



Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

Invitation to Bid Services

ITB reference # 1306741

SECTION 1
Cover Letter

Next to Haji Dol Garage along Airport Road,
Wadajir District, Mogadishu, Banadir Region -Somalia

Our reference: 1306741

Date: 23rd July 2025

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO TENDER: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CAPACITY BUILDING IN QUALITATIVE RESEARCH TRAINING FOR THE BRCIS CONSORTIUM MEL TEAM.

Dear Mr/Ms

Following your enquiry regarding the publication of the above-mentioned invitation to tender, please find enclosed the following documents, which constitute the tender dossier.

Any request for clarification must be received by NRC in writing at least 5 working days before the deadline for submission of tenders. NRC will reply to bidders' questions at least 2 working days before the deadline for submission of tenders.

Costs incurred by the bidder in preparing and submitting the tender proposals will not be reimbursed.

We look forward to receiving your tender at the address specified in the Instructions to Bidders before **6th August 2025 at 11:59pm** as stated in the procurement notice.

If you decide not to submit the tender, we would be grateful if you could inform us in writing, stating the reasons for your decision.

Yours sincerely,
NRC Procurement Department
On behalf of the Bid Analysis Committee

This ITB document contains the following:

- ✓ Section 1: This cover Letter
- ✓ Section 2: Bid Data sheet
- ✓ Section 3: NRC Invitation to bid general terms & condition
- ✓ Section 4: Technical description of the Bid
- ✓ Section 5: Bidding form
- ✓ Section 6: Service Provision Schedule
- ✓ Section 7: Company Profile and Previous Experience
- ✓ Section 8: Service Description & Pricing Proposal
- ✓ Section 9: Ethical Standards Declaration

SECTION 2 Bid Data Sheet

1. Background Data

Contract Name: Consultancy Services for Capacity Building in Qualitative Research Training for the BRCiS Consortium MEL Team.	Contract Number: 1306741
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This bid is issued by Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC office in Somalia. Any correspondence can be addressed at the following address office. **Mogadishu office, Next to Haji Dol Garage along Airport Road, Wadajir District, Mogadishu, Banadir Region -Somalia**

2. Scope of Service

The Contracts eligible for bidding are:

Contract No.	Country	Location	Service Description
1306741	Somalia	Mogadishu	Consultancy Services for Capacity Building in Qualitative Research Training for the BRCiS Consortium MEL Team.

Please refer to the service specifications in section 4

3. Schedule & Deadline for Submission

The deadline for submission of bids is **11:59pm** on the **6th of August 2025**. Late bids will not be accepted.

	DATE	TIME*
Invitation to Bid release	23 rd July 2025	2:00pm
Deadline for request for any clarifications from NRC	31 st July 2025	200:pm
Last date on which clarifications are issued by NRC	4 th Aug 2025	200:pm
Deadline for submission of bids (receiving date, not sending date)	6th Aug 2025	11:59pm
Tender opening session by NRC	7 th Aug 2025	10:00Am
Notification of award to the successful tenderer	17 th Aug 2025	10:00Am
Signature of the contract	20 th Aug 2025	10:00Am

*** * All times are in the local time of East Africa**

Please note that all dates are provisional dates, and NRC reserves the right to modify this schedule.

4. Manner of Submission:

Please submit your bids in accordance with the requirements detailed below:

Consultant/firm that meet the requirements mentioned above are invited to submit detailed technical proposal and financial proposal on or before **6th August 2025** through NRC Digital procurement system.

5. Assessment Criteria

Award of the contract(s) will be based on the following:

Step 1: Administrative compliance check

Bidders must provide evidence of the following for their bid to be considered compliant:

1. Sections 5-9 completed, signed and stamped,
2. Copy of company registration – Proof of registration from the country of origin as a limited liability company.
3. Relevant Company profile with list of previous or ongoing Qualitative Research Training conducted

4. Copy of tax registration

Step 2: Technical Evaluation

A Technical Evaluation of all bids received will be conducted for bidders that pass Step 1 – Administrative Compliance Check. Criteria that will be used to evaluate and score the bids are outlined in Section 3, Clause 26.1, and Section 4

Step 3: Financial Evaluation

Price in comparison to NRC established expectation and in comparison, to other bidders of comparable technical quality.

1. Bidder's Checklist

Description	To be filled by bidder		To be filled by NRC bid committee		
	Included?		Present & complete?		Comments
Step/ document to be submitted <u>with</u> tender	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Section 5 –9 completed, signed & stamped – Compulsory					
Supporting documents					
Copy of company registration – Proof of registration from the country of origin as a limited liability company or as a sole trader/self-employed Compulsory					
Relevant Company profile with list of previous or ongoing Qualitative Research Training conducted Compulsory					
Copy of tax registration – Compulsory					

To be filled in by NRC bid committee only	Eligible	Ineligible
Outcome of administrative eligibility check.		

SECTION 3

NRC Invitation to Bid - General Terms & Conditions

1 Scope of Bid

- 1.1 The bid is based on the scope of the assignment as determined in the Bid Data Sheet (Section 2). The instructions to bidders should be read in conjunction with the Bid Data Sheet.
- 1.2 The successful Bidder will be expected to complete the assignment by the Intended Completion Date specified in the contract to be signed

2 Corrupt Practices

2.1 **Norwegian Refugee Council** requires Employees, Bidders and Contractors, to observe standards of ethics during procurement and the execution of contracts. In pursuit of this, Norwegian refugee Council defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:

- a) "Corrupt practice" includes the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of anything of value to influence the action of a public official in the procurement process or in contract execution; and
- b) "Fraudulent practice" includes a misrepresentation of facts in order to influence a procurement process or the execution of a contract to the detriment of the Norwegian Refugee Council and includes collusive practices among Bidders prior to or after bid submission designed to establish bid prices at artificial, non-competitive levels and to deprive the Norwegian Refugee Council of the benefits of free and open competition.
- c) In any case where fraud or corruption is identified, NRC will:
 - reject any bids where the Bidder has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the Contract.
 - remove bidding contractors who engage in fraudulent or corrupt practices, from our prequalified list
 - liaise with District Officials to report if fraudulent or corrupt practices are identified
 - Terminate works

2.2 Any communications between a Bidder and the Norwegian Refugee Council related to matters of alleged fraud or corruption must be made in writing and addressed to the **Country Director in Somalia**

3 Data Protection and Security

3.1 NRC expects contractors who process personal data to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU GDPR) and any relevant national legislation. Suppliers processing personal data on an NRC contract will be required to sign a data processing / sharing agreement as a part of the contract. Refusal to sign such an agreement constitutes refusal of the contract terms and forfeiture of the contract on the part of the supplier.

