



**Global
Partnership**
for Sustainable
Development Data

Request for Proposals

DATA-ENABLED WEB APPLICATION EVALUATION

Consultancy

Deadline: February 16, 2025

Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data

To : Offerors
From : Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data /
United Nations Foundation
Subject : Making Inclusive Data the Norm: Data-Enabled Web Application
Evaluation Consultancy
RFP Issue Date : January 30, 2025
RFP Closing Date : February 21, 2025
RFP Closing Time : 17:00 hours U.S. Eastern Time
Performance Period : Four Months (approximately March through June 2025)

The Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (the Global Partnership) is seeking to engage the services of an individual consultant to analyze and provide recommendations on the relevant IT components needed to support the development and deployment of a multi-modular web application (the "App"). The primary objective of this App is to collect data directly from citizens, which will serve as input to produce official statistics. The Global Partnership invites qualified individuals ("Offerors") to submit a proposal for the requested services. The Contract resulting from this award will be a Services Agreement.

Offerors are encouraged to read this Request for Proposals (RFP) in its entirety, paying specific attention to the scope of services, instructions, and requirements. Issuance of this solicitation does not, in any way, obligate the United Nations Foundation (UNF) to award a contract, nor will UNF pay for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a proposal. The agreement resulting from this RFP will be provided to the most responsive Offeror whose offer will be the most advantageous to the Global Partnership/UNF in terms of cost, functionality, and other factors as specified in this RFP.

The Global Partnership is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees and consultants.

Section 1: Background and purpose

Background: United Nations Foundation

The United Nations Foundation links the UN's work with others around the world, mobilizing the energy and expertise of business and non-governmental organizations to help the UN tackle

issues including climate change, data, global health, peace and security, women's empowerment, poverty eradication, energy access, and U.S.-UN relations. The United Nations Foundation hosts and provides administrative, financial and contractual services for the Global Partnership. For more information, visit www.unfoundation.org.

Background: Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data

The Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (the Global Partnership) is a dynamic global network of governments, UN agencies, private companies and civil society organizations. The Global Partnership convenes, connects and catalyzes action to address the problems of poor data use, access, quality and production, and to work with stakeholders to fully harness the new opportunities of the data revolution in the service of sustainable development. For more information, visit www.data4sdgs.org.

Background: Making Inclusive Data the Norm

Inclusive data remains central to the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) agenda and has become more of a priority in recent years. For governments to truly achieve the leave no one behind commitment people who are marginalized or underrepresented must be safely included and represented in the data and data processes that are used to design and monitor development policies. This is relevant for both policy makers and citizens building on the idea that better data can enable more effective advocacy processes in different areas.

We urgently need to have data that reflects the realities of all people's lives - especially those who are poor, marginalized, vulnerable or underrepresented- and does so with their consent and participation. Three specific opportunities present themselves for governments to champion the LNOB agenda:

1. Increased participation in data processes: There are increasing opportunities to use citizen generated data (CGD) - data that people, or their organizations produce to directly monitor and drive change on issues that affect them – to supplement or complement official data sources and help to shape policies that are responsive to community needs.
2. Advocacy for data and inclusive policy: Collecting and processing data must not be an extractive one-sided process. Where a government agency manages to produce highly disaggregated data, efforts should be made to enable different stakeholders (citizens, NGOs, enterprises) to use this data to advocate for their interests, enabling an informed agency process. This process should also motivate inclusive policy making that represents a diverse range of experiences and perspectives.
3. Prioritization of data disaggregation & intersectionality: Governments need sufficient disaggregated data to understand the situation of different population subgroups and target

policies and resources towards those most in need. Moreover, governments need to increase their know-how on the implementation of intersectional approaches, allowing them to better understand how the people's different situations intersect to further marginalize them.

Governments across the world have made great strides in utilizing the opportunities of the LNOB agenda to strengthen their data systems to be more inclusive. However, governments continue to face similar challenges in strengthening their data systems. Different countries have lots of lessons and experiences to share with each other.

About the project:

Over 2024 and 2025, The Global Partnership, in partnership with the *Agencia Presidencial de Cooperación Internacional de Colombia* (Presidential Agency for International Cooperation of Colombia) (APC-Colombia), will be working with government and civil society actors in Colombia, Ghana and Kenya led by the National Statistical Offices (NSOs). [Make Inclusive Data the Norm: a South-to-South learning project between Colombia, Ghana and Kenya](#) aims to enable the three countries to learn from each other's experiences and challenges in advancing inclusive data, which is essential for achieving the LNOB agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This project will enable the three countries to add to their knowledge resources and toolkits on inclusive data systems and increase the effectiveness of the development and implementation of urgent development policies.

The Colombian National Statistical Office, *Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística* (DANE), is a champion of the Inclusive Data Charter (IDC) and has developed guidelines for taking intersectional and differential approaches to data within the national statistical system. Colombia is searching to promote and to transfer its experience to other NSOs about implementation of good practices for the measurement of the differential and intersectional approach. In addition, they are interested in learning about CGD and expand their leadership beyond their existing work in IDC to all-inclusive data practices.

The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) has been strengthening disability data as a champion of the IDC but has also developed criteria for the institutionalization of CGD. Kenya seeks to create coherence between their gender and disability data work including through deepening their intersectional approach. The country also wants to remain ahead in championing CGD.

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) has made good progress in establishing a framework for CGD and practically using a technological approach to addressing the data gaps that exist in monitoring the progress in achieving the SDGs. Examples include leading specific initiatives on

gender-based violence (GBV), waste management, marine litter data, and public service satisfaction surveys using mobile technologies. GSS has also championed advocacy for statistics through various approaches in various sectors of the country.

All three countries have also contributed their knowledge and experience over the years to the [Copenhagen Framework for Citizen Data](#)- a framework that can help conceptualize and agree on the different ways that citizens can play a role in data; and support formulating action points for the community to move forward. The Copenhagen framework is led by the UN Statistics Division under the [Collaborative on Citizen Data](#).

Section 2: Scope of services

The Global Partnership is seeking to engage the services of an individual consultant to analyze and provide recommendations on the relevant IT components needed to support the development and deployment of a multi-modular web application (the “App”). The primary objective of this App is to collect data directly from citizens, which will serve as input to produce official statistics. This App is part of DANE's strategy to implement the Citizen-Generated Data (CGD) framework in Colombia. The selected offeror's responsibilities will include facilitating knowledge transfer and developing training sessions on effective strategies to ensure the optimal framework is used to develop the App. It is important to note that the entire development process of the app will be led by DANE (the National Statistics Institute of Colombia) and the results from this consultancy will be implemented by DANE.

The main purposes for this consultancy are to:

1. Propose a feasibility study and provide recommendations to DANE on the best option for the development on the App, considering the requirements of the Making Inclusive Data the Norm project and the resources available in DANE.
2. Establish a roadmap for the App development, as well as supporting testing and deployment of the App, including the recommendations that will be provided for the related User Design and User Experience (“UD/UX”) work.
3. Generate documents and recommendations of good practices, considering new technologies in the market, and adapting them to the existing resources in DANE.
4. Facilitate knowledge transfer and training sessions on the research and analysis conducted to develop the deliverables of this consultancy.

Under the supervision of the Global Partnership's **Program Manager** and in close collaboration with the **Senior Program Managers** and the **Inclusive Data Charter Technical Advisor**, the selected offeror will be responsible the areas of work mentioned above. The key activities and deliverables of this consultancy are as follows (and will be further detailed during the onboarding phase):

1. Document and analyze the objectives and scope, according to DANE requirements for the App. This includes the definition of key elements such as the purpose of the App, target audience, core features, platforms, and other elements required for the development and deployment.
2. Conduct a (technical, financial and operational) feasibility study to establish criteria for decision-makers determine the most appropriate development approach for the App.
3. Based on the feasibility study, conduct a cost-benefit analysis to compare the alternatives of an in-house versus an external solution for development of the App, and provide a recommendation on which approach to follow, including:
 1. Developing a list of qualified external providers that offer web application development services, including information on the capabilities, experience, costs, and references for each provider.
 2. Drafting a report on development architecture recommendations, relevant technologies and best practices for in-house development of applications.
 3. Conducting a comparative cost-benefit evaluation of and drafting a report comparing the qualified providers against the advantages and disadvantages of developing the App in-house.
4. Establish a roadmap for the development, testing and deployment of the App, dividing the work into manageable phases with established deadlines and defined deliverables, as well as estimating the human, technical and financial resources required for each phase and providing recommendations for the implementation plan for the App development.
5. Develop training and knowledge transfer sessions summarizing the research and analysis conducted for the feasibility study.
6. Coordinate and facilitate virtual gatherings (interviews, surveys, meetings) with the Global Partnership and DANE to collect relevant information for understanding the overall project, project needs, and resources availability to develop the App.
7. Coordinate and facilitate virtual knowledge transfer sessions with the Global Partnership and DANE to present and explain the research and analysis conducted in order to develop the deliverables of this consultancy, as well as with the UD/UX consultant, to incorporate the elements of user experience in the feasibility analysis, and the final roadmap.

The Global Partnership team will review and approve the expected deliverables to ensure that the consultancy clearly meets the project needs.

