



Pakistan Regional Economic Integration Activity (PREIA)

Request for Proposals (RFP)

No. REQ-PRE-24-0004

Technical Assistance on Environmental Footprint Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs)
for the Textiles Sector (Denim, Home Textiles, Towels and Apparel/Garments
(Knitted/Woven) and Socks) in Pakistan

Issue Date: February 16, 2024

WARNING: Prospective Offerors who have received this document from a source other than the Pakistan Regional Economic Integration Activity (PREIA), Third Floor, 56-G, Beverly Center, Blue Area, Islamabad, Capital territory 44000, Pakistan PREIAprocurement@DAI.com, should immediately contact PREIAprocurement@DAI.com and provide their name and mailing address in order that amendments to the RFP or other communications can be sent directly to them. Any prospective Offeror who fails to register their interest assumes complete responsibility in the event that they do not receive communications prior to the closing date. Any amendments to this solicitation will be issued and shared only through PREIAprocurement@DAI.com.

Disclaimer: Issuance of this RFP in no way obligates DAI PREIA to award a purchase order and offerors will not be reimbursed for any costs associated with the preparation and submission of their proposals. DAI PREIA reserve the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.

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1. Synopsis of the RFP

RFP No.	REQ-PRE-24-0004
Issue Date	February 16, 2024
Title	Technical Assistance on Environmental Footprint Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) for the Textiles Sector (Denim, Home Textiles, Towels and Apparel/Garments (Knitted/Woven) and Socks) in Pakistan
Issuing Office & Point of Contact	Procurement Department, Assistant Manager Procurement
Deadline for Receipt of Questions	<p>Questions (regarding SOW or RFP) due by (01:00 PM Pakistan Standard Time) February 23, 2024, (if any)</p> <p>Each Offeror is responsible for reading very carefully and understanding fully the terms and conditions of this RFP. All communications regarding this solicitation are to be made solely through the Issuing Office and must be submitted no later than the date specified. All questions received will be compiled and answered in writing and distributed to all interested Offerors.</p>
Email Address for Submission of Questions	PREIAProcurement@dai.com
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals	Separately files of Technical and Financial Proposals are due by or before close of business (5:00 PM Pakistan Standard Time) on March 08, 2024
Email Address for Submission of Proposals	PREIAProcurementINBOX@dai.com
Anticipated Award Type	DAI anticipates issuing a Firm Fixed Price Sub-Contract . This is only the anticipated type of award and may be changed as a result of negotiations.
Basis for Award	An award will be made based on the Trade Off Method. The award will be issued to the responsible and reasonable offeror who provides the best value to DAI and its client using the criteria listed below

2. Procurement Ethics

- Neither payment nor preference shall be made by either the Offeror, or by any DAI staff, in an attempt to affect the results of the award. DAI treats all reports of possible fraud/abuse very seriously. Acts of fraud or corruption will not be tolerated, and DAI employees and/or subcontractors/grantees/vendors who engage in such activities will face serious consequences. Any such practice constitutes an unethical, illegal, and corrupt practice and either the Offeror or the DAI staff may report violations to the Toll-Free Ethics and Compliance Anonymous Hotline at +1 855-603-6987, via the DAI website, or via email to FPI_hotline@dai.com. "USAID/Pakistan has, in cooperation with the USAID Office of Inspector General, established the Anti-Fraud Hotline to provide an avenue for the reporting of fraud, waste, and abuse which may be associated with USAID funded projects in Pakistan. Complaints are handled with complete confidentiality and individuals are encouraged to report when corruption, fraud, waste or abuse may exist in the USAID/Pakistan projects. Reports can be filed anonymously via

OIG Hotline Portal: Complaints are now received through a new OIG Hotline portal. The website for the portal is: <https://oigportals.ains.com/eCasePortal/>

Mailing Address: The new mailing address for the OIG Hotline is as follows: P.O Box 657, Washington. DC 20044-0657.

DAI ensures anonymity and an unbiased, serious review and treatment of the information provided. Such practice may result in the cancellation of the procurement and disqualification of the Offeror's participation in this, and future, procurements. Violators will be reported to USAID, and as a result, may be reported to the U.S. Department of Justice to be included in a Restricted Parties list, preventing them from participating in future U.S. Government business.

Offerors must provide full, accurate and complete information in response to this solicitation. The penalty for materially false responses is prescribed in Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code. In addition, DAI takes the payment of USAID funds to pay Terrorists, or groups supporting Terrorists, or other parties in exchange for protection very seriously. Should the Terrorist, groups or other parties attempt to extort/demand payment from your organization you are asked to immediately report the incident to DAI's Ethics and Compliance Anonymous Hotline at the contacts described in this clause.

By submitting an offeror, offerors certify that they have not/will not attempt to bribe or make any payments to DAI employees in return for preference, nor have any payments with Terrorists, or groups supporting Terrorists, been attempted.

3. Anti-Corruption and Anti-Bribery Policy and Reporting Responsibilities

DAI conducts business under the strictest ethical standards to assure fairness in competition, reasonable prices and successful performance or delivery of quality goods and equipment. **DAI does not tolerate the following acts of corruption:**

- Any requests for a bribe, kickback, facilitation payment or gratuity in the form of payment, gift or special consideration by a DAI employee, Government official, or their representatives, to influence an award or approval decision.
- Any offer of a bribe, kickback, facilitation payment or gratuity in the form of payment, gift or special consideration by an offeror or subcontractor to influence an award or approval decision.
- Any fraud, such as mis-stating or withholding information to benefit the offeror or subcontractor.
- Any collusion or conflicts of interest in which a DAI employee, consultant, or representative has a business or personal relationship with a principal or owner of the offeror or subcontractor that may appear to unfairly favor the offeror or subcontractor. Subcontractors must also avoid collusion or

conflicts of interest in their procurements from vendors. Any such relationship must be disclosed immediately to DAI management for review and appropriate action, including possible exclusion from award.

These acts of corruption are not tolerated and may result in serious consequences, including termination of the award and possible suspension and debarment by the U.S. Government, excluding the offeror or subcontractor from participating in future U.S. Government business.

Any attempted or actual corruption should be reported immediately by either the offeror, subcontractor or DAI staff to:

- Toll-free Ethics and Compliance Anonymous Hotline at (U.S.) +1-503-597-4328
- Hotline website – www.DAI.ethicspoint.com, or
- Email to Ethics@DAI.com
- USAID’s Office of the Inspector General Hotline at hotline@usaid.gov.

By signing this proposal, the offeror confirms adherence to this standard and ensures that no attempts shall be made to influence DAI or Government staff through bribes, gratuities, facilitation payments, kickbacks or fraud. The offeror also acknowledges that violation of this policy may result in termination, repayment of funds disallowed by the corrupt actions and possible suspension and debarment by the U.S. Government.

4. Purpose

DAI, the implementer of the USAID’s Pakistan Regional Economic Integration Activity (PREIA), invites qualified offerors to submit proposals for Technical Assistance on Environmental Footprint Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) for the Textiles Sector (Denim, Home Textiles, Towels and Apparel/Garments (Knitted/Woven) and Socks) in Pakistan.

5. General Information and Instructions to Offerors

5.1 Issuing Office

The Issuing Office and Contact Person noted in the above synopsis is the sole point of contact at DAI for purposes of this RFP. Any prospective offeror who fails to register their interest with this office assumes complete responsibility in the event that they do not receive direct communications (amendments, answers to questions, etc.) prior to the closing date.

5.2 Type of Award Anticipated

DAI anticipates awarding a **Firm Fixed Price Sub-Contract**. This subcontract type is subject to change during the course of negotiations.

5.3 Instructions

- “Offeror”, “Subcontractor”, and/or “Bidder” means a firm proposing the work under this RFP. “Offer” and/or “Proposal” means the package of documents the firm submits to propose the work.
- Offerors wishing to respond to this RFP must submit proposals, in English, in accordance with the following instructions. Offerors are required to review all instructions and specifications contained in this RFP. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror’s risk. If the solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions not modified in the amendment shall remain unchanged.
- Proposals are due no later than **March 08, 2024** (5:00 PM Pakistan Standard Time) to be submitted on PREIAProcurementINBOX@dai.com. Late offers may only be accepted under extraordinary circumstances at PREIA’s discretion.
- The submission to DAI of a proposal in response to this RFP will constitute an offer and indicates the Offeror’s agreement to the terms and conditions in this RFP and any attachments hereto. DAI reserves the right not to evaluate a non-responsive or incomplete proposal.

- Offers must show unit prices, extensions, and total price. Proposal must be a fixed price, expressed in US Dollars or Pak Rupee.
- Offerors are asked to specify the available resources and the total number of calendar days it will take to complete the assignment.
- Bidders must provide fixed prices, inclusive of all applicable tax. Tax at source will be deducted from all payments as per government rules, unless a valid exemption certificate is provided by the supplier.
- Small/ medium size business, minorities owned firms, women led business and those owned by other disadvantaged groups will be given preference, in any such case additional documentation must be provided along with Proposal.
- Only those bids will be considered which are prepared in legible writing and are absolutely clear and unambiguous. Any unavoidable cutting/over-writing must be signed and stamped by authorized signatory of the bidders
- Submission of Proposal against this RFP would automatically mean that supplier agrees to all the terms and conditions mentioned in this RFP.
- Arithmetical errors will be rectified on the following basis:
 - If there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total price that is obtained by multiplying the unit price and quantity, the unit price shall prevail, and the total price shall be corrected.
 - If there is a discrepancy between words and figures the amount in words shall prevail.
 - If the Offeror does not accept the correction of errors, its Proposal will be rejected.
 - A cover letter shall be included with the proposal on the Offeror's company letterhead with a duly authorized signature and company stamp/seal using Attachment B as a template for the format. The cover letter shall include the following items:
- The Offeror will certify a minimum validity period of 90 days for the prices provided.
- Acknowledge the solicitation amendments received.

6. Questions regarding the RFP

Each Offeror is responsible for reading and complying with the terms and conditions of this RFP. Requests for clarification or additional information must be submitted in writing via email or in writing to the Issuing Office as specified in the Synopsis above. No questions will be answered by phone. Any verbal information received from a DAI or PREIA employee or other entity shall not be considered as an official response to any question regarding this RFP.

Copies of questions and responses will be distributed in writing to all prospective bidders who are on record as having received this RFP after the submission date specified in the Synopsis above.

7. Instructions for the Preparation of Technical Proposals

Technical proposals shall be submitted as a separate file from cost/price proposals and shall be clearly labeled as "VOLUME I: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL".

Technical proposals shall include the following contents

1. Technical Approach — Description of the proposed services which meets or exceeds the stated technical specifications or scope of work in Attachment A. The proposal must show how the Offeror plans to complete the work and describe an approach that demonstrates the achievement of timely and acceptable performance of the work.
2. Management approach – Description of the Offeror's staff assigned to the project. The proposal should describe how the proposed team members have the necessary experience and capabilities to carry out the Technical Approach

3. Past Performance –Provide a list of at least three (3) recent awards of similar scope and duration. The information shall be supplied as a table, and shall include the legal name and address of the organization for which services were performed, a description of work performed, the duration of the work and the value of the contract, description of any problems encountered and how it was resolved, and a current contact phone number of a responsible and knowledgeable representative of the organization. See Attachment F.

7.1 Evaluation Criteria

Technical Proposal shall have 70% of overall weightage. Each Technical proposal will be evaluated and scored against the evaluation criteria stated in the following table.

Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points
Technical Approach	
1. Does the proposal understand and contextualize to the requirements of the project as stated in the Scope of Work?	07
2. Does proposal include description of proposed approach and development tools?	07
3. Did the bidder provide a clear explanation of how each aspect and requirement of the SOW will be met? Is the proposed methodology cogent and creative?	07
4. Does the proposal demonstrate the offeror's technical knowledge related to requirements of the research topic and its related areas?	14
5. Does the offeror clearly demonstrate knowledge and ability to design and conduct research studies in general and on trade in particular?	07
Management Approach	
1. Does the offeror have network of experts and staff who are qualified, experienced and available to complete proposed scope of work?	07
2. Project plan – Does the proposal with detailed activities and timeline fulfill the requirements of executing the Scope of Work effectively and efficiently?	07
3. Does the offeror have demonstrated established procedure/mechanism of Monitoring, Evaluation & Risk management (human resources, data analysis etc) to meet the requirements of SoW?	07
Past Performance	
1. Does the offeror have the profile, experience, human resources, financial capacity and track record (testimonial from clients) in conducting similar work as the scope of work?	07
Financial Proposal	30
Total	100 points

8. Instructions for the Preparation of Cost/Price Proposals

Cost/Price Proposal shall have 30% of overall weightage. Cost/Price proposals shall be submitted as a separate file from technical proposals and shall be clearly labeled as “VOLUME II: COST/PRICE PROPOSAL” provided in Attachment C is a template for the Price Schedule, for firm-fixed price awards. Offerors shall complete the template including as much detailed information as possible.

Where applicable, offerors should include Sales Tax (G/S ST) as separate lines on the invoice (if applicable). PREIA will provide GST and customs exemption slip instead of money for GST and customs amount to the supplier as based on the Strategic Objective Grant Agreement (SOGA) between Islamic Republic of Pakistan and United States of America USAID is exempted of paying GST and customs on all purchases. Basis of Award

9. Basis of Award and Selection Process

9.1 Best Value Determination

DAI will review all proposals, and make an award based on the technical and cost evaluation criteria stated above and select the offeror whose proposal provides the best value to DAI. DAI may also exclude an offer from consideration if it determines that an Offeror is "not responsible", i.e., that it does not have the management and financial capabilities required to perform the work required.

DAI may award to a higher priced offeror if a determination is made that the higher technical evaluation of that offeror merits the additional cost/price.

DAI may award to an Offeror without discussions. Therefore, the initial offer **must contain the Offeror's best terms (price and technical).**

9.2 Responsibility Determination

DAI will not enter into any type of agreement with an Offeror prior to ensuring the Offeror's responsibility. When assessing an Offeror's responsibility, the following factors are taken into consideration:

- I. Provide evidence of the required business licenses to operate in the host country.
- II. Evidence of a UEI (Unique Entity Identification) (explained below and instructions contained in Attachment D).
- III. The source, origin and nationality of the products or services are not from a Prohibited Country (explained below).
- IV. Having adequate financial resources to finance and perform the work or deliver goods or the ability to obtain financial resources without receiving advance funds from DAI.
- V. Ability to comply with required or proposed delivery or performance schedules.
- VI. Have a satisfactory past performance record.
- VII. Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics.
- VIII. Have the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls and technical skills.
- IX. Have the necessary production, construction and technical equipment and facilities if applicable.
- X. Be qualified and eligible to perform work under applicable laws and regulations.

10. Compliance with Terms and Conditions

10.1 General Terms and Conditions

Offerors agree to comply with the general terms and conditions for an award resulting from this RFP. The selected Offeror shall comply with all Representations and Certifications of Compliance listed in Attachment G.

10.2 Prohibited Technology

Bidders **MUST NOT** provide any goods and/or services that utilize telecommunications and video surveillance products from the following companies: Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation,

Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company, or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof, in compliance with FAR 52.204-25.

To comply with the USAID (US Government) interim rule effective immediately on June 2, 2023 regarding the prohibition on the use of covered applications, such as TikTok, in the performance of contracts. The use of TikTok is prohibited on USG-funded devices used by contractors and in educational campaigns, public outreach, advertising or promotional communications on social media.

52.204-27 PROHIBITION ON A BYTEDANCE COVERED APPLICATION.

(a) Definitions. As used in this clause—

Covered application means the social networking service TikTok or any successor application or service developed or provided by ByteDance Limited or an entity owned by ByteDance Limited.

Information technology, as defined in 40 U.S.C. 11101(6)—

(1) Means any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment, used in the automatic acquisition, storage, analysis, evaluation, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information by the executive agency, if the equipment is used by the executive agency directly or is used by a contractor under a contract with the executive agency that requires the use—

(i) Of that equipment; or

(ii) Of that equipment to a significant extent in the performance of a service or the furnishing of a product;

(2) Includes computers, ancillary equipment (including imaging peripherals, input, output, and storage devices necessary for security and surveillance), peripheral equipment designed to be controlled by the central processing unit of a computer, software, firmware and similar procedures, services (including support services), and related resources; but

(3) Does not include any equipment acquired by a Federal contractor incidental to a Federal contract.

(b) Prohibition. Section 102 of Division R of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Pub. L. 117-328), the No TikTok on Government Devices Act, and its implementing guidance under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-23-13, dated February 27, 2023, “No TikTok on Government Devices” Implementation Guidance, collectively prohibit the presence or use of a covered application on executive agency information technology, including certain equipment used by Federal contractors. The Contractor is prohibited from having or using a covered application on any information technology owned or managed by the Government, or on any information technology used or provided by the Contractor under this contract, including equipment provided by the Contractor’s employees; however, this prohibition does not apply if the Contracting Officer provides written notification to the Contractor that an exception has been granted in accordance with OMB Memorandum M-23-13.

(c) Subcontracts. The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (c), in all subcontracts, including subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial products or commercial services.

(End of clause)

10.3 Source and Nationality

Under the authorized geographic code for its contract DAI may only procure goods and services from the following countries.

Geographic Code 937: Goods and services from the United States, the cooperating country, and "Developing Countries" other than "Advanced Developing Countries: excluding prohibited countries. A list of the "Developing Countries" as well as "Advanced Developing Countries" can be found at:

<https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/310maa> and <https://2012-2017.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/310mab> respectively.

DAI must verify the source and nationality of goods and services and ensure (to the fullest extent possible) that DAI does not procure any goods or services from prohibited countries listed by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) as sanctioned countries. OFAC sanctioned countries may be searched within the System for Award Management (SAM) at www.SAM.gov. The current list of countries under comprehensive sanctions include: Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria. Goods may not transit through or be assembled in comprehensive sanctioned origin or nationality countries nor can the vendor be owned or controlled by a prohibited country. DAI is prohibited from facilitating any transaction by a third party if that transaction would be prohibited if performed by DAI.

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, Offerors confirm that they are not violating the Source and Nationality requirements of the goods or services being offered and that the goods and services comply with the Geographic Code and the exclusions for prohibited countries outlined above.

10.1 Unique Entity Identification (UEI) number (if applicable)

There is a **mandatory** requirement for your organization to provide a UEI number to DAI. The Data Universal Numbering System is a system developed and regulated by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) that assigns a unique numeric identifier, referred to as a "UEI number" to a single business entity. Without a UEI number, DAI cannot deem an Offeror "responsible" to conduct business with and therefore, DAI will not enter into a subcontract/purchase order or monetary agreement with any organization. The determination of a successful offeror/applicant resulting from this RFP/RFQ/RFA is contingent upon the winner providing a UEI number to DAI. Offerors who fail to provide a UEI number will not receive an award and DAI will select an alternate Offeror.

All U.S. and foreign organizations which receive first-tier subcontracts/ purchase orders with a value of \$30,000 and above **are required** to obtain a UEI number prior to signing of the agreement. Organizations are exempt from this requirement if the gross income received from all sources in the previous tax year was under \$300,000. DAI requires that Offerors sign the self-certification statement if the Offeror claims exemption for this reason.

For those required to obtain a UEI number, see Attachment D - Instructions for Obtaining a UEI Number - DAI'S Vendors, Subcontractors

For those not required to obtain a UEI number, see Attachment E: Self Certification for Exemption from UEI Requirement

10.2 Vetting Requirements (if applicable)

Pursuant to AIDAR 752.204-71, all recipients of DAI Pakistan awards above \$25,000 must comply with vetting requirements of all key individuals under the given award. No cash or in-kind disbursements will be provided until the recipient organization and all key individual(s) under the organization have passed vetting. The purpose of vetting is to mitigate the risk that USAID funds and other resources do not, even inadvertently provide support or benefit individual or entities that are terrorists, supporters of terrorists or affiliated with terrorists.

11. Attachments

11.1 Attachment A: Scope of Work (SOW)

Technical Assistance on Environmental Footprint Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) for the Textiles Sector (Denim, Home Textiles, Towels and Apparel/Garments (Knitted/Woven) and Socks) in Pakistan Background

BACKGROUND: The USAID-funded Pakistan Regional Economic Integration Activity (PREIA) is a nine-year (2015-2024) Project that provides technical, advisory, and capacity building support to the Government of Pakistan (GoP) and private sector stakeholders with an aim to enhance Pakistan's trade competitiveness and increase its trade volumes. In doing so, the Activity primarily focuses on policy development and reform, customs facilitation, regional integration, and trade/investment promotion to strengthen Pakistan's ability to compete in international markets. Component 2 addresses constraints at Pakistan's borders that adversely affect trade and transit traffic with neighboring countries including by: 1) improving customs facilitation; and 2) promoting regional integration. The landscape for global trade is continuously evolving with innovations in trade technology, digitalization. However, emerging vulnerabilities arising from climate change and other environmental priorities are challenging existing trade frameworks, policies, and patterns. There is a growing realization that implementation of environmental standards in international trade is now an important matter and organizations are more cognizant of their impact on climate change and natural resources. This has resulted in a growing number of initiatives to green supply chains, including those related to textiles and apparels as these represent almost 10% of the world's annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.¹ As the world ramps up the implementation of such initiatives, they are beginning to affect the competitiveness of the textile and apparel sectors in Pakistan.

INTRODUCTION: Estimates suggest that the production, use and disposal of textiles and apparels are responsible for approximately 20% of the world's water pollution and over a billion tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent emissions or nearly 10% of annual GHG emissions. In addition, the sector is a major and growing contributor to landfill waste, due to the unprecedented growth in fast fashion and, hence, the increasing production of textiles and apparels that are made from inexpensive, non-durable, and non-sustainable materials and practices. Approximately 70% of the apparel industry's GHG emissions are generated during the production, fiber processing and manufacturing processes.

In response to growing consumer and regulatory pressures to address GHG emissions, international apparel and retail brands are committing to aggressive GHG reduction targets. More than 140 global apparel sector brands have joined the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) which encourages companies to set GHG reduction targets in alignment with the Paris Agreement; i.e., limiting global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C.² A large portion of the Global fashion sector has also signed the UN fashion Industry Charter for Climate Change which requires brands to disclose climate-related data to the Carbon Disclosure Project and set science-based targets – using SBTi's Sector-guidance for apparel and footwear – which means they commit to halving emissions by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions no later than 2050. Key indicators which brands must report against include:

Basic requirement: CDP participation and GHG emissions reporting

Emissions reductions: GHG targets

Green transition: Renewable energy targets

Renewable Energy: Consumption and sourcing

¹ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2018).

² To limit warming to 1.5°C, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) asserts that global GHG emissions must be cut by 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030 and reach net zero emissions around 2050.

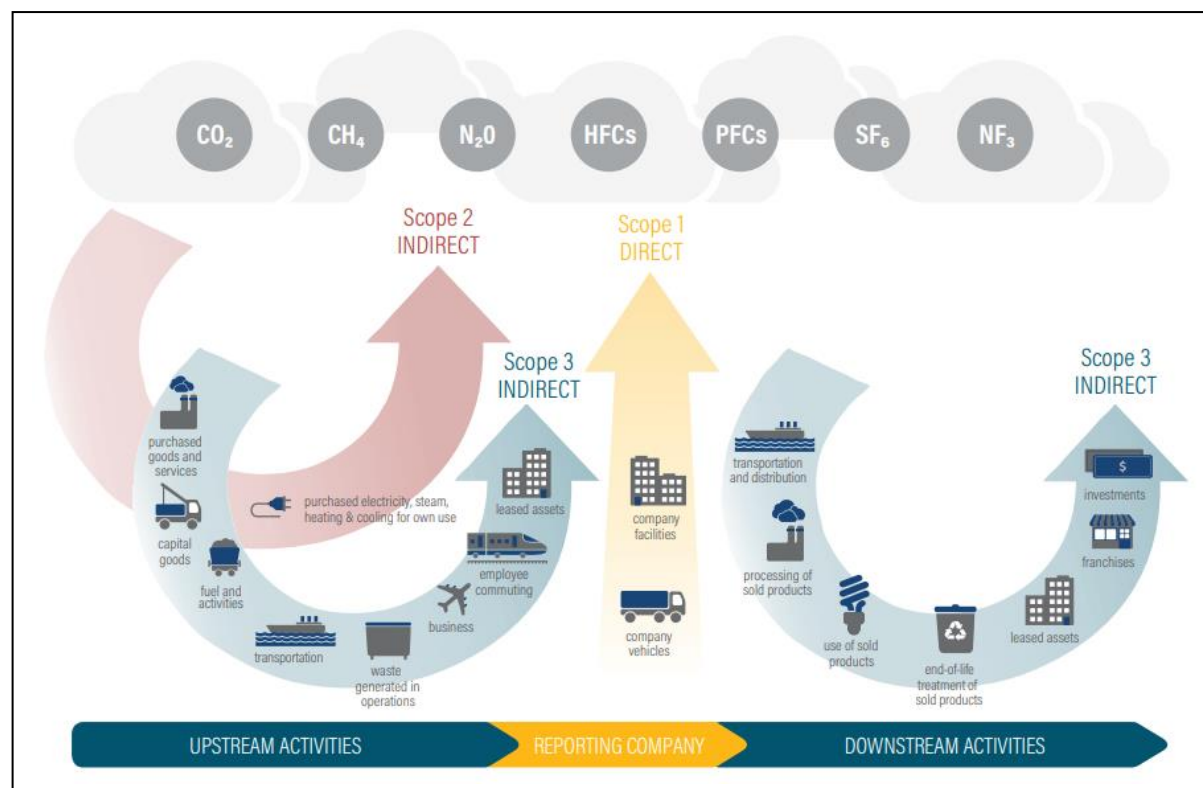
Supply chain and public policy engagement

Climate governance

Global fashion brands are also investing on their own, and sector wide funds such as Fashion for Good Fund have been established to accelerate transitioning of decarbonization of the fashion industry's supply chains.

Between 2015 – 2022, the international textile industry and the fashion and apparel sector, resolved to play their due role in attaining a sustainable, regenerative future. What followed was the formation of several global alliances (Fashion for Good, Jeans Redesign, Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action, Science Based Targets Initiative, etc.) that would represent an industry-wide commitment to promote a circular economy and issue broad guidelines on how the industry can reduce its carbon footprint over time. Many global brands began developing strategic plans for climate action, with an eventual goal of attaining net-zero GHG emissions across company operations. The commitments made by brands were specific, time-bound, and included reductions in Scopes 1 and 2 emissions as well as Scope 3 or indirect emissions that occur along the textile value chain (see Figure 1). This means that all manufacturing partners and suppliers associated with the brand are increasingly asked to incorporate environmentally responsible practices within their operations in alignment with the brand's vision.

Figure 1. Overview of Scopes and GHG Emissions Across a Value Chain³



While the primary driver of corporate action amongst the apparel and textile exporters of Pakistan has been the need to comply with their global customer's aspirations for sustainability, upcoming regulations being introduced by key export markets are adding further impetus on exporters to address circularity and account for GHG emissions. Pakistan's major export market, the European Union, accounts for more than 30% of Pakistan's total export, of which 76% are textiles.⁴ Under the European Green Deal,⁵ EU presented in March

³ WRI and WBCSD (2004).

⁴ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/pakistan_en

2022 its strategy for sustainable textile which will require textiles in EU markets, by 2030, to be long-lived, recyclable, made with recycled content, and with traceable GHG impact. Other regulations such as the EU Climate Law,⁶ EU Circular Economy Action Plan,⁷ EU Industrial Strategy,⁸ EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles,⁹ and Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) Regulations are only some examples that have made it mandatory for Pakistani firms to begin decarbonizing their supply chains and ensuring transparent reporting of GHG and environmental indicators along the value chain.

In addition, the European Commission is preparing the Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCRs) for the category of Apparel and Footwear, covering 13 sub-categories of products (T-shirts; shirts and blouses; sweaters and mid-layers; jackets and coats; pants and shorts; dresses, skirts, and jumpsuits; leggings, stockings, tights, and socks; underwear; swimwear; apparel accessories; open-toed shoes; closed-toes shoes; boots). PEFCRs are in line with the standardized Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) methodology¹⁰ and provide further guidelines for environmental assessment within specific product groups. The goal of the PEFCRs is to enable unambiguous and fair comparisons of products within the same category. The apparel and footwear PEFCRs are currently in the testing phase and their official adoption is expected in 2024. A draft version is already publicly available.¹¹

The US and EU are major markets for Pakistani products (55% of the country's total exports are destined for these two regions alone). The textile sector, which accounted for over 60.8% (\$15.39 of \$25.3 billion) of total export revenues generated by Pakistan in 2021,¹² is heavily reliant on the EU and US markets to sustain and grow Pakistan's economy. As per estimates, Pakistan holds 5% of the EU's \$100 billion import market for textiles and clothing and has consistently ranked among the top 10 suppliers for the product category worldwide. Given that the global market for textiles is transitioning towards green production, it has become imperative for Pakistani suppliers to adjust to this new trend. They must do so while navigating multiple reporting requirements from different brands for a mix of corporate and product carbon footprints, responding to concerns about greenwashing in commonly used sustainability certifications for the textile sector,¹³ staying on top of new innovations in traceability, and addressing supply chain data gaps.

The Textile / Apparel industry of Pakistan - at least to the extent of the country's top 15 exporters – has been quick to respond to the shift towards sustainability, and have invested in people, technology, and processes to green their facilities. Most, if not all, large-scale, vertically integrated textile manufacturers have started to redesign and augment their operations over the past 5 years to reduce the environmental impact of production units. To do so, firms have aligned themselves to international best practices and are not only

⁵ The European Green Deal is a package of policy initiatives, which aims to set the EU on the path to a green transition, with the goal of reaching climate neutrality by 2050.

⁶ The European Climate Law sets into legislation the EU Green Deal targets to reduce net GHG emissions by at least 55% by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels) and achieve climate-neutrality by 2050.

⁷ The EU circular economy action plan includes over 30 action points on design of sustainable products, circularity in production processes and empowering consumers and public buyers. It targets sectors such as electronics and ICT, batteries, packaging, plastics, textiles, construction and buildings, and food.

⁸ Adopted in 2020, the EU Industrial Strategy leads twin transitions towards climate neutrality and digital leadership, and outlines measures for three drivers for industrial transformation: global competition, climate neutrality, and a digital future.

⁹ The EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles addresses the way textiles are designed and consumed, introducing new design requirements for textiles under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation, setting mandatory minimums for the inclusion of recycled fibers in textiles, and calling for clearer information on textiles through Digital Product Passports that meet EU information requirements on circularity and other environmental aspects. The strategy harmonizes EU rules on extended producer responsibility and offers economic incentives to make products more sustainable.

¹⁰ ISO 14040:2006/Amd 1:2020; The International Standards Organization Environmental Management—Life Cycle Assessment—Principles and Framework—Amendment 1. ISO: Geneva, Switzerland (2020); and ISO 14044:2006/Amd 2:2020; The International Standards Organization Environmental Management—Life Cycle Assessment—Requirements and Guidelines. ISO: Geneva, Switzerland (2020).

¹¹ Quantis. *Draft Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules; Apparel and Footwear*: Zürich, Switzerland (2021).

¹² https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/external_trade/annual_analytical_report_on_external_trade_statistics_of_pakistan_2020-21.pdf

¹³ <https://qz.com/2180322/the-controversial-higg-sustainability-index-is-being-suspended>

aware of globally recognized benchmarks such as Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), Higg Index, and Global Recycling Standard (GRS) but are also signing up to SBTi.

Despite this progress, Pakistan's exporters and manufacturers are faced with several challenges that hamper their ability to consolidate their investments towards carbon neutral or Net Zero pathways either as a company, or as a sector. These include:

Lack of standardization of requirements from global brands: The apparel / textile manufacturers supply to multiple brands, each with their own compliance rule book. While some initiatives and practices overlap the compliance needs set by the customers, many require duplication of efforts in terms of monitoring and reporting.

Net Zero Pathway Commitment: While most of the large Pakistani apparel exporters have submitted their intent to commit to Science Based Targets towards Net Zero, only some have submitted their commitments and shown progress in terms of formal reporting. It appears from PREIA's discussions with exporters that most of the global brands are requiring suppliers to undertake discrete investments or actions towards environmental sustainability; however, they do not yet require the suppliers to account for GHG emissions across their value chain. This means that there is little transparent accounting of how the various environment-focused initiatives impact overall GHG emissions of individual companies. For example, treating effluent water is a requirement of all global brands that apparel / textile exporter must meet, but the need for the effluent treatment plant to be operated on renewable energy source is not. As market regulations, such as those of EU, require GHG traceability, companies may need to re-assess their investments from the perspective of the overall impact of investments on their GHG emission contribution.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Data collection and reporting are difficult tasks – particularly for the calculation of GHG and Scope 3 emissions – and firms mostly rely on broad industry guidelines (SBTi, Higgs Index, etc.) to conduct self-led assessments to evaluate progress against environmental compliance. However, some of these standards – such as Higgs – have been faulted for biased results and lack of transparency. Furthermore, discussions with the teams overseeing sustainability initiatives indicate a need for the development of capacity amongst sustainability professionals within these companies to measure Scope 3 emissions and other environmental impacts. Until a time that the global community can develop and agree on a standardized, verifiable, and scientifically proven system for monitoring firm-level interventions along with an adequate provision of activity data, industry baselines, and capacity building initiatives, the private sector will continue to grapple with the challenges of finding their own path towards greener practices. In Pakistan, firms are also struggling to access basic data sets on country-wide industrial emissions, which form the basis of scope 2 and 3 interventions.

PREIA is looking to strengthen the capacity of export-oriented textile / apparel firms to conduct product lifecycle assessments in key subsectors using internationally recognized methods/standards. PREIA will do this by working with partner firms to share information on product LCA approaches for GHG emissions and other environmental impacts (i.e., wastewater, waste generation, energy and water use, plastic pollution, air pollution), conduct pilot LCAs, and provide technical assistance to Pakistani firms on reliable data sources for conducting product LCAs.

11.1.1 Objectives and Scope

PREIA seeks an expert company/firm to advise denim, apparels/garments (knitted/woven), home textiles, towels and socks firms on preparing environmental footprint LCAs for products in Pakistan's textile and apparel sectors, including supporting companies to conduct pilot LCAs for their products.

11.1.2 Tasks (Performance Requirements)

The company/firm is expected to perform the following tasks:

1. Conduct consultations with export-oriented companies and associations in Pakistan's textile / apparel sectors to identify companies that are interested in piloting LCAs for products in key subsectors such as:

- a. Denim,
- b. Towels
- c. Home Textiles
- d. Apparel/Garments (knitted/woven)
- e. Socks.

Identify 5 products in each of these subsectors for LCA pilots. The pilots will focus on GHG emissions and other environmental impacts such as water and energy consumption, chemical use, wastewater discharge, waste generation, and oceans plastic and air pollution.

2. Recommend 2-3 standards/tools for conducting LCAs in the denim, apparel/garments (knitted/woven), home textiles, towels, and socks, with a preference for those that align with the International Organization for Standardization (14040:2006, Life Cycle Assessment: Principles and Framework, and 14044:2006, Life Cycle Assessment: Requirements and Guidelines), particularly those commonly used in the USA and EU markets and brands.
3. Design the overall framework for the selected textile/apparel companies with the completion of 5 pilot LCAs in each sub sector, including data collection and/or identification of defaults from international datasets. The LCAs should apply a cradle-to-gate approach and at least 2 different LCA standards/tools to compare results.
4. Prepare a draft and final report summarizing the approach used and lessons learned. The report shall include the selected pilot LCAs in the appendices, however, these should be based on actual data (generic data to be used only to avoid disclosing confidential information from participating companies). Non-disclosure agreements to be signed with the selected companies before initiating the LCAs.
5. Develop and deliver a 2-day training for denim, apparels/garments (knitted/woven), home textiles, towels and socks stakeholders in major industrial cities of Pakistan (to be decided in consultation with PREIA team) on how to conduct a product LCA in the denim, apparels/garments (knitted/woven), home textiles, towels and socks. The training must include best practices in LCA and recommendations for how to address data gaps.

11.1.3 Required Deliverables, Estimated Completion Time and Payment Schedule

The company/firm will be responsible for delivering the following:

1. Submit a final workplan for the project **(05% Payment)**
2. Propose at least 10 companies in each subsector, i.e., denim, apparel/garments (knitted/woven), home textiles, towels, and socks, for final selection by the PREIA team for conducting the LCAs. At least four proposed companies should be SME in each subsector. Also submit a non-disclosure agreement to be signed between your company and participating businesses. USAID, DAI, and PREIA will not be parties to the NDA. **(10% Payment)**
3. Develop non-proprietary excel tools tailored for each product category (denim, apparel/garments, home textiles, towels, and socks) to facilitate comprehensive LCAs. Also draft and final report recommending 2-3 standards / tools for conducting environmental footprint LCAs in the denim, apparels/garments (knitted/woven), home textiles, towels, and socks and 5 proposed products for the pilot LCAs. **(20% Payment)**
4. Conduct and complete LCAs as agreed with PREIA team. Also summarize the results and lessons learned from the pilot LCAs. Report should contain the LCAs for each subsector. **(40% Payment)**

5. Draft and final training program on how to conduct environmental footprint LCAs for products in the denim, apparels/garments (knitted/woven), home textiles, towels and socks. **(10% Payment)**
6. Conduct a 2-day training on product LCAs for export stakeholders in major industrial cities (Karachi, Lahore, Faisalabad, and Sialkot) of Pakistan. This training should also include capacity building on using the excel tools developed for calculating the LCAs for the sectors defined above. **(15% Payment)**

The deliverables are expected to be completed by May 2024, to the satisfaction of the Peer Review Team of USAID PREIA. The contract term is expected to be complete by May 2024.

11.1.4 Qualification and Experience

The ideal candidate for the Consultancy Services (Firm) role should possess the following qualifications:

1. Minimum of 5 ~ 7 years of relevant professional experience in conducting environmental footprint LCAs using internationally recognized standards.
2. Demonstrable track record of designing spreadsheet tools for LCAs assessments.
3. Knowledge of internationally recognized LCA standards and protocols including methods for conducting the LCAs.
4. Experience working with international brands and companies in the textile / apparel sectors.
5. Experience working with complex, multi-system environments in the public and private sectors, preferably in the fields of climate change mitigation/environment/sustainability.
6. Expertise in GHG emissions accounting for private sector.
7. Experience delivering trainings in diverse settings.
8. Ability to work in Pakistan.

11.1.5 Base of Operations:

Pakistan, including travel to major industrial cities in Pakistan.

11.1.6 Reporting:

The company/firm will report to the Regional Trade Promotion Advisor, USAID PREIA.

11.1.7 Payment Schedule

Please refer 11.1.3 above for details.

(Please use attachment 11.2 template)

Attachment B: Proposal Cover Letter

[On Firm's Letterhead]

<Insert date>

TO: Click here to enter text.
Development Alternatives, Inc.

We, the undersigned, provide the attached proposal in accordance with **RFP**-Click here to enter text.-Click here to enter text. issued on Click here to enter text.. Our attached proposal is for the total price of <Sum in Words (\$0.00 Sum in Figures) >.

I certify a validity period of Click here to enter text. days for the prices provided in the attached Price Schedule/Bill of Quantities. Our proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from any discussions.

Offeror shall verify here the items specified in this RFP document.

We understand that DAI is not bound to accept any proposal it receives.

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:

Name and Title of Signatory: Click here to enter text.

Name of Firm: Click here to enter text.

Address: Click here to enter text.

Telephone: Click here to enter text.

Email: Click here to enter text.

Company Seal/Stamp:

11.2 Attachment C: Price Schedule

Item Number	Deliverable Title	Description/Specifications	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
1a					
1b					
1c					
2	Click here to enter text.				
3	GST (if applicable)				
GRAND TOTAL IN Click here to enter text.					
GRAND TOTAL IN US DOLLARS (USD)					

Delivery Period: Click here to enter text.

11.3 Attachment D: Instructions for Obtaining a UEI Number

For DAI'S Vendors, Subcontractors

Note: There is a Mandatory Requirement for your Organization to Provide a UEI number to DAI

I. SUBCONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS: All domestic and foreign organizations which receive first-tier subcontracts/ purchase orders with a value of \$30,000 and above are required to obtain a UEI number prior to signing of the agreement. *Your organization is exempt from this requirement if the gross income received from all sources in the previous tax year was under \$300,000. Please see the self-certification form attached.*

II. MONETARY GRANTS: All foreign entities receiving first-tier monetary grants (standard, simplified and FOGs) with a value equal to or over \$25,000 and performing work outside the U.S. must obtain a UEI number prior to signing of the grant. All U.S. organizations who are recipients of first-tier monetary grants of any value are required to obtain a UEI number; the exemption for under \$25,000 applies to foreign organizations only.

NO SUBCONTRACTS/POs (\$30,000 + above) or MONETARY GRANTS WILL BE SIGNED BY DAI WITHOUT PRIOR RECEIPT OF A UEI NUMBER.

Note: The determination of a successful offeror/applicant resulting from this RFP/RFQ/RFA is contingent upon the winner providing a UEI number to DAI. Organizations who fail to provide a UEI number will not receive an award and DAI will select an alternate vendor/subcontractor/grantee.

Background:

Summary of Current U.S. Government Requirements- UEI

On April 4, 2022, the US Government has transitioned away from using the DUNS number as a unique identifier for organizations and will instead begin using a Unique Entity ID (SAM) generated in SAM.gov. This transition does not change the thresholds/requirements for when to obtain a unique identifier, rather the source for obtaining one.

This transition means that DAI will need to begin collecting UEI (SAM) from grantees and subcontractors that meet the specified thresholds and update our records with these new UEI (SAM). This is a mandatory requirement for any future payments or awards.

Getting a UEI (SAM) is easy and FREE to all organizations. Follow the steps in the attached documents and review [this video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Hqs_L0B5kI) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Hqs_L0B5kI) from the US Government for more information about how to get a UEI (SAM). Any future US Government procurements or grants that exceed the thresholds will require organizations to have a UEI (SAM). By getting a UEI (SAM) now, you will also save your organization time in the future.

11.4 Attachment E: Self Certification for Exemption from UEI Requirement

**Self-Certification for Exemption from UEI Requirement
For Subcontractors and Vendors**

Legal Business Name:

Physical Address:

Physical City:

Physical Foreign Province (if applicable):

Physical Country:

Signature of Certifier

Full Name of Certifier

Title of Certifier:

Date of Certification (mm/dd/yyyy):

The sub-contractor/vendor whose legal business name is provided herein, certifies that we are an organization exempt from obtaining a UEI number, as the gross income received from all sources in the previous tax year is under USD \$300,000.

*By submitting this certification, the certifier attests to the accuracy of the representations and certifications contained herein. The certifier understands that s/he and/or the sub-contractor/vendor may be subject to penalties, if s/he misrepresents the sub-contractor/vendor in any of the representations or certifications to the Prime Contractor and/or the US Government.

The sub-contractor/vendor agrees to allow the Prime Contractor and/or the US Government to verify the company name, physical address, or other information provided herein. Certification validity is for one year from the date of certification.

11.5 Attachment F: Past Performance Form

Include projects that best illustrate your work experience relevant to this RFP, sorted by decreasing order of completion date.

Projects should have been undertaken in the past three years. Projects undertaken in the past six years may be taken into consideration at the discretion of the evaluation committee.

#	Project Title	Description of Activities	Location Province/ District	Client Name/Tel No	Cost in US\$	Start-End Dates	Completed on schedule (Yes/No)	Completion Letter Received? (Yes/No)	Type of Agreement, Subcontract, Grant, PO (fixed price, cost reimbursable)
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									

11.6 Attachment G: Representations and Certifications of Compliance

1. Federal Excluded Parties List - The Bidder Select is not presently debarred, suspended, or determined ineligible for an award of a contract by any Federal agency.
2. Executive Compensation Certification- FAR 52.204-10 requires DAI, as prime contractor of U.S. federal government contracts, to report compensation levels of the five most highly compensated subcontractor executives to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Sub-Award Report System (FSRS)
3. Executive Order on Terrorism Financing- The Contractor is reminded that U.S. Executive Orders and U.S. law prohibits transactions with, and the provision of resources and support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. It is the legal responsibility of the Contractor/Recipient to ensure compliance with these Executive Orders and laws. Recipients may not engage with, or provide resources or support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. No support or resources may be provided to individuals or entities that appear on the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked persons List maintained by the US Treasury (online at www.SAM.gov) or the United Nations Security Designation List (online at: http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml). This provision must be included in all subcontracts/sub awards issued under this Contract.
4. Trafficking of Persons – The Contractor may not traffic in persons (as defined in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking of persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime), procure commercial sex, and use forced labor during the period of this award.
5. Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payment to Influence Certain Federal Transactions – The Bidder certifies that it currently is and will remain in compliance with FAR 52.203-11, Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payment to Influence Certain Federal Transactions.
6. Organizational Conflict of Interest – The Bidder certifies that will comply FAR Part 9.5, Organizational Conflict of Interest. The Bidder certifies that is not aware of any information bearing on the existence of any potential organizational conflict of interest. The Bidder further certifies that if the Bidder becomes aware of information bearing on whether a potential conflict may exist, that Bidder shall immediately provide DAI with a disclosure statement describing this information.
7. Prohibition of Segregated Facilities - The Bidder certifies that it is compliant with FAR 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities.
8. Equal Opportunity – The Bidder certifies that it does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, sex, religion, handicap, race, creed, color or national origin.
9. Labor Laws – The Bidder certifies that it is in compliance with all labor laws.
10. Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) – The Bidder certifies that it is familiar with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and is in not in violation of any certifications required in the applicable clauses of the FAR, including but not limited to certifications regarding lobbying, kickbacks, equal employment opportunity, affirmation action, and payments to influence Federal transactions.
11. Employee Compliance – The Bidder warrants that it will require all employees, entities and individuals providing services in connection with the performance of an DAI Purchase Order to comply with the provisions of the resulting Purchase Order and with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations in connection with the work associated therein.

By submitting a proposal, offerors agree to fully comply with the terms and conditions above and all applicable U.S. federal government clauses included herein, and will be asked to sign these Representations and Certifications upon award.

11.7 Attachment J: Proposal Checklist

Offeror: _____

Have you?

☐ Submitted your proposal to DAI in a sealed envelope to the address (electronic or mailing) as specified in General Instructions above?

Does your proposal include the following?

- ☐ Signed Cover Letter (*use template in Attachment B*)
- ☐ Separate Technical and Cost proposals individually labeled as Volume I and Volume II respectfully.
- ☐ CVs of proposed key staff who would be assigned to the project
- ☐ Proposal of the Product or Service that meets the technical requirements as per Attachment A
- ☐ Response to each of the evaluation criteria
- ☐ Documents use to determine Responsibility
- ☐ Evidence of a UEI Number OR Self Certification for Exemption from UEI Requirement
- ☐ Past Performance (*use template in Attachment F*)