

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Procurement Number:	MENA2024T04o
Open Date:	October 22, 2024
Questions Deadline:	November 10, 2024
Closing Deadline:	November 20, 2024
Geographical Area Restrictions:	937
Point of Contact:	Olfa Ghodhbani Finance Officer oghodhbani@iri.org

Background:

The International Republican Institute (IRI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, organization dedicated to advancing freedom and democracy worldwide. Since 1983, IRI has worked to develop democratic institutions and ideals, carrying out a variety of international programs to promote freedom, self-government and the rule of law worldwide. IRI provides technical assistance in the areas of political party strengthening, developing civic institutions and open elections, promoting democratic governance and advancing the rule of law.

The IRI Tunisia program is seeking an insurance provider who can provide high quality medical insurance coverage for IRI local staff in Tunisia.

Period of Performance:

March 1, 2025, to February 28, 2026, with the option to extend for a total duration of up to 5 years in four one-year increments.

Statement of Work:

The selected insurance provider shall be responsible for delivering comprehensive medical health insurance coverage for local staff employees based in Tunisia and their eligible dependents. The bidder is required to present the full range of health insurance policies available for a group of 10-15 policyholders. Proposals must include detailed information regarding the extent of coverage, specifying whether costs will be fully covered (100%) or partially covered, and, if partial, the applicable percentage for each item. The following coverage details are requested:

- Is there a network of doctors that is covered? If not, can the employee visit any doctor?
- Is each doctor's visit paid by insurance at 100%? If not Specify the employee's share of the cost.
- Specify the scope of dental coverage, including surgical extraction & filling, root canal therapy, scaling, dental prescriptions and dental x-rays. Will each of the above be covered in full or part?

- Specify coverage of optical services, including yearly vision exams, surgeries, accidental injuries, etc.
- Provide details on maternity benefits, including extent of coverage, the frequency of office visits pre- and post-delivery, C-sections and emergency procedures, indicating whether covered in full or part
- Specify diagnostic investigations coverage, including CT scan, MRI scan, blood work, and echocardiography.
- Provide details on the coverage for cancer-related investigation and surgeries .
- Specify the availability of annual health checkups
- Detail the scope of emergency service coverage at local hospitals.
- Clarify the age limit for dependent children's coverage
- Provide details on the scope of coverage for other major illnesses, including disabilities and ongoing conditions
- Is there an annual limit on per-employee expenses for health treatment?
- What are the terms and conditions for terminating an agreement with the insurance provider? What is the required notice period?
- Can new beneficiaries (spouse, dependent, new staff member) be added to or removed from the plan during the contract period? If so, specify the cost adjustment per person.
- Clarify policy regarding coverage for any preexisting conditions of policyholders.
- Indicate the typical timeframe for processing reimbursements and claims
- Confirm whether a direct settlement network is available.
- Specify waiting periods for coverage or specific treatment types.
- List any exclusions from coverage.
- Confirm availability to provide a detailed list of available hospitals across Tunisia
- Confirm whether a coordinator/representative will be assigned to handle all matters related to IRI

Technical Bid:

Interested bidders must present the technical bids outlining the following information:

- Bids must be submitted in English, written in Times New Roman, 12-point font.
- Proposal should have a maximum of thirty-five (35) pages, not including any required appendices, which have no page limit
- Bids must provide detailed coverage information for the following:
 - Policy cost per member (IRI staff) with and without dependents included.
 - Quality of coverage, which consists of:
 - Procedures covered under the policy.
 - Additional value-added services like free medical check-up.
- Bid must meet the following technical criteria:
 - Can provide comprehensive health insurance inside and throughout Tunisia for staff and dependents
 - Provider is registered in the target county.
 - Able to provide the services listed

If the Bidder is a U.S. organization/resident, or a foreign organization/resident which has income effectively connected with the conduct of activities in the U.S. or has an office or a

place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the U.S., the technical bids must contain Bidder's Taxpayer Identification Number.

Price information should be presented as a firm-fixed Unit Price for each of the deliverables identified below and in the format of the table below. Pricing must be valid for at least 60 (sixty) calendar days after the due date for proposal submission. The proposed Unit Price should be fixed and inclusive of all costs to perform, including inspection services, transportation, taxes, import duties (if any), and other levies. If there are any additional fees not reflected in the table below, such pricing must be fully described in the bid. Bids must be submitted in **TND Tunisian Dinar** payments under any resulting contract will be made in this currency.

Deliverable	Unit Cost*
Annual Premium Health insurance by age group	

Provider must propose an itemized list of costs associated with coverage options and criteria.

Payment will be made either quarterly or semi-annually.

