

**India Tourism, New York
Ministry of Tourism, Government of India
1270 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 303
New York, NY 10020
USA**

**Request for Proposal (RFP)
File No: ITONYC/RFP/TMA/ South America-2019**

**“Tender for Inviting Quotations for One Tourism Marketing Agency
for South America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile)**

Last date of submission of Bids: 21 January 2020 upto 1730pm (Eastern time)



Government of India
Ministry of Tourism
India Tourism – New York

India Tourism New York is one of the eight overseas offices of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, responsible for promotion of tourism to India from North, South and Central America including Canada. With a view to undertake aggressive promotion and marketing of India's rich tourism products in the **South American Market. (Argentina, Brazil, and Chile)** India Tourism, New York proposes to appoint a **Tourism Management Agency**, for assisting the India Tourism office in undertaking work relating to promotion and publicity of Indian Tourism in the **South American Market. (Argentina, Brazil and Chile)** In other words, selected agency will function as an extended arm of **India Tourism in South America.**

2. India Tourism, New York invites proposals from professional agencies having prior experience of representing tourism destinations in **South America (Argentina, Brazil and Chile).**

3. **Scope of Work: -**

- i. The **Tourism Management Agency** will assist the India Tourism in identifying the Tour Operators/ Travel Agencies and other agencies who have the capacity to sell India as a Tourism Destination. The agency will further contact such agencies to conduct meetings with them and acquaint them about Indian Tourism (destinations, products, itineraries, programmes etc.). This will also include providing adequate information to them about India and motivate them to sell India packages. For this purpose, the **Tourism Management Agency** will conduct meetings/ teleconferencing / interaction with the tour operators as an ongoing process. The agency will conduct regular follow ups with these agencies during their period of contract.
- ii. The **Tourism Management Agency** will help India Tourism in conducting 'Know India Seminars' on regular basis in the **South American Market. (Argentina, Brazil and Chile).** This will include identifying suitable venue, food/snacks/ cocktail arrangements, Audio Visual requirements, sending invites to identified tour operators/ travel agents, consumers etc. and undertaking presentations on India (if required) to enhance the knowledge of the invitees about India. The **Tourism Management Agency** will conduct these Know India Seminars in cities to be identified as an ongoing process and as per the instructions of India Tourism Office.
- iii. The **Tourism Management Agency** will help India Tourism in conducting 'Road Shows' in the **South American Market. (Argentina, Brazil and Chile)** This will require coordinating arrangements for the Road Show(s) as per the requirement of India Tourism which will include identifying suitable venue,

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food/snacks/ cocktail arrangements, Audio Visual requirement, sending invites to the identified tour operators/ travel agents, registration etc. and undertaking presentations on India (if required) to enhance the knowledge of the invitees about India.

- iv. For organizing events such as 'Know India Seminar', 'Road Show' etc, the **Tourism Management Agency** would do the initial recce of the suitable venues under the supervision of India Tourism and would thereafter suggest the most suitable venue to India Tourism. The booking of the venue, food, cocktail arrangements will however be done by India Tourism and the payment on account of these items will also be settled by India Tourism directly.
- v. The **Tourism Management Agency** under the guidance of India Tourism will send e-mailers / will disseminate information on regular basis to the potential tour operators and other stakeholders in order to provide information about destinations of India as well as different positive developments / happenings in India. In the case of any promotional communication such as news-letter, e-mail blast etc., the content for the same will be prepared by the **Tourism Management Agency** and it will be vetted / approved by **India Tourism New York**. Information will be required to be disseminated on regular basis.
- vi. The **Tourism Management Agency** will assist India Tourism in promoting its publicity programmes (such as joint promotions, joint advertising, hospitality scheme etc.). This will include identifying various avenues of joint promotions / advertising with stakeholders, identifying credentials of hospitality guests etc. This exercise will be an ongoing process.
- vii. The **Tourism Management Agency** will assist India Tourism in identifying the potential tourism fairs/ exhibitions/ marts etc. as well as manning the booth, setting-up the booth, managing and distribution of publicity material etc. as per requirement of India Tourism. This exercise will be an ongoing process and will be required to be performed as per directions and requirement of India Tourism New York.
- viii. The **Tourism Management Agency** will help India Tourism in conducting pro-active marketing of India.
- ix. Any other work, inputs etc. as per the requirement of India Tourism, New York.

4. **Minimum Eligibility Criteria**

- i. The agency should be a registered company in **South America. (Argentina/ Brazil/ Chile)**

- ii. The agency should be paying taxes as per rules where it is registered and should not be defaulter on this account.
- iii. The agency should have handled a minimum of **three projects** in the field of Tourism Promotion during the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March, 2019. **The duration of each of these projects should be for a period of six months or more.**
- iv. Minimum Turnover of the bidding agency in the last financial year i.e 2018-19 or calendar year 2018 should be US\$ 3,00,000 or above.
- v. The agency should be able to provide **3 staff members** on regular basis to handle the work detailed under the Scope of Work (Para-3 above). The staff members will work in close coordination with India Tourism, New York.
- vi. The agency should neither be blacklisted/ debarred by the **South American Government (Argentina/ Brazil/ Chile)** nor by the **Indian Government** from doing business on the date of submission of bid.

5. Submission of Proposals:

Agencies are informed that Quality –cum- Cost Based assessment System will be followed for selection of **Tourism Management Agency**. For this purpose, Technical as well as Financial proposals of agencies will be evaluated. All agencies are therefore required to submit proposals in two sealed packets as per following details:

- a. **Packet– I** -should be sealed and superscribed as '*Technical Bid for Selection of Management Agency*'. Packet – I must contain the following documents:
 - i. An undertaking signed by the authorized signatory of the agency as per the format given at **Annexure I**.
 - ii. Copies of the Work Orders / contracts in the name of the bidding agency for handling a minimum of **three projects** in the field of tourism promotion during the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March, 2019 must be submitted for qualifying. Agencies may note that the **duration of each of these projects should be for a period of 6 months or more.**
 - iii. In addition to the Minimum requirements of three projects, agencies may submit additional work orders / contracts for handling projects in the field of tourism promotion issued during 01st April 2016 to 31st March 2019 for scoring marks during technical presentation.

(P.S : In case of the agency having non-disclosure agreement with its client, the bidding agency may submit a certificate from the Statutory Auditor / Chartered Accountant clearly indicating the total number of project undertaken by the bidding agency in the

field of tourism promotion during the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March, 2019 along with the duration of each project).

iii. A certificate from Statutory Auditor / Chartered Accountant for having an annual turnover of US\$ 3,00,000 or more during the Financial Year 2018-19 or Calendar Year 2018, as the case may be. Submitted as per the format given in **Annexure-II**.

iv. The bidding agency will submit a presentation on the following:-

- a. Strategy of the agency to handle proposed scope of work of this project.
- b. Innovative ideas for promotion of tourism which could be implemented.

b. Packet – II – should be sealed and superscribed as ‘Financial Bid for Selection of Tourism Management Agency’.

- i. Financial Bid should include financial quote as per the format given in Annexure-III to be submitted in the agency’s letter head duly signed by an authorized representative.
 - ii. The agency will quote total annual fee (**exclusive of taxes**) for appointment of **Tourism Management Agency** for a period of 12 months in figures as well as in words. Taxes if any over and above quoted cost will be payable as per actual.
 - iii. In case of any discrepancy in the financial quote in figures and in words, quote in words will prevail and will be considered final.
- c. Both the sealed Packets (Packet-I & II) should be put in a bigger packet (Outer packet), which should also be sealed and superscribed as **‘Bids for Appointment of Tourism Management Agency’**. The bigger packet / outer packet should be addressed to the Assistant Director, India Tourism, 1270, Avenue of the Americas, Suite # 303, New York, NY-10020. All three packets (Packet I & II and the outer packet) should carry the name of the agency, office address, name of the contact person along with Tel.No, e-mail ID. The Bid should be submitted on or before 1730.hrs. on 21 January 2020(Eastern time)

6. Selection Process

- i. The bids received on or before the due date will be opened by a committee.
- ii. In the first instance the **Technical Packet** will be opened. Agencies fulfilling the Minimum Eligibility Criteria as at Para-4 above will be considered for technical presentation.

