**Q&A for Adventure Guide Program RFP**

**1) "The Bidder is expected to propose an adventure guiding program, with the following activities considered, all of which are identified as mountaineering:**

**1.     Hiking & Trekking**

**2.     Canyoneering**

**3.     Climbing**

**4.     Cycling & Mountain biking**

**5.     Caving**

**Does USAID/LENS intend for bidders to propose a program that will educate and certify guides on how to safely execute the technical aspect of hiking and trekking, canyoneering, climbing, cycling and mountain biking, and caving with guests?**

Yes, this is correct. The Bidder is expected to propose a comprehensive program addressing all the requirements mentioned in the RFP. However if the Bidder has broader recommendations for additional sectors then this would be considered along with justification.

**2) USAID/LENS may be aware that for example certification in climbing has many levels from "certified climbing wall instructor" on up through "Certified Rock Guide", "Certified Alpine Guide" and so forth. Honing their technical skills in order to obtaining these technical certifications can take years of work for individual guides. Can USAID LENS please clarify their expectations around the Cayonneering, Climbing, and Caving technical specializations?**

The Bidder is expected to design a program that will lay the foundations for a properly managed, developed and workable adventure guiding system in Jordan. The duration of time required as part of this course will be determined by the Contractor and approved by the Advisory Committee. The USAID LENS project can only fund this program for the duration set out in the RFP (18 months maximum), however this should not necessarily limit the design of the training programs as they will be undertaken by other partners or organizations charged with working on this in the future.

**3) Is it possible to share any more information on any expectations for how the Adventure Guide license will fit into the existing legal framework in Jordan regarding guiding?**

**For example, once a guide receives the Adventure License, what shall he /she be permitted to do?  Is there a mechanism in place by which all relevant parties, ie. Ministry of Tourism, Jordan Tour Guide Association, Ministry of Interior, Jordan Tourism Board will agree to what is allowed? Is pulling that group together and forging an agreement part of the work of this RFP? We believe this would affect the content on the course, as the course will need to cover the scope of the license.**

USAID LENS has worked closely with all relevant partners and has received the approval from the Ministry of Tourism to implement the adventure guiding program. It will be legal and the adventure guides will have an official license. As mentioned in the RFP the Bidder is expected to work with the advisory committee (which comprises of the Jordan Mountaineering Association, Jordan Tour Guides Association, Ministry of tourism, Jordan Tourism Board, and others) however it will not be the Bidder’s responsibility to get that group together.

**4) We assume that it would part of the work here to suggest an organization / body in future is responsible for delivering the course and certifying the guides, determining the length of validity of a license and the renewal process. Do we have this correct?**

The Bidder can recommend organizations/bodies in the future that will manage the certification of guides. However it will be the decision of the advisory committee to determine which body or organization will be charged with this responsibility.

**5) We believe the Adventure Guide license should be complimented by Technical and First Aid Training. Is First Aid Training and Technical skills training expected as part of this scope?**

It is up to the Bidder to determine and justify what should be in the training program

**6) Currently we know that there is certified Jordanian trainer for the Solo Wilderness First Aid Course, so it is possible for applicants to get the Solo WFA certificate. However, there are not yet standards/certificates for the different technical skills in place in Jordan. Is it expected as part of this scope that certificates for the various technical skills be provided?**

It is up to the Bidder to determine and justify what should be in the training program. To underscore what is stated in the RFP, the Bidder is expected to develop an effective training program that can serve as a framework for guiding in the entire country’s adventure travel industry. As noted in the Mountaineering Report, see Attachment G, there are many types of ‘mountaineering-related’ certificates existing in Jordan. The purpose of this RFP is to standardize the process and framework that will serve as the officially recognized license, approved by the Ministry of Tourism.