**Request for Quotation (RFQ)**

**RFQ Number**: 24.09.30.11

**Issuance Date**: September 18, 2024

**Deadline for Offers**: September 28, 2024

**Description:** Request for written quotation for Internet Service

**Funded by**: United States Agency for International Development

**Contract No**.: AID-388-18-CA-00005

**Implemented by**: Abt Global LLC.

**For:** Feed the Future Bangladesh Nutrition Activity

**Address:** Concord Bilkis Tower (2nd and 13th Floor) ,40/6, Madani Road, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212

**Point of Contact**: Md Rakibuzzaman, Director Finance and Administration

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| \*\*\* ETHICAL AND BUSINESS CONDUCT REQUIREMENTS \*\*\*  Abt Global is committed to integrity in procurement, and only selects suppliers based on objective business criteria such as price and technical merit. Abt Global does not tolerate fraud, collusion among offerors, falsified quotations/bids, bribery, or kickbacks. Any firm or individual violating these standards will be disqualified from this procurement, barred from future procurement opportunities, and may be reported to both USAID and the Office of the Inspector General.  Employees and agents of Abt Global are strictly prohibited from asking for or accepting any money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, object of value, or compensation from current or potential vendors or suppliers in exchange for or as a reward for business. Employees and agents engaging in this conduct are subject to termination and will be reported to USAID and the Office of the Inspector General. In addition, Abt Global will inform USAID and the Office of the Inspector General of any supplier offers of money, fees, commissions, credits, gifts, gratuities, objects of value, or compensation to obtain business.  Offerors responding to this RFQ must include the following as part of the quotation submission:   * Disclose any close, familial, or financial relationships with Abt Global or project staff. For example, if an offeror’s cousin is employed by the project, the offeror must state this. * Disclose any family or financial relationship with other offerors submitting quotations. For example, if the offeror’s father owns a company that is submitting another quotation, the offeror must state this. * Certify that the price in the offer have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other offeror for the purpose of restricting competition. * Certify that all information in the quotation and all supporting documentation are authentic and accurate. * Certify understanding and agreement to Abt Global prohibitions against fraud, bribery and kickbacks.   Please contact EMAIL with any question or concerns regarding the above information or to report any potential violations. Potential violations may also be reported directly to Abt Global U.S. Office |

**Background:** Abt Global (Abt) is a mission-driven global leader in research, evaluation, and program implementation in the fields of international development, health, and social and environmental policy. Known for its rigorous approach to solving complex challenges, Abt is regularly ranked as one of the top 20 global research firms and one of the top 40 international development innovators. The company has multiple offices in the U.S. and program offices in more than 40 countries. Serving both the public and private sectors, Abt supports participatory governance processes that empower citizens and promote accountability and transparency across sectors. Our impact is felt in responsive and inclusive institutions, empowered communities, equitable access to public services, improved mobilization and management of financial resources, and enhanced enabling environments for economic growth and opportunity.

Abt Global seeks a qualified firm or company in Bangladesh to provide Provision of Internet Service for Abt Global’ Feed the Future Bangladesh Nutrition Activity office in Dhaka

**Scope of Services – Summary:** The general scope of work is to provide Provision of Internet Service for Abt Global’ Feed the Future Bangladesh Nutrition Activity office in Dhaka

**Section 1:**

The Activity will require the support in providing Provision of Internet Service for Abt office in Dhaka with general requirement listed below:

* ISP should provide all equipment beyond Counterpart’s firewall on a free lease basis until the end of contract and its cost should be included as part of quotation.
* ISP should provide Counterpart with a guaranteed **100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload** contention ratio with 1:1 uncontended, uninterrupted dedicated ratio bandwidth.
* The ISP should utilize redundant fiber optic links in their premises and have several different exits from Abt to the public Internet. The ISP should detail the countries and the system to support this requirement.
* ISP should provide automatic failover as part of their redundant system. In the event of downtime, the ISP should be able to provide a VSAT backup link in their network for that limited time until the main link is up.
* ISP must be capable of providing uncontended and unfiltered routing to the public Internet by means of ports/protocols/IPv4/IPv6/websites available on Internet.
* ISP is responsible for maintaining the link fully operational during the period of contract and monitor the service 24/7. In the event of scheduled maintenance, at least 72 hours prior notice is required before the maintenance takes place. The ISP will detail the checks to be conducted. In the event that the connection is down, and a field engineer needs to come on site to restore the faulty connection, ISP will make all reasonable efforts to restore service within 2 hours. The ISP will detail their plan to handle such events.
* Abt must be informed one month in advance before changing any public IP’s and must provide approval in writing before any public IP can be changed.
* ISP will provide microwave license as described in the requirements part (if required).
* ISP should provide Abt access to real-time bandwidth graphs detailing utilization of the microwave link.
* **ISP must provide a static public IP address that placed on Abt's firewall without the use of NAT.**
* ISP to provide reliable, stable internet connectivity with lower from Abt office location with 95% minimum uptime.
* ISP’s IPv6 should be routable globally across existing Abt Global circuit
* **ISP should confirm all that iPV6 requirements mentioned in the attachment A (Abt Global IPv6 Project)**
* ISPs should be capable on customer support for both IPv4 and IPv6-related issues.
* ISPs may need to support transition mechanisms like Dual-Stack (IPv4 and IPv6 coexistence), NAT64/DNS64, and 6rd to facilitate the migration from IPv4 to IPv6.
* ISPs may be required to submit compliance reports to regulatory authorities or industry organizations, depending on their geographical location and the applicable regulations.
* ISPs should have monitoring tools and reporting capabilities specifically designed for IPv6.
* **No PPPoE, DSL, or anything else that is not standard ethernet.**
* The ISP is not to filter any traffic to or from the Abt office. There should not be any firewall in front of Abt’s firewall.

**Required quotation document:** A winning Service providing company should have the following information.

1. Name of the company
2. Address (Physical and Mailing)
3. Contact information of person authorized to negotiate for the Offeror, including telephone number and email address.
4. Full names of members of the Board of Directors and Legal Representative (if applicable)
5. Official bank account information
6. Other required documents that shall be included as attachments to the cover letter:
7. Copy of registration or incorporation in the public registry, or equivalent document from the government office where the Offeror is registered.
8. Copy of company tax registration, or equivalent document
9. Other evidence of legal eligibility to provide services in Bangladesh (for non- Bangladeshi firms).

**Estimated Period of Performance:** The initial work will be one year which can be extended.

**Location:** Feed the Future Bangladesh Nutrition Activity Office in

Concord Bilkis Tower (2nd and 13th Floor) ,40/6, Madani Road, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212

**Application Process:** Abt Global reserves the right to consider late quotations for review, at its sole discretion. It is anticipated that the successful service provider will be contacted on or about. All potential vendors must include in their quotation:

1. *Narrative Quotation*

The narrative should clearly describe how the Internet service provider will work with counterparts on the Abt Global team throughout the process to ensure proper documentation of labor, tax withholding, and local law. The firm should include references for past work and may also speak to previous experience and illustrative examples.

*B. Financial Quotation*

The table below contains the technical requirements of the services. Offerors are requested to provide quotations containing the information below on official letterhead or official quotation format:

* The quotation should include all associated costs for the internet (i.e. cost for any equipment beyond Counterpart’s firewall, maintenance costs, etc.)
* Government tax & VAT of the ISP sector

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| **No** | **Description of requirements** | **Cost of Service per month (BDT)** | **Remarks (If any)** |
| 1 | Dedicated Internet services of 100 Mbps upload and 100 Mbps download,   * 1:1 bandwidth dedicated ratio * Link redundancy (2 link minimum) * Dedicated support * Public IP address (as required) |  |  |

**Offer Deadline and Protocol**: Offers must be received no later than on Saturday, September 21, 2024, by email addressed to [**BNAProcurement@abtassoc.com**](mailto:BNAProcurement@abtassoc.com) Please reference RFQ# 24.09.30.11 Internet Service in any response to this RFQ. Offers received after the specified time and date will be considered late and will be considered only at the discretion of the procurement manager for this RFQ.

**Questions:** Questions must be submitted in writing; phone calls will not be accepted. Questions and requests for clarification— and the responses there to—that Abt Global believes may be of interest to other offerors will be circulated to all RFQ recipients who have indicated an interest in bidding. Only the written answers issued by Abt Global will be considered official and carry weight in the RFQ process and subsequent evaluation. Any verbal information received from employees of Abt Global, or any other entity should not be considered as an official response to any questions regarding this RFQ.

**Evaluation Criteria:** Evaluation and Award: Responses to this RFQ will be evaluated against several criteria:

* 1. Response to RFQ - offeror follows the specified instructions.
  2. Offeror meets the eligibility requirements.
  3. Offeror provides sufficient proof of capabilities, as evidenced through past projects of a similar nature and may include reference checks of those or other clients of the offeror.
  4. Offeror provides a point of contact for all matters related to this project.
  5. Response to RFQ meets or exceeds the minimum required services.
  6. Price and cost related factors
  7. Payment terms

All of these factors being equal, the offeror whose response is deemed to provide the best value to the U.S. government is likely to be selected. Price is a key determinant, and offerors are encouraged to provide their best and final price for all services provided. Abt Global reserves the right to make a selection without negotiation with any offeror. Offerors are required to provide sufficient budget detail in their response to allow Abt Global to determine the reasonableness of overall costs proposed.

Offerors are required to provide a project manager and an alternate project manager who will serve as the main counterpart to the Abt Global point of contact. Ability to conduct business virtual meetings in preferred.

Best and final offer quotations are encouraged, it is anticipated that an award will be made solely on the basis of the original quotations. Abt Global reserves the right to conduct negotiations with and/or request clarification from any offeror prior to award.

In addition, offerors responding to this RFQ are requested to submit copy of **Trade License, VAT registration and Tax (TIN**) **certificate, update Tax return.**

**Terms and Conditions:** This is a request for proposals only. Issuance of this RFQ does not in any way obligate Abt Global or the Project, to make an award or pay for costs incurred by potential offerors in the preparation and submission of an offer. This solicitation is subject to Abt Global' standard terms and conditions. Any resultant award will be governed by these terms and conditions a copy of the full terms and conditions is available upon request. Please note the following terms and conditions will apply:

* 1. Abt Global' standard payment terms are net 30 days after receipt acceptance of any commodities or deliverables. Offerors are requested to indicate by type of service (Provision of Internet Service) i) their standard terms, noting amount of any deposit required and timeframe for such deposit; ii) when final payment is due; iii) what is required to establish credit with the property. Payment will generally be made from Abt's office in Dhaka, Bangladesh via check or electronic transfer. Payment will only be issued to the entity submitting the offer in response to this RFQ and identified in the resulting award; payment will not be issued to a third party.

1. Any award(s) resulting from this RFQ will be in the form of Internet Service agreement.
2. United States law prohibits transactions with, and the provision of resources and support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. The supplier under any award resulting from this RFQ must ensure compliance with these laws.
3. The services under any award resulting from this RFQ shall pass to Abt Global following delivery and acceptance of the service by Abt Global.

**Section 2: Offer Checklist**

To assist offerors in preparation of proposals, the following checklist summarizes the documentation to include an offer in response to this RFQ:

Cover letter, signed by an authorized representative of the offeror (see Section 4 for template)

Official quotation, including associated costs for the internet (i.e. cost for any equipment beyond Counterpart’s firewall,

maintenance costs, etc.) including Government Tax and VAT (see Section 3 for example format)

Copy of offeror’s registration or business license

Minimum 60 days quote validity confirmed?

List of Clients

Bank Information, TIN and VAT certificate

**Section 3: Costs of Internet Service:**

**\*\*All prices must be in Bangladeshi Taka (BDT)\*\***

Delivery time (after receipt of order): calendar days

Offered validity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 4: Offer Cover Letter**

The following cover letter must be placed on letterhead and completed/signed/stamped by a representative authorized to sign on behalf of the offeror:

To: Director of Finance and Administration

Feed the Future Bangladesh Nutrition Activity

Concord Bilkis Tower, Level-2

40/6, Gulshan Avenue, (Madani Road), Gulshan-2

**Reference:** RFQ No. 24.09.30.11

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the undersigned, hereby provide the attached offer to perform all work required to complete the activities and requirements as described in the above-referenced RFQ. Please find our offer attached.

We hereby acknowledge and agree to all terms, conditions, special provisions, and instructions included in the above-referenced RFQ. We further certify that the below-named firm and all vehicle rentals and service are eligible to participate in this procurement under the terms of this solicitation and under USAID regulations.

Furthermore, we hereby certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief:

* We have no close, familial, or financial relationships with any Abt Global or LHSS project staff members.
* We have no close, familial, or financial relationships with any other offerors submitting proposals in response to the above-referenced RFQ; and
* The prices in our offer have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other offeror or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition.
* All information in our proposal and all supporting documentation is authentic and accurate.
* We understand and agree to Abt. Global prohibitions against fraud, bribery, and kickbacks.

We hereby certify that the enclosed representations, certifications, and other statements are accurate, current, and complete.

Authorized Signature:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Date:

Company Name:

Company Address:

Company Telephone and Website:

Company Registration or Taxpayer ID Number:

Company VAT #:

Company DUNS Number:

Does the company have an active bank account (Yes/No)?

Official name associated with bank account (for payment):

Company Trade License (Please attached a copy)

**Bank Accounts Details Information (**completed/signed/stamped by a representative authorized to sign on behalf of the offeror**):**

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| **Sl.** | **Particulars** | **Information** |
| 1 | Account Name: |  |
| 2 | Account Number: |  |
| 3 | Account Type: |  |
| 4 | Name of Bank: |  |
| 5 | Name of Bank Branch: |  |
| 6 | Address of Branch: |  |
| 7 | Bank Routing Number: |  |

**Signature with seal:**

**Name:**

**Designation:**

**Date:**

**Attachment A**

**Abt Global IPv6 Project**

To whom it may concern,

This email is to inform you that Abt Global are in the planning phase of moving their IP based networks towards IPv6. As an Internet Service Provider of IP based Services, you have been contacted as you currently provide existing IPv4 address space for Wide Area Network connectivity providing Internet and or private circuits connecting Abt Global companies and its subsidiaries.

The sole intention of Abt Global is to gather information from your organization on the current capability to provide IPv6 peering and routing of all existing Internet and private circuits provided by your organization to Abt Global for IPv6, utilizing an Abt Associate IPv6 global assigned address block.

Please can you provide answers to the following questions:

1. We are looking to confirm whether you (*Name of ISP*) as a Telco/circuit provider can provide confirmation that IPv6 is routable globally across these existing Abt Global circuits as  listed below?

1. Provide the following routing IGP and EGP routing protocols that each individual existing circuit can be enabled and supported using IPv6.
   1. OSPFv3                         2. RIPnG

3.   EIGRP for v6                 4 ISIS L1 / L2 for IPv6

5.   Static                            6. MP-BGP

**List of Abt Global Circuits**

1.S3-20180601-325285

3.   If any of the existing circuits above are not capable of provisioning the IPv6 protocol please provide details as to possible alternatives include time to resolve, pricing, and technical details. This may include but not limited to an upgrade of the existing services, or provisioning of a new circuit.

4.   Please confirm your adherence to these particular Request For Comment (RFC)s from the IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force) regarding the functional requirements of IPv6 deployment and services provided of the services offered.

**IETF RFC’s**

1. RFC 4291                              2. RFC 5952                              3. RFC 6052

4. RFC 7136                              5. RFC 7346                              6. RFC 7217

7. RFC 8064                              8. RFC 8200                              9. RFC 8981

Please provide any added comments regarding your offering of services and abilities to provide IPv6 connectivity.

As a valued partner of Abt Global we appreciate your prompt attention to this request and look forward to your feedback formally at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions, please direct them to the following e-mail address ([IPv6\_Project@abtassociates.com](mailto:IPv6_Project@abtassociates.com))