- iii. Eligible agencies will be called for a presentation before a committee in The Embassy of India to Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina which will evaluate technical soundness of the agencies based on presentations made by them. Agencies will be awarded marks against a total of 70 Marks as per break up given below:

Sr. No.	Parameters	Maximum Score (out of 70 Marks)
1.	<p>Experience in handling project in the field of tourism promotion during 01st April 2016 to 31st March 2019. (duration of each project should be for a period of 6 months or more)</p> <p><i>No. of projects handled: (10 marks for 3 projects as per eligibility criteria.</i></p> <p><i>2.5 marks for every additional eligible project for maximum of 10 marks)</i></p> <p><i>(i.e. Beyond the minimum requirement of 3 projects, every additional project will carry weightage of 2.5 Marks for a maximum of 10 Marks)</i></p>	20
•	<p>Turnover of the Agency during the Financial Year April 2018- March 2019 or Calendar Year 2018 as the case may be</p> <p><i>Minimum requirement of US \$ 3,00,000 – 0 Mark</i></p> <p><i>Above US \$ 3,00,000 to US \$ 3,50,000 – 2 Marks</i></p> <p><i>Above US \$ 3,50,000 to US \$ 4,00,000 – 4 Marks</i></p> <p><i>Above US \$ 4,00,000 to US \$ 4,50,000– 6 Marks</i></p> <p><i>Above US \$ 4,50,000 to US \$ 5,00,000 - 8 Marks</i></p> <p><i>Above US \$ 5,00,000 - 10 Marks</i></p>	10
•	Strategy of the agency to handle proposed scope of work	20
•	Innovative idea for tourism promotion which could be implemented.	20
	TOTAL	70 Marks.



Only those agencies scoring 49 Marks and above out of total 70 Marks will be eligible for opening of their financial bids.

- iv. While evaluating the Financial Bid of eligible agencies, agency quoting the lowest annual fee will get 30 Marks out of 30.
- v. The other agencies will be awarded marks out of 30 as per the following formula:
(Lowest annual Fee ÷ Annual Fee of the agency under consideration) x 30
- vii. The technical and the financial marks of each of the eligible agency will be added and the agency obtaining the highest aggregate marks will be considered for appointment as Management Agency.

7. **Payment Procedure:-**

- i. No advance payment will be made to be appointed **Tourism Management Agency**.
- ii. Payment will be made to the **Tourism Management Agency** on monthly basis. **Payment will be made on submission of detailed monthly report with proof of activities carried out, submission of supporting bills / invoices and proof of payment.**
- iii. The Annual fee will include all the elements indicated under scope of work.
- iv. In addition to Annual fee, the agency will be paid travel expenses and lodging expenses as per the following, subject to approval of travel by India Tourism:-
 - a. *Air Ticket:-* Team members who are traveling for official work will be paid air fares for the shortest route and for economy class. This shall be paid for the cheapest convenient available flight. If the journey is made train or other mode of transport, the actual lowest fare will be paid. For journeys undertaken by road, the charges will be paid as under:-
 - If self owned car is used:- Fuel and parking charges
 - If Rented Car (Self Driven) - Rent charges of the car including insurance, fuel, toll/taxes and parking etc.

The above payment will be made on presentation of supporting documents such as proof of travel and proof of payment made, etc.

- b. *Accommodation:-* Accommodation / Hotel charges will be paid on actual basis on presentation of proof of payment along with a copy of the hotel bill. The upper ceiling of accommodation however will be US\$ 100 per person per night. If in

exceptional cases, accommodation is not available in the upper ceiling of US\$ 100.00, the agency will inform the same to India Tourism and take its approval of the actual tariff for the room is available.

8. **Other information:-**

- i. All the data accumulated by the **Tourism Management Agency** will be regularly handed over / shared with the India Tourism.
- ii. The cost of any additional work beyond the Scope of Work, that the agency may be asked to undertake, will be decided prior to commencement of the work and approval for additional work would be given by India Tourism Office in writing to the agency. Payment for the additional works would be paid on the basis of third party bills (in case any third party involved).
- iii. The entire bid document should be sent in English only or with an English translation.
- iv. No cost is payable for preparing the bids. All agencies who bid would have to make themselves available on a pre-designated time for the presentation.
- v. By responding to this bid, the agencies are expressing their willingness to be under the jurisdiction of the relevant Laws and any disputes would be settled accordingly.
- vi. India Tourism, New York has the right to reject an offer at any stage of the process, prior to the signing of the contract.
- vii. The 12 month period of selected agency will commence from the date of issue of work order by the India Tourism Office overseas.

9. **Termination**

India Tourism may terminate the contract of the agency with one month's prior notice if the **Tourism Management Agency** fails to provide the quality services as envisaged under this contract. Reasons for the same will be recorded in writing.