4 Eligible Bidders

4.1 A Bidder shall meet the following criteria to be eligible to participate in NRC procurement of Services:

- a) the bidder, at the time of bid, is not:
 - i. insolvent.
 - ii. in receivership.
 - iii. bankrupt; or

- iv. being wound up
- b) the bidder's business activities have not been suspended.
- c) the bidder is not the subject of legal proceedings for any of the circumstances in (b); and
- d) The bidder has fulfilled his or her obligations to pay taxes and social security contributions. In a case where VAT is included in a bid, a copy of the VAT certificate must accompany the bid.
- e) A Bidder, and all parties constituting the Bidder, including sub-contractors, shall not have a conflict of interest. All Bidders found to have an undisclosed conflict of interest shall be disqualified. A Bidder may be considered to have a conflict of interest with one or more parties in this bidding process if they have a relationship with each other, directly or through common third parties that puts them in a position to have access to information about or influence on the bid of another Bidder, or influence the decisions of the Norwegian Refugee Council regarding this bidding process.

4.2 A Bidder whose circumstances in relation to eligibility change during a procurement process or during the execution of a contract shall immediately inform the Norwegian Refugee Council.

4.3 NRC reserves the right to refuse a bid at any time if the bidder or any party constituting the Bidder, including one of its sub-contractors, violates any of the ethical standards provided in section 9 of this Invitation to Bid.

5 Joint Ventures, Consortia and Associations

Bids submitted by a joint venture, consortium or association of two or more firms as partners will not be accepted in any circumstances.

6 One Bid Per Bidder Per Work

Each Bidder shall submit only one Bid per contract. A Bidder who submits or participates in more than one bid per contract will cause all the bids with the Bidder's participation to be rejected.

7 Cost of Bidding

The Bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his Bid, and the Norwegian Refugee Council shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

8 Inspection

NRC is obliged to ensure that its procurement decisions are clearly justified and documented and keeping within the Donors mandatory principles. In that regard, full and on-the-spot access must be granted to representatives of NRC, the Donor or any organization or person mandated by it, to premises belonging to NRC or its contractors. The right to access shall include all documents and information necessary to assess, or audit the implementation of the contract

9 Obtaining and Completing Bidding Documents

9.1 Bidders who did not obtain the Bidding Document directly from the Norwegian Refugee Council will be rejected during evaluation. Where a Bidding Document is obtained from the Norwegian Refugee Council on a Bidder's behalf, the Bidder's name must be registered with the Norwegian Refugee Council at the time of issue.

9.2 The Bidder is expected to examine all instructions, forms, terms, and specifications in the Bidding Document. Failure to furnish all information or documentation required by the

Bidding Document may result in the rejection of the bid.

10 Clarification of Bidding Document

A prospective Bidder requiring any clarification of the Bidding Document shall contact the Norwegian Refugee Council in writing. The Norwegian Refugee Council will respond in writing to any request for clarification before the deadline for clarification of bids. The Norwegian Refugee Council shall forward copies of its response to all Bidders who have acquired the Bidding Document, including a description of the inquiry but without identifying its source.

11 Amendment of Bidding Document

11.1 At any time prior and until 48 hours prior to the deadline for submission of bids, the Norwegian Refugee Council may amend or cancel the Bidding Document by informing the bidders in writing.

11.2 To give prospective Bidders reasonable time in which to take an amendment or cancellation into account in preparing their bids, the Norwegian Refugee Council can, at his discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of bids.

12 Language of Bid

12.1 The bid, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the bid shall be written in English.

12.2 Supporting documents and printed literature that are part of the bid may be in another language provided they are accompanied by an accurate translation of the relevant passages in English, in which case, for purposes of interpretation of the Bid, such translation shall govern.

12.3 Copies of official documents such as business registration, tax documents, bank guaranty can be provided in their issuance language.

13 Documents Comprising the Bid

13.1 The bid submitted by the Bidder shall comprise all the mandatory documents listed in Section 2 Paragraph 06. Bidders' checklist.

13.2 All forms must be completed without any alterations to the format, and no substitutes shall be accepted. All blank spaces shall be filled with the information requested.

14 Bid Price for Service Contract

14.1 Bid prices are for complete contracts. Contracts cannot be subdivided into pieces unless is divided into lots. Where a bid is submitted per contract / lot, all relevant services must be offered.

14.2 Items for which no rate or price is entered by the Bidder will be as not quoted.

14.3 Unless otherwise specified in Section 2 - the Bid Data Sheet, all duties, taxes and other levies payable by the contractor under the contract, shall be included in the total bid price submitted by the bidder.

14.4 For bidder subject to VAT, VAT should be mentioned in the offers

14.5 The prices submitted by any Bidder shall be checked for arithmetical errors and for what might be considered unreasonable rates during the evaluation. Where errors are identified one or more of the following steps may be taken:

a) If any rates are considered to be unrealistic or unreasonable they may be altered by

mutual agreement, provided that no alteration shall be made in the amount of the Bid.

- b) If any arithmetical errors are detected in an otherwise acceptable bid, and the Bidder, on being so notified, is prepared to confirm his bid and if the Bidder is subsequently awarded the contract, then the Bid shall be altered to reflect the difference.
- c) The Bidder is reminded that it is entirely his responsibility to ensure the accuracy of his bid. No alteration will be made to the bid after its submission on the grounds of any arithmetical errors subsequently discovered except as provided above.

15 Currencies of Bid and Payment

All prices shall be quoted by the Bidder in **USD** unless otherwise stated. Similarly, all payments will be made in USD

16 Bid Validity

- 16.1 Bids shall remain valid for a period for **90 days** calendar days after the date of the bid submission deadline as prescribed by Norwegian Refugee Council. A bid valid for a shorter period shall be rejected as non-compliant.
- 16.2 In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the bid validity period, the Norwegian Refugee Council may request Bidders in writing to extend the period of validity of their bids. A Bidder must confirm in writing his acceptance of the extension. In case of extension, modification of the bid is not permitted.

17 Alternative Bids

Bidders shall submit offers that comply with the requirements of the bidding documents, including the basic technical design as indicated in the drawings and specifications. Alternative bids shall not be considered unless otherwise indicated in Section 2 – the Bid Data Sheet.

18 Format and Signing of Bid

The Bidder shall prepare one set of bid documents per contract that he wishes to bid for. The bidder should hold a copy of the documents with himself, for reference purposes.

19 Sealing and Marking of the Bid

- 19.1 The Bidder shall enclose their bid as per Section 2 Paragraph 4 . Manner of submission.
- 19.2 The envelope(s) shall:
 - (a) be addressed to the Logistics Office, Norwegian Refugee Council, in the location specified in Section 2 – the Bid Data Sheet
 - (b) bear the Contract number
 - (c) No other markings should be on the envelope
- 19.3 If all envelopes are not sealed and marked as required, the Norwegian Refugee Council might decide to reject the bid

20 Deadline for Submission of Bids

Bids must be received by the Norwegian Refugee Council at the address given and no later than the date and time indicated in Section 2 - the Bid Data Sheet.

21 Late Bids

The Norwegian Refugee Council shall not consider any bid that arrives after the deadline for submission as stipulated in Section 2 – the Bid Data Sheet. Any bid received by the Norwegian Refugee Council after the deadline for submission of bids shall be declared late and rejected.

22 Withdrawal and Replacement of Bids

22.1 A Bidder may withdraw or replace its bid after it has been submitted at any time before the deadline for submission of bids by sending a written notice, signed by an authorized representative. Any corresponding replacement of the bid must accompany the respective written notice. All the notices must be:

- (a) submitted as with Clauses 20 and 21, and in addition, the envelopes shall be clearly marked “WITHDRAWAL” or “REPLACEMENT” and
- (b) received by the Norwegian Refugee Council prior to the deadline for submission of bids, in accordance with Section 2 – the Bid Data Sheet

22.2 After the opening of bids, modifications to bids must be documented and any discussions reported in writing. A bid may be withdrawn at any stage, with written notice.

23 Confidentiality

23.1 Information relating to the examination, evaluation, comparison, and post-qualification of bids, and recommendation of contract award, shall not be disclosed to bidders or any other persons not officially concerned with such a process until information detailing the best evaluated Bidder is communicated to all Bidders.

23.2 Any effort by a Bidder to influence the Norwegian Refugee Council in the examination, evaluation, comparison, and post-qualification of the bids or contract award decisions may result in the rejection of its bid.

23.3 From the time of bid opening to the time of Contract award, if any Bidder wishes to contact the Norwegian Refugee Council on any matter related to the bidding process, it should do so in writing.

24 Clarification of Bids

Norwegian Refugee Council may, at its discretion, ask any Bidder for a clarification of its Bid. The Norwegian Refugee Council’s request for clarification and the response shall be in writing. Any clarification submitted by a Bidder that is not in response to a request by the Norwegian Refugee Council shall not be considered. All requests for clarifications shall be copied to all bidders for information purposes. No change in the price or substance of the bid shall be permitted, except to confirm the correction of errors.

25 Bids Validation

25.1 The Norwegian Refugee Council’s determination of a Bid’s validity is to be based on the contents of the bid itself, which cannot be corrected if determined to be invalid

25.2 A valid bid is one that complies with all the terms, conditions, and specifications of the Bidding Document, without deviation or omission, which affects, or could affect.

- a) the scope, quality, or performance of the services specified in the Contract; or
- b) limits in any substantial way, the Norwegian Refugee Council’s rights or the Bidder’s obligations under the Contract

26 Evaluation of Bid

26.1 The Norwegian Refugee Council shall examine the legal documentation and other information submitted by Bidders to verify eligibility, and then will review and score bids according to the following criteria;

Descriptions	Score criteria	Comments
Completion and inclusion of requested information and supporting documents (Administrative compliance) to be submitted <u>with</u> tender		
Sections 5-9 completed, signed and stamped,	N/A	Pass or fail
Copy of company registration – Proof of registration from the country of origin as a limited liability company or as a sole trader/self-employed.	N/A	
Relevant Company profile with list of previous or ongoing Qualitative Research Training conducted.	N/A	
Copy of tax registration	N/A	
Technical supporting documents		
A cover letter introducing the consultants. The cover letter should introduce the team composition and specify the role to be played by each team member.	6	
A technical proposal of no more than 10 pages outlining how to execute this assignment (30points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear understanding of the ToR and alignment with BRCiS objectives. 10 points • Proposed training curriculum (both foundational and advanced sessions) tailored to BRCiS needs outlined in the ToR. 10 points • Training Delivery Methodology and workplan feasibility. 5 points • Post-training support/mentorship plan. 5 points 	30	
Evidence of experience conducting similar assignments (Samples of similar work) is required (Technical evaluation) - Experience working with consortia or multi-stakeholder initiatives is preferred. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Projects = 0 points. • 1 similar project and experience with an international/development/humanitarian organization (or similar). Please provide a reference for the partner (s) =10 points. • 2 similar projects and experience with an international/development/humanitarian organization (or similar). Please provide a reference of the partner(s) = 20 points. 	20	
Resume of each team member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced degree (PhD/Master's) in social science, development studies, statistics, or related fields with a minimum 7 years of proven experience in designing and conducting qualitative research, 	24	

<p>preferably in humanitarian, development, or resilience-focused programs is required – 10 Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical proficiency in qualitative data analysis software (both NVivo and ATLAS.ti) and mixed-methods research approaches are required- – 6 Points • Demonstrated experience in delivering high-impact training on qualitative research methods for NGOs, UN agencies, or similar institutions are required-- 2 Points • Ability to develop tailored curricula for diverse skill levels (foundational to advanced) and adapt content to multicultural contexts- – 2 Points • Strong facilitation skills, with a track record of using interactive, participatory methodologies (e.g., case studies, role-playing, hands-on coding exercises)- – 2 Points • Familiarity with Somalia’s humanitarian/development context or similar fragile settings is preferred - – 2 Points 		
Total score criteria (Technical evaluation)	80	
Financial supporting documents		
<p>Financial capacity. Copy of Bank Statement for the last three months with at least USD 20,000 and above balance – (Financial evaluation) (20 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20,000 USD or more balance – 20 Points • 10,000 – <20,000 USD balance – 15 points • 5,000 – <10,000 USD balance – 10points • Less than 5,000 USD – Zero (0) Points 	20	
Total score criteria (Financial evaluation)	20	
Grand total score (Technical and Financial evaluation)	100	

26.2 Anti-money laundering, anti-bribery, anti-corruption and anti-terrorism legislation applicable in some jurisdictions and donor regulations require NRC to screen contractors against various lists including but not limited to the United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and World Bank debarment lists to ensure due diligence. Submission of the bid constitutes acceptance of these screening practices on the part of the bidder.

26.3 The Norwegian Refugee Council reserves the right to reject all bids, and re-tender if no satisfactory bids are submitted

27 Award Procedure

27.1 The Norwegian Refugee Council shall award the Contract in writing, with an award letter, to the Bidder whose offer has been determined to be the best, before the end of the bid validity period

27.2 Any bidder who has not been awarded a contract will be notified in writing

27.3 Until a formal contract is prepared and executed, the Award Letter shall constitute a binding agreement between the bidder and NRC.

27.4 The Award Letter will state the sum that the Norwegian Refugee Council will pay the Contractor in consideration of the Works as prescribed in the Contract, and in accordance with the Bid.

27.5 The Bidder is thereafter required to submit a Letter of Acceptance, confirming their wish to

proceed with a contract.

28 Signing of Contract

- 28.1 Upon receipt of the Letter of Acceptance, the Norwegian Refugee Council shall call the successful Bidder to sign the Contract.
- 28.2 Within an agreed timeframe, the successful Bidder shall sign, date, and return the Contract to the Norwegian Refugee Council.

SECTION 4

SERVICE PROVISION: Technical Description of the Bid

BRCiS Consortium Qualitative Research Training Terms of Reference

1. Background and Context Information

1.1. BRCiS Consortium Overview

Building Resilient Communities in Somalia (BRCiS) is a consortium of national and international organizations – Action Against Hunger (ACF), Concern Worldwide (Concern), GREDO, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), KAALO, Save the Children, and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) as lead agency. BRCiS' objective is to work across the humanitarian-development divide, supporting marginalized communities in disaster-prone, rural Somalia to become more resilient to shocks and stressed, including as a result of climate change. BRCiS approach is contextually adaptive, focused on the specific shocks, needs, and priorities of individual communities. BRCiS was established in 2013 and is now implementing projects funded by multiple humanitarian and development donors in more than ten regions of Somalia¹.

1.2. BRCiS Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Working Group

BRCiS Consortium MEL Working Group plays a central role in maintaining consistency and effectiveness in monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) across the Consortium. It standardizes MEL frameworks, tools, and reporting systems while driving collaboration, learning, and adaptation (CLA) to strengthen adaptive management. The group leads the implementation of the Consortium MEL plan, which includes monitoring project progress and contextual factors, community engagement and feedback, documenting lessons learned, conducting impact evaluations (both quantitative and qualitative), and reporting findings. Additionally, it tracks progress against the MEL plan, identifies capacity gaps, and organizes learning sessions to promote continuous improvement and accountability throughout the Consortium.

Capacity gap assessment of the Consortium MEL Working Group identified few development needs, with qualitative research skills emerging as a key priority. Targeted training in qualitative methods will strengthen the MEL group's analytical capabilities by enhancing skills in data collection, analysis, and reporting. This capacity building will enable the team to better capture nuanced program insights. This will improve evidence-based decision-making, and advance adaptive management practices. Ultimately, these strengthened competencies will contribute to more responsive, contextually informed, and impactful programming across the Consortium.

2. Purpose, Objectives and Scope

2.1. Purpose

To strengthen the qualitative research capacity of the BRCiS MEL Working Group, BRCiS seeks to engage an experienced consultant to deliver comprehensive, in-person training on qualitative research methods. The objective is to equip MEL staff particularly those involved in qualitative data collection, analysis, and reporting, with the necessary skills to generate high-quality, contextually relevant qualitative data to inform evidence-based programming and decision-making.

The consultant will deliver the training in two progressive phases/sessions:

¹ <https://www.nrc.no/brcis>

- **Foundational Qualitative Skills (Session 1):** This session aims to equip MEL team members, especially field staff, with essential foundational and intermediate skills in qualitative research. It will cover key competencies such as understanding the principles of qualitative study, building rapport with interview participants, conducting in-depth and semi-structured interviews, managing the interview process, effective notetaking, recording, translation, and transcription. Participants will also learn how to organize and structure qualitative data and apply basic coding, preliminary thematic analysis, and reporting techniques.
- **Advanced Qualitative Skills (Session 2):** Designed for senior MEL staff, this session will deepen participants' expertise in advanced qualitative research design and implementation. It will focus on selecting appropriate qualitative methodologies and sampling strategies, developing robust research questions and interview guides, and effectively organizing large volumes of qualitative data. The training will also cover advanced coding techniques, application of analytical frameworks, and the synthesis of findings into high-quality qualitative reports.

2.2. Training Scope

The primary objective of this training is to enhance and expand participants' existing qualitative research skills, covering both foundational and advanced concepts, methodologies, and practical applications.

Session One: Foundations of Qualitative Research: This session will focus on strengthening core competencies in qualitative research, including:

- Introduction to Qualitative Research: Differences between qualitative and quantitative research, appropriate contexts for using qualitative methods and ethical considerations in qualitative research.
- Qualitative Research Design: Developing qualitative interview questions, sampling techniques (purposive, snowball, etc.) and designing interview guides, FGDs, and observation tools.
- Data Collection and Qualitative Interview Process Techniques: Essential techniques for qualitative data collection, including conducting in-depth interviews, focus group discussions (FGDs), and key informant interviews (KIIs). Effective rapport building, managing interview dynamics, and using strategic probing to gather rich, meaningful data. Best practices for notetaking and audio recording, along with methods to ensure the accuracy, consistency, and overall reliability of the collected data.
- Data Cleaning & Organization: Transcribing and anonymizing data, structuring qualitative data for analysis and introduction to qualitative data management tools (e.g., MS Word, Excel, Atlas.ti, NVivo, etc)
- Basic & Intermediate Data Analysis: Thematic analysis (inductive & deductive approaches), coding techniques and identifying patterns and themes (preferred software is Atlas.ti)
- Reporting: Structuring a qualitative report, presenting findings with quotes and narratives

Session two: Advanced Qualitative Research Techniques

This session will build on foundational knowledge and introduce advanced methodologies and tools for rigorous qualitative research including:

- Advanced Study Design: Mixed methods approach, triangulation of data sources and longitudinal qualitative research.
- Advanced Data Analysis such as framework analysis, narrative and discourse analysis and using software for complex coding (preferred software is Atlas.ti)
- Advanced Reporting, visualization and dissemination: Writing qualitative report for different target audiences, developing case studies and storytelling with data and interactive dashboards for qualitative findings
- Workshop & Practical Application: Hands-on exercises with real project data and peer review and feedback sessions

3. Consultant Scope of work

The consultant will design and deliver a structured, hands-on training program covering qualitative research design, data collection, cleaning, analysis, and reporting using best-practice methodologies and tools. The consultant will:

- Conduct in-depth consultations with BRCiS to identify specific qualitative research capacity gaps and tailor the training approach accordingly.

- Design a structured, competency-based training curriculum for both foundational (Session 1) and advanced (Session 2) modules.
- Develop and deliver two-tiered training modules (Session 1: Foundational; Session 2: Advanced).
- Provide 3 months of post-training support to session 1 participants, including virtual check-ins and feedback on applied work.
- Provide 3 months of post-training mentorship to Session 2 participants to ensure sustained application.

4. Training Delivery Methodology

The consultant should utilise the below training methods. However, consultants can suggest best ways of delivering the training in their technical proposal.

- Employ interactive, participatory training with real-world case studies and role-playing
- Hands-on exercises using qualitative data software and relevant qualitative analysis tools (Atlas.ti)
- Group discussions and peer feedback
- Post-training support (for session 1 participants) and mentorship (for session 2 participants)

5. Key Deliverables

The Consultant will provide the following outputs for both training sessions (Session 1 & Session 2): -

- Inception Report outlining customized training curriculum aligned with BRCiS MEL needs, post training support/mentorship plan, training methodology (interactive/practical approach, tools to be used), detailed work plan with timelines, roles and responsibilities of trainer/participants.
- Full training package including PowerPoint slides (pre-formatted with BRCiS branding), participant handouts (exercises, briefs, checklists) and reference toolkit.
- Training Delivery: Facilitation of both sessions by the agreed schedule:
 - Session 1 (4 days): Foundational qualitative skills
 - Session 2 (5 days): Advanced qualitative applications
- Final Training Report covering key outcomes and participant competency gains, detailed post training support and mentorship approach and outcomes, challenges and mitigation strategies and recommendations for sustaining skills

N.B: Each session will have the same deliverables

6. Qualitative Training Deliverables, Timeline and Roles

Training Sessions & Key Activities

Phase	Timeframe	Key Tasks	Deliverables
Inception	Mid-August 2025	- Desk review: MEL documents - Stakeholder engagement - Training materials	Inception Report including training curriculum, materials and workplan
Session 1: Foundational qualitative skills (4 days)	Late August 2025	- Completion of Session one - Post Training Support	- Training delivered - Final Training Report
Session 2: Advanced qualitative applications (5 days)	Late Nov 2025	- Completion of Session two - Post Training Support	- Training delivered - Final Training Report

N.B: All the above table timelines are tentative and may change during the inception phase.

7. Management Arrangements and Workplan

Roles & Responsibilities

- **Consultant:**

- The Consultant will conduct a comprehensive review of BRCiS MEL documents and engage with key stakeholders to assess specific qualitative research capacity gaps. Based on this assessment, they will develop and deliver a tailored two-phase training program (Session 1: foundational skills; Session 2: advanced applications), supported by customized training materials and practical exercises. Following each session, the Consultant will provide three months of post-training support and mentorship to reinforce skills application. The role encompasses end-to-end responsibility for all deliverables outlined in Section 4, including the inception report, training materials, facilitation, and final reporting.
- Consultants must adhere to NRC's Code of Conduct and data protection protocols. Consultant will sign these documents during the contracting process.

- **BRCiS:** BRCiS Consortium Management Unit (CMU) will oversee the consultant's contract deliverables, ensuring adherence to timelines and quality standards, while facilitating training logistics including venue coordination, participant mobilization, and material provision. CMU will review and approve all training outputs (inception reports, session materials, and final reports) to ensure alignment with BRCiS MEL frameworks, liaise with Consortium partners to ensure inclusive participation, and collaborate with the consultant post-training to track skill application and integrate feedback into future capacity-building initiatives. BRCiS CMU MEL manager will be supervising this consultant with other CMU team and Consortium MEL Working Group Support.

8. Estimated duration of the contract

A single contract will cover all sessions (session 1 & 2) with phase-specific deliverables outlined in Section 5. The engagement is projected to commence in August 2025 and conclude in March 2025; however, work will not be continuous over this whole period of time.

9. Official travel involved

The selected consultant is required to travel to Mogadishu, Somalia to facilitate both training sessions:

Consultants will cover all travel and accommodation costs including visa, tax, flight costs, accommodation and meals, and the NRC will support in-country transportation, security and administrative support for international firms only. All travel and accommodation and travel-related budget should be included in the financial proposal.

10. Application Procedures and Requirements

The interested consulting firms are expected to provide the following documentation:

- A cover letter introducing the consultants. The cover letter should introduce the team composition and specify the role to be played by each team member.
- A technical proposal of no more than 10 pages outlining how to execute the task with a clearly proposed training curriculum, methodology, and timelines. The proposed training curriculum and methodology should demonstrate a clear understanding of the Terms of Reference.
- Resume of each team member.
- Evidence of experience conducting similar assignments (Samples of similar work) is required.
- Proposed budget indicating consultancy fee, logistics cost and all other auxiliary costs in USD. The proposed budget should clearly separate costs/activities for each phase of the consultancy as detailed in Section 5 of this TOR.
- Considering available project resources, proposals demonstrating cost-effective and streamlined approaches to achieving the objectives will be preferred.

Qualifications or specialized knowledge and/or experience required from the team members and the firm

- **Advanced degree (PhD/Master's)** in social science, development studies, statistics, or related fields are **required**.
- Minimum **7 years of proven experience** in designing and conducting qualitative research, preferably in humanitarian, development, or resilience-focused programs is **required**.
- Technical **proficiency in qualitative data analysis software** (both NVivo and ATLAS.ti) and mixed-methods research approaches are **required**.
- Demonstrated experience in **delivering high-impact training on qualitative research** methods for NGOs, UN agencies, or similar institutions **are required**.
- Ability to develop tailored curricula for diverse skill levels (foundational to advanced) and adapt content to multicultural contexts.
- Strong facilitation skills, with a track record of using interactive, participatory methodologies (e.g., case studies, role-playing, hands-on coding exercises).
- Familiarity with Somalia's humanitarian/development context or similar fragile settings is preferred.
- Submission of at least two samples of similar assignments (e.g., training reports, qualitative research studies) is **required**.
- Experience working with consortia or multi-stakeholder initiatives is preferred.
- A consultant firm is preferred over an individual consultant.

SECTION 5 Bidding Form

Please provide information against each requirement.

Additional rows can be inserted for all questions as necessary. If there is insufficient space to complete your answer in the space provided, please include on a separate attachment with a reference to the question.

1. Bidder's General Business Details

a) General information

Company name:	
Any other trading names of company:	
Registered name of company (if different):	
Nature of primary business/trade:	
Primary contact name:	
Job title:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Registered Address:	
Business licence number:	
Country of registration	
Registration date:	
Expiry date:	
Legal status of company (eg. partnership, private limited company, etc.)	

b) Owners/Managers

Please fill in the below table with the full names, title/position, the year of birth, and the country of birth of the company's owner(s) and manager(s)*:

Full Name	Title / Position	Birth Year	Birth Country

** Please note this information is necessary in order to conduct the vetting procedure referred to in clause 25 of the Invitation to Bid-General Terms and Conditions. Owners and managers include but are not limited to Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chair of the Board, Executive Director, Director, Manager.*

c) Employees

Please list the employees who would be involved with NRC in the event of contract award:

Employee name	Job title	Role on NRC project	Phone	Email
1.				
2.				
3.				
...				

d) Company bank account details:

Beneficiary name:		
Beneficiary account no.:		
Beneficiary Bank:		
Bank branch:		
SWIFT:		
IBAN:		
Bank address:		

2. References

Please provide details of at least 3 client references whom NRC may contact, preferably from NGOs and UN agencies, for similar related works:

Client/company name	Contact person	Phone	Email	Contract details (works, location, size, value, etc)
1.				
2.				
3.				
...				

3. Bid Validity

Please confirm the validity of your bid below (in calendar days):

--

4. Confirmation of Bidder's Compliance

We, the Bidder, hereby certify that our tender is a genuine offer and intended to be competitive and we confirm we are eligible to participate in public procurement and meet the eligibility criteria specified in the Invitation to Bid. We confirm that the prices quoted are fixed and firm for the duration of the validity period and will not be subject to revision or variation.

We, the Bidder confirm the documents attached to this offer are those validated by us in the Section 2 Paragraph 6 . Bidder's checklist.

We understand that NRC is not bound to accept the lowest, or indeed any bid, received.
We agree that NRC may verify the information provided in this form itself or through a third party as it may deem necessary.

We confirm that NRC may in its consideration of our offer, and subsequently, rely on the statements made herein.

Name of Signatory:	Tel N°:
Title of Signatory:	Name of Company:
Signature & stamp:	Date of Signing:
	Address:

SECTION 6

Service Provision Schedule

Service Schedule:

Attach the Service schedule separately:

Schedule to include:

- 1- Detailed list of service components to be completed in reference to Service Description & Pricing Proposal (Section 8)
- 2- Duration of each of the activities and completion date.

Table for breakdown of service provision (examples below)

Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	...

Manpower:

In addition, provide a list of the manpower involved in the activities on site with an estimate of the total man-hours completed by each of the skills. Format to follow the below simple format:

#	Proposed Personnel/Manpower	# of workers allocated to this project
1		
2		
3		
4		
...		

NOTE: The manpower list and service provision schedule shouldn't be limited to this Form. A comprehensive list has to be submitted adapting the Form as necessary.

SECTION 7

Company Profile and Previous Experience

The Bidder is requested to:

1. Submit the **Company Profile**
2. Complete the following **Previous Experience Table** listing the work or contracts undertaken in the past 5 years similar to the services required under this contract
3. Submit **evidence of previous experience** in form of Contracts, Completion Certificates, etc.

#	Name of Project / Type of work	Total value of the performed works (...USD..)	Duration of the works contract	Starting date	Ending date	Contracting Authority / Contact person / phone / email
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
...						

NOTE: The list shouldn't be limited to this Form in regards to the number of works reported. A comprehensive list of the last 5 years' experience has to be submitted adapting the Form to the necessary rows .

NRC may conduct reference checks for previous contracts completed

SECTION 8
Service Provision Description and Pricing Proposal

Please submit a separate proposed budget indicating consultancy fee, logistics cost and all other auxiliary costs in USD.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION FOR: PROPOSE BUDGET					
No.	Description of Service	Unit	QTY	Rate in USD including VAT	Total USD
A	BRCIS Consortium MEL team capacity building in Qualitative Research (Design Data collection, analysis and Reporting)- The consultant to submit a separate proposed budget indicating consultancy fee, logistics cost and all other auxiliary costs in USD.	Consultant	1		
	GRAND TOTAL				

Prepared by:	
Name:	
Position:	
Signature:	
Date:	
Stamp:	

SECTION 9

Ethical Standards Declaration for all Supply, Service and Works Contractors

We, the undersigned, ('we', 'our' or 'us') **CONSIDERING THAT:**

FIRST, we are bidding for, or entering into, a contract with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) to supply goods, services or works to NRC ('the Contract').

SECOND, we understand that as a humanitarian organisation, NRC expects its suppliers and contractors to have high ethical standards.

THIRD, we understand that NRC therefore needs us to confirm that we adhere to the required ethical standards ('the ethical standards') by signing this declaration ('the Declaration').

THEREFORE, we **DO HEREBY DECLARE** as follows:

1. Declaration concerning compliance with applicable laws and these ethical standards

We declare that we shall:

- a. Meet the ethical standards in this declaration ('ethical standards')
- b. Ensure that any party representing us, including but not limited to:
 - board members
 - directors
 - employees
 - contractors or sub-contractors, and their employees
 - consultants and sub-consultants, and their employees;
 - other legal representatives

('our Representatives') are aware of and comply with these ethical standards.

In the event that we, or our Representatives, do not meet the ethical standards at present, we shall:

- a. Explain to NRC in what way we do not currently meet the ethical standards
- b. Agree a plan and timeline with NRC to implement changes that allow us to meet the ethical standards
- c. Provide regular updates to NRC on the implementation plan.

2. Declaration concerning status

We hereby declare that neither we, nor to the best of our knowledge our Representatives, are in any of the following situations:

- 2.1. Have made an offer, payment, consideration or benefit of any kind, which constitutes illegal or corrupt practice, directly or indirectly, as an inducement or reward in relation to the tendering, awarding or execution of the Contract.
- 2.2. Are involved in any form of fraud, corruption, collusion, coercive practice, bribery, involvement in a criminal organisation or other illegal activity
- 2.3. Are insolvent, in receivership, bankrupt, or being wound up
- 2.4. Have suspended activities
- 2.5. Are subject to legal proceedings related to 2.1

- 2.6. Have at any time been found guilty and sentenced by a court, whether in the country of employment or abroad, for a criminal offence in respect of children or vulnerable adults

2.7. Are engaged in:

- terrorism or the material support of terrorism
- the sale or manufacture, either directly or indirectly, of anti-personnel mines or any components produced primarily for the operation thereof
- the sale or manufacture, either directly or indirectly, of weapons
- the production of alcohol, tobacco, or pornography.

3. Declaration concerning Conflicts of Interest

We declare that neither we nor, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives have an undisclosed conflict of interest with NRC, in accordance with [NRC's Conflict of Interest Policy \(the Policy\)](#).

Where any potential conflict of interest exists between our Representatives and NRC or any NRC staff member, we shall notify NRC in writing of the potential conflict using [Form F in the Policy](#). We understand that the Policy and the Form is available on [NRC's website](#) or that we can contact the NRC Procurement focal point, as mentioned in the tender documentation. NRC shall then determine whether action is required.

A conflict of interest can be due to a relationship with an NRC staff member such as family or friends.

We understand that if we fail to report a potential conflict of interest and are later found to have a conflict of interest, we may be removed from the NRC vendor database.

4. Declaration concerning compliance with national law

We declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives:

- 4.1. comply with all applicable laws and regulations in effect in the country or countries where the Contract will be carried out.

- 4.2. comply with all applicable export laws concerning the country or countries where the Contract will be carried out.
- 4.3. are registered with the relevant government authority with regard to taxation for the duration of the Contract.
- 4.4. pay taxes according to all applicable national laws and regulations for the duration of the Contract.

5. Declaration concerning compliance with labour standards

We declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives:

We declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives comply with applicable national labour law standards and the International Labour Organisation Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. Specifically, we declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives comply with the following minimum labour standards:

5.1. Working Conditions

- a. All workers receive a contract of employment that is written in a language they understand.
- b. All workers are free to leave after giving reasonable notice.
- c. All workers have the right to join or form trade unions of their own choosing and to bargain collectively.
- d. No worker is required to lodge 'deposits' or identity papers or immigration documents in order to obtain employment.

5.2. Wages and benefits

- a. Wages and benefits paid for a standard working week meet, at a minimum, national legal standards or industry benchmark standards, whichever is higher. Wages are always sufficient to meet basic needs.
- b. No deductions from wages are made as a disciplinary measure.

5.3. Working time

- a. Working hours comply with national laws and benchmark industry standards, whichever affords greater protection. Whenever possible working hours do not exceed 48 hours per week (8 hours per day).
- b. Workers are provided with at least one day off for every 7-day period.

5.4. Health and safety

- a. Steps are taken to prevent accidents and injury to health arising out of, associated with, or occurring in, the course of work, by minimizing, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment.
- b. Workers receive regular and documented health and safety training, and such training is repeated for new workers.
- c. Workers have access to clean toilet facilities and to potable water, and, if appropriate, sanitary facilities for food storage is provided.
- d. Accommodation, where provided, is clean, safe and adequately ventilated.

5.5. Discrimination and abuse

- a. No worker is forced, bonded or an involuntary prison worker.
- b. There is no discrimination at the workplace based on ethnic background, religion, age, disability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, union membership or political affiliation.
- c. Measures are in place to protect workers from sexually intrusive, threatening, insulting or exploitative behaviour, and from discrimination or termination of employment on unjustifiable grounds, e.g. marriage, pregnancy, parenthood or HIV status.
- d. Physical abuse or punishment, or threats of physical abuse, sexual or other harassment and verbal abuse, as well as other forms of intimidation, are prohibited.

5.6. Persons under 18

- a. No persons under the age of 18 shall be engaged in work which is hazardous to their health or safety, including night work.
- b. The working hours and nature of work of any worker who is under the age of 18 shall not interfere with their opportunity to complete his or her education.

c.

6. Declaration concerning the environmental standards

We declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives comply with applicable national environmental law standards and with international environmental standards, to the greatest extent possible.

Specifically, we declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives adhere to the following standards:

- 6.1. We respect national and international environmental legislation and regulation.
- 6.2. We ensure that production and extraction of raw materials for production does not contribute to the destruction of the resources and income base for marginalised populations, such as in claiming large land areas or other natural resources on which these populations are dependent.
- 6.3. We take environmental measures into consideration throughout the production and distribution chain ranging from the production of raw material to the consumer sale. This includes reasonable steps to minimise negative environmental impacts (e.g. emissions, water usage, waste) and to use - where possible - sustainable resources. Local, regional and global environmental aspects shall be considered. The local environment at the production site will not be exploited or degraded by pollution and waste.
- 6.4. We carefully manage hazardous chemicals and other substances in accordance with documented safety procedures.

7. Declaration concerning protection from sexual exploitation and abuse

We and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives comply with international standards related to protection

from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and sexual harassment.

Specifically, we declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives adhere to the following standards:

- 7.1. We take sexual misconduct seriously and ensure that any employee found to have carried out sexual misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 7.2. We will ensure, that none of our employees engage in any sexual activity with persons (adult or child) in relation with this contract regardless of the age of majority or consent locally.
- 7.3. We will ensure that none of our employees produce, procure, distribute or use sexually explicit material in any activities under the Contract or on any sites used under the Contract.
- 7.4. We will ensure that none of our employees will exchange money, employment, goods or services for sex, including sexual favours or other forms of humiliating, degrading, or exploitative behaviour. This prohibition extends to any use of sex trade workers. If any sexual misconduct is found to have taken place, such employees face disciplinary action.
- 7.5. We shall report any incident or complaint of sexual misconduct or child abuse related to the activities carried out under the Contract through NRC's PSEA and Safeguarding Unit at psea@nrc.no.
- 7.6. We shall report any known or reported sexual relationship between our employees and NRC staff to NRC.

8. Declaration concerning protection of children

We declare that neither we nor, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives are engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. We commit to upholding international and national laws and policies regarding child safeguarding.

Specifically, we declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives adhere to the following standards:

- 8.1. We support and protect the complainant, survivors and witnesses of any raised incidents or complaints of sexual misconduct or child abuse.
- 8.2. We will ensure, that our employees will not abuse or exploit children or act in a manner that may place a child at risk of harm.
- 8.3. We will ensure that our employees are not left alone with children.
- 8.4. We will ensure our employees will not ask children for personal contact details without a valid reason to do so.
- 8.5. We listen, to the best of our ability, to children's views and opinions and treat boys and girls in a manner that is respectful of their rights and dignity during the performance of the Contract.
- 8.6. We shall report any suspicion of child safeguarding concerns through the Complaints and Feedback

Mechanism, provided by the NRC contract focal point and at psea@nrc.no.

9. Declaration concerning anti-human trafficking

We declare that neither we nor, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives are engaged in trafficking in persons as defined in the protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons or the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Specifically, we declare that we and, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives adhere to the following standards:

- 9.1. We do not solicit persons for the purpose of employment, or offer employment by means of materially false or fraudulent pretences, representations, or promises.
- 9.2. We do not charge employees recruitment fees.
- 9.3. We do not provide or arrange housing for employees that does not meet host country housing and safety standards.
- 9.4. We commit to report any suspected violations of this clause to NRC immediately.
- 9.5. We commit to make our Representatives aware of the trafficking related prohibitions outlined above and share the Global Human Trafficking Hotline Information with them (1-844-888-FREE, help@befree.org).

10. General

We understand that:

- 10.1. The Declaration will be kept on file for a period of 10 years.
- 10.2. The Declaration will be updated every year or more often as appropriate.
- 10.3. We must inform NRC immediately in the event that there is a change to the Declaration.
- 10.4. NRC may perform checks to verify that the ethical standards are adhered to and shall be granted reasonable access to our premises and to our documentation, computer systems etc, in order to be allowed to do so.
- 10.5. In the event that NRC deem that we fail to meet or are not taking appropriate steps to meet, the ethical standards, NRC may immediately terminate any and all contracts and agreements we have with them and at no cost to NRC.

11. Requirement to notify NRC

We shall immediately notify NRC through the Complaints and Feedback Mechanism, provided by the NRC contract focal point if:

- 11.1. Any allegations of alleged corruption, sexual exploitation or abuse, or child abuse are made against us or, to the best of our knowledge, our Representatives, during the Contract, whether relating to the Contract or not.
- 11.2. Any allegations are made, or any changes occur, in relation to any of the declarations made herein

Signed on our behalf as follows:

Signature	
Name	
Position	
Date	
Place	