provided by Offeror. Providing false information on personnel qualifications and experience or in past performance references will result in the Offeror being disqualified from future bidding.

7.6 Conflict of Interest Declaration for the WIE Vendor

The following steps outline WIE's Contracts selection process and should be understood by all Offerors to ensure the transparency of awards and avoid conflict of interest.

- 1. All Requests for Proposals (RFPs) are announced on Afghanbids.com, and bids uploaded by offerors cannot be accessed by anyone before the bid closing date.
- 2. Once the proposals are received, technical and cost proposals are separated. Technical proposals are scored by an evaluation committee which consists of technical professionals. Cost proposals are evaluated for reasonableness, accuracy, and completeness.
- 3. The best value proposal is selected based on a combination of the technical score and the cost.
- 4. No activity can be started until vetting and other formalities are completed and both WIE and the awardee have signed a formal contract.
- 5. No one from WIE can terminate the contract, stop, or delay payment without cause. For example, if gross misconduct is discovered in the implementation process, WIE has the right to suspend the contract in question until an official investigation of the facts is complete.
- 6. At no time is it appropriate or legal for contractors or beneficiaries to offer any WIE staff member commissions, kickbacks, or gifts of any kind. If a WIE employee is found taking commissions, kickbacks, gifts or engaging in fraud of any kind their employment contract with WIE will be immediately terminated and their actions will be reported to USAID's Office of the Inspector General (OIG). WIE's policy against fraud exists throughout the life of the contract and beyond. Even if the contract is closed, if any party is found guilty of fraud WIE will make a full report to the OIG which may choose to investigate and to prosecute guilty parties to the fullest extent of the law.
- 7. Neither payment nor preference shall be made by either the Offeror, or by any DAI staff, in an attempt to affect the results of the award. DAI treats all reports of possible fraud/abuse

very seriously. Acts of fraud or corruption will not be tolerated, and DAI employees and vendors/grantees who engage in such activities will face serious consequences. Any such practice constitutes an unethical, illegal, and corrupt practice and such practice may result in the cancellation of the procurement and disqualification of the Offeror's participation in this, and future, procurements. Violators will be reported to USAID, and as a result, may be reported to the U.S. Department of Justice to be included in a Restricted Parties list, preventing them from participating in future U.S. Government business.

Offerors must provide full, accurate and complete information in response to this solicitation. The penalty for materially false responses is prescribed in Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

In addition, DAI takes the payment of USAID funds to pay Terrorists, or groups supporting Terrorists, or other parties in exchange for protection very seriously. Should the Terrorist, groups or other parties attempt to extort/demand payment from your organization you are asked to immediately report the incident to DAI's Ethics and Compliance Anonymous Hotline at the contacts described in this clause.

- 8. By submitting an offer, offerors certify that they have not/will not attempt to bribe or make any payments to DAI employees in return for preference, nor have any payments with Terrorists, or groups supporting Terrorists, been attempted.
- 9. Either the Offeror or DAI staff may report unethical, illegal, and corrupt practice to the Toll-Free Ethics and Compliance Anonymous Hotline at +1 855-603-6987, via the DAI website, or via email to FPI_hotline@dai.com. DAI ensures anonymity and an unbiased, serious review and treatment of the information provided. Offerors or WIE staff may also report fraud, abuse, or kickback cases to: hotline@promote-wie.com, or call this phone number: +93 (0) 789 65 8190. Do not use these numbers for asking questions about the RFP. The hotline numbers is only for reporting fraud, abuse, kickback, and conflict of interest. The person answering this phone does not have information about bids, and cannot give any instructions or answer any questions about ongoing procurements.

7.7 Whistleblower Protections Act

All employees of Vendors, Grantees and Vendors who currently or have previously conducted work under WIE are protected from reprisal by US law for disclosure of certain information. The Whistleblower protections in 41 U.S.C. §4712 state than an "employee of a contractor, vendor, grantee [or sub grantee] may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for "whistleblowing."

Whistleblowing is defined as making a disclosure "that the employee reasonably believes" is evidence of any of the following:

- Gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant;
- A gross waste of Federal funds;
- An abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant;
- A substantial and specific danger to public health or safety: or,

• A violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract or grant (including the competition for, or negotiation of, a contract or grant).

Whistleblower protections cannot be waived by any agreement, policy, form or condition of employment. To meet the standards of this law, the employee's disclosure must be made to:

- A Member of the US Congress, or a representative of a US Congressional Committee;
- An Inspector General;
- The US Government Accountability Office;
- A US Government employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at the relevant agency;
- A US court or grand jury; or,
- A management official or other employee of DAI, the vendor, grantee, or sub-grantee who has the responsibility to investigate, discover or address misconduct.

In summary, the Act says that a person who believes that the he or she has been subjected to a reprisal prohibited by this Act may submit a complaint to the Inspector General but not more than three years after the date on which the alleged reprisal took place. The Inspector General will make a determination or issue a report on findings to USAID. USAID will determine from this determination or report whether there is sufficient basis to conclude that the contractor or grantee concerned has subjected the complainant to a reprisal prohibited by the Act and shall either issue an order denying relief or shall take one or more of the following actions:

- (A) Order the contractor or grantee to take affirmative action to abate (lessen) the reprisal.
- (B) Order the contractor or grantee to reinstate the person to the position that the person held before the reprisal, together with compensatory damages (including back pay), employment benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment that would apply to the person in that position if the reprisal had not been taken.
- (C) Order the contractor or grantee to pay the complainant an amount equal to the aggregate amount of all costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees and expert witnesses' fees) that were reasonably incurred by the complainant for, or in connection with, bringing the complaint regarding the reprisal.

More information on the Act can be found at: https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/USCODE-2012-title41/USCODE-2012-title41-subtitle1-divsnC-chap47-sec4712

8. Attachments

8.1 Attachment A: Scope of Work for Services or Technical Specifications

Packaging Design to two of its selected client business (Soap and Biscuit manufactures

DAI is implementing the USAID funded Women in the Economy (WIE) program across the five major population centers of Kabul, Herat, Mazar, Jalalabad and Kandahar. The objective of the project is to enable Afghan women to increase their participation in the mainstream economy.

With components focusing on workforce and private sector development, WIE delivers activities to provide women with the skills and resources to enter the workforce and support the growth of businesses in WIE's target market (women-owned businesses or businesses with women as 30% or more of their workforce).

DAI/WIE seeks the services of a Graphics and Packaging Design firm to provide technical services in packaging design to two of its selected client businesses – Soap and Biscuit manufacturers in Afghanistan.

This RFP solicits the services of a Graphics and Packaging Design firm to provide logo design, graphics, artwork, packaging design and visual identity on packaging. The expectation is that DAI/WIE will contract with one firm to:

- Provide 3 creative design options for logo and packaging design for each client's product, including photography, illustration and/or stock photos to best illustrate the product;
- Develop variations on packaging design (see below) for different products, in line with the selected design;
- Provide final production ready files: preparation of complete final art works including all technical information about packaging material and specifications, die lines, graphics files, print specifications, technical constraints, and any other necessary data for print stage; and
- Provide a brand manual which will include logo in colors, logo black/white, color palette
 indication, font indication; each brand manual should not exceed more than 4 pages two
 brand manuals in total.

The selected offeror will produce packaging designs for the following businesses:

- 1. Soap Producer: Produces handmade bars of soap containing natural ingredients.
 - Logo design
 - Soap label design (1 master design + 8 variants for different types of soap.) Sample soap label



- Sample paper display box (containing 9 soap bars) - Dimension: (180 mm x 100 mm x 75 mm)



- 2. **Biscuit Producer:** Produces two types of biscuit including, Oreo-type which is round and a biscuit type for kids in rectangular shape.
- Logo design (Main)
- Biscuit label design (1 Master design + 1 variant) Dimensions: (170 mm x 156 mm)

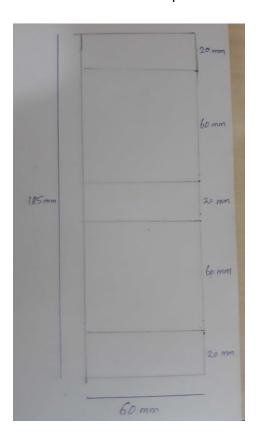


- Biscuit for kids – Dimensions (174 mm x 160 mm)



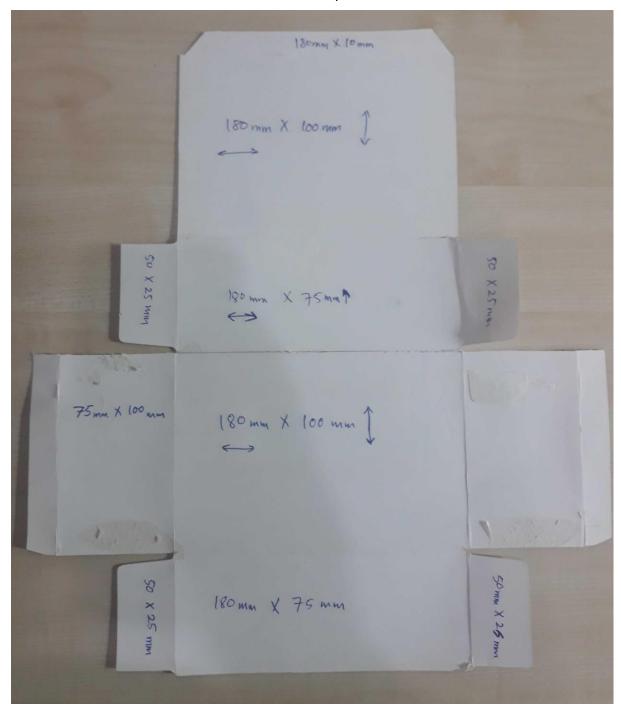
Annex 1: Soap Label (Master)

KLD: 185mm X 60mm – selected vendor to develop final dielines.



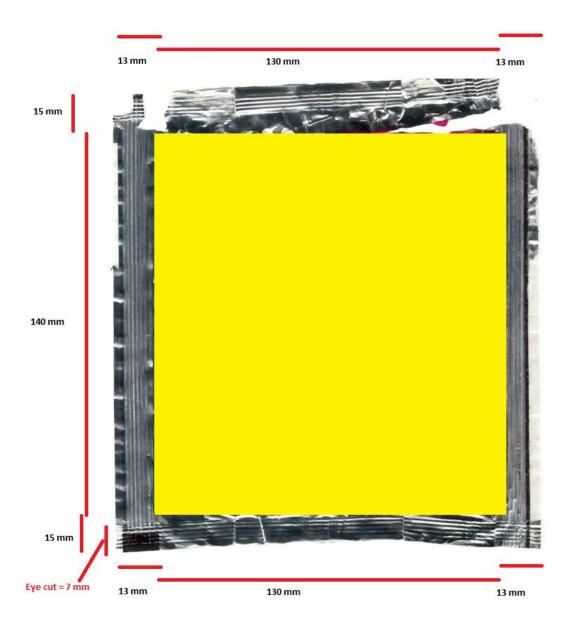
Annex 2: Soap Box (Master)

KLD: 180mm X 100mm X 75mm – selected vendor to develop final dielines.



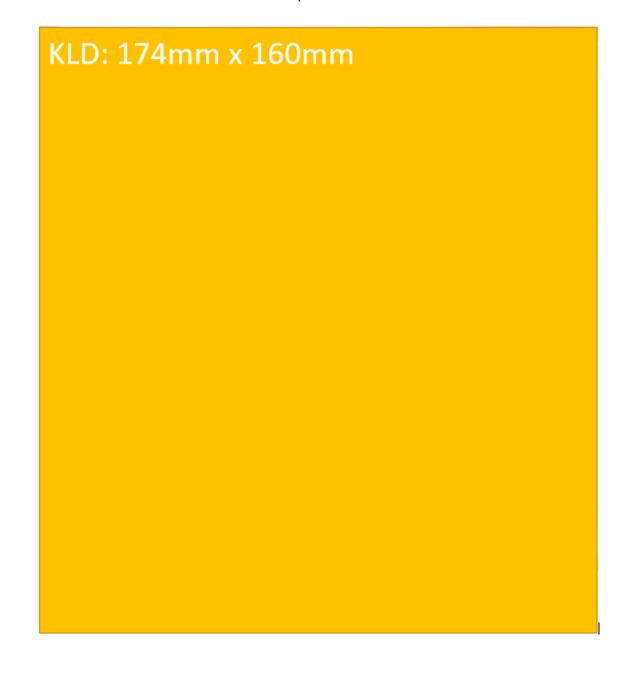
Annex 3: Biscuit Wrapper (Master design)

KLD: 170 mm x 156mm – selected vendor to develop final dielines.



Annex 4: Biscuit Wrapper (Variant)

KLD: 174mm x 160mm – selected vendor to develop final dielines.



Annex 5: Final Print Ready File Requirements

Design/Layout Application Software

1. Adobe Illustrator (.ai) or is the preferred application for production although for size of these projects InDesign is acceptable.

Artwork should be created in a vector format. Vector files are scalable, and it's easy to create dieline templates using the line and shape tools in vector programs like Adobe Illustrator or Inkscape.

Adobe PhotoShop is NOT an acceptable format for use in creating final print ready files. It is excellent for editing photographic images that may be used on products, but it should not be used for anything that contains type or vector graphics.

Submit files as Illustrator AI files whenever possible. Submit a PDF proof of your artwork also.

2. Creating the Dielines

The dieline is custom-sized to the product and will serve as the design template. A PDF dieline must be presented as a separate file as part of the design deliverables:

This dieline should be placed on a separate layer from your artwork. The dieline should have accurate and precise dimensions at 100% of actual size and contain the following information:

- Layflat Dimensions
- Seam Overlaps: this area will be covered by the overlapping film or paper and can include background image, but should not include any important copy.
- Fold Locations: when applicable to the product
- Clear Areas: There must be a clear area between each repeat print of the packaging is printed from a roll or multiple prints are made on a sheet to allow for accurate cutting. Mark clear areas on the dieline.
- Safe Area: This area is the safe area for your copy (design, text, barcode, etc). Background image can extend to the seam edges and clear areas but copy items should not extend beyond the safe area. No bleed is required. Avoid placing barcodes and important copy on the folds.
- 3. Set document size to the actual size of the medium that it will be printed on when possible and ensure there is sufficient bleed for trimming and margins are set for the safe area.
- 4. Proper use of color: Be sure that your document is set to the CMYK color mode. Choose CMYK ink colors for full-color printing (4 color process). Choose Pantone Solid Colors (spot colors) for 1-2 color printing. Remember to designate all spot colors with a Pantone code when applicable. Check your color separations: if your art is print ready then all document components (text, images, backgrounds, etc.) should be prepared for the color mode in which it will be printed: CMYK, Spot-Color or Greyscale. A color-separated PDF is an excellent way to cross-check your work for accuracy.