10. **Force Majeure**

Neither party will be liable in respect of failure to fulfill its obligations, if the said failure is entirely due to Acts of God, Governmental restrictions or instructions, natural calamities or catastrophe, epidemics or disturbances in the country. Force Majeure shall not include (i) any event which is caused by the negligence or intentional action of a Party or by or of such Party's agents or employees, nor (ii) any event which a diligent Party could reasonably have been expected both to take into account at the time of being assigned the work, and avoid or overcome with utmost persistent effort in the carrying out of its obligations hereunder. Force

Majeure shall not include insufficiency of funds or manpower or inability to make any payment required for execution of services under this Contract.


A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall immediately notify the other Party of such event, providing sufficient and satisfactory evidence of the nature and cause of such event, and shall similarly give written notice of the restoration of normal conditions as soon as possible.

11. Risk – Purchase Clause: If the service provider, after submission of bid and acceptance of the same, fails to abide by the Terms and Conditions of the RFP or fails to complete the work within the specified time or at any time repudiates the contract, the India Tourism Office overseas will have the right to terminate the contract of the company by giving one month notice.

12. Jurisdiction:

The contract shall be governed by the laws of India.

13. The interested agency(ies) may submit their bid by post or courier only so as to reach the Assistant Director, India Tourism, New York 1270, Avenue of the Americas, Suite # 303, New York, NY-10020, USA. , on or before January 2020, 1730 hrs(Eastern Time). Bids received by e-mail will not be entertained and will be rejected.


Assistant Director
India Tourism
New York
Tel: +1-212-586-4901

ANNEXURE I**Format for undertaking (to be submitted on the letter head duly signed by an authorized representative of the bidding agency)**

- I, (name of the person), authorized signatory of(name of the bidding agency), certify the following:-
- i. That(name of the bidding agency) is a registered company in **South America.(Argentina/ Brazil/ Chile)**
 - ii. That(name of the bidding agency) is paying taxes as per rules in **South America (Argentina/ Brazil/ Chile)** and is not a defaulter on this account.
 - iii. That(name of the bidding agency) will be able to provide at least 3 staff members on regular basis to handle the work related to India Tourism New York.
 - iv. That(name of the bidding agency) is neither blacklisted / debarred by the **South American Government (Argentina/Brazil/ Chile)** nor by the **Government of India** from doing business on the date of submission of this bid.

If the above undertaking, at any point of time, is found to be incorrect, India Tourism New York or the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India either directly or through Indian Mission can take appropriate legal action against us as per the local law.

Signature of the authorized representative.....
 Name of the authorized representative.....
 Name of the bidding Agency.....
 Address.....
 Tel. no.
 E-mail id:-
 Date:-



ANNEXURE II

Format for Financial Bid submission (to be submitted on the letter head duly signed by an authorized representative of the bidding agency)

To,

The Assistant Director
India Tourism
New York

Sir,

Subject :- Quote Details.

Madam / Sir,

This has reference to the RFP of India Tourism, New York bearing No. dated for Appointment of **Tourism Management Agency**.

2. In this context, our total quotation (exclusive of taxes) in respect of above RFP is as under:-

Particulars	Total financial quote in US Dollar exclusive of taxes
Total Annual Fee cost for appointment of Tourism Management Agency for a period of 12 months	US Dollar.....
Cost (in words)	

3. **IMPORTANT**

The following may be noted while submitting the Financial Quote :

- (i) There should be no mismatch between the annual fee quoted in figures and words. In case of any mismatch in the total annual fee, the cost quoted in words would be considered.
- (ii) The total annual fee quoted (exclusive of taxes) would be considered for evaluation of financial bids.
- (iii) The Annual Fee quoted is exclusive of taxes.
- (iv) Taxes / GST, if any, applicable will be paid as per actual.

Thanking you,

Authorised Signatory:.....

Name of the Signatory:

Seal:

Date:

Place:

ANNEXURE III

Format for Submission of Annual Turnover (to be submitted on the letter head statutory Auditor / Chartered Accountant duly signed)

To,

The Assistant Director
India Tourism
New York

Sir,

Subject :- Quote Details.

Madam / Sir,

This has reference to the RFP of India Tourism, New York bearing No. dated for Appointment of **Tourism Management Agency**.

2. This is to certify that the Minimum annual turnover of (name of the bidding agency) during the Financial Year April 2018 - March 2019 (or calendar year 2018 as the case may be) is over US\$ 3,00,000. The actual turnover of (name of the bidding agency) during the Financial Year April 2018-March 2019 (or calendar year 2018 as the case may be) is US\$.....

Signature of the Statutory Auditor / Chartered Accountant

Name of the Signatory:

Seal:

Date:

Place: