



Mobile App Development Challenge FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Can I develop more than one app for this challenge?

Yes. Each app should be described in a separate application. IREX intends to reach as many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as possible in different countries, so each mobile app should be for a different NGO, rather than multiple apps for the same NGO.

Does the mobile app developer have to be based in the Middle East or North Africa (MENA)?

With the spread of outsourcing, many software projects are developed in multiple countries. Developers based in the Middle East and North Africa are encouraged to apply, as IREX is interested in developing local capacity. However, this is not a requirement. Please note that any text or voice used in the applications is expected to be in Arabic, so developers must have Arabic language skills.

How is an NGO defined for the purpose of this challenge?

A partner organization must be a non-governmental organization that is established for the primary purpose of social good and does not seek profit. In most cases, organizations will be registered as NGOs in their respective countries. However, in some countries registration of NGOs is difficult, so developers may partner with non-registered entities or commercially-registered non-profit companies with a civil society focus.

Does the mobile app developer need to be an NGO?

No.

I have experience developing mobile apps, but I don't know any NGOs or what their needs are. How can I find NGOs interested in mobile apps?

IREX is unable to recommend partner NGOs. It is the responsibility of the developer to identify its partners. IREX would not want to disadvantage or privilege certain developers or NGOs in the preparation of bids.

How complex or innovative does the mobile app need to be?

Generally, simpler is better because many NGOs do not have experience with mobile apps and must "walk before they can run." We are interested in apps that meet the needs of NGOs and that do not malfunction rather than complex products that may be difficult to administer, take a long time to develop, or be prone to failure.

How much time do we have to develop the mobile app?

Generally, development and testing should take no more than six weeks from start to finish. IREX may grant exceptions to this rule to a developer that can provide compelling reasons for a longer schedule.

Can I make payments to the partner NGO as part of the contract?

No. The partner NGOs will be the beneficiaries of this initiative. The NGOs will receive a mobile app free of charge that they will be able to install and use for their own purposes. The only investment that the NGOs will make in this process will be staff time in helping the developer identify their needs. NGOs may not be compensated for sharing these needs with developers.

Because the mobile app is directed toward helping NGOs carry out work that is ongoing or planned, no funding will be provided to support NGO staff time in implementing projects using the mobile app.

What equipment can I buy as part of the contract?

Developers can buy up to three (3) smartphones for testing and pilot usage of the mobile app. Large-scale implementation of the mobile app is expected to be done on equipment already owned by the NGOs and their staff / volunteers. No funds will be provided for the purchase of computers or other devices.

When will I be paid?

IREX will pay 50% of the amount upon contract signing and will pay the remaining 50% when IREX staff download the mobile app from the NGO's website, install it, and confirm its functionality.