4. Design elements

All photos and other raster art should be at least 300 DPI to ensure they print clearly. Placed images <u>must</u> be at least 300dpi when placed at 100% size. Do not embed images. Include placed images with the art files.

Convert ALL type to objects (outline) for your final print ready files. Provide all font files separately with a non-outlined document (in case text needs to be changed later). Use Sanserif typefaces for small text. Adobe Illustrator, InDesign both have methods of turning the type fonts into objects, so they are no longer a type font.

No CMYK process colors should be used on type that is smaller than 16-point. You must use spot colors or black for small print as multiple passes may blur the text.

Tip: Remove all extra colors from the Adobe Color Palette. Use only CMYK colors or Pantone Spot Colors. Be sure all spot colors are set as SPOT and not CMYK. Do not use RGB colors.

5. Barcodes

For round packages (Oreo-type biscuit) UPC codes/barcodes should be rotated so that the barcode runs parallel to the length of the packaging, reducing distortion. Barcodes must be vector artwork (lines and curves) and not bitmap images. Barcodes can be reduced up to 80% and bar height can be reduced as needed.

6. Proof Approval: Each final design must have proof copy approval from the business owner and from WIE before the deliverable can be approved. A signed copy of the proof must be filed with the deliverables.

7. Final Files Required:

Working Files: one set of Adobe Illustrator or InDesign Files, folder with all raster and vector images that are placed, and all fonts used in folders. All full color artwork must be in CMYK mode and SPOT colors designated as Pantone colors. Logos MUST be in vector format, and any raster images (photographs) should be high resolution.

Print Files: Provide final print ready files in a format usable by the printer. In most cases, this will mean creating a high resolution PDF file that embeds all of the document fonts and images. Choose "Press Quality" when creating PDFs. PDF'ing ensures all type and other vector art will remain clear and pixel-free. In contrast, if you save to JPG or other raster file formats, all type and vector art will be pixelated, so raster formats are not acceptable as final print ready files.

8.2 Attachment B: Proposal Cover Letter

[On Firm's Letterhead]

<Insert date>

TO: DAI

We, the undersigned, provide the attached proposal in accordance with RFP-Click here to enter text.-Click here to enter text. issued on Click here to enter text. Our attached proposal is for the total price of <Sum in Words (\$0.00 Sum in Figures) >.

I certify a validity period of Click here to enter text. days for the prices provided in the attached Price Schedule/Bill of Quantities. Our proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from any discussions.

Offeror shall verify here the items specified in this RFP document.

We understand that DAI is not bound to accept any proposal it receives. Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:

Name and Title of Signatory: Click here to enter text.

Name of Firm: Click here to enter text.

Address: Click here to enter text.

Telephone: Click here to enter text.

Email: Click here to enter text.

Company Seal/Stamp:

8.3 Attachment C: Budget Sample

Budget Sample

Item	Unit	# of Unit	Unit Cost	Total
Inception Report	Each			
Preliminary logos and packaging designs	Each			
Adaptation of Selected Designs for product				
variants	Each			
Provide Final print/production ready files	Each			
Total:				

Note: There is a Mandatory Requirement for your Organization to Provide a DUNS number to DAI

SUBCONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS: All domestic and foreign organizations which receive first-tier subcontracts/ purchase orders with a value of \$25,000 and above are required to obtain a DUNS number prior to signing of the agreement. Your organization is exempt from this requirement if the gross income received from all sources in the previous tax year was under \$300,000. Please see the self-certification form attached.

NO SUBCONTRACTS/POs (\$25,000 + above) or MONETARY GRANTS WILL BE SIGNED BY DAI WITHOUT PRIOR RECEIPT OF A DUNS NUMBER.

Note: The determination of a successful offeror/applicant resulting from this RFP/RFQ/RFA is contingent upon the winner providing a DUNS number to DAI. Organizations who fail to provide a DUNS number will not receive an award and DAI will select an alternate vendor/vendor/grantee.

Background:

Summary of Current U.S. Government Requirements- DUNS and Reporting in FSRS Database

The Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) is a system developed and managed by Dun and Bradstreet that assigns a unique nine-digit identifier to a business entity. It is a common standard world-wide and users include the U.S. Government, European Commission and the United Nations. The DUNS number will be used to better identify related organizations that are receiving U.S. federal funding, and to provide consistent name and address data for electronic application systems.

The U.S. Government requires that all applicants for first-tier monetary grants (i) and all first-tier subcontracts/purchase orders of \$25,000 or above have a DUNS number prior to DAI issuing an award to that entity.

REQUIREMENT FOR DAI TO REPORT DATA IN THE FSRS DATABASE:

In addition, in accordance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2008; FAR 52.204-10, "Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards" (Revised July 2010); and Subpart 4.14—"Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards," effective March 1, 2011, DAI is required to report any newly awarded first-tier subcontracts \$25,000 or above in the FSRS (Functional Security Requirements Specifications) database at http://www.fsrs.gov.

In accordance with AAPD 11-01 amended, all foreign entities receiving first-tier monetary grants (standard, simplified and FOGs) with a value equal to or over \$25,000 and performing work outside the U.S. must obtain a DUNS number <u>prior</u> to signing of the grant. All U.S. organizations who are recipients of first-tier monetary grants of any value are required to obtain a DUNS number; the exemption for under \$25,000 applies to foreign organizations only. In accordance with the AAPD as well as 2 CFR Parts 25 and 170, DAI is required to report on grantees in the FSRS database. The reported information for subcontracts and grants will be available for the public to view at http://usaspending.gov.

Instructions detailing the process to be followed in order to obtain a DUNs number for your organization begin on the next page.

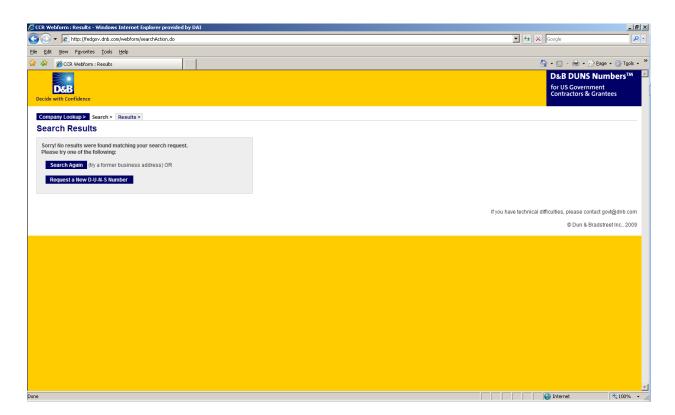
THE PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A DUNS NUMBER IS OUTLINED BELOW:

1. Log on to the D&B (Dun & Bradstreet) DUNS registration website to begin the process of obtaining a DUNS number free of charge.

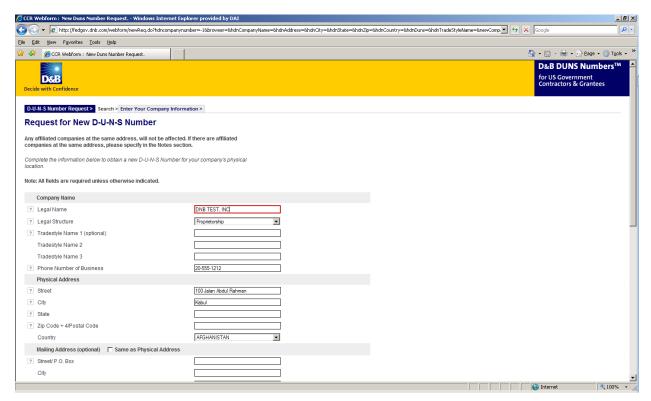
http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/index.jsp

Please note there is a bar on the left for Frequently Asked Questions as well as emails and telephone numbers for persons at Dun & Bradstreet for you to contact if you have any questions or difficulties completing the application on-line. DAI is not authorized to complete the application on your organization's behalf; the required data must be entered by an authorized official of your organization.

- 2. Select the Country where your company is physically located.
- 3. You will first be asked to search the existing DUNS database to see whether a DUNS number already exists for your organization/entity. Vendors/grantees who already have a DUNS number may verify/update their DUNS records.
- 4. Potential DAI vendors/vendors/grantees who do not already have a DUNS number will be shown the screen below. To request a new DUNS Number, the "Request a New D-U-N-S Number" button needs to be selected.



- 5. Enter the information regarding your organization listed on the next three screens. (See screen shots below.) Make sure you have the following information available (in English) prior to beginning the process of entering this section in order to ensure successful registration.
 - Legal Business Name (commas are allowed, periods are not allowed)
 - Address
 - Phone
 - Name of Owner/Executive
 - > Total Number of Employees
 - Annual Sales or Revenue (US Dollar equivalent)
 - Description of Operations
- 6. Note that some fields are Optional, however all other fields must be completed to proceed further with the application process. For example, all applicants must complete the Organization Information sections. The Company Name and Physical Address fields are self-populated based on information previously entered during the initial DUNS search. The question marks to the left of the field provide additional information when you click on them.

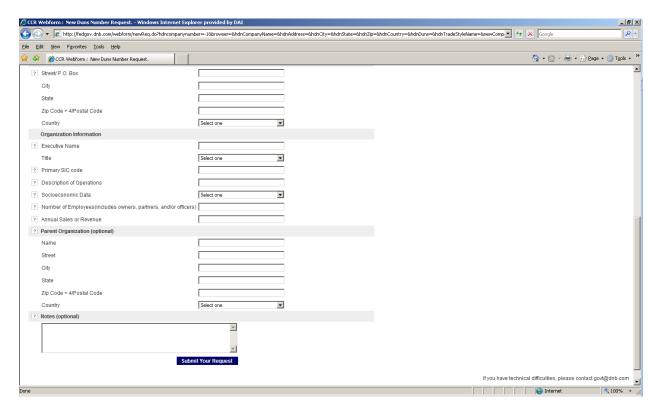


7. You must select the legal structure of your organization from the pull down menu. To assist you in selecting the appropriate structure that best represents your organization, a brief description of the various types follows:

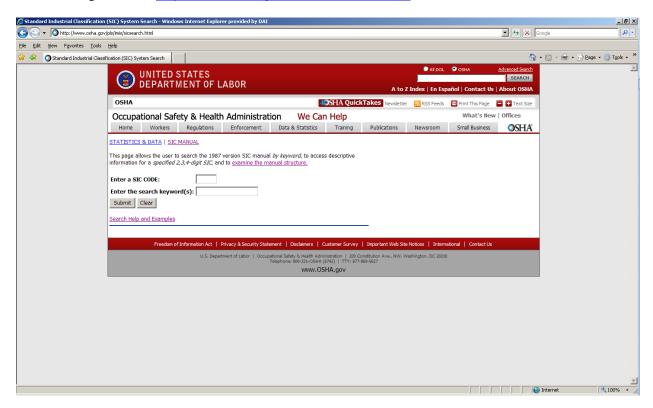
- Corporation A firm that meets certain legal requirements to be chartered by the state/province in which it is headquartered by the filing of articles of incorporation. A corporation is considered by law to be an entity separate and distinct from its owners. It can be taxed; it can be sued; it can enter into contractual agreements.
- Government central, province/state, district, municipal and other U.S. or local government entities. Includes universities, schools and vocational centers owned and operated by the government.
- Limited Liability Company (LLC) This is a type of business ownership combining several features of corporation and partnership structures. It is designed to provide the limited liability features of a corporation and the tax efficiencies and operational flexibility of a partnership. Its owners have limited personal liability for the LLC's debts and obligations, similar to the status of shareholders in a corporation. If your firm is an LLC, this will be noted on the organizations registration and licensing documents.
- **Non-profit** An entity which exists for charitable reasons and is not conducted or maintained for the purpose of making a profit. Any money earned must be retained by the organization, and used for its own expenses, operations, and programs. Most organizations which are registered in the host country as a non-governmental organization (NGO) rather than as a commercial business are anon-profit entities.

Community based organizations, trade associations, community development councils, and similar entities which are not organized as a profit making organization should select this status, even if your organization is not registered formally in country as an NGO.

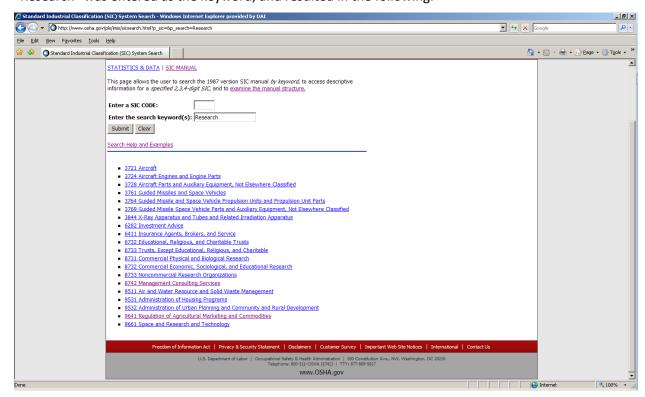
- **Partnership-** a legal form of operation in which two or more individuals carry on a continuing business for profit as co-owners. The profits and losses are shared proportionally.
- Proprietorship-These firms are owned by one person, usually the individual who has day-to-day
 responsibility for running the business. Sole proprietors own all the assets of the business and
 the profits generated by it.
- 8. One of the most important fields that must be filled in is the Primary SIC code field. (See screen shot below.) The Primary Standard Industrial Code classifies the business' most relevant industry and function.



9. If you are unsure of which SIC Code your organization's core business falls under, please refer to the following website: http://www.osha.gov/oshstats/sicser.html



You will need to enter certain keywords to bring up the potential SIC Codes. In the case above, "Research" was entered as the keyword, and resulted in the following:



PLEASE NOTE: Many of the DAI vendors and grantees fall under one of the following SIC codes:

