**KARANDAAZ PAKISTAN**

**Request for Proposal No. 12**

**Group Life Insurance for Karandaaz Staff**

Date: July 27, 2016

**SECTION 1. LETTER OF INVITATION**

**RFP no. 12**

July 27, 2016, Islamabad

1. The purpose of this RFP is to solicit bids from companies interested in providing “**Group Life Insurance to Karandaaz Staff**”. The RFP is designed to assess whether organizations are able to provide the services required, and through a competitive and fair assessment, select a winning vendor for a year-long contract which may be extended based on performance.
2. Karandaaz Pakistan invites sealed proposals from interested and eligible organizations. More details on the Services required are provided in the Terms of Reference (Section 4 of RFP).
3. The company will be selected under open competitive procedures, in accordance with the procurement policies and procedures of Karandaaz Pakistan.
4. The full RFP is available at [**www.karandaaz.com.pk**](http://www.karandaaz.com.pk).
5. Both financial and technical proposals must be submitted before 05:00 pm Pakistan Standard Time on August 18, 2016. Offerors must prepare one technical proposal and one cost proposals, and submit in separate **sealed** envelopes to the attention of ‘The Procurement Department’ 1-E, Ali Plaza, D Chowk, Mezzanine Floor, Naziumudin Road, Blue Area, Islamabad
6. Any bidder/potential contractor feeling aggrieved may lodge a written complaint at ProcComplaint@karandaaz.com.pk not later than fifteen (15) days after the completion of evaluation process; however mere fact of lodging a complaint shall not warrant suspension of the procurement/award process. Karandaaz Pakistan will respond to such complaints within 15 working days of receipt.

Yours sincerely,

**The Procurement Department**

Karandaaz Pakistan

**SECTION 2. INSTRUCTIONS TO FIRMS**

**A. General**

1. **Scope of Proposal**

Karandaaz Pakistan issues this Request for Proposal (RFP) for the following services:

“**Group Life Insurance to Karandaaz Staff**”

Throughout this RFP:

1. The term “in writing” means communicated in written form (e.g., by mail, e-mail, fax)
2. “Day” means calendar day
3. **Fraud and Corruption**

Firms shall comply with Karandaaz Pakistan’s policy regarding fraud and corruption given in Section 3 of the RFP.

1. **Eligibility**

The firm has an obligation to disclose to Karandaaz Pakistan any situation of actual or potential conflict that impacts its capacity to serve Karandaaz Pakistan’s best interests. Failure to disclose such situations may lead to the disqualification of the firm or the termination of its Contract. Karandaaz Pakistan’s policy with regard to conflict of interest is given Section 3 of the RFP. Firms shall provide such evidence of their continued eligibility satisfactory to Karandaaz Pakistan, upon request.

1. **One Proposal Per Firm**

Each firm shall submit only one proposal, either individually or as a partner in a joint venture. A firm that submits or participates in more than one proposal shall cause all the proposals with the firm’s participation to be disqualified. However, this does not limit the participation of subcontractors and individual experts in more than one proposal.

1. **Cost of Preparation of Proposal**

The firm shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its proposal. Karandaaz Pakistan shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

**B. Request for Proposal**

1. **Contents of the RFP**

The RFP includes the documents listed below and any Addendum issued in pursuant to point 8 of this section ‘Amendment of RFP’.

Section 1 - Letter of Invitation

Section 2 - Instructions to firms

Section 3 – Procurement Policy – vendor conduct

Section 4 - Terms of Reference

Annexure A – Proposal Submission Form

1. **Clarification of RFP**

All questions and/or clarifications regarding this RFP must be submitted via email to Procurement@karandaaz.com.pk no later than 5:00PM local time on August 02, 2016. All correspondence and/or inquiries regarding this solicitation must reference the RFP number. No phone calls or in-person inquiries will be entertained; all questions and inquiries must be in writing. The firms must mention the RFP number in their email.

Questions and requests for clarification—and the responses thereto—will be circulated to all RFP recipients who have indicated an interest in bidding by 5:00PM on August 04, 2016.

Only the written answers will be considered official and carry weight in the RFP process and subsequent evaluation. Any verbal information received from a Karandaaz employee or other entity should not be considered as an official response to any questions regarding this RFP.

1. **Amendment of RFP**

At any time prior to the deadline for submission of bids, Karandaaz Pakistan may amend the RFP by issuing an Addendum.

Any Addendum issued shall be part of the RFP and will be communicated via the Karandaaz Pakistan website. Firms are advised to monitor the site for updates.

To give prospective firms reasonable time in which to take an Addendum into account in preparing their bids, Karandaaz Pakistan may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of bids, pursuant to point 17 ‘Deadline for Submission of Proposals’ of this section.

**C. Preparation and Submission of Proposals**

1. **Language of proposal**

All documents relating to the proposal shall be written in the English language.

1. **Documents Comprising the Proposal**

The proposal shall consist of the following:

1. **Technical proposal consisting of the following;**
* Company Introduction
* GST and Income Tax certificate (tax exempted firms will have to provide tax exemption certificate)
* Portfolio of clients along with contact details of three most recent clients that can be used for reference checks
* Financial reliability, size, strength and stability of the company (evidence to be provided)
* Detail of insurance company’s offices in Pakistan
* Detail of procedure used for the addition/ deletion of insured employees
* Claim procedure and documentation requirement from Karandaaz in case of disability/death
1. **Financial proposal**

Financial Proposal for all three options as given below

1. **Currencies of Bid and Payment**

Firms may express the price only in PKR.

1. **Proposal Validity**

Proposal shall remain valid for ninety (90) days after the proposal submission deadline date established by Karandaaz Pakistan. A proposal valid for a shorter period shall be rejected as non-responsive.

In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the proposal validity period, Karandaaz Pakistan may request all firms who submitted their proposals to extend the period of validity of their proposal for a specified additional period. The request and the responses shall be made in writing. If the firm agrees to extend the validity of its proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original proposal and with the confirmation of the availability of the key experts. The firm has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its proposal in which case such proposal will not be further evaluated.

1. **Proposal Security**

In this procurement, a proposal security is not required.

1. **Alternative Proposals**

Alternative proposals shall not be considered.

1. **Format, Signing, and Submission of Proposals of Proposal**

The firm shall prepare and email a scanned copy of the documents comprising the Proposal as described in point 10 on official company letterhead. Each document shall be signed by a person duly authorized to sign on behalf of the firm. All pages of the proposal shall be initialled by the person or persons signing the proposal.

Both financial and technical proposals must be submitted before 05:00 pm Pakistan Standard Time on August 18, 2016. Offerors must prepare one hard copy of the technical and one hard copy of the cost proposal, and submit in separate **sealed** envelopes to the attention of ‘The Procurement Department’ 1-E, Ali Plaza, D Chowk, Mezzanine Floor, Naziumudin Road, Blue Area, Islamabad.

The proposal should also be sent to the following email address: **procurement@karandaaz.com.pk** with the subject line: Responding to RFP for “**Group Life Insurance to Karandaaz Staff**”.

The Proposal shall contain no alterations or additions, except those to comply with instructions issued by Karandaaz Pakistan, or as necessary to correct errors made by the firm, in which case such corrections shall be initialled by the person or persons signing the Proposal.

1. **Deadline for Submission of Proposals**

Proposals must be received by Karandaaz Pakistan no later than 05:00 pm Pakistan Standard Time on August 18, 2016.

Karandaaz Pakistan may extend the deadline for submission of proposals by issuing an amendment in accordance with point 8 ‘Amendment of RFP’, in which case all rights and obligations of Karandaaz Pakistan and the firms previously subject to the original deadline shall then be subject to the new deadline.

1. **Late Proposals**

Any Proposal received late by Karandaaz Pakistan will be considered only at the discretion of the evaluation team

1. **Withdrawal, Substitution, and Modification of Proposals**

Firms may withdraw, substitute or modify their proposals by giving notice in writing before the deadline for submission of proposals prescribed in point 16 ‘Deadline for Submission of Proposal’ of this section.

Each firm’s withdrawal, substitution or modification notice shall be prepared, sealed, marked, and delivered in accordance with point 15 ‘Format, Signing, and Submission of Proposals of Proposal’, with the subject line as: Responding to RFP for “Website Enhancement, Maintenance and Technical Services; Digital Marketing and Design Development of Web Products - “WITHDRAWAL,” SUBSTITUTION” or “MODIFICATION” as appropriate. No Proposal may be substituted or modified after the deadline for submission of proposals.

**E. Proposal Opening and Evaluation**

1. **Proposal Opening**

Karandaaz Pakistan shall open the proposals, including modifications made pursuant to point 18, on the business day following the deadline, as per point 16.

1. **Confidentiality**

Information relating to the examination, evaluation, comparison, and post-qualification of proposals, and recommendation of contract award, shall not be disclosed to firms or any other persons not officially concerned with such process until publication of the contract award. Any effort by a firm to influence Karandaaz Pakistan in the examination, evaluation, comparison, and post-qualification of the Proposals or contract award decisions may result in the rejection of its Bid. Notwithstanding the above, from the time of proposal opening to the time of contract award, if any firm wishes to contact Karandaaz Pakistan on any matter related to the bidding process, it should do so in writing at the address indicated in point 7 ‘Clarification of RFP’.

1. **Clarification of Bids**

To assist in the examination, evaluation, and comparison of proposals, Karandaaz Pakistan may, at its discretion, ask any firm for clarification of the firm’s proposal. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing, but no change in the price or substance of the proposal shall be sought, offered, or permitted except as required to confirm the correction of arithmetic errors discovered by Karandaaz Pakistan in the evaluation of the proposals in accordance with point 25 ‘Correction of Errors’.

1. **Preliminary Examination of Proposals**

Prior to the detailed evaluation of proposals, Karandaaz Pakistan shall first review each Proposal and check the power of attorney or any other form demonstrating that the representative has been duly authorized to sign the proposal, initialization of all pages, etc.

1. **Determination of Firm’s Eligibility and Qualifications**

Then Karandaaz Pakistan shall determine whether the firm meets the eligibility and qualification requirements of the bidding documents. Firms failing to comply with the eligibility criteria indicated in point 3 ‘Eligibility’ shall be disqualified.

Further, Karandaaz Pakistan shall determine whether the proposal is substantially responsive to the requirements of the bidding documents.

Karandaaz Pakistan’s determination of a proposal’s responsiveness is to be based on the contents of the proposal itself. A substantially responsive proposal is one, which conforms to all the terms, conditions, and specifications of the RFP, without material deviation or reservation. A material deviation or reservation is one (a) which affects in any substantial way the scope, quality, or performance of the service; (b) which limits in any substantial way, inconsistent with the RFP, Karandaaz Pakistan’s rights or firm’s obligations under the contract; or (c) whose rectification would affect unfairly the competitive position of other firms presenting substantially responsive Proposals.

1. **Evaluation of Technical Proposal**

The proposals will be evaluated on the basis of “**Least Cost Technically Acceptable**” (LCTA) criteria where the *minimum qualification requirements* are as follows:

 - Minimum AA rating by PACRA/ JCR-VIS

 - Minimum 7 years of experience of conducting life insurance business in Pakistan

 - GST and Income Tax registered company (tax exempted firms will have to provide tax exemption certificate)

1. **Correction of Errors**

Proposals determined to be substantially responsive shall be checked by Karandaaz Pakistan for any arithmetic errors. Errors shall be corrected by Karandaaz Pakistan as follows:

Where there is a discrepancy between the amounts in figures and in words, the amount in words shall govern.

The amount stated in the proposal shall be adjusted by Karandaaz Pakistan in accordance with the above procedure for the correction of errors and, with the concurrence of the firm, shall be considered as binding upon the firm. If the firm does not accept the corrected amount, the proposal shall be rejected.

1. **Currency for Price Evaluation**

For evaluation and comparison purposes, cost proposals should only be in PKR.

1. **Evaluation of Proposal Price and ranking :**

As mentioned above, the firm meeting all the requirements mentioned in section no. 24 and having the lowest cost will be selected for award of the contract.

**F. Award of Contract**

1. **Award Criteria**

Subject to 31 below, Karandaaz Pakistan shall award the contract to the firm whose proposal has been determined to be substantially responsive to the RFP and has proposed the lowest cost.

