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Planning

## **Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning for Yemen (MERLY) Programme**

Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-020510

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03569a

Published 27 July 2022, 3:43pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office

King Charles Street

London

SW1A 2AH

#### **Contact**

Andrew Sternberg

#### **Email**

[andrew.sternberg@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.sternberg@fcdo.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 7818182582

**Country**

Yemen

**NUTS code**

YE - Yemen

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.gov.uk/fcdo/](http://www.gov.uk/fcdo/)

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://fcdo.bravosolutions.co.uk>

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning for Yemen (MERLY) Programme

## II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 75211200 - Foreign economic-aid-related services

## II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

## II.1.4) Short description

The FCDO needs monitoring, evaluation, research, and learning (MERL) for the purpose of accountability, to demonstrate the effectiveness and impact of our activities to taxpayers, partners, and other stakeholders. However the value of MERL goes beyond accountability, to embedding learning in development and diplomatic activities. MERL identifies what works, for whom and in what circumstances, as well as what does not and why. MERL supplies a robust evidence base on effectiveness and impact, for informing course correction, future policy and investment decisions. Therefore, utilising quality MERL increases the Value for Money (VfM) of programmes, policies and decisions. The FCDO is strongly committed to providing VfM.

The UK government remains dedicated to supporting peace in Yemen and has committed over £1 billion to date. The current FCDO Yemen portfolio spans humanitarian, economic, peacebuilding and CSSF programming, alongside diplomatic activities and policymaking. However, due to the risks, FCDO has not been based in country since 2015. We require improved monitoring, evaluation, research and learning to inform planning, delivery, and risk management in this complex context.

The overarching objective of the proposed Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning for Yemen (MERLY) programme is to help ensure that FCDO Yemen delivers impact at scale and to a high quality, influencing the broader international response in Yemen. It is proposed that MERLY will take a holistic, whole-of-office approach to inform, assure, and improve cohesive policy, programmatic and diplomatic decision-making, and results. The programme will be heavily engaged across the FCDO Yemen team, and the supplier will be expected to deliver a range of small, medium, and large services to meet the programme objective. It is anticipated that the majority of activities will be ODA-eligible, but a minority may be non-ODA.

The MERLY programme will succeed and expand upon the current FCDO Yemen Independent Monitoring, Evaluation and Data Analysis (IMEDA) programme 2018-2023. Further information regarding the IMEDA programme can be found on DevTracker via programme code 300680: DevTracker Project GB-GOV-1-300680 ([fcdo.gov.uk](https://www.fcdo.gov.uk))

## II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £15,000,000

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 75211200 - Foreign economic-aid-related services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- YE - Yemen

Main site or place of performance

Yemen

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

At this stage, the aim of the EME is to discuss the service requirement and potential routes to market. FCDO is keen to solicit the views of the market regarding the most effective means of delivering the programme's objectives and service outputs, including the best management approach.

We would welcome the participation of both national and international organisations, across both the for-profit and non-profit sectors. We would particularly welcome input from those with experience in delivering MERLY services and/or managing MERL programmes in fragile and conflict-affected states with challenging access restraints.

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

The route to market has not yet been confirmed, but it is envisaged that the range of services and technical expertise required under the MERLY programme will necessitate a lead Supplier with a downstream consortium.

It is proposed that the Supplier agreement will run for five years from the date of signature, subject to break clauses and resource availability.

## **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

2 January 2023

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

This EME is scheduled to take place on Thursday 18th August from 13:00 to 15:00 BST.

Please register for attendance for the EME via the guidance below.

How to register for this EME:

If you are interested in attending this Early Market Engagement event, then please register via the form at: <https://bit.ly/3zyBJJz>