Bids must provide detailed coverage information for the following:

- Policy cost per member (IRI staff) with dependents or without dependents included
- Quality of coverage, which consists of: Procedures covered under the policy; Additional value-added services like free medical check-up.

*Please specify if the rates are inclusive or exclusive of VAT or any other taxes or fees.

IFB Terms and Conditions:

1. Prospective Bidders are requested to review clauses incorporated by reference in the section "Notice Listing Contract Clauses Incorporated by Reference". By submitting a bid, bidder agrees to comply with all terms, conditions, and provisions included in the solicitation and agreement to the services identified above, and will specifically identify any disagreement with or exceptions to the terms, conditions, and provisions.
2. IRI may reject any or all bids if such is within IRI's interest.
3. The Bidder's initial bid should contain the Bidder's best offer.
4. IRI reserves the right to make multiple awards or partial awards if, after considering administrative burden, it is in IRI's best interest to do so.
5. Discussions with Bidders following the receipt of a bid do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by IRI.
6. IRI will hold all submissions as confidential and shall not be disclosed to third parties. IRI reserves the right to share bids internally, across divisions, for the purposes of evaluating the bids.
7. If IRI continues to require the goods and services and the price remains reasonable and within market norms, resulting contract may be renewed each year for up to 5 years with 30 days' notice to the Contractor. Bidder must establish any price increase for each renewal year in the initial bid.

8. Bidders confirm that the prices in the bid/proposal/application/quote have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition.
9. By applying to this IFB, applicant is certifying that if it is awarded a contract, none of funds payable under the resulting contract will be used to (1) procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; (2) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure; or (3) obtain the equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system in compliance with the National Defense Authorization Act. Covered telecommunications equipment and services mean any of the following:
 - i. Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - ii. For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - iii. Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
 - iv. Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country. ([2 CFR 200.216](#)).
10. Bidders agree to disclose as part of the bid submission:
 - a. Any close, familial, or financial relationships with IRI staff and agents. For example, the bidder must disclose if a bidder's mother conducts volunteer trainings for IRI.
 - b. Any family or financial relationship with other bidders submitting bids. For example, if the bidder's father owns a company that is submitting another bid, the bidder must state this.
 - c. Any other action that might be interpreted as potential conflict of interest.

Evaluation and Award Process:

1. IRI may contact any Bidder for clarification or additional information, but Bidders are advised that IRI intends to evaluate the offers based on the written bids and reserves the right to make decisions based solely on the information provided with the initial bids. IRI may but is not obligated to conduct additional negotiations with the most highly rated Bidders prior to award of a contract, and may at its sole discretion elect to issue contracts to one or more Bidders.
2. Mathematical errors will be corrected in the following manner: If a discrepancy exists between the total price proposed and the total price resulting from multiplying the unit price by the corresponding amounts, then the unit price will prevail and the total

price will be corrected. If there were a discrepancy between the numbers written out in words and the amounts in numbers, then the amount expressed in words will prevail. If the Bidder does not accept the correction, the offer will be rejected.

3. IRI may determine that a bid is unacceptable if the prices proposed are materially unbalanced between line items or sub-line items. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable total evaluated price, the price of one or more contract line items is significantly overstated or understated as indicated by the application of cost or price analysis techniques. A bid may be rejected if IRI determines that the lack of balance poses an unacceptable risk.
4. IRI will conduct a source selection based as follows: best value

IRI intends to make an award to the responsible Bidder based on the following evaluation factors:

Technical Evaluation	50
<i>Level of comprehensive medical coverage provided for each policyholder including procedures, pre-existing conditions, mental healthcare, hospitals in-network, and eye procedures.</i>	<i>50</i>
Price	50
<i>Reasonable cost per staff and dependent for appropriate coverage</i>	<i>50</i>
Total	100

IRI intends to evaluate bids in accordance with these factors and make an award to the responsible bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the program.

5. If a cost realism analysis is performed, cost realism may be considered in evaluating performance or price.

Submission Instructions:

Bids must be submitted via email to Olfa Ghodhbani Finance Officer at oghodhbani@iri.org with the subject line IFB MENA2024T04o by the deadline listed above.

IRI Obligations

Issuance of this IFB does not constitute and award commitment on the part of IRI, nor does it commit IRI to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a quotation.

Notice Listing Contract Clauses Incorporated by Reference

IRI is required to make the contractor subject to the clauses of the prime award. This contract incorporates one or more clauses by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Where “flow-down” to the contractor is appropriate and applicable, references to “USAID” or “Department of State” shall be interpreted to mean “IRI”, “Recipient” to mean “Contractor”, and “Subrecipient” to mean “lower-tier subrecipients”. Included by reference are 2 C.F.R. 200 and USAID Standard Provisions for Non-US Non-governmental Organizations/US Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions.