

Addendum- I and Minutes of Pre-Bid Meeting

Tender Description: Design and Construction on EPC basis of 340 kW MHP/PV Hydro-Solar hybrid Mini Grid in Dara-e-Noor District, Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan;

Tender Number: UNDP/AFG/ITB/2018/ 0000002093

Date: 12 March 2018

A- Addendum

Dear Mr. /Ms: Bidders:

Please note the following condition has been changed to the subject ITB:

ITB Reference	Description
ITB Clause Reference: Section-1 Bid data sheet Clause 22 "Deadline for Bid Submission"	<p>a) The deadline for submission of ITB has been extended to 05 April 2018.</p> <p>Note Date and Time: As specified in the system (note that time zone indicated in the system in New York Time zone).</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE:-</p> <p>Date and time visible on the main screen of the event (on E-Tendering portal) will be final and prevail over any other closing time indicated elsewhere, in case they are different. Please also note that the bid closing time shown in the PDF file generated by the system is not accurate due to a technical glitch that we will resolve soon. The correct bid closing time is as indicated in the E-Tendering portal and system will not accept any bid after that time. It is the responsibility of the bidder to make sure bids are submitted within this deadline. UNDP will not accept any bid that is not submitted directly to the system. Try to submit your bid a day prior or well before the closing time. Do not wait until last minute. If you face any issue submitting your bid at the last minute, UNDP may not be able to assist.</p>
ITB Reference: Section 7 Priced bill of quantities	A separate price schedule has been added for the bidders to provide the insurance costing.
Section 3a Scope of Work " Page 29, Payment schedule"	The advance payment shall not be entertained.
Revised – ITB	Revised ITB has been uploaded in the E-Tendering the old version has been removed.

This information given in this Addendum shall be taken into account by each protective bidders in the preparation of their proposals.

B- Pre-Bid Meeting:

1. Presentation:

The pre-bid meeting commenced on 5 March 2018, 10:00 AM (Local time) at UNDP Country Office in Afghanistan, (meeting room).

After having the companies introduce themselves, UNDP Procurement Analyst opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees. The potential bidders were given a summary on the composition of the Bid Documents, and highlights of the important sections including the following:

- I. ITB criteria
- II. The required forms within ITB that should be complete by bidders
- III. The manner of Submission of bids

2. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

During the presentation the following questions and inquiries were raised by the bidders:

#	Question Raised During the Pre-Bid Meeting by Bidders	#	Responses provided by UNDP/MRRD
1.	What is the level of detail of the design presented in the Bidding Documents?	1.	The design presented in the bidding documents is Preliminary Design.
2.	If the design changes (is updated), the BoQ would also change. How do we handle this issue?	2.	This issue is specified on page 29 of the ITB under heading F.
3.	The scope of works shows a Solar PV output of 200 kW and that of the Hydropower at 140 kW at the output. Please expand on this.	3.	The preliminary design details the main parameters regarding load and source. It is the sole responsibility of the EPC contractor to ensure that the demand is met through whatever means by a detailed design of the plant.
4.	In the ITB, advance payment is not considered but payments for mobilization and placing of order are considered. Please clarify.	4.	The "Placing of Order" section would be omitted while the mobilization payment is considered in the payment schedule. There is no provision for Advance Payment.
5.	If a force majeure situation occurs, what are the possible means to compensate the Contractor?	5.	Relevant clauses regarding this issue are included in Section 11- GTS for civil works.
6.	If the insurance (for works as well as Indemnity Liability) is sourced from abroad the over price would be higher. How can we tackle this issue?	6.	It is the Contractor's responsibility to provide insurance as required in the Bidding documents. UNPD has amended the price schedule (Section -7) and added a separate price schedule for bidders to provide insurance costing.
7.	Can we provide insurance from any source/company?	7.	Yes! In general, this should be in line with the terms and conditions presented in the bidding documents.
8.	When is the 100% design required to be submitted?	8.	This issue is specified in the bidding documents. Please review the bidding documents carefully before submitting your bids.
9.	Is Joint Venture an issue?	9.	There no restriction or issues for bidders to submit a bid as a group of legal entities, however, in order to assess their bids, the bidders are required to designate one party to act as lead entity duly vested with authority to legally bind other members of the group. UNDP shall award the contract to the lead entity. Please note when submitting a bid in form of the Joint venture, in order to assess the capacity of all member of the group, the

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			bidders should provide track record and experience to meet the ITB requirements.
10	During Operation and Maintenance phase, the revenue would be returned to the UNDP. Who would actually define the data collection and financial auditing mechanism regarding the plant?	10	The responsibility lies with the EPC Contractor. There is relevant information provided in the bidding documents. Please carefully review the bidding documents before submitting your bids.
11	Who is who in the project deployment structure?	11	UNDP provides technical support. MRRD is the owner of the project. A Supervisor (Engineer) which may either be a Consultant or ASERD would be available at the site to supervise the works of the contractor.
12	When should the Indemnity Liability Insurance be submitted?	12	The cost of insurance must be provided in the price schedule (Section 7), however, the professional indemnity insurance (original quotation from insurer) shall be submitted by the successful contractor after award of the contract.
13	Who is responsible for handover of the project?	13	UNDP ASERD and MRRD
14	The time considered in the bidding documents for the Construction Design is 2 months. This is considered as a very short period. How can we tackle this issue?	14	Bidders can submit their own proposals & timeline for completion of the project while doing so, they should take into consideration that the overall project timeline which is 27 months. Within this timeline, they may propose their own timelines for completion of different activities.
15	At which level of the project, the bidders should submit their insurance?	15	The bidders are required to provide the costing for different insurance types required under this ITB. The actual insurance documents should be submitted by successful bidder (the contractor).
16	What is your flow rate based on? Have you performed a one-year hydraulic study of the site to evaluate the flow rate across all seasons? This is critical as the size of the canal, intake, weir and other components are dependent on the estimated flow rate averaged across various seasons. If not, then we will need significantly more time to carry out a proper and effective design. If the hydrology study has been carried out, please provide us a copy of the study so that we can estimate the project as	16	Response: the one year study has been done. It has been already shared, please refer to 3b2- parameters and 3b3 hydraulic design. In addition: The design is based on minimum flow which has been measured. No need for any further analysis. Discharge measurements will be continued throughout the construction period.

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	close to the findings of the study as possible. Please elaborate?		
17	Was a geological study of the site carried out? The geological study will provide us valuable information on water absorption capacities, rock slide conditions, possible cracks on canal base, etc. If the geological study has not been carried out, then we will need to carry out such studies, which will have significant implications for the duration of the project. If the studies have been carried out, will you be able to share them with us prior to submission of the bid?	17	There is no geological data available, all available data regarding design is given in 3b2-parameters, and 3b3, as this tender is EPC tender, these sort of studies will fall under bidder's scope of work and responsibility. In addition: The geological conditions have been assessed on the level of tender design. There are no major problems to be expected especially when considering the size of the structures. Respective information is included in the technical specifications. It is, however, the responsibility of the Contractor to make himself familiar with the situation and the required investigations.
18	The powerhouse is not accessible by vehicle. Additionally, from the powerhouse to the intake, we have a distance of about 3-4 km, which is also not accessible by car and trucks. This will require that either a road must be built or that transportation of material and equipment be made via mule, donkey horse, and other animals. Additionally, we will not be able to transport excavators and other heavy equipment to the site, which slows down construction time. The overall duration of the project is unrealistic, given such constraints. Please elaborate or extend the project implementation timeline.	18	Please refer to ITB, section 3a, part B, and section 3- Supplement to the General Conditions of Contract for Civil Works, part B. Subject of matter of the contract, paragraph No: 7 scopes of facilities. In addition: There are various experiences available with similar to even worse situations. Hence, the time estimations are assessed at being realistic. Simple access roads are easy and fast to be prepared in the given locations.
19	Pelton Turbines have been specified in the BoQ. Is this choice as well as the sizing based on estimation or based on actual data on the ground? The same is relevant for penstock and other components. Are they based on actual data? If yes, to what depth of understanding of the conditions have they been designed? We have not seen the detailed site survey. Can you please share that with us, so that we can incorporate it into our designs? Can you please elaborate?	19	Please refer to 3b2- parameters, and 3b3 hydraulic design, it is based on data on the ground.

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20	<p>The BoQ includes information on anchor blocks for the penstock but there is no mention of expansion joints. Can you please elaborate or revise the BoQ to include them?</p>	20	<p>Please refer to 3b1-2, part 2 Hydro-Mechanical Equipment, and to ITB, section 3a, part B, and section 3- Supplement to the General Conditions of Contract for Civil Works, part B. Subject of matter of the contract, paragraph No: 7 scopes of facilities. And also please check ITB: Section 7: Priced Bill of Quantities for more clarification." The quantities set forth against the items in the bill of quantities are based on the tender design and are an estimate of the quantity of each kind of the work likely to be carried out under the contract and are given to provide a common basis for bids. There is no guarantee to the Contractor that it will be required to carry out the quantities of work under any one particular item in the bill of quantities or that the real quantities will not differ in magnitude from those stated. It is the sole responsibility of the Contractor to make himself familiar with the final required design (construction design) and calculate the real quantities required." In addition: Please refer to section 3b-1-2 Particular requirements, page 18, chapter 2.1: The penstock is proposed to be installed subsurface. Hence, no expansion joint required. The Contractor can, however, decide to place the penstock above the surface, in which case he has to provide (and calculate) the expansion joints and supports.</p>
21	<p>A 140kW generator has been specified for the project. What is the potential of the source? Is it 140 kW or larger/smaller? If the potential is 140 kW, then the generator size is too small, when taken into consideration factors and losses. Please elaborate.</p>	21	<p>Please refer to note under the note under the items in 3b1-1 general technical specs: "Note: all figures are of tender design level only. They need to be verified, confirmed by the Contractor. The Contractor is solely responsible for verification. All costs submitted by the BoQ shall be based on the verified, confirmed data. The Engineer shall by no means be responsible or liable for the data and information are given above. The same applies to all information and data provided in this Technical Specifications." In addition: The question is seem to be not relevant. The generator needs to generate 140 kW at generator electric terminal. The losses are not considered here.</p>
22	<p>A 200 kW PV array is specified while the Inverter is spec'd at 160kW. This seems a</p>	22	<p>Please refer to note under the note under the items in 3b1-1 general technical specs: "Note:</p>

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	<p>far too small inverter. Can you please elaborate?</p>		<p>all figures are of tender design level only. They need to be verified, confirmed by the Contractor. The Contractor is solely responsible for verification. All costs submitted by the BoQ shall be based on the verified, confirmed data. The Engineer shall by no means be responsible or liable for the data and information are given above. The same applies to all information and data provided in this Technical Specifications." In addition: Please refer to Section 43b-1-2 Particular technical specifications, page 143, chapter 25. The PV inverter is of 200 kW capacity. The 160 kW capacity is related to the bi-directional battery inverter and grid manager (chapter 26, page 144.)</p>
23	<p>Only one Inverter has been spec'd. This will prove to be a very risk, as downtime in one inverter will cause power to all seven villages to be lost. Typically, the risk is minimized by increasing the number of inverters, thus reducing the effect on the consumers in case of down time. Additionally, spare parts can be stocked, if the inverters are smaller in size, which reduces potential down time in case of technical problems. Please elaborate.</p>	23	<p>Please refer to note under the Items in 3b1-1 general technical specs: "Note: all figures are of tender design level only. They need to be verified, confirmed by the Contractor. The Contractor is solely responsible for verification. All costs submitted by the BoQ shall be based on the verified, confirmed data. The Engineer shall by no means be responsible or liable for the data and information are given above. The same applies for all information and data provided in this Technical Specifications." In addition: There is not only one inverter. Apart from the fact that 1200 kW Inverter will hardly to be available, the number of inverters depends among other factor like the number of strings and string voltage; thus the Contractor finally chooses the final setting. Therefore we have left this choice to the Contractor and have given only the required total capacity.</p>
24	<p>The design period is provided as two months. Given the fact that topographic studies have to be done (takes a minimum of 2-3 weeks including report writing time), geotechnical studies will take about three weeks and other related work, the duration is not sufficient for the design. In addition to this, the review time by ASERD, which ca take in excess of two months (with possible rework). The design duration needs to be at a minimum</p>	24	<p>The overall timeline has given as 27 months, the client may or may not consider this change request in timeline individual subsections, In addition: It is the responsibility of the Contractor to organize the works in such a way that he keeps the timelines. works like topo survey (which will take hardly more than 2-3 days) and geotechnical studies (which will be very limited - if any - due to the size of the project) can, for example, be done in parallel.</p>

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	four months in duration. Please adjust the time line.		
25.	In the payment schedule, the design is awarded 5% payment. In reality, a typical design for hydro and PV will cost about 10% of the overall project cost. This should be adjusted accordingly.	25.	That is not correct. Pre-construction activities including construction supervision are usually 10%. As only construction design is required which can be based on a very detailed tender design the 5% is estimated at being adequate.
26.	The past experience requires that projects submitted should be in the past five-years. The fact of Afghanistan is that during 2013-2016 the NSP was shut down and replacement programs not launched. Additionally, general funding for energy projects were significantly down, with some exceptions for solar projects. Hence, the likelihood of completed 300kW solar and hydro projects in between 2013 and 2018 is fairly low. We suggest that the requirement be changed to ten years.	26.	You may take a JV partner on board, your JV should have the past experience required under this ITB.
27.	Past Experience requirement states that up to 300 kW Hybrid MHP/PV should have been completed. Two questions related to this: a. Is it 150kW Solar and 150kW Hydro power or 300 kW each? Please elaborate. b. Do you mean that 300kW hybrid of solar and hydro must have been completed, which will exclude 300 kW of each solar and Hydro power? Please elaborate.	27.	As mentioned a 300 kW HYBRID is required. Total capacity is 300 kW; b. 300 kW hydro and a 300 kW PV should be acceptable. But you need to provide one additional experiences in a hybrid.

UNDP informed attended bidders that they can send their requests for clarifications five (10) calendar days before the submission deadline date. All the received bidders' questions and UNDP's answers will be published on UNDP website to be available for all interested bidders.

3. Closure

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Sincerely Yours,

Head of SCMO

