

UNESCO Bangkok

Call for Proposal (Public Organization, NGO or company)

Developing online repository under the project “Revival of Thai Traditional Building Craftsmanship for World Heritage Conservation”

Type of Contract:	Contract for Services
Duration:	15 October 2022 – 30 September 2023, tentatively
Closing date:	30 September 2022, 18:00 hrs (Bangkok Time)

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Office in Bangkok, with support from SCG Foundation, is seeking a contractor to develop an online repository under the project “Revival of Thai Traditional Building Craftsmanship for World Heritage Conservation”.

Terms of Reference

Background

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), with support from SCG Foundation, is seeking an organization to develop an online repository under the project “Revival of Thai Traditional Building Craftsmanship for World Heritage Conservation”, which seeks to build capacity, strengthen networks, document and disseminate knowledge about architectural conservation in Thailand.

This project has already generated numerous documentation and training content such as photographs, measured drawings, instructional videos and other files about historic buildings, traditional building techniques and other related topics. In the future, by promoting networking among architects, scholars, carpenters, masons and other conservation workers, it is expected that more content will continue to be generated from other content providers around Thailand including universities, cultural foundations, conservation organizations and individuals.

In order to make this conservation content available for widespread use as a public reference, digital archive, and for training purposes, it is proposed to develop an “online digital repository on Thai architecture conservation”. The online repository will be a virtual hub where stakeholders can access and share conservation-related information. It provides curated content on a variety of topics. The online repository also plays a key role in facilitating exchanges among the conservation community and will receive feedback from stakeholders so that products can be continuously improved.

Assignment

The contractor is requested to carry out the following tasks:

1. Design and development of an online digital repository of Thai architectural conservation content in various formats (photos, videos, VR/AR, documents, etc) feeding from an online submission form, as well as key internal and external sources. This should include:

- a. Develop taxonomy for the digital repository.
 - b. Define metadata in conjunction with UNESCO which will be used to organize, index, access, and search the digital conservation content in the repository.
 - c. Tag digital conservation content with the metadata, with possible use of machine learning for image recognition and other AI technology if appropriate.
 - d. Provision of an attractive and user-friendly design to incentivize submissions, including visual elements (photos, videos, etc).
 - e. Online submission form with user-friendly submission process.
 - f. Search function to facilitate analysis and usage, including free text search of posts and by keyword tags/taxonomy, global search and filters (thematic and geographic filters)
 - g. User-friendly admin interface to facilitate content management and analysis of content including admin CMS functionality that allows for data and information manipulation of the database fields and access to analytics data.
 - h. Function to designate certain content with a badge/icon indicating their source (e.g. UNESCO) or designation, e.g. as a 'best' or 'good' practice.
 - i. Interactive comments and ratings function for users to rate or provide feedback on content.
 - j. Interactive dashboard displaying key information in the repository, such as type and source of content, number of content by keywords to be defined (region, historic period, architectural style, construction material, etc).
 - k. Language of the online digital repository should include at least Thai.
2. Undertake hosting, maintenance, security and bug fixing
 - a. Host the online repository for at least 12 months.
 - b. Provide technical support and ongoing security maintenance and bug fixing for the online repository for at least 12 months, including all required updates, module updates and deployment.
 - c. Additional design and development are not foreseen during the contract period and will be subject to the identification of additional funding from UNESCO or project partners after the end of this contract period.
3. Technical requirements
 - a. User experience and accessibility
 - i. Responsive design on mobile devices: accessible in various devices including desktops/laptops (Windows and Mac), mobile phones and tablets (Android and iOS);
 - ii. Compliant to the international accessibility standards (accessible via screen readers, colourblind friendly colour schemes, etc.);
 - iii. Compatible with all modern browsers;
 - iv. Optimal performance in low-bandwidth locations.
 - v. GDPR and PDPA compliance.

- b. Design standards
 - i. User-friendly administrator interface for all features
 - ii. User-friendly front-end design and development to optimize public use
4. Development process
 - a. Conduct user consultation meetings in partnership with UNESCO targeting groups of prospective users on user requirements on content, UX/UI, draft design and final design. This will include main Thai organization who will serve as the secretariat of the network of conservation practitioners and will be in charge of sourcing of new content, updating of content and basic site admin in the long-term.
 - b. Train representatives from UNESCO and key client in basic admin functions such as posting of new content, running queries, basic troubleshooting.

Deliverables and timeframe

- By 31 October 2022, submit workplan
- By 15 December 2022, submit draft designs of online digital repository for review, integration of feedback and final approval
- By 28 February 2023, submit design, development and delivery of a fully tested and functional updated online digital repository including the functionalities specified above, deployed online
- By 31 March 2023, submit technical documentation needed for ongoing maintenance and updates.
- By 30 September 2023, submit the final report

Required qualification, experience and competencies

- Be a reputable organization with a recognized mandate in developing and hosting online digital repositories of public benefit and related to Thai arts and culture.
- Technical expertise in related to ontology, digital archive, digital preservation, web programming, cultural standard metadata, data mining, content base image retrieval, web development technologies, design tools and search engine optimization.
- Have excellent knowledge of recent trends in graphic design and web design.

Desirable qualification, experience and competencies

- Long-term experience in tertiary education or vocational education,
- Familiarity with UNESCO's work related to the protection of tangible heritage,
- Familiarity with the concept of sustainable development especially in aspects of education, decent work and economic growth.

Application

Interested organizations are invited to submit to UNESCO Bangkok the application package including

- Institutional profile,
- A technical proposal illustrating how the tasks will be carried out,
- A detailed financial proposal indicating rate per unit.

Application package is to be sent **no later than 30 September 2022, 18:00 hrs Bangkok Time (GMT+7)**

To the attention of:

Chief of Culture Unit

UNESCO Bangkok Office

Email: culture.bgk@unesco.org

Only short-listed organizations will be contacted.