Expected deliverables:

First Month

- Document describing the main elements required for the App and the rationale for the technical, financial and strategic feasibility for the development of the App.

Second Month

- List of qualified external providers that can offer web application development, including information on the capabilities, experience, costs, and references for each provider.
- Report on architecture, technologies and good practices for in-house applications.

Third Month

- Comparative cost-benefit evaluation report of the shortlisted providers against the advantages and disadvantages of developing the app in-house.

Fourth Month

- Roadmap for the development, test plan and implementation of the multi-modular web application, including details on how to carry out its pilot, defining specific deadlines, clear deliverables and the necessary resources required to build the App.

Desirable experience/qualifications

- At least a master's degree in systems engineering, software development, IT development, or similar disciplines.
- At least 7 to 10 years of demonstrable experience in the planning and development of complex web applications.
- Knowledge of agile development methodologies.
- Knowledge of programming languages, relevant web technologies and new web development techniques at the national and international level.
- Demonstrable experience in the preparation of development and implementation plans for web applications, as well as in the design of work plans.
- Experience with consultative and participatory approaches in the development of guidelines, strategies and training.
- Excellent writing, interpersonal communication, and problem-solving skills, and ability to think innovatively and strategically.
- Excellent command of Microsoft Office software.
- Reliable person, with excellent time management and communication skills.
- Fluency in English and Spanish.

Section 3: Proposal Preparation Instructions

Proposals are expected to be comprehensive and include the information set forth below. Elaborate or unnecessarily voluminous proposals are not desired. The font used should be easy to read and generally no smaller than 11 points. (Smaller font can be used for short footnotes.) Proposals must be submitted in **English**.

1. Technical Proposal, no more than two pages, to include:

- a. The primary contact person for the Offeror: the individual's name, address, phone number and email address.

- b. A statement confirming the Offeror does not have a conflict of interest with this RFP, real or perceived.
- c. A summary of the Offeror's understanding of the scope of services, along with a positive commitment to perform the work in a timely manner.
- d. A brief description of the Offeror's experience and expertise in the field that illustrates overall qualifications and capabilities to meet the terms of the RFP, and years of relevant experience.

2. Resume or CV of Key Personnel

3. List of References

The Offeror must include a list of three references, including phone number, e-mail address and a short description of work done for the referee.

4. Cost Requirements

The Offeror should include a budget for the services described above. The maximum allowable budget for this consultancy is US \$10,000.00. All prices must be quoted in **U.S. dollars**.

Proposal submission: Proposals, including any attachments (limited to 6MB), should be sent electronically in PDF format to: proposals@data4sdgs.org. Be sure to include in the subject line: **Data-Enabled Web Application Evaluation Consultancy**. UNF will not accept proposals received by fax or mail.

All proposals are due by the date and time stated above. Any proposal received after the required time and date specified for receipt shall be considered late and non-responsive. Late proposals will not be evaluated.

Section 4: Selection

We will review candidates with the goal of selecting several consultants from a diverse range of geographies most advantageous to the Global Partnership, based on the qualifications listed above, as demonstrated by the resume or CV, cover letter, and additional material, if applicable. The Global Partnership will consider the Offeror's capability to deliver the scope of services, and the feasibility of the approach. The Global Partnership will also consider the overall costs to ensure that they are reasonable to deliver the services. The Global Partnership may meet with one or more Offerors prior to selection.

Section 5: RFP Conditions

UNF reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all offers and discontinue this RFP process without obligation or liability to any potential Offeror or other party.
- Accept other than the lowest price offered.
- Award a contract on the basis of initial offers received, without discussions or requests for best and final offers.
- Award more than one contract.

Nothing in this RFP is, or should be relied on by Offeror as, a promise or representation by UNF. UNF does not make any representation or warranty as to the completeness of this RFP or have any liability for any representations (express or implied) contained in, or omissions from, this RFP. This RFP and any replies to any written notifications are transmitted to the Offeror solely for the purposes of the Offeror preparing and submitting a Proposal. Each Offeror shall keep the RFP and its contents confidential.

Any information or materials submitted in response to this RFP and/or as a proposal (whether successful or unsuccessful) shall become the property of UNF and will not be returned. In submitting a proposal, the Offeror must agree that the offer shall remain firm for a period of no less than **120** days from the RFP closing date. Failure to follow the specifications and requirements provided in this RFP may result in disqualification.

Section 6: Terms of payment

Payment terms for the award shall be on a deliverable basis and will be made following the submission of each deliverable. Payment is dependent upon receipt of valid invoice, and contingent upon successful completion of deliverables, at the sole discretion of UNF. Payment shall be made in U.S. dollars by UNF via check or bank wire. The final payment terms in the contract will control, not this RFP. No advanced payment will be made.