1. **Karandaaz Pakistan’s right to accept Any proposal and to reject any or all proposals**

Notwithstanding point 28 above, Karandaaz Pakistan reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal, and to cancel the bidding process and reject all bids, at any time prior to the award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected firm or firms or any obligation to inform the affected firm or firms of the grounds for Karandaaz Pakistan’s action.

1. **Notification of Award and Signing of Agreement**

The firm whose Proposal has been accepted shall be notified of the award by Karandaaz Pakistan prior to expiration of the proposal validity period in writing. This letter (hereinafter and in the contract called the “Letter of Acceptance”) shall state the sum that Karandaaz Pakistan shall pay the contractor in consideration of the services as prescribed by the contract.

The Agreement shall incorporate all agreements between Karandaaz Pakistan and the successful firm. It shall be signed by Karandaaz Pakistan and sent to the successful firm, within seven (7) days following the Letter of Acceptance’s date. Within seven (7) days of receipt, the successful firm shall sign the Form of Agreement and deliver it to Karandaaz Pakistan.

Karandaaz Pakistan will also promptly notify in writing each unsuccessful firm. After publication of the award, unsuccessful firms may request in writing to Karandaaz Pakistan seeking explanations of the grounds on which their Proposals were not selected. Also, Karandaaz Pakistan shall entertain a complaint from any firm that claims to have suffered or that may suffer, loss or injury due to a breach of a duty by the company in the conduct of this bidding process. Any bidder/potential contractor feeling aggrieved may lodge a written complaint at ProcComplaint@karandaaz.com.pk not later than fifteen (15) days after the completion of evaluation process; however mere fact of lodging a complaint shall not warrant suspension of the procurement/award process.

**SECTION 3. PROCUREMENT POLICY – VENDOR CONDUCT**

1. **Corrupt or fraudulent practices**

Bidders, suppliers, contractors and their agents (whether declared or not), sub-contractors, sub-consultants, firms or suppliers, and any personnel thereof, shall observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of contracts.

Karandaaz Pakistan shall not award contract if it is determined that the bidder, or any of its personnel, or its agents, or its sub-consultants, sub-contractors, firms, suppliers and/or their employees, has, directly or indirectly, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, or obstructive practices in competing for the contract in question. As part of bidding/ solicitation documents, Karandaaz Pakistan will seek declaration of ‘Non collusive non corrupt practices’ from each bidder. Format for such declaration is prescribed in section 3 of the standard bidding document. In pursuance of this policy, following terms are defined as follows:

1. “Corrupt practice” is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party;
2. “Fraudulent practice” is any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation;
3. “Collusive practice” is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence improperly the actions of another party;
4. “Coercive practice” is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party;
5. “Obstructive practice” is deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, or concealing of evidence material to the investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede investigation into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation.
6. **Avoidance of conflict of interest**

Any firm participating in the procurement process should disclose any actual or perceived conflict of interest situation/condition. Any firm found to have a conflict of interest shall be ineligible for award of a contract.

A firm shall be considered to have a conflict of interest in a procurement process if:

1. Such firm is providing goods, works, or non-consulting services resulting from or directly related to consulting services for the preparation or implementation of a project that it provided or were provided by any affiliate that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with that firm; or
2. Such firm submits more than one bid, either individually or as a joint venture partner in another bid, except for permitted alternative bids. This will result in the disqualification of all bids in which the bidder is involved. However, this does not limit the inclusion of a firm as a sub-contractor in more than one bid. Only for certain types of procurement, the participation of a bidder as a sub-contractor in another bid may be permitted subject to the company’s no objection and as allowed by the standard bidding documents applicable to such types of procurement; or
3. Such firm (including its personnel) has a close business or family relationship with a professional staff of the company who: (i) are directly or indirectly involved in the preparation of the bidding documents or specifications of the contract, and/or the bid evaluation process of such contract; or (ii) would be involved in the implementation or supervision of such contract unless the conflict stemming from such relationship has been resolved in a manner acceptable to the company throughout the procurement process and execution of the contract; or
4. Such firm does not comply with any other conflict of interest situation as specified in the standard bidding documents relevant to the specific procurement process.
5. **Duty of care**

The supplier in performance of services for Karandaaz Pakistan shall exercise duty of care. Duty of care holds the supplier responsible for the safety and well-being of its personnel and any third party affected by its activities.

