

Pre-bidding conference
Construction of biomass heating systems in Causeni, Baurci and Copceac, UTAG
ITB15/01158
16 November 2015, 11:00
Le Roi International Business Center, 29 Sfatul Tarii str., Chisinau

Participants	
8 representatives of 6 companies attended the meeting	
UNDP Moldova	
1. Mihai Maciuca	MEBP Procurement and Contract Management Officer
2. Alexandru Ursul	MEBP Project Manager
3. Vitalie Vieru	MEBP Engineer

Background:

On 05 November 2015 UNDP Moldova issued an Invitation to Bid for the Construction of biomass heating systems in Causeni, Baurci and Copceac. The purpose of the Pre-bidding Conference is to clarify some aspects related to the procurement procedures as well as various technical aspects of the requirements

The deadline for submission of bids is 27 November 2015, 11:00 local time. The bids will be opened on 27 November 2015, 12:00, in the presence of bidders who choose to attend the bid opening.

According to the solicitation documents the bidders shall submit their bids for the construction of biomass heating systems in the 3 communities, grouped in 1 lot.

A general presentation of the requirements was given with the following aspects being highlighted in particular:

- Site Visits will be conducted on 17 November, following the schedule in the Data Sheet;
- No Bid Security is required for the participation in this competition, however the selected contractor will be required to provide a Performance Security in an amount of 10% of contract.
- Although the Data Sheet specifies 60 days for the duration of contract, it was noted that the Schedule of Requirements stipulate maximum 150 days for the completion of works. The respective mistakes in Data Sheet shall be corrected in a subsequent amendment to the bidding documents.
- Contracts shall not be awarded to the lowest priced bids, but to the bids offering the lowest life cycle cost of the installation, comprising the cost of works as well as Present Value of the fuel required for 10 years operation of the heating systems which depends on the burning efficiency of the offered boilers. The contract however will be signed the cost of works alone.
- Contract will be awarded for all sites only to one single bidder. Partial bids are not accepted and in case a bidder does not provide an offer for even one site, its offer shall not be considered.

Moldova Energy and Biomass Project

- BOQs must be presented only in the form of the excel files attached to the bidding documents (Annexes 1-3) that contain all the formulas for the calculation of total offers. Bidders must only fill-in the unit prices in the excel files, all other fields are locked for editing. This measure is meant to streamline the evaluation and comparison of offers thus, any modification or intentional unlocking of BOQs is prohibited. Any attempt to modify the file structure may lead to the rejection of the bid. Original excel files with unit prices inserted will need to be provided upon opening of bids either by attaching them to the offer on CD or by submitting them by email thereon.
- The project intends to separate the works required for the installation of solar collectors for domestic hot water into a distinct compartment of works, thus updated BOQs will be issued that must be used to submit the offers. This is done purely for evidence and comparison purposes;
- Bidders may fill-in either the Romanian or the English version of the BOQs. If any discrepancy between the two versions of the documents will be observed, or in case any formula inconsistency will be detected, bidders should immediately inform UNDP about the issue and not attempt to individually unlock and modify the files;
- The supplied boilers must be rendering the specified performance parameters using the test fuel specified in Section 3a: Schedule of Requirements and Technical Specifications, Table 2. In particular, the boilers must be operating efficiently on biomass fuel from agricultural wastes, more specifically – cereal straw and sunflower husks. The calorific value of the test fuel shall not exceed 15 MJ per kg;
- The boilers will mainly operate on pellets, however the boilers should be also capable to operate on briquettes as a back-up solution;
- All the offered biomass boilers must be manufactured in compliance with the EN 303-5:2012;
- The emissions levels must not be worse than Class 3 EN 303-5:2012 requirements and certified by an independent laboratory;
- If the emissions certification in the laboratory was obtained based on a test fuel of a different origin and calorific value than the one specified in the Schedule of Requirements, bidders must provide a written confirmation from the boiler manufacturer certifying the following:
 - The offered boilers are compatible with the specified type of fuel;
 - If using the specified type of fuel the emissions level will not be worse than the EN 303-5:2012 Class3 level;
 - The rated boiler efficiency and output capacity for the given boiler based on the specified test fuel;
- The general warranty period for the works is 3 years. However, all passive components of the boiler shall be covered by 5 years warranty;
- Upon the commissioning of works the contractors will need to engage an independent accredited laboratory to conduct flue gas pollutant emissions measurements and on-site boiler performance test in order to confirm the performance characteristics stated in the bid. In case the boilers will be unable to render the stated performance the contractor may be requested to substitute the boiler or seek for other types of remedies;
- Additionally, boilers shall be equipped with automatic burner cleaning system by mechanical means.

Given that the offers are voluminous and in order to streamline their processing, the following recommendations were given to the bidders on how the documents should be presented:

- Bidders should not include documents that are not required by the bidding documents such as: brochures and certificates for equipment that is not requested in the tender, contracts with previous clients, works completion certificates from previous assignments, integral quality assurance manuals;
- If bids are submitted in hard copy, documents should be preferably compiled in a ring-binding folder in the required order. Papers should not be additionally stapled or otherwise knitted together in the folder.

Questions and answers:

Q: It was mentioned that BOQs may be provided either in Romanian or English. The rest of the bid can also be provided in Romanian or only English is accepted?

A: All documents excepting the BOQs shall be submitted in English. In case a document is in a different language, it must be accompanied by an unofficial translation.

Q: Referring to Site 1, Causeni, there are 2 boilers of 45 kW each included in the drawings, but in the BOQs there is only one boiler of 99 kW specified. Please clarify this aspect.

A: In this case the BOQs prevail so it is required to install 1 boiler of 99 kW.

Q: The schedule of requirements specify that upon completion of works the contractor shall employ an independent laboratory to perform the performance and emission testing of the installation. Could you advise whether in Moldova exist such laboratories and to suggest where to find them?

A: It is the contractor's responsibility to identify the laboratory. The project cannot suggest any specific laboratory but it can be a laboratory from abroad, not necessarily from Moldova.