8742 Management Consulting Services

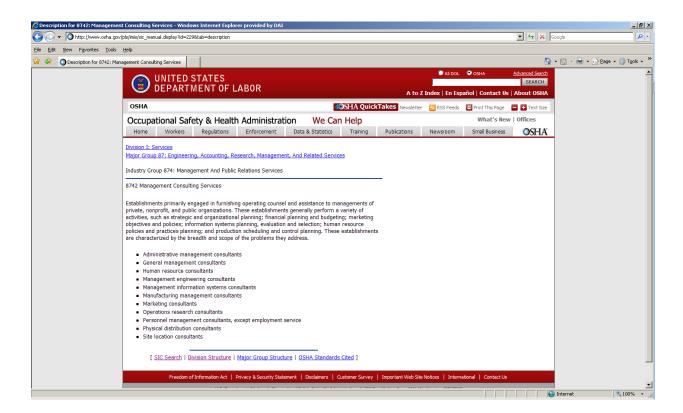
1542 General Contractors-Nonresidential Buildings, Other than Industrial Buildings and Warehouses or one of the codes within:

Industry Group 357: Computer And Office Equipment

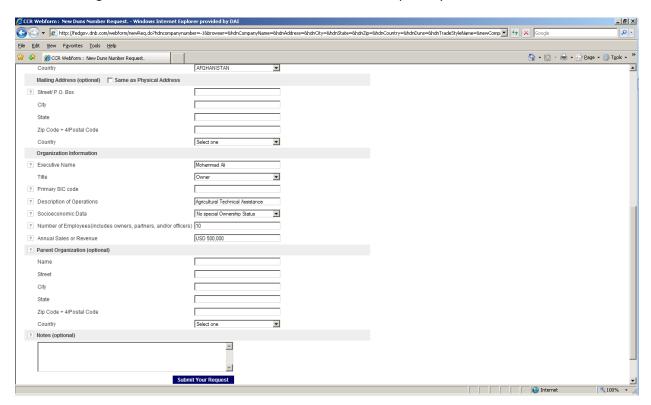
Industry Group 355: Special Industry Machinery, Except Metalworking

Industry Group 356: General Industrial Machinery And Equipment

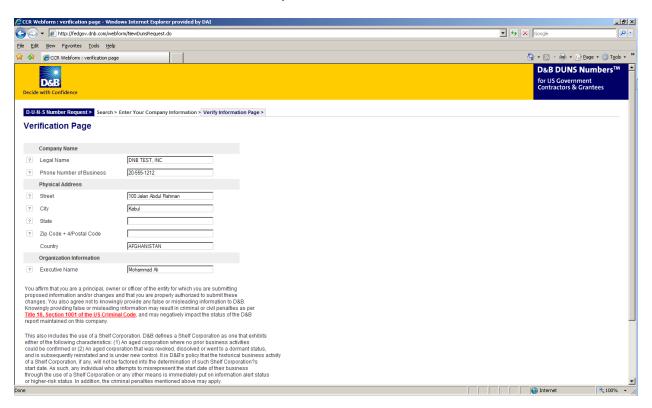
Industry Group 359: Miscellaneous Industrial And Commercial



10. Description of Operations- Enter a brief description of the primary services you provide the example below, "agricultural technical assistance" was chosen as the primary function of the business.



- 11. The Annual Sales or Revenue figure should be provided in USD (US Dollar) equivalent.
- 12. Once all of the fields have been completed, click on "Submit Your Request" to be taken to the Verification page.
- 13. Note: Representative (Principal, Owner or Officer) needs to verify and provide affirmation regarding the accuracy of the data under criminal or civil penalties as per Title 18, Section 1001 of the US Criminal Code.
- 14. Once "Yes, Continue" button is clicked, the registration application is sent to D&B, and a DUNS number should be available within 24-48 hours. DUNS database can be checked in 24-48 hours by entering the Business Information in the Search window which should now display a valid result with the new DUNS number for the entity.



8.5 Attachment E: Self Certification for Exemption from DUNS Requirement

Self-Certification for Exemption from DUNS Requirement for Vendors and Vendors

Legal Business Name:	
Physical Address:	
Physical City:	
Physical Foreign Province (if applicable):	
Physical Country:	
Signature of Certifier	
Full Name of Certifier (Last Name, First/Middle Names):	
Title of Certifier:	
Date of Certification (mm/dd/yyyy):	

The vendor whose legal business name is provided herein, certifies that we are an organization exempt from obtaining a DUNS number, as the gross income received from all sources in the previous tax year is under USD \$300,000.

^{*}By submitting this certification, the certifier attests to the accuracy of the representations and certifications contained herein. The certifier understands that s/he and the vendor may be subject to penalties, if s/he misrepresents the vendor in any of the representations or certifications to the Prime Contractor and/or the US Government.

The vendor agrees to allow the Prime Contractor and/or the US Government to verify the company name, physical address, or other information provided herein. Certification validity is for one year from the date of certification.

8.6 Attachment F: Past Performance Form

Include projects that best illustrate your work experience relevant to this RFP, sorted by decreasing order of completion date.

Projects should have been undertaken in the past three years. Projects undertaken in the past six years may be taken into consideration at the discretion of the evaluation committee.

#	Project Title	Location Province/	Client Name/Tel No	Cost in US\$	Start-End Dates	Complete d on schedule (Yes/No)	Completion Letter Received. (Yes/No)	Type of Agreement, Subcontract, Grant, PO (fixed price, cost reimbursable)
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								

8.7 Attachment G: Representations and Certifications of Compliance

- 1. <u>Federal Excluded Parties List</u> The Bidder Select is not presently debarred, suspended, or determined ineligible for an award of a contract by any Federal agency.
- Executive Compensation Certificationfederal government contracts, to report compensation levels of the five most highly compensated vendor executives to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Sub-Award Report System (FSRS)
- 3. Executive Order on Terrorism Financing- The Contractor is reminded that U.S. Executive Orders and U.S. law prohibits transactions with, and the provision of resources and support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. It is the legal responsibility of the Contractor/Recipient to ensure compliance with these Executive Orders and laws. Recipients may not engage with, or provide resources or support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. No support or resources may be provided to individuals or entities that appear on the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked persons List maintained by the US Treasury (online at www.SAM.gov) or the United Nations Security Designation List (online at: http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml). This provision must be included in all subcontracts/sub awards issued under this Contract.
- 4. <u>Trafficking of Persons</u> The Contractor may not traffic in persons (as defined in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking of persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime), procure commercial sex, and use forced labor during the period of this award.
- 5. <u>Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payment to Influence Certain Federal Transactions</u> The Bidder certifies that it currently is and will remain in compliance with FAR 52.203-11, Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payment to Influence Certain Federal Transactions.
- 6. Organizational Conflict of Interest The Bidder certifies that will comply FAR Part 9.5, Organizational Conflict of Interest. The Bidder certifies that is not aware of any information bearing on the existence of any potential organizational conflict of interest. The Bidder further certifies that if the Bidder becomes aware of information bearing on whether a potential conflict may exist, that Bidder shall immediately provide DAII with a disclosure statement describing this information.
- 7. <u>Prohibition of Segregated Facilities</u> The Bidder certifies that it is compliant with FAR 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities.
- 8. Equal Opportunity The Bidder certifies that it does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, sex, religion, handicap, race, creed, color or national origin.
- 9. Labor Laws The Bidder certifies that it is in compliance with all labor laws..

- 10. Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) The Bidder certifies that it is familiar with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and is in not in violation of any certifications required in the applicable clauses of the FAR, including but not limited to certifications regarding lobbying, kickbacks, equal employment opportunity, affirmation action, and payments to influence Federal transactions.
- 11. <u>Employee Compliance</u> The Bidder warrants that it will require all employees, entities and individuals providing services in connection with the performance of an DAI Purchase Order to comply with the provisions of the resulting Purchase Order and with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations in connection with the work associated therein.

By submitting a proposal, offerors agree to fully comply with the terms and conditions above and all applicable U.S. federal government clauses included herein, and will be asked to sign these Representations and Certifications upon award.

List of Optional Attachments

8.8 Attachment H: Branding and Marking Plan

Note: This is not required as part of the proposal. It is included as information for the Offeror. Upon subcontract award, this will be the first deliverable due.

Subcontract awara, this will be the hist delivere	able due.
Appendix N: Marking Plan	
Sub Project Number and Name:	
Name of Implementing Partner:	
Name and Title of Partner's Agent:	
Name and Title of DAI Project Manager:	
DAI Project Managers with a summary of marki Implementation Plan (BIP). This form must be of	ovide implementing partners (vendors and grantees) and ing requirements found in the Project's Branding completed by the DAI Project Manager in conjunction nce completed, the Project Manager must upload the
Subproject Activities	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	es to be completed including the project location. For will be purchased? What events will take place?
Include 2-3 sentence summary here:	:
·	ivity that will take place as part of this Sub project. The ole for ensuring the Marking noted in the table below is nd templates provided.
Mark "X" Activity/Documents	Required Marking
Activities	

IVIAI K A	Activity/Documents	Required Marking
Acti	vities	

Mark "X"	Activity/Documents	Required Marking
Doc	uments	
	Reports	
	Certificates (training or other)	
	Invitations	
	Other (please	
Reques to mark markin excepti	sts for Exceptions or Waivers of k one or more of the items or ev g you want to be exempt from (i ion or waiver.	O funded programmatic material. Marking Requirements – If you do not feel it is possible ents listed above, please describe below (1) what 2) how the activity or item meets the requirement for a
Incl	ude full detailed justification her	re:

8.9 Attachment I: Full Terms of Contract

Will be provided in the Purchase Order

8.10 Attachment J: Proposal Checklist

Offero	r:
Have y	vou?
☐ specifi	Submitted your proposal to DAI in a sealed envelope to the address (electronic or mailing) as ed in General Instructions above?
Does y	our proposal include the following?
	Signed Cover Letter (use template in Attachment B)
	Separate Technical and Cost proposals labeled as Volume I and Volume II.
	Proposal for the Services that meets the technical requirements as per Attachment A
	Response to each of the evaluation criteria
	Documents to determine responsibility
	Evidence of a DUNS Number OR Self Certification for Exemption from DUNS Requirement
	Past Performance (use template in Attachment F)