

Questions and Answers

RFP: ENERGY MIX DIVERSIFICATION STRATEGY FOR UEGCL

Q1. Are we allowed to use our Tax Identification Number /TIN instead of the D-U-N-S and how can we get a SAM registration? Or the TIN alone suffices?

- A. A TIN will not suffice. In order to receive a subcontract with the U.S. Government, you must have a Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S) number and be registered on System of Award Management (SAM). Both registrations are free. Please go to the following websites to apply for registration – you may not receive it in time for the closing of the RFP, but please submit a confirmation of pending approval and that shall be acceptable for the proposal.
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 - System of Award Management (SAM): <https://sam.gov/SAM/>

Q2. Can proposals include a joint agreement with international technical partners?

- A. Yes, proposals can include a joint agreement with international partners, but the Prime subcontractor must have a DUNS and SAM registration and all contractors shall be subject to the USAID Special Terms and Conditions, 2CFR200, and 2CFR700, as found in the section “Subcontract Agreement Management and Oversight” on page 3 of the RFP. The financial proposal must also take into account any additional costs of the joint agreement.

Q3. In Task 1, is the initial meeting and report a collection of the material that has already been produced by key stakeholders such as government agencies and utility?

- A. Yes

Q4. In Task 1, for all the sub-bullets that say “Review”, what assurances does the consultant have that the material preparation is well-organized?

- A. USEA cannot assure that all the material presented will be well-organized, but since the utilities have a vested interest in getting a good result from this project, we confirm that they will provide all the requested materials to the best of their ability. Under Task 1, the Consultant will meet with the utility and key stakeholders to discuss the materials needed.

Q5. After tasks 1 and 2 are completed, what happens if the materials shared by government agencies and the utility are found to be considerably lagging?

- A. The utilities and key stakeholders have a vested interest in getting a good result from this project, we confirm that they will provide all the requested materials to the best of their ability. Under Task 3, the Consultant will conduct a gap analysis to analyze any issues or materials that may be lacking.

- Q6. After tasks 1 and 2 are completed, what happens if the scope is found to be considerably larger than originally defined in the RFP?
- A. All the work expected to be completed by the Consultant will not exceed what is described in the RFP. If it is discovered that additional work needs to be performed an additional scope of work will be drafted and negotiated with the Consultant pending USAID approval.
- Q7. In Task 3, “Developing an Energy Mix Diversification Strategy”, does this mean the consultant offers an opinion based on a strategy or does the consultant simply lay out the strategies that will need to be addressed and evaluated in the future. Or does this mean that the consultant actually performs analysis for alternative strategies as part of this project?
- A. The Consultant is expected to perform analysis for alternative strategies for energy diversification for UEGCL. Based on this analysis the Consultant is to offer recommendations going forward.
- Q8. In Task 4, “Developing a roadmap and financial business plan”, what is the USEA definition of “roadmap” and “financial business plan”?
- A. The Consultant is expected to develop a roadmap and financial business plan that explicates how to implement and finance the Energy Mix Diversification Strategy. This would include identifying potential private sector financing and potential generation projects that can be fast-tracked for development.
- Q9. Task 1: Is USEA certain that the various documents/strategy papers/data available are already or shall the consultants be involved in preparing the same? What assurances does the consultant have on receiving data from UEGCL? In our experience, this normally is uncertain and cause significant delays due to bureaucracy and security clearances and approvals.
- A. USEA and UEGCL can confirm that materials and data needed for this Strategy will be available. The key stakeholders have a vested interest in getting a good result from this project, we confirm that they will provide all the requested materials to the best of their ability. Under Task 1, the Consultant will meet with the utility and key stakeholders to discuss the materials needed.
- Q10. Task 4 – ID private sector financing: Does this entail approaching potential financiers and assessing their interest or likelihood of financing the proposals?
- A. The Consultant shall assess the amount of funding UEGCL will need in order to implement the Energy Mix Diversification Strategy. The Consultant shall also assess potential options for financing projects.

Q11. RFP states that a subcontract agreement between USEA and the winning bidder shall be subject to all USAID Special Terms and Conditions, including all mandatory FAR Flow-Down clauses, where applicable, and the provisions included in 2CFR200 and 2CFR700. If the subcontract is subject to 2 CFR 200, then FAR clauses shouldn't apply. If FAR clauses apply, then 2 CFR 200 and 700 wouldn't apply. One is for procurement of services (FAR) and the other is for assistance (a subagreement). Could you please clarify.

A. The Consultant shall be subject to FAR clauses or CFR clauses depending on whether they are for-profit entity or non-profit entity. USEA will provide a copy of the ADS Chapter 303 Standard Provisions to the winning bidder during contract negotiations. All Special Terms and Conditions shall be applied to the subcontractor and all of the subcontractor's Subrecipients (Annex 2: Mandatory Provisions). All mandatory FAR Flow-Down clauses, where applicable, shall apply. This Subcontract agreement also must comply with the provisions included in 2CFR200 and 2CFR700.

Q12. Will the contract between the winning bidder and USEA be for the fixed price or time and materials?

A. The subcontract will be fixed price.

Q13. RFP requires that consultants submit USAID Contractor Employee Biographical Data Sheet forms. This would imply that we are also required to use indirect cost multipliers already approved by USAID for other contracts in Africa. Please clarify.

A. USEA requires the primary Consultants of the RFP proposal to submit a USAID Contractor Employee Biographical Data Sheet in order to collect biographical data from potential bidders and perform due diligence. The bidder should provide the loaded rate of the consultants in order ensure labor costs are in line with historical rates. USEA does not require that the Consultant use indirect cost multipliers approved by USAID. The subcontract will be fixed price with an award ceiling of \$60,000 USD.

Q14. Task 2 requires consultant to "Conduct a study on the optimal renewable energy penetration for the current system and required improvements/additional network equipment to improve grid stability for the inclusion of additional intermittent generation and Identify potential generation evacuation issues onto the grid for similar projects" during the 2 day site visit. This type of comprehensive study requires significant data inputs and LOE. Could you please clarify the work required in this task?

A. Under Task 2, the Consultant will visit a couple of sites with engineers from UEGCL to collect data and analyze the development constraints projects are facing. The Consultant will be expected to identify if the current transmission grid system is stable enough add large amounts of renewable energy generation. If it is not, the Consultant shall make recommendations on what network improvement needs to be done in order to add large amounts of renewable energy generation. All the work expected to be completed by the Consultant will not exceed what is described in the RFP. If it is discovered that additional

work needs to be performed an additional scope of work will be drafted and negotiated with the Consultant pending USAID approval.

Q15. Shall there be any shift in the dates of submission of this RFP due to the ongoing pandemic or shall the date of submission be staying the same which is the 20-March-2020 and the date to post our questions (13-March-2020) also stay as it is?.

A. The dates of submission and questions for this RFP shall remain the same. We will discuss any issues regarding travel with the winning bidder after selection and follow whatever the U.S. Embassy mission in Kampala, Uganda recommends.

Q16. Is there a more detailed timeline for the deliverables (example, the week you expect the deliverables, calculated from the start of the project) or the final timelines will be adjusted during the 5-day technical week?

A. Final timelines for deliverables will be determined during the 5-day technical meetings. The proposal for this RFP should include an estimated timeline of developing deliverables.

Q17. What is the payment schedule for that project?

A. The Consultant should propose a payment schedule that works within the deliverables of the project. Payment schedule can be negotiated once the winning bidder is selected.

Q18. What is the allowed time for mobilization?

A. USEA and USAID would like the start of this project to begin in late April or early May.

Q19. Will the team have access to documents and data from the EAPP? Is the EAPP involved in the project?

A. If it is required for the study, then UEGCL and the various stakeholders will provide access to the necessary documents and data. EAPP is not directly involved in this project. This project is focused primarily on the assets that UEGCL own or will be developing.

Q20. We understand that additionally to the diversification strategy, there is a challenge with the grid stability (and grid capacity) because of additional intermittent solar generation and you want us to provide recommendations, but a complete study on the grid stability cannot be done in a few days and requires much more than what is planned in the SoW. Until which level of granularity do you want us to dig?

A. Based on the documentation and data that UEGCL will provide, there have been grid stability studies completed before, the Consultant will review these and provide recommendations on improvements that should be considered before additional intermittent generation is connected to the grid. During the 5-day technical meeting and 2-day site visit, the Consultant will work closely with UEGCL engineers and other key stakeholders to determine the level of granularity needed for grid stability.

Q21. What level do you expect for this task: “Develop proposals for evacuation of electricity onto the grid from identified generation projects”. Do you expect a complete distribution study?

A. USEA is not requiring a complete distribution study, that is beyond the scope of this RFP. Instead the Consultant shall propose a couple of generation projects that are feasible based on their ability to evacuate electricity onto the grid. The Consultant shall make recommendations on what network improvement needs to be done in order to add large amounts of renewable energy generation. All the work expected to be completed by the Consultant will not exceed what is described in the RFP. If it is discovered that additional work needs to be performed an additional scope of work will be drafted and negotiated with the Consultant pending USAID approval.

Q22. Did the UEGCL start implementing their strategic plan? will the progress of the strategic plan be shared?

A. UEGCL already has a Strategic Plan (2018-2023) which will be made available to the Consultant. During the 5-day technical meeting, UEGCL will present their Strategic Plan and the progress that has been made.

Q23. We understand that the objective is to provide “reliable, available, and flexible Power”, but what about cost of power? Is it an important parameter?

A. Cost of power is an important objective. Under Task 4, USEA is asking that a financial business plan be developed for the Energy Mix Diversification Strategy in order to determine the most cost-effective and financially feasible generation projects and implementation of the Energy Mix Diversification Strategy.

Q24. Is the opportunity open to eligible bidders from all countries or is there any restriction on the country of origin of the bidder?

A. This RFP is open to the world. The only restriction is that bidders must have an active SAM registration and DUNS number.

Q25. Is consortium / joint venture allowed? In such case, is there any restriction on the country of origin of the lead bidder and the JV/ Consortium members.

A. Yes, proposals can include a joint agreement with international partners, but the Prime subcontractor must have a DUNS and SAM registration and all contractors shall be subject to the USAID Special Terms and Conditions, 2CFR200, and 2CFR700, as found in the section “Subcontract Agreement Management and Oversight” on page 3 of the RFP. The financial proposal must also take into account any additional costs of the joint agreement.

Q26. Is the RFP open to organizations and individuals? The RFP mentions both organizations and individuals but also highlights the fact that applications without a DUNS will be disqualified. Can you please provide more information on this matter?

A. This RFP is open to both organizations and individual consultants. In order to receive a subcontract with the U.S. Government, you must have a Data

Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S) number and be registered on System of Award Management (SAM). Both registrations are free. Please go to the following websites to apply for registration – you may not receive it in time for the closing of the RFP, but please submit a confirmation of pending approval and that shall be acceptable for the proposal.

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Q27. In the case individual applicants are allowed to apply, would all participants need to submit separate application forms? Or would one application be able to pool all contributors to the work by individually filling their Contractor Employee forms?

- A. You are allowed to apply as a consortium, however the company or individual who will be the signatory on the contract will need to have an active DUNS and SAM registration. Contractor Employee Data Sheet will be required for each person on the contract, such as the team leader, trainer, and other key personnel on the contract. The biographical data should be done per person who will be critical to this contract.

Q28. Contractor Employee Biographical Data Sheet: is it required to be filled by all contributors to the project?

- A. Contractor Employee Data Sheet will be required for each person on the contract, such as the team leader, trainer, and other key personnel on the contract. The biographical data should be done per person who will be critical to this contract.