**SECTION 4. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Project Title:** Group Life Insurance for Karandaaz Staff

**Expected Start Date:** September 2016

**End Date:** September 2017

**Task Manager:** HR Team, Karandaaz Pakistan

**About Karandaaz Pakistan**

KARANDAAZ PAKISTAN, a private company established in August 2014, promotes access to finance for small businesses through a commercially directed investment platform, and financial inclusion for individuals by employing technology enabled digital solutions. The Company has financial and institutional support from leading international development finance institutions; principally the United Kingdom Department for International Development (UKAid) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP), a member of the World Bank Group, provides technical support to Karandaaz Pakistan.

Karandaaz Pakistan has three core work streams:

1. **Corporate Investment and Credit (CIC)** focuses on providing credit and capital to high impact small and medium-size businesses, and business models that have potential to generate sustainable employment and offer attractive risk-adjusted financial returns.
2. **Digital Financial Services (DFS)** focuses on expanding the poor’s access to digital financial services in Pakistan by working across the ecosystem of local actors – policy-makers, regulators, government departments, businesses, researchers and academics. The DFS Unit facilitates digitization of government and other payment streams, encourages experimentation with businesses, and provides support to innovative DFS start-ups.
3. **Knowledge Management and Communications** focuses developing and communicating credible data to inform the core themes of the Company, including DFS innovation, women’s empowerment and youth employment.

This work will fall under the Knowledge Management and Communications department.

**About the Project**

Karandaaz Pakistan would like proposals from registered Insurance companies for provision of group life insurance coverage required for its long term employees based in Karachi and Islamabad offices. The period of contract for insurance coverage will initially be for one year which may be extended on same terms and conditions or a revision in the contract, as agreed by both parties.

**Scope of Work**

Karandaaz Pakistan requires group life insurance coverage for its long term employees with the following benefits:

* Accidental and Natural Death Benefit
* Accidental Partial Disability Benefit
* Accidental Permanent Disability Benefit
* Natural Permanent Disability Benefit
* Terminal Illness benefit
* 24 hour Insurance coverage

Total number of employees to be covered under the policy is **24** which may go up to **36** during the course of the year. Information on age of these individuals is provided below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Age (years)** | **Number of Individuals** |
| 25-29 | 5 |
| 30-34 | 10 |
| 35-39 | 3 |
| 40-44 | 2 |
| 45-49 | 3 |
| 50-55 | 1 |

Proposals are sought against three different assured amounts of each individual. Karandaaz Pakistan will pick the most suitable option depending on the value of premium quoted for each option. Firms are also requested to quote their re-imbursement policy in case of an employee resigning without any claim. The firms are also requested to quote their per month premium (Pro-rata basis) for employees joining Karandaaz Pakistan after commencement of the contract.

**Option 1.**

Sum Assured Amount: 1,000,000/ person

Number of persons covered: 24

Total Sum Assured: 24,000,000

**Option 2.**

Sum Assured Amount: 2,000,000/ person

Number of persons covered: 24

Total Sum Assured: 48,000,000

**Option 3.**

Sum Assured Amount: PKR 3,000,000/ person

Number of persons covered: 24

Total Sum Assured: PKR 72,000,000

The selected firm should be able to provide excellent service and efficient administrative and reporting capabilities at a competitive premium rate

**Timeline**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Deliverables** | **% Payment**  |
| Provision of Life Insurance to Karandaaz Staff for a period of year | TBD |

**Task Manager/Reporting**

HR Team, Karandaaz Pakistan

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having examined the Solicitation Documents, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, “THE FIRM NAME” undersigned, offer to provide consulting for “INSERT REFERENCE NUMBER” to Karandaaz Pakistan in accordance with the Price Schedule attached herewith and made part of this proposal. “THE FIRM NAME” undertake, if our proposal is accepted, to commence and complete delivery of all services specified in the contract within the time frame stipulated.

“THE FIRM NAME” agree to abide by this proposal for a period of 90 days from date fixed for opening of proposal in the invitation for proposal, and it shall remain binding upon us and may be accepted at any time before the expiration of that period.

We understand that you are not bound to accept any proposal you may receive.

Dated: this------day of -------2015

**Name, Designation and Signature of the “firm Representative”**