



UNDP Call for Expressions of Interest (EoI) for solar PV power generation plants (7.0 MW peak and 3.5 MW peak) case reference 600717

UNDP invites interested companies to submit expressions of interest in relation to the following opportunity:

Summary of program

With support from the NAMA Facility (jointly established by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and the UK Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)) UNDP has been working with its partners on the identification and preparation of two solar PV projects (Project I and Project II) in The Gambia to be implemented by a single Independent Power Producer (IPP).

Project 1 will be a solar PV power generation plant located at an identified site near Farafenni with a base capacity of 7.0 MWpeak coupled with battery storage to level-out solar PV supply and demand in the grid. Project 2 will be a solar PV plant with a capacity of 3.5 MWpeak, located at an identified site near Basse. Both projects are expected to feed electricity into the national electricity grid and the selected company will be invited to sign a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with NAWEC (National Water & Electricity Company) for the purchase of electricity generated by the two plants over a period of 20 years under a BOOT (Build Own Operate Transfer) arrangement.

Scope of Work

UNDP is now inviting companies or formal consortia of companies, with the necessary expertise and capacity, to build and operate both Project I and II over a period of 20 years. Eligible companies or consortia will have to prove their experience in the construction and operation of solar PV plants as outlined in the eligibility criteria below. Only one company or consortium will be selected to build and operate both projects.

The Contractor shall provide the following works and services:

- Construct two (2) solar PV plants according to project 1 and 2 above.
- Operate both plant over a period of 20 years and feed electricity into the Gambian grid under a PPA, Concession Agreements and Grid Connection Agreements to be signed with NAWEC.
- Obtain relevant environmental permits from the National Environment Agency and Generation License from the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA).
- Provide equity finance for Projects I and II in the range of 35-40% of total project cost, noting that a construction finance facility and debt refinancing following commencement of commercial operations of both Projects I and II have been arranged separately (Financing Mechanism). Terms and conditions of the Financing Mechanism will be supplied at the ITB stage.
- Hand over the assets to NAWEC at the end of the 20-year period of the PPA and Concession Agreement.

Innovation

The Gambia's electricity industry is currently being restructured and further interconnections are planned, therefore significant production growth is expected in future to meet consumer demand. Companies are therefore asked to provide concepts to increase solar PV output in The Gambia, either as an increase of capacity at the site in Farafenni or through additional solar PV capacity at other locations that the company may identify. Proposals for the integration of battery storage in these concepts, with the purpose of increasing the reliability of supply to electricity in The Gambia, are also sought as a necessary component to this Call for EoI. Details of the innovation responses will not be shared with other respondents

Eligibility criteria

Companies applying need to meet the following eligibility criteria:

List of attributes	Requirements
a) Technical experience implementation and operation I	Solar PV projects undertaken in the past 10 years with <u>cumulative</u> capacity of at least 10 MW in which the applicant has been either or all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engineering, Procurement, Construction (EPC) contractor• Operations & Management (O&M) contractor• Independent power producer (i.e. equity sponsor with operational control of the asset)
b) Technical experience implementation and operation II	At least one solar PV project undertaken in the past 10 years with <u>single</u> capacity of at least 5 MW in which the applicant has been either or all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EPC contractor• O&M contractor• Independent power producer (i.e. equity sponsor with operational control of the asset)
c) Technical experience operation III	Evidence of previous experience in similar projects over the last five (5) years with electrical storage system design, construction, operation or financing
d) Regional experience	Demonstrable success in building and operating similar projects in Africa
e) Referees	Provision of three referees in relation to the experience quoted in response to attributes (a) to (d)
f) Establishment of company	Company or companies that form a consortium established and operating for at least 5 years.

General Instructions and Submission Details.

Interested Companies/Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services and meet the eligibility criteria listed in this Call for Expression of Interest.

The following documents are to be provided:

- Documents confirming company is meeting eligibility criteria a) to f) mentioned above
- Audited financial statements of the applicant for the three most recent financial years. If the year-end date of the most recent audited financial statements is more than six months before the EoI close date, a copy of management accounts for the relevant period since then
- Banker's reference letter

Companies may act as part of a formal consortium to leverage their capabilities provided that the consortium in total fulfills all eligibility criteria mentioned above.

The proposed Financing Mechanism is being prepared and structured by Climate Mundial with the support of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), while Baker McKenzie will act as legal advisor. The lead Contractor will sign a separate contract with the financial arranger and legal advisor. In the EoI, the bidder will be required to confirm in writing its acceptance of this arrangement as a core criterion for short-listing.

Companies will be selected in accordance with the procedure set out in the UNDP Procurement Guidelines and UNDP Financial Rules and Regulations. If any applicant or member of a consortium is involved in any significant fossil fuel or nuclear related activities, it may make them a less attractive partner for the NAMA Facility and UNDP on this initiative.

EoI from suppliers failing to provide the requested information will be disregarded.

Eligible suppliers meeting all requirement stipulated in this EoI will be short listed for the upcoming ITB. Invitations to bid and any subsequent purchase order will be issued in accordance with the rule and procedures of UNDP

This EoI does not entail or imply any commitment either financial or otherwise on the part of the UNDP, NAWEC, The Government of The Gambia, Climate Mundial, UNCDF and Baker Mackenzie. UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EoI without incurring any obligation to inform the affected applicant/s of the grounds.

UNDP/PSU invites potential suppliers to express their interest. The expression of interest should specify UNDP/PSU reference number 600717 and shall be received **no later than 17.00 Hours, Copenhagen local time on Tuesday 23rd April 2019.**

Any requests for clarification about the contents of this Expression of interest shall be sent via email to joaquin.albiach@undp.org and rafael.robillard@undp.org with copy gpucee@undp.org

Any request for clarification shall be received no later than 05 days before the deadline for submission of applications as stipulated above. No phone calls will be accepted. Answers to questions/inquiries will be posted on UNDP-corporate website (<http://procurement-notices.undp.org/>)

Interested suppliers should forward their Expression of interest including all required documentation by email (max. 4.5 MB per email message with no limits on number of messages), to the following addresses: pso.bidtender@undp.org

Submission will also be accepted via sealed envelope. All envelopes shall be sealed and marked "Expression of interest for solar PV power generation plants (7.0 MW peak and 3.5 MW peak) case reference 600717", and received in the following address:

PSU-BMS, Crisis Response/Energy and Environment team,
Global Procurement Unit
UN CITY, 4th floor
Marmorvej 51,
2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark