



Request for Application # 2019-002

DATIM Data Exchange and Interoperability

I. Summary of Deadlines

The expected schedule for this application is outlined in the following table. Note that PATH reserves the right to modify this schedule as needed. All parties will be notified simultaneously by email of any changes.

Applications due	January 31, 2019 at 5pm EST
Bidders notified of decision	February 8, 2019

II. PATH Statement of Business

PATH is the leader in global health innovation. An international nonprofit organization, we save lives and improve health, especially among women and children. We accelerate innovation across five platforms—vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, devices, and system and service innovations—that harness our entrepreneurial insight, scientific and public health expertise, and passion for health equity. By mobilizing partners around the world, we take innovation to scale, working alongside countries primarily in Africa and Asia to tackle their greatest health needs. Together, we deliver measurable results that disrupt the cycle of poor health. Learn more at www.path.org.

III. Project Background

A. Project Background

Digital Square is a partnership of the world’s leading digital health experts from 40+ organizations working together with countries to strengthen digital health systems. As a PATH-led initiative, Digital Square offers a new way to invest in digital health—providing a space where countries and members of the global community can gather to think big and do good, together. By convening government officials, technological innovators, donor and implementation partners, and others across borders and boundaries in the Digital Square, we can grow possibility into reality by focusing on our common goal: **connecting the world for better health.**



B. Proposed Project Timeline

Activity	Team	Tentative Start Dates	Tentative End Dates
Provide Data exchange and Interoperability Product Leadership	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Support PEPFAR county teams and USG agencies as they perform direct data import into DATIM on a quarterly, semi-annual, and annual basis for MER and SIMS data.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Provide direct programming support the for DATIM core to build integration components using programming languages such as Java, SQL, ReactJS, R, Python, NodeJS, and C#.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Provide day-to-day operational and maintenance support of integration components to ensure their daily operations as they integrate with both upstream and downstream systems.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Provide testing support to ensure quality assurance of deployed integration components using both manual and automated methods build on tools such as Cucumber, Gherkin Selenium, and Java.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Ensure routine use and leverage DHIS2 APIs and ADX import functions to build data exchange-focused apps for use by PEPFAR country team, IPs, and USG agency partners in DATIM.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Provide technical assistance and training to ministries of Health (MoH), PEPFAR country teams, IPs, and USG agency partners to foster and facilitate their development of apps and components that provide machine-to-machine data exchange with DATIM.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Provide direct programming support for the build out, maintenance, and operational support of an enterprise-level, standards-based data exchange platform to facilitate machine-to-machine data exchange with DATIM using languages such as XQuery, JavaScript, and ShellScript.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Provide application programming support for PEPFAR's proof of concept and pilot initiatives with PEPFAR country teams, MoHs, IPs, and USG agency partners, leveraging new and existing enterprise-level, standards-based data exchange platform components.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021



Develop and foster data exchange-focused communities of practice to promote self-sufficiency and sustainability of IPs, PEPFAR country teams, MoHs, and USG agencies as they move closer to the goal of machine-to-machine data exchange with PEPFAR and other donor systems.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Routinely engage with PEPFAR partners to share knowledge and coordinate development activities to assist PEPFAR in synchronizing its investments in digital global goods.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Provide systems execution and implementation coordination for organizations working together in building out different components of DATIM's data exchange platform.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Contribute to the adoption of data exchange standards by implementing components using ADX, CSD, mCSD, and FHIR standards in DATIM and DHIS2.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Proactively identify integration and data exchange problem areas where technology can be implemented to improve DATIM's support to PEPFAR programs.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Brainstorm with PEPFAR and other stakeholders to develop new and innovative interoperable technology solutions that can be deployed in a cost-effective and timely manner.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Coordinate with PEPFAR partners on the programming and deployment of future technology solutions.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021
Other activities and deliverables as directed and approved by the S/GAC PRIME IS lead.	Applicant to define team	Feb 15 2019	December 31 2021

* Additional annual cycles of funding and scope may be requested by USAID.

IV. Scope of Work and Deliverables

A. Scope of Work

PEPFAR Strategy for Accelerating HIV/AIDS Epidemic Control (2017-2020) (“Epidemic Control Strategy”) sets a bold course for achieving control of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in ten high-burdened countries by the end of 2020. One of the action steps outlined in the strategy focuses on “continuous use of granular epidemiologic and cost data to improve partner performance and increase program impact and effectiveness,” which emphasizes PEPFAR’s need for data-driven decisions. PEPFAR’s DATIM system which was launched in early 2015, is the global system used to collect data on monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (MER), site improvement monitoring (SIMS), expenditure reporting (ER), and evaluation standards of practice (EvalsOP). In the near future it will also collect survey, surveillance, and research



(SaSR) data. It collects data from 55+ countries, has more than 10,000 users, and provides annual, semi-annual, and quarterly reporting for PEPFAR.

The intent of this RFA is provide support to the PEPFAR DATIM in the following activities:

- Provide product leadership/ownership for the data exchange and interoperability portfolio within the DATIM ecosystem.
- Provide application programming for development and operation for the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) MoH Alignment systems.
- Support PEPFAR country teams performing direct MER data import and USG agencies including USAID, DoD, CDC, and HRSA in performing direct SIMS data import into DATIM on a quarterly basis.
- Provide application programming support for the building out, maintenance, and operational support of key components of DATIM's data exchange enabled platform, (i.e., DATIM4U).
- Provide on-going operational and systems programming support for the bi-directional system integration between FACTSInfo and DATIM which provides daily flow of funding mechanism and MER results and targets data between the two systems.
- Develop and foster a data exchange community of practice to support IPs, PEPFAR country teams, and USG agencies in moving closer to the goal of machine-to-machine data exchange.
- Curate and maintain DATIM's metadata sharing platform to facilitate interoperability with DATIM.
- Provide thought leadership in the support of maturing international data exchange standards such as ADX and CSD.
- Provide project management and execution coordination for various partners engaged in PEPFAR DATIM support activities which are working together in building out different components of the DATIM's data exchange platform, as well as PEPFAR digital global goods.

B. Deliverables

The applicant is expected to provide documentation of on-going activities which include:

- Meeting notes and participant lists for routine and ad-hoc programmatic and management meetings in support of DATIM activities.
- Travel reports and presentations for participation in DHIS2-related conferences (such as the annual DHIS2 Experts Academy in Oslo, and the DHIS2 Symposium in DC) as approved and directed by PEPFAR's S/GAC PRIME Information systems (IS) lead.
- Source code for data exchange tools shall be stored in PEPFAR's GitHub repositories under the <https://github.com/pepfar-datim> domain.

V. Application Requirements - Cost

All budgets should be organized based on types of costs as set forth in the section immediately below. A detailed budget should be provided for the total period of performance and submitted in an unlocked excel worksheet. Budget notes should accompany the detailed budget. All costs must be submitted in United States dollars (USD).

Estimated Amounts for the Cost Application

The applicant should provide a detailed explanation of costing at a full detail level and describe in the cost notes the cost reasonableness of each proposed cost.



Digital Square will not evaluate budgets or applications determined as non-responsive or if the technical application is determined to be technically unacceptable. The price/business evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the quoted solution and proposed costs, rates and Evaluation Matrix. Digital Square will conduct an analysis to determine if all quoted prices are reasonable. This evaluation is conducted with the expectation of adequate price competition and will rely heavily on market forces to determine whether proposed prices are fair and reasonable. The comparison of proposed prices in response to this solicitation is the preferred and intended price analysis technique.

Budgets should incorporate an annual breakdown with a full performance period as of the estimated award date of February 15, 2019, contingent upon USAID approval, through September 2021. This term may be extended at the approval of USAID.

Required Elements

The Cost Application shall include a budget narrative, detailing the cost and cost basis applied in generating the application. The Cost Application should also include a detailed budget that is itemized along the cost categories defined above. This detailed budget should be submitted in an unlocked Excel spreadsheet and must include the following information:

- Personnel at minimum the budget should detail:
 - All proposed staff/positions with daily rates.
 - Total level of effort in days for key staff.
- Itemization of all other costs (e.g., agency costs, service tax, administrative costs, supplies, etc.).
- Estimated schedule of other anticipated expenses (travel, subawardee resources, supplies, outside resources, etc.).
- Details of all subcontracted work including proposed consultants as well as proposed subawardees.

The Cost Application should begin with a summary budget detailing costs in the following categories:

Description	Total Cost (USD)
Personnel	
Fringe Benefits	
Travel	
Equipment	
Supplies	
Other Direct Costs	



Contractual	
Consultants	
Total Direct Costs	
Indirect Costs	
Total Project Costs	

Special Note on Indirect Costs

Indirect costs are overhead expenses incurred as a result of the project but not easily identified with the project's activities. These are administrative expenses that are related to overall general operations and are shared among projects and/or functions. Examples include executive oversight, existing facilities costs, accounting, grants management, legal expenses, utilities, and technology support.

If your organization includes indirect costs in the budget, you must provide a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement with the US Government or three years of audited financials to PATH to validate the use of this rate.

VI. Application Requirements – Technical

Provide a narrative on your technical approach to accomplish the Scope of Work identified in section IV, including:

- Description of technical approach which includes:
 - Problem statement and solution approach.
 - A description of how your solution will accomplish each of the subtasks in this application.
 - Potential obstacles and plans to overcome them.
- Timeline to meet the deliverables.
- Identification of major internal and external resources.
- Profile of relevant corporate qualifications.
- Profile of relevant experience and examples of related work.
- Staffing plan accompanied by Curriculum Vitae (CV) for key technical positions.
- List of certifications possessed by each key technical personnel.
- Number of years in business.

Annual revenue

If your company has more than one location, please indicate these qualifications for the site that is responding.



VII. Additional Attachments

1. Illustrative Work Plan. An illustrative first year work plan timeline should be included in the annex. This work plan should include illustrative results and describe specific interventions to achieve those results. The illustrative work plan should describe specific interventions (activities) planned for the relevant tasks and should include a timeline providing target dates for achievement of milestones and illustrative results.
2. Resumes and Letters of Commitment for all proposed key personnel. A complete and current resume must be submitted for each key personnel position, detailing the requisite qualifications and experience of the individual. Qualifications, experience, and skills shall be placed in chronological order starting with most recent information.
3. Staffing Plan. Offerors shall include a staffing plan, including specific position titles and the approximate level of participation for each position (percentage of full time equivalent and time period).
4. Third-tier Subawardee Agreements, Contracts or Commitment. Offerors may submit any agreements, contracts or commitments it has with any potential third-tier subawardee.
5. Past performance information sheets.
6. Awards. Include any information on awards or certifications.

VIII. Application Evaluation Criteria

The following is a list of significant criteria against which applications will be assessed:

1. Technical Approach that conforms to all of the components listed in Section VI above (**40 points**)
 - Description of technical approach.
 - Timeline to meet the deliverables.
 - Identification of major internal and external resources.
 - Qualifications.
 - Profile of relevant experience and examples of related work.
 - Staffing plan accompanied by CVs for key technical positions.
 - List of certifications possessed by each key technical personnel.
 - Number of years in business.
2. Experience - to be validated by past performance references (**15 points**).
3. Experience with USAID information system requirements (including security requirements) - to be validated by past performance references (**15 points**).
4. Costs - as detailed in Section V (**30 points**).

Note: PATH reserves the right to include additional criteria.



IX. Instructions and Deadlines for Responding

A. PATH contacts

Program Contact: Kelly Fallt; kfallt@path.org
Procurement Contact: Teresa Gingras; tgingras@path.org
Technical Lead Contact: Carl Leitner; cleitner@path.org

B. Applications Due: January 31, 2019

Completed applications should be submitted by email to the contacts listed above. The subject line of the email should read: "RFA # 2019-002 DATIM Data Exchange and Interoperability - (Applicant name)"

We advise that you send files in commonly recognized MS formats. We will not accept responsibility for resolving technical transmission problems with applications. A hard copy of the application should not be sent. Your application should only include information specific to accomplishing the scope of work. Additional information submitted outside of the application requirements will be reviewed at PATH's discretion only. Elaborate materials, artwork or other information not directly related to the scope of work are not suggested.

C. Conclusion of Process

Applicants will be notified of the decision by February 8, 2019. Final award is subject to the terms and conditions included in this solicitation, as well as successful final negotiations of all applicable terms and conditions affecting this work.

X. Terms and Conditions of the Solicitation

A. Notice of non-binding solicitation

PATH reserves the right to reject any and all bids received in response to this solicitation and is in no way bound to accept any application. The applications submitted through this RFA process are the responsibility of the submitter and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United States Government, or PATH.

B. Confidentiality

All information provided by PATH as part of this solicitation must be treated as confidential. In the event that any information is inappropriately released, PATH will seek appropriate remedies as allowed. Applications, discussions, and all information received in response to this solicitation will be held as strictly confidential, except as otherwise noted.



C. Conflict of interest disclosure

Suppliers bidding on PATH business must disclose, to the procurement contact listed in the RFA, any actual or potential conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest could be present if; there is a personal relationship with a PATH staff member that constitutes a significant financial interest, board memberships, other employment, and ownership or rights in intellectual property that may be in conflict with the supplier's obligations to PATH. Suppliers and PATH are protected when actual or perceived conflicts of interest are disclosed. When necessary, PATH will create a management plan that provides mitigation of potential risks presented by the disclosed conflict of interest.

D. Communication

All communications regarding this solicitation shall be directed to appropriate parties at PATH indicated in Section VIII. A. Contacting third parties involved in the project, the review panel, or any other party may be considered a conflict of interest and could result in disqualification of the application.

E. Acceptance

Acceptance of an application does not imply acceptance of its terms and conditions. PATH reserves the option to negotiate on the final terms and conditions. We additionally reserve the right to negotiate the substance of the finalists' applications, as well as the option of accepting partial components of an application if appropriate.

F. Right to final negotiations

PATH reserves the option to negotiate on the final costs and final scope of work, and also reserves the option to limit or include third parties at PATH's sole and full discretion in such negotiations.

G. Third-party limitations

PATH does not represent, warrant, or act as an agent for any third party as a result of this solicitation. This solicitation does not authorize any third party to bind or commit PATH in any way without our express written consent.

H. Application Validity

Applications submitted under this request shall be valid for 90 days from the date the application is due. The validity period shall be stated in the application submitted to PATH.