



United Nations Population Fund
UN House, Pulchowk
Lalitpur, Nepal
Email: nepal.office@unfpa.org
Website: nepal.unfpa.org

**Queries submitted by prospective bidders on RFP No.: UNFPA/NPL/RFP/24/001
“Provision of services for the project unlocking data with AI : making data accessible to
Kathmandu, Nepal.”**

Question: As stated in the TOR, ‘UNFPA will enlist the professional services of a competent national service provider specializing in AI technologies for the project’, please confirm if you would be open to assess an International or a global company with no presence in Nepal. Or is it just open for a National company or company having local presence in Nepal.

Answer: *As per clause 2.1 “This Bidding process is open to all legally-constituted companies that can provide the requested services and have legal capacity to perform in the country, or through an authorized representative.”*

Question: Would the AI system need to be open access to the public, or could it be accessible only to trusted/internal users with a login?

Answer: *Ideally open to public, but accessibility will be informed by multitude of factors including cost, infrastructure, and data policies. For now, the pilot system is envisaged to be a closed platform.*

Question: What is an acceptable failure rate for the AI system? (A failure being considered the system failing to produce an answer at all for a question it should have data for, or producing an incorrect answer?)

Answer: *This threshold is something the bidders are encouraged to propose. This is also something that will be decided by the project steering committee that will be comprised of UNFPA, government officials and representatives from CSO and academia.*

Question: Is it acceptable for the AI system to rely on a paid third-party service (e.g. query calls to OpenAI's GPT4 API)? If so, how would the on-going costs of those API calls be paid for past the 6-month maintenance window?

Answer: *Yes, it is acceptable. The budget should include the cost of API calls during the maintenance window considering minimum tokens that might be used per day/month. The bidders are encouraged to propose ways to control use of tokens so that the cost does not venture too high.*

Question: Consortium Bid: Is there a scope for a consortium of two firms submitting a bid without establishing a joint venture as a legal entity?

Answer: *Since there is significant risk associated with such partnerships, we highly discourage this.*

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Question: Authorized Representative: Can a firm registered in Singapore or India with full-time staff in Nepal bid for this project? If so, can payments be made to the entity registered outside Nepal?

Answer: *Please refer clause 2.1 of bid document. Payment can be made outside Nepal.*

Question: Project Experience: Can we provide relevant project examples where team members participated, even if not under the primary bidding entity's name?

Answer: *Yes*

Question: Prior Experience: Has UNFPA undertaken similar projects using AI for data analysis in Nepal? Understanding your experience with such deployments would be helpful.

Answer: *UNFPA HQ is implementing AI projects in partnership with google that use natural language processing and text to SQL to modernize enterprise data collation and dissemination. For UNFPA Nepal, this is a first AI project. However, UNFPA Nepal and HQ will work closely in the project sharing expertise and experience.*

Question: Data Quality Challenges: Real-world data often requires significant cleaning and pre-processing. How would UNFPA approach potential data quality issues that might impact the project timeline and costs?

Answer: *NDHS datasets are cleaned and labelled before public release. So there should be no issue about the quality of data.*

Question: Proof of Concept (POC): Would UNFPA consider a standardized reporting format for a Proof of Concept (POC) to demonstrate the system's capabilities before full-scale development?

Answer: *That should be fine*

Question: Format Compatibility: What specific data formats should the system handle beyond the NDHS 2022 Dataset (e.g., CSV, JSON)?

Answer: *NDHS release their data in the formats. dta (stata dataset), .sav (SPSS dataset), .dat (Flat ASCII dataset) and. sas7bdat (SAS dataset). However, the system can use other apt data formats as well via conversion.*

Question: Longitudinal Analysis: Does merging datasets from previous years require specific functionalities (e.g., harmonization techniques)?

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Answer: Merging datasets from previous years should not be a big issue. NDHS has been following same protocol for field names, labels and how the dataset is structured.

Question: Validation Methods: What are the preferred validation methods for the AI models (e.g., accuracy metrics, human evaluation)?

Answer: The bidders are encouraged to propose robust validation methods. But we expect the system to be able to reproduce statistics and narratives from the released NDHS 2022 report. Human evaluation will also be part of the process mainly via members of steering committee as well participants from validation workshops.

Question: Model Explainability: Should the system provide explanations for its outputs beyond just statistical results?

Answer: Yes, it should be able provide interpretation of the outputs. It also needs to show the codes/syntax in python, R or any other programming language used to generate the output.

Question: Do we have any existing body of work for reference? Is there a specific body of literature or resources UNFPA recommends we use for the "comparison with existing literature" module?

Answer: What we mean here is that the system should be able to search the internet for similar statistics and compare it with the outputs from the system. It would be good to upload few documents into the system for the AI to refer to. We do have multiple documents with statistics that could be uploaded for the AI to compare the outputs.

Question: GCP Services: Are there any specific GCP service recommendations beyond hosting and deployment?

Answer: GCP service also includes AI models that can be used for the system, the ability to tweak the models. The platform also has the capability to index datasets, documents and websites that can be used to optimize the system.

Question: Security Measures: Can you elaborate on the specific security measures expected for user privacy and data protection (e.g., encryption standards, access control mechanisms)?

Answer: The bidders are encouraged to propose security mechanism for the project. Since the NDHS data is publicly available anonymized data the impact of breach is not high. However, since there might be cost associated with accessing the system and using up the tokens on access control mechanism could be beneficial.

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Question: Server or Cloud-Based Model? While the document mentions hosting the system on UNFPA's server initially, can you clarify if the final deployment model is envisioned to be cloud-based (e.g., Google Cloud Platform)? If so, are there any associated costs for cloud infrastructure (storage, compute) beyond initial hosting?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose the type of model. The bidders are expected to do their own research about associated costs related to the proposed system.*

Question: Infrastructure Costing: While the technical documents don't explicitly mention infrastructure costing, can you clarify UNFPA's approach to covering infrastructure costs associated with the project (e.g., cloud storage, compute resources)?

Answer: *The bidders are expected to do their own research about associated costs related to the proposed system.*

Question: NDHS Analysis Protocols: Can you provide greater clarity on the specific protocols used by NDHS for data analysis (as mentioned in the TOR) that the system's outputs need to follow?

Answer: *Please visit DHS program website for comprehensive information. Some useful links:*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>
- <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>

Question: Report Customization: Is there a specific level of customization expected for analytical reports (e.g., user-defined parameters, visualizations)?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose the level of customization. Please refer to NDHS 2022 report to see the type of output being sought.*

Question: Source Code and Database Backup: Are there any specific version control or access management requirements for the source code and database backup?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose.*

Question: Programming Language Preferences: While the TOR mentions using programming languages like SPSS, R, or Python for syntax generation, does UNFPA have a preference for any of these languages?

Answer: *No, we don't*

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Question: Weighting of AI Expertise: How will specific aspects of AI model selection and development be evaluated within the 70% weightage for technical expertise?

Answer: *These will be evaluated under “Technical approach and methodology”. The evaluation will be carried out based on whether the bidder has understood the assignment and its goals, whether they have proposed a realistic timeframe, robust project management, and the technical requirements needed to complete the project.*

Question: Would any resource and infrastructure be provided by UNFPA for model training and validation?

Answer: *No*

Question: Would this NDHS data be static / or streaming ?

Answer: *Static*

Question: Does it include only structured data or videos/ audios/images as well?

Answer: *Just structured data*

Question: Is the NDHS 2022 dataset readily available in a format suitable for AI model training? Are there any limitations on access or usage?

Answer: *Yes. A formal request to DHS program needs to be made before access is granted but the dataset is shared widely with different stakeholders.*

Question: Can we get a sample NDHS Dataset for assessing the metadata/ structure?

Answer: *A formal request to DHS program needs to be made before access is granted. Go to link : <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm> , register and then request for Nepal’s dataset.*

Question: Will UNFPA provide specific design requirements or guidelines for the user interface?

Answer: *Yes, it will be a collaborative process.*

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Question: What type and level of detail is expected for the system documentation and user guide?

Answer: *The user guide should focus on the use of the system. It need not delve deep in to the technical side of how the system was designed. The system documentation should include enough information to communicate the soundness of the system to other nationals and international AI experts.*

Question: Can UNFPA provide more specific details on the required content and format for progress reports?

Answer: *There isn't a definite format for the progress report. This can be finalized with the selected service provider following onboarding.*

Question: What is the expected frequency and format of meetings between UNFPA and the selected vendor?

Answer: *There isn't a defined frequency or format for the progress report. This can be finalized with the selected service provider following onboarding. However, these meetings are meant to be informal.*

Question: Who will be the primary point of contact at UNFPA for project-related communication and coordination?

Answer: *The Programme Analyst, Data.*

Question: Can UNFPA provide a more detailed explanation of the evaluation criteria and weighting for both the technical and financial proposals?

Answer: *The evaluation will be carried out based on whether the bidder has understood the assignment and its goals, whether they have proposed a realistic timeframe, robust project management, budget and the technical requirements needed to complete the project. We can't provide any further details at this stage.*

Question: Is it mandatory to use GCP Services or can we consider other parallel Cloud Services with similar capabilities?

Answer: *Yes, it is required for at least one of the approach should include use of one o more of GCP services.*

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Question: What type of tailoring in reports would be required? I assume these reports would be generated by AI?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose the level of customization and tailoring for the reports. Please also see NDHS report for reference (<https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>).*

Question: Could UNFPA outline the process for requesting, evaluating, and approving changes to the project scope, timeline, or deliverables? What are the mechanisms for managing potential impacts on costs and schedules due to changes?

Answer: *The bidders are encouraged to add necessary buffers to ensure that the cost does not go beyond what is agreed at inception. The process of approving changes to the project scope, timeline, or deliverables*

Question: Can UNFPA provide a more detailed description of the key performance indicators (KPIs) and the monitoring and evaluation framework that will be used to track the project's progress and measure its success?

Answer: *The development phases outlines in the TOR will serve as a broad KPI. Specific KPI will be discussed and agreed upon following onboarding.*

Question: How does UNFPA envision the AI system being integrated into existing workflows and processes? What strategies will be employed to encourage user adoption and ensure sustained engagement with the system?

Answer: *The bidders are encouraged to propose this. However, this is something that can be discussed and finalized following onboarding.*

Question: Beyond the initial six-month hyper care phase, what are UNFPA's expectations regarding the long-term maintenance and potential scaling of the AI system? Will there be provisions for ongoing support, updates, and future development?

Answer: *This can be discussed following onboarding. However, it is highly encouraged that the proposed system is easy to scale up for future use.*

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Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: Could you provide details about the volume and complexity of the data to be migrated?

Answer: *The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review.*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: What are the sources of the data, and in what formats is the data currently stored? Is there any data stored in physical files.?

Answer: *The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review.*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: How customizable and interactive are the visualizations? Can users manipulate or drill down into data? Can admin shuffle the data while exporting from modules?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose the level of customization. The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review.*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: Do we need to provide additional access for higher official and admin on data visualization?

Answer: *Not mandatory.*

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: Can we propose open-source tech products for backend data engineering along with asked tech-stack python, R etc?

Answer: *Yes*

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: Can we propose open-source tech products for data visualization and dashboard along with asked tech-stack vue.js angular, react etc.

Answer: *Yes*

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Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: Do we get the infrastructure for data building, cleansing and transformation like development and User Experience Test before moving to production?

Answer: *No. the bidders are envisaged to use their in house infrastructure.*

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: Do you have a preference for using OpenAI's key models (e.g., GPT-3 or its successors) in the AI system, or would you prefer an open-source large language model? If you prefer open-source LLMs, are there any specific models or repositories you have in mind?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose the type of LLM.*

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 25 & 26 Required expertise, experience, and details of team composition (Envisaged composition of the technical team): Could you clarify whether the role of a business analyst or domain expert will be handled by the client, or if the vendor intends to include these roles in their proposed team composition? As these roles are not mentioned in team compositions

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose the team composition. The mentioned roles in the TOR are not exhaustive.*

Question: Letter of Invitation. Pg No. 2 Date of Submission We would request to extend the Last Date of submission of Bid by 2 weeks. This is in leu of the time required to seek internal approval for financial and technical documents. We would request UNFPA to extend the Bid Submission date as 14-May-2024

Answer: *This is not possible. Sorry.*

Question: Section 3, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: We request UNFPA to provide details on travel requirements (frequency/duration) for the resources for requirements/ meetings to locations other than project location.

Answer: *The bidders are encouraged budget for number of meetings based on their past experiences and encouraged to keep a buffer as these tend to be pragmatic as well. We do not envision frequent physical meetings. There is a possibility of validation workshops within Kathmandu valley, at least one for each development phase.*

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Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: We consider, UNFPA will be responsible for any infrastructure required for the application and its maintenance. Please confirm

Answer: *No.*

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: We consider, UNFPA will be responsible for all the licenses (Software/Hardware). Please confirm

Answer: *No.*

Question: Section 2, Pg No. 22 & 23 Scope of Work and Job Description: We request UNFPA to provide following details on scope of training: 1. Online or Classroom training? 2. If Classroom, what would be the location of training? 3. Count of Trainee or Training to be conducted?

Answer: *We envision physical training. In terms of location, this is something that is not fixed, bidders are encouraged to propose. In term so of head count, we recommend having a buffer but should not exceed more than 40-50 people for this project.*

Question: How should the new AI system integrate with UNFPA's existing data management and analytics platforms? Are there existing tools or systems with which compatibility is required?

Answer: *This is not mandatory.*

Question: What level of training will be required for different user groups? Does UNFPA have a preferred format or method for these training sessions (e.g., in-person, virtual, training videos)?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose. Training would be for non-technical users of the system.*

Question: What are the specific data security measures and privacy standards that the system must adhere to? Are there international or local regulatory compliances to consider?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose.*

Question: What formats of data would be used for analysis - structured/unstructured/pdfs/excel/dbs etc. a. For the requisite data expected for analysis, what percent is expected to be aggregated and what percent would be transactional/raw.

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Answer: The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review.

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: What is the expected size of datasets that would be used for the analysis?

Answer: The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review.

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: What are the provisions for resources that would be made available for the development of the LLM for UNFPA specific to NDHS data.

- a. Is there a provision for API based models to be used or would there be hardware accessible to host offline LLMs?
- b. What software/hardware would be made available for the project and how is the sizing done?

Answer: Bidders are encouraged to propose the type of model. No software/hardware will be provided by UNFPA.

Question: What would be the estimated number of users, queries per day, expected volume of data to be added over defined time periods (eg per month)?

Answer: Since this is a pilot and we won't be releasing it to the public, we do not expect huge influx of users. The access of the system can be controlled to limit use of token based on the proposed budget for the project.

Question: With regard to the expected outcome to be in line with NDHS Protocols for Analysis, can we get more information on these protocols?

Answer: Please visit DHS program website for comprehensive information. Some useful links:

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>
- <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>

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Question: Who would be providing the required hardware infrastructure for development, testing and production environments (as required)

Answer: *Bidders are expected to build the system in house.*

Question: Are there specific regulatory or data privacy requirements that the system must comply with in Nepal?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose security protocols. Also note that the data in question is already anonymized and clean.*

Question: How does UNFPA envision the feedback loop from stakeholders influencing the iterative development of the AI system? Is there a formal process for incorporating stakeholder feedback?

Answer: *As mentioned in TOR there will be steering committee and UNFPA core group that will be providing feedback and guidance throughout the project period.*

Question: Are the NDHS datasets tabular/structured or unstructured data?

Answer: *Structured data. Please visit DHS program website for comprehensive information. Some useful links:*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>
- <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>

Question: If the data is unstructured, would the data be in English or any other language?

Answer: *Data will be in English. Please visit DHS program website for comprehensive information. Some useful links:*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>
- <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>

Question: What is the data size that is present?

Answer: *There are 12 datasets with upwards of 2000 variables in some of them. Please visit DHS program website for comprehensive information. Some useful links:*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>
- <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>



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Question: Which types and methods of analysis will be required or in scope as per needs of target user base? Pls share few samples of Analytical products for understanding these.

Answer: *We expect simple descriptive statistics as well as simple tests of association apart from tabular and graphical output. In terms of analytical product, we expect pre-formatted briefs or report based on the concept that is being queried. This could entail invoking one or more fields.*

Question: What is the reason behind the ask of including one or more google cloud platform (GCP) services? Will solution technical stack be included towards Google, including Gemini Google?

Answer: *Google is UNFPA's global partner so we would like at least one approach to be within the google ecosystem.*

Question: As part of the deliverables, it is mentioned provision of Source Code. May you please confirm if this is a mandatory requirement considering there would be a use of Intellectual Properties involved.

Answer: *It is a mandatory requirement.*

Question: Request you to please provide an extension for 2 weeks for the same.

Answer: *Apologies, it is not possible.*

Question: Would you prefer an International vendor with local presence in Nepal

Answer: *Please refer to clause 2.1 of bid document and Section II: Terms of Reference (TOR).*

Question: Page 22, section 3.1 Assuming the system will have a mechanism for drill down reporting. Ex What is the distribution of population by gender in Kathmandu? In the continuation of the query, users can say how about distribution of literacy among men? Further, how does distribution in employment status look like? Confirm whether this kind of chaining/drill-down is expected or not?

Answer: *Yes, it is expected.*

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Question: We assume data will reside on GCP's big-query or any other storage on GCP. Is this a fair assumption?

Answer: *Not mandatory. None of the datasets are very large.*

Question: Is it acceptable to move data points out of the GCP environment? Ex - Will third party services like ChatGPT or others acceptable?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose a solution most apt for them.*

Question: Page 22, 3.3 About the charts:

1. System does not need interactive charts.
2. User won't be able to query over configuring the chart. Example - "Draw a pie chart to show gender wise distribution" is valid but "Draw a pie chart to show gender wise distribution. Include the legends, show men in red, women in blue" is not valid query

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose the level of customization of the charts.*

Question: Page 22, 3.3 What does cross-tabulation mean?

Answer: *Tabulation of two or more fields/variables.*

Question: Page 22, 3.3 Since there can be n number of statistical outcomes that can be shown for a result. So, which statistical outcome to render can be either pre-configured or specified by the user.

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose. However, we encourage dynamic interaction of the user with the system.*

Question: System should work only in "online" mode. Confirm?

Answer: *Offline functionality is not expected for this pilot.*

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Question: Page 22, 3.7 For the comparison with existing literature - Need more explanation around
- It will be the client's responsibility to identify credible sources. Confirm? - Will the data need to be ingested from these sources, or it will be made available already. Confirm?
- If data is already made available, then a mechanism of updating the data (periodically or realtime) from these sources will be in place. Confirm?
- Elaborate on the term "compare outputs".

Answer: *UNFPA will definitely support in identifying credible sources which might include online articles and reports from credible sources.*

Question: Page 22, 3.8 Define the terms - Report, profile, factsheet.
- How a report is different from a factsheet.
- Whose profile are we talking about? How a typical profile look like?

Answer: *Factsheet is brief – one to two pagers while report would a bit more extensive – replicating about almost a chapter of NDHS report. For profile, there is no set format please refer to what you deem is apt. To give an example we might envision one to two pager profile for Nepal or for specific provinces in Nepal on a topic.*
Link to the report: <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>

Question: Is a pure remote approach acceptable for project delivery and in accordance with Section 1 A.2.1? To what extent is on-premise work expected for this engagement? (“This Bidding process is open to all legally-constituted companies that can provide the requested services and have legal capacity to perform in the country, or through an authorized representative.”)

Answer: *Since this project would require close coordination with UN and government stakeholders there will significant on- premise work.*

Question: Regarding the requirement on page 46 for “evidence that the bidder possess experience in the geographical area”, is project experience in Nepal mandatory or merely preferable?

Answer: *Highly preferable.*

Question: For “hosting the system until it goes live and subsequent transfer to a designated server”, is the designated server referred to an on-premise server or a cloud-based server?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose*

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Question: Can the entire solution be cloud-based? Are on-premises components necessary?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose*

Question: Are there any IT policies or compliance that are Nepal-specific that we need to be aware of?

Answer: *UNFPA has its internal policies. This can be discussed following onboarding.*

Question: Will UNFPA handle sourcing the Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT) of the system separately or do bidders need to include this in their proposal?

Answer: *Bidders need to include this in their proposal*

Question: Where are the multiple datasets currently stored? Is there a need for integration work to transfer large amounts of data from one server to another?

Answer: *The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review. It is a static dataset for a survey that is already completed.*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: Are all datasets assumed to be readily available without the need for web scraping? (i.e., 'compares outputs with other literatures' assumes that all other literature are readily available)

Answer: *The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review.*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: Is the tool expected to process and return real-time data or will the data be updated in batches/ on a schedule?

Answer: *The dataset we would primarily be using is NDHS dataset. Go to the link below and put in a request for the dataset for review. It is a static dataset for a survey that is already completed.*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/available-datasets.cfm>

Question: Does UNFPA already have code or query templates available for baseline statistical analysis?

Answer: *DHS program has released codes for analysis for NDHS report.*

- <https://github.com/DHSProgram>

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A blue ink signature of Abhishek is written over a blue rectangular stamp that contains the letters 'DS' in the top right corner.



United Nations Population Fund
UN House, Pulchowk
Lalitpur, Nepal
Email: nepal.office@unfpa.org
Website: nepal.unfpa.org

Question: Can the system-generated code be limited to Python and SQL or is SPSS and R required?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose. There are no restrictions on the type of programming language to be used. However, NDHS releases their codes for analysis in R and SPSS. But should be convertible to python if required. This would be upto the bidder.*

Question: In the creation of tables, charts, and statistical outputs, does UNFPA envision the application to (1) generate the charts/figures, (2) generate the code necessary to generate the charts/figures, or (3) both? Are there scenarios where users will need only one or the other??

Answer: *Both is desirable.*

Question: Is there an available list of columns and/or data dictionary for the standard chapters of the NDHS dataset? Could UNFPA share documentation available for the NDHS protocol applying to this project?

Answer: *Please visit DHS program website for comprehensive information. Some useful links:*

- <https://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>
- <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR379/FR379.pdf>

Question: How many users are expected to use the system? How many internal UNFPA users vs external users will there be (“civil society and the public” as mentioned in the Background section)?

Answer: *Since this is a pilot and we won't be releasing it to the public, we do not expect huge influx of users. The access of the system can be controlled to limit use of token based on the proposed budget for the project*

Question: Who are the main stakeholders we will be working with throughout the development phase of the project, including user acceptance testing?

Answer: *UNFPA will form a reference group for the project and a focal point as a primary point of engagement for the selected vendor. The selected vendor will operate under the overall guidance of the UNFPA Reference Group from the Nepal country office. The selected vendor may also need to coordinate with relevant government officials and committees through a designated UNFPA technical staff member following prior discussion with UNFPA.*

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Question: Will the users be based in Nepal only or worldwide?

Answer: *For now, we envision just Nepali users.*

Question: What level of role-based access control is expected for this tool?

Answer: *Bidders are encouraged to propose*

Question: Can UNFPA provide sample report templates for the report generation use case? Screenshots of sample reports, profiles, fact sheets will suffice.

Answer: *There is not set template for now. This can be discussed and finalized following onboarding.*

Question: Is Section VII - Annex A: Template of Contract for Professional Services missing?

Answer: *The template can be obtained from the link <https://tinyurl.com/3ajmphdz>*

Question: Is there a particular CV template or format that we should follow?

Answer: *No*

Question: Is there a particular case study template or format that we should follow?

Answer: *Described in section "11.1 Technical proposal:"*

Question: What support from UNFPA can we expect to receive during the project delivery?

Answer:

- Guidance on how the system will function.
- Technical input on the system overall
- Technical support for indexing syntaxes/codes to query the datasets
- Technical support to ensure the outputs are statistically correct.

Question: How does UNFPA prefer us organizing our supporting attachments and information for Section V: Supplier Qualification Requirements?

Answer: *Please submit the relevant supporting documents indicated in the Section V.*

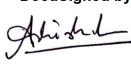
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Question: Where do we indicate that we agree to the UNFPA General Conditions and Special Conditions of Contract?

Answer: *Kindly sign and stamp the General Conditions of Contract and attach in the submission.*

DocuSigned by:

730E6FEC156C4D0...