

SOR – EMERGENCY STABILISATION RESPONSE MECHANISM

HMG Desired Outcomes

1. To deliver emergency stabilisation support to key areas in Syria following regime/ISIL withdrawal.

Background

2. Regime/ISIL withdrawal leaves behind weak governance structures, with little or mechanisms to operate. Current programming does not allow for rapid delivery of non-humanitarian support, and as such, the structures on the ground wither, thereby creating a dangerous vacuum of governance. Being able to deliver emergency stabilisation can help keep structures and basic services alive, until longer standing project work from donor countries arrive.

Need

3. While it remains exceedingly difficult to predict most likely scenarios or timelines, the Syria Conflict Security and Stability Fund (CSSF) plans to take prudent steps now to ensure HMG are prepared to act in a timely and responsive manner to opportunities should they arise. The most urgent stabilisation needs (in e.g. Aleppo and/or Deraa) are likely to be maintenance of basic services (see below for likely programmatic requests).

Requirements

4. The implementer will be required to:
 - rapidly map structures and organisations in priority areas to identify locally legitimate partners in a fluid and volatile environment (in the form of a brief one-off analysis of the situation within 48hours).
 - respond to programmatic support request from local partners in a very short time frame
 - work with nascent structures and organisations in a rapid timeframe to disburse cash grants, while simultaneously putting in place effective fiduciary and other risk management processes and robust monitoring and evaluation
 - provide guidance and oversight to local partners remotely
 - carry out conflict assessment and actor mapping to respond to changing dynamics
 - coordinate and communicate with other implementing partners and Syrian actors (e.g.: IG and ACU) as required or directed by the donor.

Deliverables/Outputs

5. Much of the actual deliverables will depend on the analysis that takes place immediately after regime/ISIL withdrawal, and will depend on both local conditions and coordination with other international donors. But broad requirements, as listed below, will most likely be needed, and potential implementers will be primarily evaluated on their ability to deliver on each point.
6. It is likely that support will be required in the following sectors: water, electricity, food security, health, waste management, education and other essential public services as required by local governance structures inside Syria. And while the precise nature of programmatic support offered will vary on the precise needs of Syrian partners, they may include:
 - disbursement of cash grants
 - payment of stipends
 - procurement and delivery of equipment
 - remote support and mentoring for partners inside Syria
7. Implementers should also ensure the following technical capabilities:

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- ability to work in Northern and Southern Syria if requested
- ability to work in Jordan if requested
- legal ability to work from Turkey
- a strong track record providing capacity support and managing sub grants
- a technically robust approach to remote monitoring and evaluation
- a technically robust approach to fiduciary and other risk management, particularly around cash grants
- ability to surge and downscale their staffing depending on the needs of the project

Budget

8. This contract would operate on a drawdown basis: the successful partner would be approached if/when HMG identifies a requirement for a rapid response. The size of the overall project would depend on needs and sub-grants identified during implementation. These will be subject to approval from HMG before activities could commence. Post tender, partners should submit a budget which outlines their core costs including staff (Primary and Subcontracted; indicative)overhead breakdown but not limited to, which will be used as a basis to turnaround an accurate proposal at short notice , indicating how these would change depending on the size of the sub-grants administered.

Sustainability/Timeframe

9. This will be a short term delivery programme, limited to several months following the call off (the actual timeframe will be defined in each specific proposal). This mechanism will only support proposals that act as a stopgap, before longer term programming is in place. The post withdrawal assessment will take the form of a brief one-off analysis of the situation, which will be needed within 48hours. It will be necessary for potential implementers to also detail a robust exit plan. Likewise, it will be important to illustrate that short term stabilisation work fits into longer term strategy, and support of other donor efforts on the ground.
10. Rapid mobilisation

Constraints

All sub-grants will need to be approved by HMG and should be accounted for in the final bids

Duty of care

The Contractor will primarily be responsible for its staff and sub contractors and this should be reflected in the bids; Management of cross relationships must also be demonstrated. HMG policy does not in any way endorse British Nationals to be deployed under the framework.

Life Support/Admin dependencies

The Contactor will be responsible. E.g:

- Office Space
- Translation
- Security and Communications
- Insurance
- Transportation and accommodation and anything else under Life Support and Admin

Other practical details

11. Should Bidders approach potential Syrian partners, they must be aware of the potential risks and threats involved. HMG would expect Bidders to demonstrate a basic level of in house vetting including any checks on recommendations which will be shared with HMG: partner selection will be carried out in conjunction with HMG

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and we do not wish to raise expectations at this stage. We welcome consortium/partnership/collaborative approach

12. Bidders should indicate how long it would take them to activate the project from the day they are asked / contracted by HMG as indicated in point 9.

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