



Request for Research Proposals

United States Institute of Peace

Learning from Local Peacebuilding Initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa

Release Date: October 1, 2021

RFP Due Date: 8:00 pm EST on November 12, 2021

Refer Questions to:	Submit Proposals to:
Rachel Sullivan	Rachel Sullivan
rsullivan@usip.org	rsullivan@usip.org
Pertinent responses will be made available to all offerors by e-mail. No inquiries will be accepted after specified time and date.	The response must be submitted by time and date listed above to be considered.

Proposal Submission Requirements:

Any proposal that does not contain all items listed in the Submission Requirements section below may be considered nonresponsive. For more detail including corresponding evaluation criteria, please see “Evaluation Criteria and Submission Requirements” section below.

1. Technical proposal (maximum 3 pages)
2. References
3. CV(s)
4. Cost proposal
5. Completed Certification Page



I. Introduction and Background

USIP is a national, nonpartisan, independent institute, founded by Congress and dedicated to the proposition that a world without violent conflict is possible, practical, and essential for U.S. and global security. In conflict zones abroad, the Institute works with local partners to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict. For more information, please visit <http://www.usip.org>.

The RESOLVE Network (housed at USIP) is a global consortium of researchers, research organizations, policymakers, and practitioners committed to better research, informed practice, and improved policy on violent extremism. RESOLVE Research Initiatives—which span thematic and geographical areas—commission research, capacity building efforts, and convenings to provide key insights on specific aspects of violent extremism by establishing connections, asking critical questions, and commissioning rigorous research projects to enhance and inform preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) research, policy, and practice. For more information, please visit <https://www.resolvenet.org>.

Purpose of the RFP

The RESOLVE Network Secretariat at the United States Institute of Peace is soliciting proposals for new research on local peacebuilding practices in Sub-Saharan Africa. This research will be part of a new RESOLVE initiative, *Learning from Local Peacebuilding Approaches*, in partnership with the USAID Bureau for Africa. Successful applicants will propose to conduct new, field-based research that can assist policymakers and practitioners in better understanding the success and failure of local peacebuilding efforts on the continent and clarify the potential role of international donors and partners in supporting local peace efforts. The final research outputs will appear as RESOLVE Research Reports.

Specifically, we welcome research proposals around four thematic areas related to local peacebuilding practice in Sub-Saharan Africa:

- Youth and peacebuilding
- Trauma in peacebuilding and Trauma-informed peacebuilding
- Climate change and peacebuilding
- Migration and peacebuilding

Proposals must include a field-based component in at least one country in Sub-Saharan Africa, but studies involving comparative research designs are also welcome. Area of geographic focus within the region is open, but successful proposals will make a clear case for the relevance (substantively and in policy terms) of their field research site to the thematic area. We welcome submissions employing a variety of research methodologies, but are especially interested in proposals that undertake original data collections using an appropriate mix of qualitative and quantitative methods, or that supplement qualitative and ethnographic methods with quantitative analysis using available data (Afrobarometer, ACLED, etc). We also welcome proposals that examine peacebuilding issues and contexts that bridge or cut across thematic areas. Examples might include (but are not limited to) the challenges of building peace in communities impacted by climate-driven migration, trauma-informed peacebuilding in the context of youth participants in violence, or the role of diaspora youth in local peacebuilding.



Background

The challenges of building sustainable, durable peace in Sub-Saharan Africa are bound up in a long legacy of national and regional peace processes that neglected local knowledge, actors, and mechanisms. Increasingly, both domestic and international actors recognize this gap and are seeking to integrate local peacebuilding approaches into their wider peace agendas, but there are still many gaps in our collective knowledge about how, when, and what kinds of local peacebuilding are most effective to counter and prevent violent extremism. This project aims to examine existing and proposed local conflict mitigation and peacebuilding efforts in Sub-Saharan Africa, both to produce an inventory of lessons learned and to investigate possible linkages and synergies between local peacebuilding practice and other major thematic areas of policy interest.

