

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR THE HYDROGEN MARKET STUDY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HYDROPOWER & POWER SYSTEMS OF BHUTAN**

**QUESTION:** Can you indicate the number of locations to be identified for hydrogen production sites?

**ANSWER:** The number of locations will be determined during the kickoff meetings with Bhutan DHPS and during the study.

**QUESTION:** Is the consultant required to carry out pre-feasibility studies as part of identification process for the hydrogen production sites?

**ANSWER:** Pre-feasibility studies will not be included in the scope of this assignment.

**QUESTION:** Will USEA/DHPS allocate a separate budget for organizing a stakeholders' workshop to aid the identification process for hydrogen production sites? Will it be possible to issue a call for information from the key national stakeholders?

**ANSWER:** Stakeholder workshops will not be included in the scope of this assignment. Solicitations of information from national stakeholders will be coordinated in partnership with Bhutan DHPS as needed.

**QUESTION:** While it is indicated in the terms of reference that costs for travel and workshops will be separately covered by USEA and such costs need not be included in the financial proposal, please clarify if the technical proposal should indicate the estimated number of trips and workshops?

**ANSWER:** Yes, the estimated number of trips and workshops should be included in the proposal.

**QUESTION:** Should any local Bhutan taxes be included in the financial proposal?

**ANSWER:** No. Since USEA is covering travel costs (which include taxes), this would be covered by USEA directly.

**QUESTION:** Please indicate a) if there is a page limit for each proposed resume, and b) if there is a preferred resume template to follow?

**ANSWER:** The cover letter should not exceed 10 pages in length. There is no page limit for CVs attached to the proposal and no specific requirements for formatting or a template.

**QUESTION:** How can data needed for the study be obtained from DHPS?

**ANSWER:** DHPS will provide requested data on hydropower generation and USEA can assist in obtaining needed data and coordinating with DHPS.

**QUESTION:** Can electricity and potential hydrogen consumption levels be assumed through looking at industry indicators?

**ANSWER:** Yes

**QUESTION:** Will required government authorization letters be shared with project implementers?

**ANSWER:** Yes, USEA will assist with obtaining needed authorization letters.

**QUESTION:** Is an on-site technical feasibility study for assessing the potential of producing hydrogen from existing or planned hydropower needed?

**ANSWER:** It is not anticipated that such an on-site technical feasibility study will be necessary, however, it will be ultimately determined during project kickoff meetings with Bhutan DHPS.

**QUESTION:** Is there a specific format for the financial proposal and CVs?

**ANSWER:** There is no specific format required.

**QUESTION:** What are the expectations of USEA and DHPS on mode of delivery and on-site presence of the consultant in Bhutan?

**ANSWER:** USEA will directly cover all travel-related expenses such as lodging, airfare, and ground transportation. Any travel will be discussed and agreed upon with Bhutan DHPS during project kickoff meetings. Travel will be on a short-term basis only (<2 weeks), with no prolonged on-site presence required from the consultant. Per diem allowances, at U.S. government-approved rates, will be provided for food and other incidentals, so other travel expenses will not need to be reimbursed.

**QUESTION:** With regards to the eligibility criteria, can the DUNS/SAM registration be waived?

**ANSWER:** According to the U.S. Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions for Federal Awards, no entity may receive a subaward without providing its Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Subrecipients are not required to maintain an active SAM registration but must obtain a Unique Entity Identifier from the System for Award Management (SAM).

**QUESTION:** On the eligibility criteria, we would like to seek clarification that if the bid is submitted as a consortium or with sub-contractors, will the eligibility criteria be applied to the consortium or agency with sub-contractors for qualification purposes? Also, can the bidder use the credentials of its group or parent company for qualification purpose?

**ANSWER:** According to the U.S. Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions for Federal Awards, no entity may receive a subaward without providing its Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Subrecipients are not required to maintain an active SAM registration but must obtain a Unique Entity Identifier from the System for Award Management (SAM). If the bidder's parent company has a Unique Entity Identifier, that would qualify.

**QUESTION:** What is the maximum cumulative liability of the selected bidder?

**ANSWER:** Generally, liability of subcontractors is limited to the payment of direct damages actually incurred by USEA as the substantial result of the breach of contract, the gross negligence, or the willful misconduct of the subcontractor.

**QUESTION:** Based on the tender document the selected bidder will be required to travel for the completion of the tasks and such travel related cost should not be included in the Financial Proposal. Will the cost of travel and accommodation related expenses will be reimbursed on actuals?

**ANSWER:** USEA will directly cover all travel-related expenses such as lodging, airfare, and ground transportation. Per diem allowances, at U.S. government-approved rates, will be provided for food and other incidentals, so other travel expenses will not need to be reimbursed.

**QUESTION:** Can you please clarify on the type of contract that will be signed under this assignment – whether it will be Firm Fixed Price, Time & Materials, or Cost Reimbursable?

**ANSWER:** The contract will be Firm Fixed Price.

**QUESTION:** Should the POV, approach and methodology be restricted within 10 pages? Or can you use more pages towards elaborating A&M? Can hydrogen generation from hydropower be considered a renewable form of generation when detailing consultant experience?

**ANSWER:** The POV, approach, and methodology should be included in the 10-page cover letter. Experience with hydrogen generation from renewable power would be considered also as relevant experience.