CODE4AI – NORTH Queries & Responses

1. What is the process of the Bid Security refund and timeline?

   Reply: An authority letter issued by the Lead Bidder, in the name of the duly authorized representative, shall be required for the collection of the bid security on behalf of the bidder. The bid security of unsuccessful bidders shall be released after the award of contract to the successful bidder.

2. Please confirm if one JV/Consortium can apply for all regional CODE 4AI RFPs but will be eligible for only one, if successful?

   Reply: Yes. Please see "Note" under Section 25 of the RFP.

3. What if the allotted quota of 20% female participation is not achieved despite all efforts? Is this a binding condition or is there any leverage?

   Reply: Binding condition.

4. As per section 37, affiliation with an International training partner is understandable however this section suggests that the completion certificates are awarded from an international training organization. Usually, international training partners only award their certification when they, themselves, conduct the whole trainings as per their standards/frameworks and do not issue their certificates in scenarios such as the one under discussion where courses and TOR's are decided by Ignite and a successful bidder follows a certain set of guidelines. As a training company, having our international trainings partners at the backend, we train students in Pakistan and award our own certifications, not those of our international partners. Please elaborate this point.

   Reply: International certification is mandatory for award to successful trainees. Please refer section 37 of the RFP.

5. In section 38, job placement, it states that a job placement strategy is required and that a bidder will "Assist" trainees in finding jobs/Freelance careers. Then the section states that 70% to get jobs within 2 months. Please elaborate on this 70%, is this 70% of all those who pass as per the grading criteria?

   Reply: 70% of 80% successful trainees to get the job. Please also refer section 47 of the RFP.

6. Secondly, is this 70% a KPI as we see the last payment milestone is tagged with this. Also please elaborate, that yes a training company can assist, prepare, guide and support successful trainees in getting jobs or starting their freelancing careers however ensuring that almost 1200-1400 trainees out of the total 2,000 get jobs is really a big ask considering this usually is not a mandate of a training company. Yes, some support can be provided but listing this as a KPI becomes a big challenge. Please elaborate as there are multiple possibilities or approaches a trainee may adopt post completion of the training such as pursuing higher studies, starting their own business, changing their career paths to another discipline, moving abroad etc.

Reply: This is a KPI and please refer section 47 of the RFP. Bidders are recommended to come up in a consortium with related local & international partners for this project.

7. How significant is the 80% passing criteria out of the total pool of 2,000. Courses may start at full strength however usually there is attrition mid course and trainees drop out due to multiple reasons so what if despite repalcement from the additional pool, a course completes with less than the targeted audience? What if 80% do not pass and only lets say 60% or 70% pass?

Reply: 80% successful trainees is one of the KPIs to be achieved under this project. Please refer section 47 & 48 of the RFP.