This RfP is specifically directed at researchers capable of carrying out original, field-based research in any of four broad thematic areas and their intersection with local peacebuilding practice. We also invite proposals that explore the linkages between local/national or regional peacebuilding tracks. The call is open with respect to the specific research question and design, but possible illustrative sub-topics are listed below:

- 1) Youth and Peacebuilding
 - Youth, Social Networks/Social Media, and peacebuilding
 - Youth/elder relations and intergenerational dialogues
 - Youth empowerment/voice in local peacebuilding programs
- 2) Trauma/Peacebuilding
 - Lessons learned and best practices in Trauma-informed peacebuilding
 - Better assessing and evaluating the impact and contribution of trauma-informed peacebuilding practices in wider peace initiatives
 - Trauma as a barrier to local peacebuilding
- 3) Climate/Peacebuilding
 - Overlapping local peace and climate resiliencies
 - Local mechanisms for adaptation/mitigation in conflict-impacted communities
- 4) Migration/Peacebuilding
 - Role of diaspora communities in conflict and peacebuilding
 - Community integration of new migrant populations

Scope

The objective of this project is to produce and deliver a series of original research products that can assist policymakers and practitioners in designing and supporting more effective local peacebuilding initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa. Specifically, this project aims to examine existing and proposed local conflict mitigation and peacebuilding efforts on the continent, both to produce an inventory of lessons learned and to investigate possible linkages and synergies between local peacebuilding practice and other major thematic areas of policy interest.



The selected researcher will conduct original, field-based research in at least one country in Sub-Saharan Africa, and may focus on any of four broad thematic areas and their intersection with local peacebuilding practice:

- Youth and peacebuilding
- Trauma in peacebuilding and Trauma-informed peacebuilding
- Climate change and peacebuilding
- Migration and peacebuilding

Conducting the research project as conceived will consist of four principle stages with corresponding deliverables:

The **first stage** will result in a ~5 page inception report that details the planned research question, methodology, and work plan in consultation with the RESOLVE team.

The **second stage** involves the logistical preparation for and carrying out of the field-based research as agreed upon at the inception stage, with an initial readout for the RESOLVE team of the work.

The **third stage** is data analysis and write-up of the research report for submission to RESOLVE according to the guidelines provided for a Research Report.

The **fourth stage** is finalizing the research products for delivery, which will involve responding to feedback from RESOLVE team, USAID partners, and peer reviewers, as well as preparation and presentation of one or more final briefings and a summary blog post for a broader audience.

Throughout the project, the contracted researcher will work with RESOLVE Secretariat Staff to finalize a timeline for carrying out field-based research. The researcher will also be responsible for making international travel arrangements, secure proper visas and research authorizations, and submit proposed research design to RESOLVE’s contracted IRB. The researcher is also responsible arranging for any staff they may engage. The final research product is subject to double-blind peer review and RESOLVE Secretariat’s internal review and editing process, and the researcher will address all necessary revisions within the scope of the contract. Upon request, the researcher will also prepare slides and present a briefing of the findings for internal USIP/USAID and external audiences.

Tentative Timeline

After the proposal selection process, RESOLVE will write a contract for the research project with further specificity of deliverables, due dates, and pricing. The table below provides an example of this language based on a notional project timeline of 6 months with an estimated start date in January 2022:

Deliverable	Estimated Due Date
<p>Inception Report Approximately 5-page report including the research question, methodology, ethical considerations, and work plan.</p>	<p>January 31, 2022</p>



Field-based Research All travel and original collection complete with initial readout for RESOLVE team.	April 30, 2022
Data Analysis & Report Writing Draft case study report in the RESOLVE format ready for review.	May 31, 2022
Final Research Products Edited report, briefing(s), and blog post completed.	June 30, 2022

Level of effort

It is estimated that for the completion of this research project in the four stages described, the level of effort will be approximately as follows:

- 5 person days of preparation including the inception report
- 15 person days of field-based research
- 15 person days of report writing
- 5 person days of finalizing the research products including the report, briefing, and blog post

Expected Type of Contract: Firm fixed price

II. Submission Requirements

To be considered under this RFP, please submit the following:

- i. **Technical/Narrative Proposal** (no more than 3 pages)

The narrative proposal should include the following sections:

- A. **Past Experience:** Describe at least two projects of similar scope and complexity the offeror has worked on previously. They do not need to be contracted research projects, but should include field-based research. Provide a point of contact with telephone number and email address for each of the described projects. If the offeror and/or other essential personnel have received funding from USIP in the past, include a short description of the project, the name of the USIP main point of contact, and the grant or contract number, as applicable.
- B. **Overall Approach and Methodology:** Based on the information provided in the project background and scope of work, describe the proposed research question, regional choice and relevance, approach to field research, data collection, data analysis, research methodology, ethics and COVID safety measures, and development of conclusions. As noted above, the final research methodology will be developed in consultation with RESOLVE.
- C. **Key Personnel, Staffing, and Specific Expertise:** Describe the key personnel, their role, their level of knowledge, and how their experience is related and beneficial. Describe the overall staffing plan for the project, which may include research assistants or advisors that are subcontracted for limited parts of the project. Please note that staff may be non-US citizens and do not require a security clearance.



ii. Curriculum Vitae

For each of the key personnel, please provide a CV of no more than three pages. CVs will not count as part of the insert number pages of the technical proposal.

iii. Cost Proposal

The cost proposal shall include a detailed budget and a budget narrative of up to \$30,000. Budget must be in US dollars and in a spreadsheet format (e.g., Excel). Two optional budget templates, one in USD and one for conversions from other currency, are provided for convenience. For any conversions, use the most recent [OANDA](#) conversion rate.

USIP allows organizations to include up to 12% indirect cost recovery on total direct costs for contracts.

iv. Certification Page

Complete and sign the Certification Page included below after these instructions and submit with the proposal.



III. Selection Process

Proposed Schedule

October 1, 2021	RFP issued
October 31, 2021	Questions concerning RFP and project emailed to rsullivan@usip.org no later than 8:00pm Eastern Standard Time.
November 3, 2021	Answers to questions will be made available to all offerors.
November 12, 2021	Proposals are due no later than 8:00pm Eastern Standard Time. Late submissions may not be accepted.
November 17, 2021	Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews
November 29 – December 2, 2021	Interviews with shortlisted candidates
December 3, 2021	Notification to selected offeror(s)
January 5, 2022	Estimated project commencement date

The USIP Selection Committee will review all proposals received on time using the selection criteria established in this RFP based on the best value offered to USIP. The Selection Committee reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, to award multiple contracts, and/or to enter into negotiations with any party, in the best interests of the Institute. The Institute may cancel this RFP at any time prior to contract award.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated as follows. For more detail on each submission requirement, see the Submission Requirements section of this RFP. For short-listed candidates, each of these will be further evaluated in the interview stage.

Evaluation criteria	Corresponding Submission Requirement	Weight
Overall Approach and Methodology	Detailed technical proposal	30%
Past Experience	References CV(s)	20%
Key Personnel, Staffing, and Specific Expertise	Detailed technical proposal CV(s)	20%
Total cost	Detailed cost proposal	30%

IV. General Instructions and Terms



- A. Complete proposals must be submitted by email to rsullivan@usip.org by 8:00pm EST on November 12, 2021.**
- B. The Institute is not liable for any costs incurred by offerors prior to issuance of an executed contract with the Institute.
- C. Submissions must be typed and submitted electronically and must include all submission requirements outlined in the Submission of Requirements section of this RFP. No changes or corrections to a response will be allowed after the deadline.
- D. All submissions should be in English with final budget figures in US dollars.
- E. Any questions concerning this RFP should be directed to Rachel Sullivan at rsullivan@usip.org. Pertinent responses will be made available to all offerors by email. No inquiries will be accepted after specified time and date.
- F. Any proposal not addressing all RFP requirements may be considered non-responsive. Late proposals may be rejected as non-responsive.
- G. This RFP is not an offer to enter into an agreement with any party, but rather a request to receive proposals from offerors (organizations or persons) interested in providing the services outlined herein. Such proposals shall be considered and treated by USIP as offers to enter into a contract.
- H. USIP shall not be obligated for the payment of any sums whatsoever to any recipient of this RFP until and unless a written contract between the parties is executed.
- I. Unless stated otherwise within this RFP, the selected Contractor shall be responsible for providing all equipment and/or supplies required to perform the services.
- J. The selected Contractor shall not discriminate against any person in accordance with Federal, state, or local law.
- K. The submission of any materials to USIP in response to this RFP will constitute (i) a representation that the Offeror owns or has unrestricted license to use and license such materials and all intellectual property expressed therein; and (ii) the grant of a non-exclusive license to USIP to use such materials and intellectual property for any purpose, including specifically the evaluation, negotiation, and documentation of a contract with any party.
- L. Offeror will commit to adhering to the attached USIP Terms & Conditions, else risk removal from consideration. Exceptions to these terms must be clearly outlined in an annex to the Technical Proposal.



Certification Page

(Please submit with the proposal)

A. The Offeror certifies that: (1) Prices in the offer have been arrived at independently without consultation, communication, or agreement with any other competitor; (2) Prices in the offer have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other competitor before bid opening or contract award unless otherwise required by law; and (3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the offeror to induce any other competitor to/not to submit an offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

B. Representation. The Offeror certifies that it will not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services to USIP in the performance of the contract, subcontract or other contractual instrument resulting from this solicitation.

After conducting a reasonable inquiry, for purposes of this representation, the Offeror represents that does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or use any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services.

As used in this Certification, “covered telecommunications equipment or services” is fully defined in the Federal Acquisition Regulation, [FAR 52.204-25](#).

C. If Offeror is not able to certify statement B above, Offeror must mark below and provide a disclosure with a full description of the covered telecommunications equipment and/or services and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible.

- Offeror is not able to certify representations above and disclosures are attachment to this certification form.

On Behalf of Offeror:

Name of Organization or Independent Contractor

Signature of Authorized Official

Printed Name of Authorized Official

Title

Date



United States Institute of Peace
Terms and Conditions

1. Independent Contractor

Contractor shall be an independent contractor with respect to performance of all work performed under this Agreement, and neither Contractor nor anyone employed by Contractor shall be deemed for any purpose to be the employee, agent, servant, or representative of USIP nor shall it or they have any authority to speak for or otherwise to bind USIP in any manner. As an independent contractor, you are responsible for the safety and security of individuals working under this contract. USIP strongly encourages individuals who will be traveling and working in conflict zones and areas prone to violence and instability, to acquire security awareness training prior to operating in those environments. It is the responsibility of the individual contractor to obtain this training.

2. USIP Name and Logo

USIP name and logo are the property of USIP. Neither shall be used by Contractor for any purpose(s) except with the express, prior written authorization of USIP.

3. Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure

“Confidential Information” means all information in whatever form or in whatever medium recorded, relating to the Work disclosed in writing, orally, or in any other form to Contractor by USIP, either directly or indirectly, and all information compiled or developed during the course of the Work, except for the following:

- (1) Information in the public domain through no action of Contractor in breach of this Agreement; or
- (2) Information independently developed by Contractor; or
- (3) Information acquired by Contractor from a third party not delivered to Contractor in breach of confidentiality agreements which said third party may have with USIP, the Government, USIP’s other contractors or affiliates, or any other third party.

Both during the term of this Agreement and following completion of the work or termination of the Agreement, Contractor will retain in strict confidence, and not disclose to third parties or use for the benefit of anyone other than USIP any Confidential Information, without the prior written consent of USIP.

All Confidential Information obtained or developed pursuant to the Agreement shall be subject to this Agreement unless expressly excepted in writing by the USIP.

Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to prevent disclosure of any Confidential Information by Contractor if, in the written opinion of Contractor’s counsel, such disclosure is required by any applicable federal or state law, rule, or regulation, or by any applicable order, subpoena, judgment, or decree; provided, however, that Contractor shall give USIP at least ten (10) days prior written notice before disclosing any Confidential Information and, in making such disclosure, Contractor shall take all reasonable steps to preserve the confidentiality of the Confidential Information to the greatest extent possible.

If and when requested in writing, Contractor shall, and shall cause its lower tier subcontractors to execute any such confidentiality agreements as are deemed necessary for the protection of USIP, the Government and/or any of their respective other contractors.

4. Indemnity – Intellectual Property

Except as specifically agreed by USIP, all original work of Contractor under the Contract shall be treated as “work for hire” and all right, title and interest in such work shall be assigned to or owned by USIP.

Contractor represents and warrants that all intellectual property of any nature included in any deliverable to USIP (or any other party under the Contract) shall be public domain property, or the original work of Contractor, or shall be used with all applicable consents or licenses from the owner, copyright holder or patent owner.



Contractor shall indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless USIP from and against any and all claims, actions, and damages which USIP may suffer or pay by reason of any claims or suits arising out of claims of infringement of any patent rights, copyrights or other intellectual property, proprietary or confidentiality rights relating to the work performed by contractor or any of its subcontractors under or in connection with the Agreement. Any such suit or claim shall be defended at Contractor’s expense by counsel satisfactory to USIP. If, in any such suit or claim, a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction is granted, Contractor shall make every reasonable effort, by giving a satisfactory bond or otherwise, to secure the suspension of the injunction or restraining order. If, in any such suit or claim, the work, or any part, combination or process thereof, is held to constitute an infringement and its use is permanently enjoined, Contractor shall promptly make every reasonable effort to secure for USIP or, at no cost to USIP, a license authorizing continued use of the infringing item. If Contractor is unable to secure such suspension or such license within a reasonable time, Contractor shall, at its own expense and without impairing USIP’s use of the work, either replace the affected work, or part, combination or process thereof, with non-infringing components or parts or modify the same so that same becomes non-infringing.

5. Publicity

Contractor shall not disclose the nature of its work under the Agreement or engage in any other publicity or public media disclosures with respect to the work without the prior written consent of USIP.

6. Acceptance and Inspection

USIP shall have the right to inspect all work performed under this Agreement upon delivery or pursuant to such other terms as may be agreed upon in writing. Acceptance shall not occur until after completion of inspection. Acceptance shall not absolve Contractor from correcting errors, omissions, and other defects in workmanship under the Warranty provisions of the Agreement to the extent that they are not patently apparent and discoverable upon reasonable inspection at time of delivery or as otherwise agreed upon. Payment shall be conditioned upon USIP’s acceptance of the work under this Agreement.

7. Representation and Warranty of Work

No principal, employee or subcontractor of Contractor:

- (1) Is an employee of or personal services contractor to the Institute; or
- (2) Has a familial or other relationship with a USIP employee participating in the contracting for or receipt of the Services under this Agreement except as specifically acknowledged and consented to by USIP in a writing attached to this Agreement. Contractor warrants that all work:
 - (i) Shall, as applicable, be free of defects in workmanship,
 - (ii) Shall be performed in accordance with the accepted professional standards and industry codes applicable to the work in effect as of the award of the Agreement,
 - (iii) Shall be performed in a good and workmanlike manner, and
 - (iv) Shall strictly conform to the Agreement.

Upon receipt of written notice of a defect or deficiency in the work, Contractor shall at USIP’s sole option and at no cost to USIP, promptly re-perform, repair, or replace, such defective or deficient work so that it conforms with the requirements of the Agreement. If USIP deems it inexpedient for Contractor to correct defective or deficient work, USIP may make a deduction from the Contract price in lieu of such correction, as determined by USIP.

8. Compliance with Laws

In the performance of work under this Agreement, Contractor shall comply, and shall require its subcontractors, agents, and other representatives to comply with all applicable laws, treaties, ordinances, judgments, decrees, injunctions, writs and orders of any court or governmental agency or authority, and rules, regulations, codes, orders, interpretations of any Federal, District of Columbia, or other governmental entity or other body having jurisdiction over the Agreement or any activity conducted at or in connection with the Agreement (collectively “Laws”). Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold USIP harmless for, of, and from any loss, including but not



limited to fines, penalties, and corrective measures, USIP may sustain by reason of Contractor’s failure to comply with any such Laws in connection with the performance of its work for USIP under this Agreement. Contractor shall obtain and maintain all permits, licenses, and consents required by governmental authorities for performance of any work to be performed under this Agreement. At no time during the term of this Agreement shall Contractor be debarred from contracting with the U.S. Government, subject to sanctions promulgated or supervised by any U.S. Government agency, or otherwise ineligible to contract with the U.S. Government for any reason. Such debarment, sanction status or exclusion at any time shall be a material breach of the Agreement. Contractor’s subcontracting under this Agreement with any person debarred, subject to sanctions, or ineligible to contract with the U.S. Government shall be grounds for termination of this Agreement at the sole discretion of USIP.

9. Section 508 Compliance

Because USIP receives Federal funds for its work, to the extent Contractor’s work will involve creating or modification of Information Technology hardware or software, Contractor shall ensure that it is in compliance with the requirements section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, as they may be applicable.

10. Compliance with Workplace Rules

Contractor, to the extent work is to be performed on the premises of USIP, shall conform its activities to all procedures, work hours, and safety rules and regulations as may be in force at USIP. Contractor shall also undergo such safety and other training as may be offered by USIP with regard to its site.

11. Contractor Personnel Access to USIP Facilities

USIP also shall have the right in its sole discretion to request that Contractor remove and replace any one or more of its staff working at USIP if such person is deemed by USIP to be incompetent, disorderly, or otherwise unsatisfactory. Contractor shall promptly comply with such request. USIP shall have the right in its sole discretion to revoke access to its premises for any one or more of Contractor’s personnel.

12. Equal Opportunity

The Contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of work under this Agreement with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment, or matters directly or indirectly related to employment because of age, sex, height, weight, marital status, race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability or veteran status. Contractor also agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended. Breach of this covenant may be regarded as a material breach of this Agreement.

13. Record Retention and Audits

Contractor and its subcontractors of any tier shall maintain true and correct sets of cost and other records relating to the work and all transactions related to the Work and shall retain all such records for at least three (3) years after final payment under this Agreement.

USIP, itself or through its designated agent (e.g., audit firm), from time to time at any time after the date of this Agreement until three (3) years after final payment under this Agreement, may make an audit of any and all records of Contractor and any of its subcontractors of any tier that pertain to the performance of work under the Agreement. Contractor shall assist USIP in making the above audits.

Such audits will not include Contractor’s payroll or other confidential information of Contractor’s other clients unless it relates directly to this Agreement. Contractor shall include, and shall require all its subcontractors of any tier to include, in all lower tier subcontracts in connection with the work under this Agreement, a provision materially similar to this paragraph. USIP may at any time require Contractor to submit to the Institute a copy of its latest Annual Audited Report (“annual audit” or “audit”).



14. Assignment

Neither this Agreement nor any part thereof nor any right arising therefrom shall be transferred or assigned by Contractor to any other individual, firm, partnership, corporation, institution, or government agency without the prior written consent of USIP.

15. Termination for Convenience

At any time, USIP may, in its discretion, terminate this Agreement in whole or in part for its convenience, by giving five (5) business days written notice to Contractor. Upon receiving such notice, Contractor shall:

- (a) Stop performance of all Work except that reasonably necessary to carry out termination; and
- (b) Make no further monetary commitments except with the written consent of USIP.

16. Default by Contractor

USIP shall have the right, in addition to all other rights or remedies it may have under this Agreement or by law or in equity, to terminate this Agreement in whole or in part if Contractor:

- (a) fails:
 - (i) to comply with the material terms of this Agreement;
 - (ii) to make satisfactory progress toward completion of the work; or
 - (iii) to perform its work in a satisfactory manner in terms of quality;
- (b) makes any assignment for the benefit of creditors, or
- (c) initiates or has initiated against it bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership, or similar proceeding, by giving notice to Contractor.

In the event of a breach under subparagraph (a), USIP shall afford Contractor a period of ten (10) days to correct the breach or present an acceptable plan to USIP for correcting the breach. The failure of USIP to terminate Contractor for any default shall not be deemed a waiver of its right to terminate contractor for some other related, subsequent, or independent default. Upon receipt of such notice, Contractor shall stop all Work. Contractor shall be entitled to be paid only for Work previously submitted and accepted by USIP. USIP shall be entitled to recover from Contractor the costs of retaining others to complete the Work agreed to under this Agreement.

17. No Waiver of Breach

Any failure by USIP at any time, or from time to time, to enforce or require the strict compliance with and performance by Contractor of any of the terms or conditions of the Agreement shall not constitute a waiver by USIP or a breach of any such terms or conditions or any other breaches, or the right of USIP to avail itself of the remedies it may have for any such breach.

18. Indemnity - General

Contractor shall indemnify, defend, hold and save USIP, USIP's affiliates, and each of its/their respective agents, successors, assigns, and any and all officers, directors, shareholders, employees or representatives of any of the foregoing, harmless from and against any loss, claim, liability, judgment, cost or expense (inclusive of attorney and expert fees), including but not limited to any and all property damage, delay, business interruption, lost business transactions or opportunities, or lost profits to Contractor and/or to any one or more third parties and any and all personal injury to Contractor and/or to any one or more third parties, including death, in the event such loss, claim, liability, cost or expense to any extent whatsoever (even if any entity other than Contractor is contributory thereto) arises from or relates to any act or omission of Contractor, its employees or affiliates in connection with the Work. Contractor waives any right to assert immunity from these obligations under any workers' compensation or other employee benefit statute.



19. Damages / Limitation of Liability

In no event shall USIP or any of its affiliates, representatives or any directors, officers, or employees of any of the foregoing be liable to contractor or any of its lower tier subcontractors, whether based on delay, contract, tort, negligence, warranty, indemnity, strict liability, error or omission or otherwise, for any consequential, special, incidental, indirect, exemplary, multiple or punitive damages or damages arising from or in connection with loss of use or loss of revenue or profit, actual or anticipated or otherwise, and contractor hereby releases USIP, and its respective affiliates, representatives, directors, officers and employees from any such liability.

In no event shall USIP be liable to contractor, regardless of cause, for any amount in excess of the total amount of this Agreement.

20. Insurance (for Contracts above \$100,000.00)

Unless otherwise agreed to in writing, Contractor will procure and maintain during the period that this Agreement remains in force insurance coverages with limits of not less than those designated below, and which shall provide for written cancellation notice at least thirty (30) in advance of such event:

(a) Workers' Compensation insurance as is required by the jurisdiction in which the contract is to be performed; and Employer's Liability insurance with limits of not less than the following:

- (i) \$500,000 trauma, each accident
- (ii) \$500,000 disease, each employee
- (iii) \$500,000 disease, policy limit

(b) Commercial General Liability. The general liability policy shall include the following coverage:

- (i) Coverage for the acts of independent contractors;
- (ii) Coverage for claims arising out of products, ongoing and completed operations, which shall be maintained for at least twelve (12) months after completion of the Services to be provided under this Agreement;
- (iii) Coverage for liability assumed under this Agreement;
- (iv) Personal and Advertising Injury Liability;
- (v) An endorsement providing additional insured status to the Endowment of the United States Institute of Peace, the United States Institute of Peace, their directors, officers, employees and agents. Such coverage as provided thereunder to the additionally-insured parties is to be considered as primary, not contributing with or in excess of any other coverage that may otherwise be available to those additional insureds.
- (vi) If the nature of the work to be performed by Contractor involves any of the construction trades, the aggregate limit will apply on a per project basis.

The general liability policy shall have the following minimum coverage levels:

- (i) \$2,000,000 combined single limit, general aggregate.
- (ii) \$1,000,000 combined single limit, each occurrence, products and completed operations.
- (iii) \$1,000,000 per offense personal injury.
- (iv) \$1,000,000 combined single limit each occurrence, bodily injury and property damage liability.

(c) Business Automobile Liability. Coverage must apply for any automobile, whether owned, non-owned or hired:

- (i) \$1,000,000 each accident combined single limit, bodily injury and property damage liability.

(d) Umbrella or Excess Liability. In addition to the above primary limits, Umbrella or Excess Liability Insurance with limits of not less than the following:

- (i) \$1,000,000 each occurrence.
- (ii) \$1,000,000 general aggregate.
- (iii) \$1,000,000 products/completed operations aggregate limit.



Such Umbrella or Excess Liability policy shall contain a provision that it will not be more restrictive than the primary insurance.

- (e) Professional Liability/Errors & Omissions. If Contractor is required to perform services of a professional nature (such as accounting, computer consulting or legal), it must in addition to the above requirements, maintain Professional/Errors & Omissions Liability coverage for loss arising out of Contractor's professional liability in the capacity for which it is being hired, with the limit of liability being at least \$1,000,000 each claim, \$1,000,000 annual aggregate. The retroactive date of such policy, if applicable, must be on or before the date of this Agreement. Such coverage must be maintained for a period of at least three (3) years following completion of the Contractor's services to be performed under this Agreement.

All policies of insurance required under this Agreement, with the exception of Workers' Compensation and Professional Liability, shall be endorsed to provide additional insured status to the Endowment of the United States Institute of Peace, the United States Institute of Peace, their affiliates, directors, officers, employees and agents. Such coverage as provided thereunder to the additionally-insured parties is to be considered as primary, not contributing with or in excess of any other coverage that may otherwise be available to those additional insureds.

All policies of insurance required under this Agreement shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of the same parties shown as additional insureds above.

At the time of commencement of services under the Agreement, certificates of insurance evidencing compliance with the requirements in this Section shall be provided. The Contractor shall provide the Owner with updated certificates within five (5) days after the Owner's request.

Contractor will require the same insurance coverage and limits from its subcontractors as required of it, and upon request of USIP, will require its lower-tier subcontractors to certify insurance coverage to USIP.

USIP, by requiring the insurance coverage(s) listed above, in no way limits the obligations or liabilities of Contractor assumed elsewhere in this Agreement. Deductibles, if any, are for the account of Contractor.

21. Taxes

Contractor shall be responsible for the reporting and payment of all taxes which become payable by operation of law or contract and shall save USIP harmless from all liability, loss, and expense resulting from Contractor's failure to comply with all requirements of such laws or contracts.

22. Disputes, Continuation of Work

In the event a dispute arises between USIP and Contractor regarding the application or interpretation of any provision of the Agreement, or with respect to an alleged breach of the Agreement, the aggrieved party shall give notice in writing to the other party and the parties shall negotiate in good faith and attempt to resolve such dispute. If the parties fail to resolve the dispute within thirty (30) days after delivery of such notice, or during such longer period to which they may agree in writing, each party shall have the right to pursue any and all remedies available to it under the law.

Notwithstanding the existence of a dispute between USIP and the Contractor and regardless of whether such dispute is the subject of dispute resolution pursuant to this paragraph, Contractor shall not be entitled to suspend or otherwise delay its performance of the work.

23. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue

This Agreement, and any disputes arising under or related to this Agreement, shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the District of Columbia, excluding any provisions or principles thereof which would require the application of the laws of a different jurisdiction.

**24. Force Majeure**

If performance of any obligation hereunder by the Contractor or USIP is prevented, rendered impossible or unfeasible, by act of God (e.g., flood, earthquake, tornado, fire, etc.), an act or regulation of any public authority, civil disturbance, strike, lock-out or labor dispute (whether or not involving Contractor or USIP), epidemic, interruption or delay of transportation services, war conditions or emergencies, terrorism, or any cause beyond the control of the parties (collectively, “Force Majeure Occurrence”), such performance shall be required only up to the time of such Force Majeure Occurrence, and there shall be no claim for damage by Contractor or USIP arising from termination of this Agreement or a delay in work, and the contracted obligations of the parties from and following the Force Majeure Occurrence shall be deemed waived.

25. Anti-Deficiency

Contractor acknowledges that USIP is a quasi-official organization authorized by Congress under the U.S. Institute of Peace Act, 22 U.S.C. 4601-11, and that USIP is subject to statutory limits on its contracts and expenditures. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, no payment owed by USIP under this Contract shall be due or made by USIP if no appropriation or appropriation authority exists for such payment.

26. Invoicing and Payments

An invoice with the contract number specified on the Purchase Order for this Agreement must be submitted by the Contractor to invoices@usip.org no later than one (1) year from the end date of this Agreement. Items or services must be accepted by USIP before invoices will be paid. Payment will be made within thirty (30) days of receipt and acceptance of a proper invoice as described in FAR 32.905(b).

27. Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

Contractor represents that it will not provide, whether directly or by subcontract or other arrangement, covered telecommunications equipment or services to USIP in the performance of this contract or in any extension or modification of this contract. Contractor further represents that it does not use anywhere in its business operations, whether directly or by subcontract or other arrangement, any equipment, system, or services that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system.

Contractor shall notify USIP within one business day of learning that covered telecommunications equipment or services have been provided to USIP or are being used by Contractor, whether directly or by subcontract or other arrangement.

For purposes of this section, “covered telecommunications equipment or services” means (1) telecommunication or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (including subsidiaries and affiliates of either); and (2) equipment or services used specifically for national security purposes provided by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (including subsidiaries and affiliated of any of them).

28. Contract Execution

This Agreement is considered executed and the terms are therefore legally binding for both parties once a Purchase Order has been issued by a USIP Authorized Representative and the Contractor begins providing services or goods.

Revised August 2020