REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

This notice is placed by UNPD. The accuracy, reliability and completeness of the contents of furnished information is the responsibility of United Nations Procurement Division. You are therefore requested to direct all queries regarding this RFI to United Nations Procurement Division using the fax number or e-mail address provided below.

Title of the RFI:
Antiplagarism & AI Generated Content Detection

Date of this RFI: 17 January 2024   **Closing Date for Receipt of RFI:** 16 February 2024

RFI Number: RFIUNPD22267

Beneficiary Country/Territory: Global

Commodity/Service category: Enterprise Solutions

Address RFI response by fax or e-mail to the Attention of: Elizabeth Levy

Fax Number: NA

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UNSPSC Code:
43230000 - Software

DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENTS

The United Nations is seeking information from potential vendors to understand the capabilities and solutions available in the market for online services or products that can effectively detect plagiarism in employment and other types of assessments. The purpose of this Request for Information (RFI) is to gather details about product offerings and capabilities in this domain.

Background and Objectives:

1. The United Nations Secretariat
The UN is an International Organization with 193 Member States committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations, and promoting human rights, social progress, and better living standards. The work of the UN reaches every corner of the world and covers various areas of activities such as peace and security, climate change, sustainable development, human rights, disarmament, terrorism, humanitarian and health emergencies, gender equality, governance, food production, and more. Over the past years, the mandates of the Organization have become more global and complex as it has grown to a more integrated and field-based Organization.

2. The UN Secretariat is one of the six principal organs of the UN. The United Nations Secretariat carries out the day-to-day work of the UN as mandated by the General Assembly and the Organization's other main organs. The Secretary-General is the head of the Secretariat, which has tens of thousands of UN staff members working at duty stations worldwide. The UN staff members are recruited internationally and locally and work in duty stations and on peacekeeping missions. Serving the cause of peace in a violent world is a dangerous occupation. Since the founding of the UN, hundreds of brave men and women have given their lives in its service.

3. The Secretariat is organized along departmental lines, with each department or office having a distinct area of action and responsibility. Offices and departments coordinate with each other to ensure cohesion in the UN's programme of work. Much of the UN Secretariat is located in New York City, USA. The UN also has three major Offices outside of its Headquarters and five Regional Economic Commissions.

4. Assessment for employment of staff at the United Nations Secretariat
In recruitment of its staff, the UN Secretariat has been guided by Article 101.3 of its Charter, which states, "The paramount consideration in the employment of the staff and the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence, and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible." In accordance with this mandate, the United Nations has been conducting competitive examinations and other types of assessments to identify the most qualified candidates for employment.

5. Since 2017, the UN Secretariat has been moving from paper-based exams to computer-based online exams to modernize and streamline the delivery and administration of its mandated examinations and tests. The UN Online Examinations and Test System (UNOETS) was developed as part of this effort, using the open-source Moodle learning management system. UNOETS is currently the UN Secretariat's enterprise technology platform used by several UN entities for their assessment needs and has been integrated with the UN's talent management system Inspira, allowing candidates shortlisted in Inspira to be automatically invited to the assessment in the testing platform and enabling test results to be automatically sent back to Inspira. UNOETS allows test takers to complete tests online from any web-accessible location. While the platform was initially used for UN's mandated centrally administered examinations such as the Young Professionals Programme (YPP), competitive examinations for language positions (CELP), and Language Proficiency Examination (LPE), it is also used to deliver assessments for position-specific job openings as well as with generic job openings. The system logs all test responses and user activity for review. The users of the system are broadly categorized into four groups: (1) Test Takers, (2) Test Administrators, (3) Test Graders, and (4) System Administrators.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS / INFORMATION (IF ANY)

1. Ability to integrate with Moodle 4.1.2 and above by means of a customizable plugin.

2. Ability to detect direct plagiarism, paraphrased content, similar text and confirm originality by comparing against a large and comprehensive database of sources, including academic journals, books, websites, newspapers, and other publications.

3. Ability to generate detailed and accurate similarity reports that highlight the percentage of matching text, the sources of the matches, and the location of the matches within the documents.

4. Ability to integrate with common word processors, such as Microsoft Word, Google Docs, and LibreOffice.

5. Ability to detect AI-generated computer programming code, plagiarized and modified source code and provide licensing details.

6. Must provide an API for PHP language to allow the integration of our in-house developed grading plugin, so that our customized plugin can communicate with the solution, push responses to be analyzed for plagiarism and AI-generated contents and receive a response from the solution on the authenticity of the submitted text.

7. Reporting:
   a. Administrative reporting: must provide reports of usage by site, course, and test part for billing purposes.
   b. Functionality reporting: the tool must be able to generate a statistical evaluation of anomalies that shows the possibility of AI generated text (i.e. Over reliance of certain phrases, or unusual high coherent levels)

8. Must be able to handle multiple file formats, and.

9. Must be able to support at least English and French languages and optionally as many of the other 4 official languages of the United Nations (Spanish, Russian, Chinese, and Arabic) as possible.
10. Ability to protect the privacy and confidentiality of the documents and the users and comply with the relevant data protection best practices.

11. Must receive and integrate regular updates from different language library models and improvements from different AI engines.

RFI Submission Guidelines:
Please provide the following information in response to this RFI:

1. A brief overview of your company's background and experience in providing similar solutions as per the specifications above. Any relevant certifications or partnerships related to misinformation, disinformation and/or hate speech monitoring should be mentioned.

2. Detailed information about how your system/solution can respond to any or all the criteria listed above for example including, but is not limited to: description of analytical capabilities, including algorithms, platforms/media source types and metrics; details on the language translation capabilities, specifying the languages supported; explanation of trends analysis and behaviour and threat actor identification features; and frequency and methods of reporting.

3. Technical Specifications: Hardware and software requirements for implementing your system/solution.

Scalability and flexibility of your system/solution to adapt to various operational environments. Ability to access data through an API or run on UN servers.

4. Client References: A list of organizations or clients that have implemented your solution for similar purposes, including descriptions of any case studies/use cases of your solution.

NOTICE:
• Companies can only participate in solicitations from the UN Secretariat after completing their registration (free of charge) at the United Nations Global Marketplace (www.ungm.org).
• Please verify that your company is registered under its full legal name on the United Nations Global Marketplace (www.ungm.org) and that your application for registration as vendor has been submitted to the UN Secretariat in the same site, to be able to participate in any potential solicitation process as a result of this RFI.
• While companies can participate in solicitations after completion of registration at Basic Level, we strongly recommend all companies to register at least at Level 1 under the United Nations Secretariat prior to participating in any solicitations.
• Companies are reminded of the restrictions of employment of former UN personnel that were involved in the procurement process during their last three years of service as per ST/SGB/2006/15, including (a) employing those personnel for one year after separation of service and (b) allowing those personnel to communicate with, or appear before, active UN personnel for matters related to the procurement process for two years after separation of service. Violation of the provisions of ST/SGB/2006/15 may lead to suspension of the registration of the company as a UN vendor.

NOTE

Information on tendering for the UN Procurement System is **available free of charge** at the following address: https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice

Only the United Nations Global Marketplace (UNGM) has been authorised to collect a nominal fee from vendors that wish to receive automatically Procurement Notices or Requests for Expression Of Interest. Vendors interested in this Tender Alert Service are invited to subscribe on http://www.ungm.org

Vendors interested in participating in a potential future solicitation process should submit the Vendor Response Form of this RFI electronically (through the link available on the next page) before the closing date set forth above.

VENDOR RESPONSE

PLEASE NOTE: You should submit your response to this RFI electronically at:
https://www.un.org/Depts/ptd/node/add/interest-expressed?EOI=RFIUNPD22267

In case you have difficulties submitting your response electronically, please contact elizabeth.levy@un.org directly for instructions.

1) Registering as a Vendor with the United Nations

Vendors interested in fulfilling the requirement described above must be registered at the UN Global Marketplace (www.ungm.org) with the UN Secretariat in order to be eligible to participate in any solicitation. Information on the registration process can be found at https://www.un.org/Depts/ptd/vendors.

Prerequisites for Eligibility
In order to be eligible for UN registration, you must declare that:

A.   Your company (as well as any parent, subsidiary or affiliate companies) is not listed in, or associated with a company or individual listed in:

I.   the Compendium of United Nations Security Council Sanctions Lists (https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list), or

II.   the IIC Oil for Food List website or, if listed on either, this has been disclosed to the United Nations Procurement Division in writing.

B.   Your company (as well as any parent, subsidiary or affiliate companies) is not currently removed or suspended by the United Nations or any other UN organisation (including the World Bank);

C.   Your company (as well as any parent, subsidiary of affiliate companies) is not under formal investigation, nor have been sanctioned within the preceding three (3) years, by any national authority of a United Nations Member State for engaging or having engaged in proscribed practices, including but not limited to: corruption, fraud, coercion, collusion, obstruction, or any other unethical practice;

D.   Your company has not declared bankruptcy, are not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against your company that could impair your company's operations in the foreseeable future;

E.   Your company does not employ, or anticipate employing, any person(s) who is, or has been a UN staff member within the last year, if said UN staff member has or had prior professional dealings with the Vendor in his/her capacity as UN staff member within the last three years of service with the UN (in accordance with UN post-employment restrictions published in ST/SGB/2006/15).

F.   Your company undertakes not to engage in proscribed practices (including but not limited to: corruption, fraud, coercion, collusion, obstruction, or any other unethical practice), with the UN or any other party, and to conduct business in a manner that averts any financial, operational, reputational or other undue risk to the UN.

For Registered Vendors: Vendors already registered at the UN Global Marketplace with the UN Secretariat must ensure that the information and documentation (e.g. financial statements, address, contact name, etc.) provided in connection with their registration are up to date in UNGM. Please verify and ensure that your company is registered under its full legal name.

For Vendors Interested in Registration: Vendors not yet registered should apply for registration on the United Nations Global Marketplace (http://www.ungm.org); information on the registration process can be found at https://www.un.org/Depts/ptd/vendors. Vendors must complete the registration process prior to the closing date of the RFI. Vendors who have not completed the UNGM registration process with the UN Secretariat before the closing date of the RFI are not considered eligible to participate in the potential solicitation process related to the RFI. We strongly recommend all companies to register at least at Level 1 under the UN Secretariat prior to participating in any solicitations.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Any false, incomplete or defective vendor registration may result in the rejection of the application or cancellation of an already existing registration.

2) RFI Process

Vendors interested in participating in the potential solicitation process should forward their information (as requested in the RFI) to United Nations Procurement Division (UNPD) by the closing date set forth in this RFI. _Due to the high volume of communications UNPD is not in a position to issue confirmation of receipt of RFIs._

Please note that no further details of the potential solicitation can be made available to the vendors prior to issuance of the solicitation documents.
This RFI is issued subject to the conditions contained in the RFI introductory page available at https://www.un.org/Depts/ptd/rfi.