3040 Cornwallis Road ▪ PO Box 12194 ▪ Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194 ▪ USA
Telephone 919.541.6000 ▪ Fax 919.541.5985 ▪ www.rti.org

Request for Quote/Proposal (RFP)

Commodity/Service Required:	Post Monetization Assessment
Type of Procurement:	Competitive
Type of Contract:	Firm Fixed Price
Term of Contract:	Approx. 9 -12 mo. from contract execution
Contract Funding:	USDA
This Procurement supports:	SunGold, LIFT, P4P
Submit Proposal to:	FFPprocurement@rti.org
Date of Issue of RFP:	Sept 2, 2026
Date Questions from Supplier Due:	Sept 16, 2026
Date Proposal Due:	October 1, 2026
Approximate Date Purchase Order Issued to Successful Bidder(s):	**November 1, 2026**

Method of Submittal:	
Email: FFPprocurement@rti.org	
Respond via e-mail with submission in MS Word format and price/cost proposal in MS Excel format. The Bidder/Seller agrees to hold the prices in its offer firm for 60 **days** from the date specified for the receipt of offers, unless another time is specified in the addendum of the RFP/RFP.	
Solicitation Number:	RFP_SG_LIFT_P4P_08_2026

Attachments to RFP:

1. Attachment "A" – Commodity Specifications
2. Attachment "B" – Instructions to Bidders/Sellers
3. All PO Terms and Conditions are listed on our website at: rti-po-terms_English Version - v1.20.pdf or for commercial items: http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses_Commercial_Items.pdf (hereinafter the "Terms"). Supplier's delivery of products, performance of services, or issuance of invoices in connection with this purchase order establishes Supplier's agreement to the Terms. The Terms may only be modified in writing signed by both parties.

All bidders/sellers are responsible for carefully reviewing each attachment and follow any instructions that may be relevant to this procurement.

Attachment A
Commodity Specifications or Statement of Work

Statement of Work

Indicate a description of the activity/service that is expected from the supplier. Provide product specifications or service expectations (both if applicable). Include deliverables, timelines, and any special terms and conditions.

Description of Activity/Service:

Background:
The USDA Food for Progress funded SunGold project, is a five-year project implemented by RTI International. RTI International is an independent, non-profit research institute providing research, development, and technical services to government and commercial clients worldwide. The project uses a market driven, value chain approach to transform Ethiopia's sunflower sector, addressing key productivity, market linkage, financing, and policy constraints identified by public and private actors.

The USDA Food for Progress funded Livestock Innovation and Feed Transformation (LIFT) project in Kenya is a five-year project implemented by Counterpart International. Counterpart International is a non-profit organization that works with local partners to strengthen communities, improve governance, support food security, and expand economic opportunities. The project supports efforts to expand trade in agricultural products and increase agricultural productivity in Kenya through improved feed quality, affordability, and adoption of best practices at scale.

The USDA Food for Progress funded project Partnership for Productivity (P4P) project is a five-year project implemented by Global Communities. Global Communities is a non-profit organization that runs a wide range of community-driven development programs that span health, food systems, humanitarian response, and financial inclusion. The project will strengthen Ethiopia's agricultural sector by improving productivity and expanding market access. The project aims to help farmers adopt improved practices, access better inputs, and build more resilient, market-oriented value chains.

Because these USDA Food for Progress projects monetized the same commodity within interconnected East African markets during a similar implementation period, RTI International, Counterpart International, and Global Communities are jointly commissioning a single independent post-monetization market assessment. This approach will promote methodological consistency across countries, facilitate comparative regional analysis, and provide USDA with a comprehensive assessment of market impacts associated with the monetization activities.

To support implementation of these projects, the three organizations collectively monetized 188,000 MT of Hard Red Winter wheat in Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya in 2026. These organizations seek an independent third-party contractor to conduct an assessment on the effects of monetization on commodity markets, commercial trade, and market functioning and to determine whether any observed market impacts can reasonably be attributed to monetization activities while accounting for other relevant market factors. One fixed-priced deliverables-based subcontract will be awarded to complete this assessment.

Description of Service Needed:
Post-monetization market assessment to review and analyze the effects of the monetization of Hard Red Winter wheat conducted by participating organizations in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. The assessment will evaluate the impacts of monetization on commodity markets, commercial trade, market functioning, domestic production, supply chains, storage, transportation, and regional trade dynamics, including any evidence of market disruption or displacement of commercial activity. The assessment shall determine the extent to which any observed market changes can reasonably be attributed to monetization activities while accounting for other external market factors, including international commodity price movements, exchange rate fluctuations, seasonal production patterns, weather events, policy and regulatory changes, and broader regional trade dynamics.

The assessment shall analyze market conditions and potential monetization effects for the period beginning 30 days prior to the date of the first sale of monetized commodities and ending one year after delivery of the first tranche of commodities.

The contractor will apply a rigorous mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative market analysis with qualitative stakeholder consultations and triangulating primary and secondary data sources to support evidence-based findings and conclusions,

The contractor will be expected to prepare a comprehensive regional assessment that includes country-specific analyses for each participating country, as well as a comparative analysis, highlighting key findings, market impacts, cross-border trade effects where applicable, and any differences in outcomes across the four markets. The final report should clearly present evidence supporting conclusions regarding whether monetization resulted in adverse impacts on commodity markets, commercial trade, or domestic production, consistent with USDA Food for Progress post-monetization assessment requirements.

Purpose:
The objective of the post monetization assessment is to document the effects of monetization in Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya (place of sale) to determine whether monetization sales caused any adverse impacts on commodity markets. Adverse impacts may include displacement of commercial trade, disruptions to normal market operations, and disincentives to local food production. The assessment should also determine the extent to which any observed market impacts can reasonably be attributed to the monetization activities while accounting for other relevant external market factors, including international commodity price movements, exchange rate fluctuations, weather events, policy changes, and regional market dynamics. To assess these market impacts on commodity markets, commercial trade, and market functioning, the evaluation should include both primary and secondary sources of information incorporate desk-based and in-country studies, and use a mixed methods approach that triangulates quantitative and qualitative data from multiple sources to enhance the reliability of the findings.

Product or Service Expectations (both if applicable):

The selected contractor will

1. Review the projects' approved monetization plan, related sales documents, relevant Bellmon analyses, and applicable USDA Food for Progress monetization and post-monetization guidance.
2. Collect data from both primary and secondary sources of information related to the commodity and commodity market, traveling as necessary to conduct data collection and analysis. Primary data should include consultations with key market actors, while secondary data should include relevant government statistics, market information systems, customs data, and other reliable market sources, as appropriate.
3. Monitor the commodity market to understand price trends and broader market conditions, compare against historic data, and global data points. Monthly pricing data should be collected for at least five years before the start of monetization and through the full assessment period, defined as beginning 30 days prior to the date of the first sale of monetized commodities and ending one year after delivery of the first tranche of commodities. Where relevant, the assessment should also examine import volumes, trade flows, storage utilization, transportation costs, and substitute commodity markets.
4. Analyze data to understand market context, prices, and commodity supply and demand dynamics, using appropriate analytical methods to distinguish market changes attributable to monetization from those resulting from other external factors. Identify any effects attributable to monetization.
5. Prepare post-monetization market assessment for dissemination to RTI International, Counterpart International, Global Communities, and USDA. The report should include regional findings, country-specific analyses, comparative conclusions across participating countries, supporting evidence, and practical recommendations. Present the findings to USDA.

Examples of questions the evaluator should answer (but not limited to):

- To what extent did monetization affect local or regional production and consumption in the short - (few months after monetization), medium - (marketing year[1] after monetization), and long-term (subsequent marketing year)?
- To what extent did monetization displace commercial trade in the short-term, medium-term, and long-term?
- Are there any substitutes for the selected commodity? If so, did the monetization of the selected commodity impact production/marketing of those substitutes?
- Were the timing and volume of the sale appropriate?
- Did sales occur as intended or was there a lag because of unforeseen conditions in the market?
- What were the initial private voluntary organization (PVO), i.e., RTI International, Counterpart International, Global Communities, estimates for price and quantity? What were the actual prices and quantities of the commodities sold?

[1] USDA uses local marketing years in official estimates in the Production, Supply, and Distribution (PSD) database. Marketing years differ by country and by commodity. For more information on definitions related to the PSD database please see https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/about#G10.

- To what extent was in-country storage utilization affected?
- Did monetized commodities crowd-out commercial or local commodities in competition for storage facilities?
- Did the cost for storage change due to the monetized commodity coming into the warehousing market?
- Was the transportation infrastructure affected? How?
- Were buying patterns of local and international actors affected? If so, what was the magnitude and length of the change?
- Was there an effect on prices? If so, how? Do price trends in the market parallel overall global trends or are there circumstances unique to that particular market?
- What happened to local and international prices during this period? (Were there any sudden price shocks that differed from other years)?
- Do price fluctuations follow a global, regional, or particular local pattern?
- To what extent can observed market changes reasonably be attributed to monetization activities, as opposed to other external factors such as international commodity prices, exchange rate fluctuations, weather conditions, policy changes, or other market developments?
- Were there any other market factors that could have impacted prices during that time? (For example, adverse weather affecting production, the one corn processor had their mill damaged/prolonged power outage and stopped buying corn--which may have caused lower local prices for farmers--, etc.)
- Did the effects of monetization differ across Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Burundi? If so, what market characteristics, trade dynamics, regulatory conditions, commodity supply and demand factors, or other contextual considerations help explain the observed differences in market impacts among the participating countries?
- What lessons learned and recommendations can be drawn from the assessment to strengthen the planning, implementation, and monitoring of future USDA Food for Progress monetization activities?

Deliverables, Timelines, Special Terms and Conditions:

DELIVERABLES
Deliverable 1 Final work plan inclusive of a timeline specifying key activities, methods, and deliverable due dates, together with an Inception Report describing the proposed methodology, analytical framework, data sources, and implementation schedule.
Deliverable 2 Detailed data collection plan, tools, and data quality assurance strategy for review and approval by RTI International, Counterpart International, and Global Communities prior to field implementation.
Deliverable 3 Baseline market profile brief summarizing historical market conditions, commodity supply and demand, pricing trends, and market structure prior to monetization.

Deliverable 4 Full/final raw and clean data sets, including supporting documentation (e.g., data dictionary, metadata, analytical files, and interview records, where appropriate).
Deliverable 5 Draft Post-Monetization Market Assessment Report and draft 2-3-page standalone summary brief, and presentation of preliminary findings to RTI, Counterpart International, Global Communities, and USDA.
Deliverable 6 Final Post-Monetization Market Assessment Report and 2-3-page standalone summary brief, final presentation, and all supporting annexes.

Pricing

Item #	Quantity to be Purchased	Description of Preferred Commodity or Services Specifications	Unit of Measure	Unit Fixed Price (Each)	Total Fixed Price (Each)	Lead Time Availability (Number of Days)
1	1	Post-monetization assessment as described above	service			
Total Value						

In addition, **a financial proposal** for the overall effort in USD including taxes that is:

- Provided in excel format
- Details line items required for all specified tasks and deliverables
- Accompanied by a narrative that provides sufficient basis of estimating detail for all cost line items to substantiate overall cost

By signing this attachment, the bidder confirms he has a complete understanding of the specifications and fully intends to deliver items that comply with the above listed specifications.

Signature:	
Title:	
Date:	

Attachment “B”
Instructions to Bidders/Sellers

1. **Procurement Narrative Description**: The Buyer (RTI, GC, and CI) intends to purchase commodities and/or services identified in Attachment A. The Buyer intends to purchase the quantities (for commodities) and/or services (based on deliverables identified in a Statement of Work). The term of the Ordering Agreement shall be from Award Date to the Delivery date of the Offeror unless extended by mutual agreement of the parties. The Buyer intends to award to a single “approved’ supplier based on conformance to the listed specifications, the ability to service this contract, and selling price. We reserve the right to award to more than one bidder. If an Ordering Agreement is established as a result of this RFP, supplier understands that quantities indicated in the specifications (Attachment A) are an estimate only and RTI does not guarantee the purchase quantity of any item listed.
2. **Procuring Activity**: This procurement will be made by **Research Triangle Institute (RTI International), Global Communities, and Counterpart International** located at

RTI International: 3040 E. Cornwallis Rd, Durham, NC 27713 Counterpart International: 1919 Pennsylvania Ave NW Ste 425, Washington DC, 20006 Global Communities: 7700 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100, Bethesda, MD 20814 USA

(*insert full addressed of the offices*)

who has a purchase requirement in support of a project funded by

USDA Food for Progress

RTI, GC, and CI shall award the initial quantities and/or services and any option quantities (if exercised by RTI) to Seller by a properly executed Purchase Order as set forth within the terms of this properly executed agreement.

3. **Proposal Requirements**. All Sellers will submit a proposal which contains offers for all items and options included in this RFP. All information presented in the Sellers proposal will be considered during RTI’s evaluation. Failure to submit the information required in this RFP may result in Seller’s offer being deemed non-responsive. Sellers are responsible for submitting offers, and any modifications, revisions, or withdrawals, so as to reach RTI’s office designated in the RFP by the time and date specified in the RFP. Any offer, modification, revision, or withdrawal of an offer received at the RTI office designated in the RFP after the exact time specified for receipt of offers is “late” and may not be considered at the discretion of the RTI Procurement Officer.
4. The Seller’s proposal shall include the following:
   (a) The solicitation number:
   (b) The date and time submitted:
   (c) The name, address, and telephone number of the seller (bidder) and authorized signature of same:
   (d) Validity period of Quote:

(e) A technical description of the items being offered in sufficient detail to evaluate compliance with the requirements in the solicitation. This may include product literature, or other documents, if necessary. The technical proposal must include:

- **Approach and work plan:** The technical proposal should describe the proposed analytical methodology, data sources, attribution approach, quality assurance procedures, and risk mitigation measures. The proposal should reflect how the offeror would undertake the main activities of the assignment, their content and duration, propose specific questions that the assessment will address, milestones (including interim approvals by RTI, GC and CI), and delivery dates. The proposed work plan should be consistent with the technical approach and methodology, showing understanding of the scope of work and ability to translate them into a feasible working plan (7 page maximum).
- **Organization:** The offeror shall provide summary of organizational capacity and experience to conduct post-monetization evaluations including geographic areas. This section should also state the organizational legal status, type of ownership and management, overview of projects/services, and geographic scope (1 page maximum).
- **Team composition:** List and briefly describe the names, qualifications, and responsibilities of the proposed staff (2 page maximum). CVs should be included in an annex, with 2 pages per CV not counted toward page limit, highlighting previous experiences in undertaking similar assignments.
- **Past Performance:** At least three examples of similar engagements undertaken within the last 5 years, and the results achieved. Provide the current or prior clients' name, contract number, contract value, current postal and e-mail addresses, telephone number for a currently available point of contact (2 page maximum).

(f) If RTI informs Seller that the Commodity is intended for export and the Commodity is not classified for export under Export Classification Control Number (ECCN) "EAR99" of the U.S. Department of Commerce Export Administration Regulations (EAR), then Seller must provide RTI the correct ECCN and the name of Seller's representative responsible for Trade Compliance who can confirm the export classification.

(g) Lead Time Availability of the Commodity/Service.

(h) Terms of warranty describing what and how the warranties will be serviced (if any).

(i) Special pricing instructions: Price and any discount terms or special requirements or terms (special note: pricing must include guaranteed firm fixed prices for items requested. See attachment A "pricing" section for further instructions on cost proposals.

(j) Payment address or instructions (if different from mailing address)

(k) Acknowledgment of solicitation amendments (if any)

(l) Past performance information, when included as an evaluation factor, to include recent and relevant contracts for the same or similar items and other references (including points of contact with telephone numbers, and other relevant information) (m **Special Note:** *The Seller, by his response to this RFP and accompanying signatures, confirms that the terms and conditions associated with this RFP document have been agreed to and all of its attachments have been carefully read and understood and all related questions answered.*

5. **Forms:** Sellers (potential bidders or suppliers) must record their pricing utilizing the format found on Attachment "A". Sellers must sign the single hardcopy submitted and send to address listed on the cover page of this RFP.

6. **Questions Concerning the Procurement**. All questions in regards to this RFP to be directed to

   Carrie Chandrasurin

   (*insert name of procurement officer*)

   at this email address:

   FFPprocurement@rti.org

   (*insert email address of the procurement officer*).

   The cut-off date for questions is *(insert date).*

   Sept 16, 2026

7. **Notifications and Deliveries**: Time is of the essence for this procurement. Seller shall deliver the items or services no later than the dates set forth in the contract that will be agreed by both parties as a result of this RFP. The Seller shall immediately contact the Buyer's Procurement Officer if the specifications, availability, or the delivery schedule(s) changes. Exceptional delays will result in financial penalties being imposed of Seller.

8. **Documentation**: The following documents will be required for payment for each item:
   (a) A detailed invoice listing Purchase Order Number, Bank information with wiring instructions (when applicable)
   (b) Documentation/evidence of approval for associated/relevant deliverable

9. **Payment Terms**: Refer to RTI subcontract terms and conditions found in https://www.rti.org/sites/default/files/documents/2026-03/RTI%20Standard%20Subcontract%20Terms_v%201%2018.pdf and

   https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?collectionCode=CFR.

   Payment can be made via wire transfer or other acceptable form**.** Sellers may propose alternative payment terms and they will be considered in the evaluation process.

10. **Alternative Proposals**: Sellers are permitted to offer "alternatives" should they not be able to meet the listed requirements. Any alternative proposals shall still satisfy the minimum requirements set forth in Attachment A Specifications.

11. **Inspection Process**: Each item shall be inspected prior to final acceptance of the item. All significant discrepancies, shortages, and/or faults must be satisfactorily corrected and satisfactorily documented prior to delivery and release of payment.

12. **Key Qualifications:** The contractor should have demonstrated experience in:

a) Market analysis of agricultural commodities
b) Designing and conducting similar studies in the development and/or private sector
c) US government commodity monetization schemes
d) Mixed-methods data collection and analysis in East Africa, preferably Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Kenya
e) Preparing high-quality evaluative reports for similar types of market assessments
f) Conducting USDA post-monetization assessments, Bellmon analyses, or similar market evaluations.
g) Assessing market impacts, trade displacement, and effects on local production, with knowledge of USDA requirements and commodity market methodologies.
h) Conducting multi-country agricultural market assessments or regional commodity market analyses.
i) Demonstrated expertise in agricultural economics, commodity markets, international trade, or related disciplines.
j) Experience applying attribution or market impact analysis methodologies in donor-funded agricultural programs.

12. **Eligibility Criteria:** This assignment is open for firms only (*individual CVs are not accepted*). To be considered eligible under this opportunity, firms must meet the following criteria:
    a) Proof of legal registration for similar services as demonstrated by commercial registration certificate and tax identification number (TIN).
    b) Renewed business license.
    c) Demonstrated legal authorization to operate in, or established partnerships to conduct fieldwork across, the participating countries, where applicable
    d) Written confirmation that the Offeror had no involvement in any monetization activities related to the projects covered under this Terms of Reference and is fully independent from any agent or entity that conducted those monetizations.

13. **Evaluation and Award Process:** The RTI Procurement Officer will award an agreement contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible Seller (bidder) whose offer conforms to the RFP will be most advantageous to RTI, price and other factors considered. The award will be made to the Seller representing the **best value** to the project and to RTI. For the purpose of this RFP, price, delivery, technical and past performance are of equal importance for the purposes of evaluating, and selecting the “best value” awardee. RTI intends to evaluate offers and award an Agreement without discussions with Sellers. Therefore, the Seller’s initial offer should contain the Seller’s best terms from a price and technical standpoint. However, RTI reserves the right to conduct discussions if later determined by the RTI Procurement Officer to be necessary.

    The evaluation factors will be comprised of the following criteria:

    (a) **<u>PRICE</u>**. Lowest reasonable evaluated ceiling price to complete the assignment

    (b) **<u>EXPERTISE</u>**. Extent to which the profile and experience of the company and proposed team members align with the “key qualifications” section of this scope of work.

    (c) **<u>TECHNICAL</u>**. Extent to which the applicant has a clear approach to all components of the assignment as outlined in RFP Attachment A. Applicants must clearly explain their methods, analytical approach, including how they will customize their services to the local context and address USDA post-monetization assessment requirements.

(d) <u>**PAST PERFORMANCE**</u> - Extent to which applicant can demonstrate successful accomplishment of similar assignments, including references from prior clients, preferably involving USDA or comparable donor-funded commodity market assessments.

14. **Award Notice**. A written notice of award or acceptance of an offer, mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful supplier within the time acceptance specified in the offer, shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party.
15. **Validity of Offer**. This RFP in no way obligates RTI to make an award, nor does it commit RTI to pay any costs incurred by the Seller in the preparation and submission of a proposal or amendments to a proposal. Your proposal shall be considered valid for ______ days after submission.
16. **Representations and Certifications.** Winning suppliers under a US Federal Contract are required to complete and sign as part of your offer RTI Representations and Certifications for values over $10,000.
17. **Certification.** The offeror, by signing its offer, hereby certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress on its behalf in connection with the awarding of this contract.
18. **Anti- Kick Back Act of 1986**. Anti-Kickback Act of 1986 as referenced in FAR 52.203-7 is hereby incorporated into this Request for Proposal as a condition of acceptance. If you have reasonable grounds to believe that a violation, as described in Paragraph (b) of FAR 52.203-7 may have occurred, you should report this suspected violation to the RTI's Ethics Hotline at 1-877-212-7220 or by sending an e-mail to ethics@rti.org. You may report a suspected violation anonymously.
19. **The John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019 - section 889**. RTI cannot use any equipment or services from specific companies, or their subsidiaries and affiliates, including Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, and Dahua Technology Company ("Covered Technology"). In response to this request for proposal, please do not provide a quote which includes any Covered Technology. Any quote which includes Covered Technology will be deemed non-responsive. Additionally, if the United States Government is the source of funds for this RFP, the resulting Supplier shall not provide any equipment, system, or service that uses Covered Technology as a substantial or essential component

Acceptance:

Seller agrees, as evidenced by signature below, that the seller's completed and signed solicitation, seller's proposal including all required submissions and the negotiated terms contained herein, constitute the entire agreement for the services described herein.

By: (*Seller Company Name*)

Signature: ____

Title:

Date: