Clarifications to Bidders

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Coordination and Development of 7 National Child Projects under the UNDP-GEF Africa Mini-grids Program Round 2 in Benin, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Sao Tome e Principe and Zambia

RFP No.: RFP/NCE/HQ/003/2021

Date: 13 October 2021

Question-1: In the ToR under Section D "Indicative Effort": do the 35 working days capture all senior staff in one country?

Answer: yes, although this is only an indication, the 35 working days refer to all senior staff and apply to one country (in addition 25 working days from national consultants expected in one country).

Question-2: Can we propose a Joint-Venture?

Answer: Yes, JV, Consortium or Associations are encouraged for high value, multi-sectoral requirements when the spectrum of expertise and resources required may not be available within one firm. JV shall consider:

- If the Proposal is submitted as a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association, each member should meet the RFP minimum criteria.
- They have designated one party to act as a lead entity.
- If they are awarded the contract, the contract shall be entered into, by and between UNDP and the designated lead entity.
- Submitting only one proposal.
- The description of the organization of the JV, Consortium or Association must clearly define the expected role of each of the entity in the joint venture.
- Financial Standing: Minimum average annual turnover of USD300,000 for the last 3 years, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

In the case of a JV/association: The lead firm shall demonstrate that it has Minimum average annual
turnover of US$ 150,000 for the last 3 years and the other members to the association / JV also has minimum average annual turnover of US$ 150,000 for the last 3 years. Thus, the cumulative basis amounts as a minimum average for both is US$ 300,000 for the last 3 years.

For more info please refer to the RFP Section B, Item 14, Page 8.

**Question-3:** Can we include national consultants that are working for a firm that is based in another country?

**Answer:** The national consultant nationality should be from the specific country. However, it may be possible that payment is routed through a firm based in another country.

**Question-4:** If one works on this assignment, would the firm be disqualified for the implementation of mini-grids due to conflict of interest later on?

**Answer:** The assignment will not include design of minigrids and most likely not involve the identification of locations for minigrids as this will only come during project implementation itself (after GEF CEO Endorsement, when this assignment ends). It is therefore unlikely that the firm will be disqualified for the implementation of minigrids later on in project implementation.

**Question-5:** Why does the ToR describe a need for 2 national consultants in Mali?

**Answer:** The project in Mali has – as an exception – an additional component on enhancing agricultural value chains through renewable energy and promoting energy efficiency of agricultural processes in the Great Green Wall areas of Mali. We can foresee the need for an additional national consultant to cover this component. However, it may also be possible for one national consultant to cover all the work in Mali but this would mean the consultant would have to have the availability to take on a larger assignment.

**Question-6:** Can a structure that has been in existence for 2 years be the leader of a consortium

**Answer:** No, the eligibility criteria in the ToR state that the firm should have at least five years of relevant experience, particularly in with regard to the development of clean energy projects.

**Question-7:** Can we have the RFP templates in word version?

**Answer:** Yes, the word version of templates has been uploaded in the procurement notice.