

RESPONSE TO QUERIES: RFP - Training for Bhutan on “Regulatory Process for Cost Reflective Tariff Design”

RFP issue date: August 03, 2021

RFP closing date: September 03, 2021 (18:00 IST)

SI No	Reference	Query	SAREH response
1	Eligibility Requirements	<p>Please confirm whether the trainings or workshops that are conducted as a part of larger regulatory assignment shall be considered as qualified experience?</p> <p>Further request to consider experience of training /workshops under regulatory retainerships contract with the Central/ State Regulatory Commissions/Nodal Agency/ Discom/Genco/Transmission licensees, SLDCs as a qualified experience</p>	<p>Trainings conducted under larger regulatory assignment can be considered. However, the trainings under such assignments should be comparable to the requirement of the RFP, and not a short a duration workshop/consultation meeting/webinar. Bidder to provide explanation of such trainings in the project description.</p>
2	Technical Proposal	<p>Please confirm if we can include CV of an Individual expert as a part of bidder’s team.</p>	<p>Yes, additional experts (other than the four-team member) can be individual experts.</p>
3	Scope of work	<p>It may be clarified whether the training is required for senior level management, mid-level management or for junior officers. It may also be clarified if the officers shall be selected from all functions or only selected functions like commercial and regulatory.</p>	<p>Participants may include a mix of senior level, mid-level and junior officers from various departments and agencies. While the training relevance is more for officers involved in commercial and regulatory function, the nomination of participants will be made by Bhutan. This can be deliberated in the first meeting with Bhutan Electricity Authority (BEA) and Bhutan Power Corporation (BPC).post contract award.</p>
4	Scope of work	<p>It is understood that the post training assessment would be conducted on the same day of the training at the end of the training session.</p> <p>Further, it is understood that the qualitative assessment would involve a generic assessment of the gap in understanding and skills and not individual level assessment. The understanding may be confirmed</p>	<p>The post-training assessment can be conducted on the concluding day of the training workshop. As it will be an online assessment, additional days may be allowed to the participants with a pre-defined deadline for completion of the assessment. The purpose of these assessments is not to evaluate the awareness/skills for each individual, but the overall understanding level pre and post workshop.</p>

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5	Scope of work	It is requested that the work of providing training certificates may be kept outside the scope of work of the firm and should not involve the brand of the firm.	The certificate will most likely have the brand/logo of USAID and USEA (not the selected bidder). But it is in bidder's scope to design and prepare the certificate based on the approved branding.
6	Pre-Training Deliverables	It may be clarified if the pre training materials would also require the draft power point presentations to be used for trainings. If yes, then it is requested to provide an additional week's time for its submission since the trainer would have to understand the Bhutan specific requirements and customize them. The total timelines may accordingly be extended by one week.	Pre-training reading materials are part of pre-training deliverables which will be shared with participants at least one week before the training workshop. They do not include the draft power point presentations.
7	Proposal Content - Eligibility Requirements	Given the page limit, the maximum number of assignments that the consultant is expected to submit may be clarified. It may be clarified that trainings provided under a larger regulatory compliance support or regulatory strategy/study assignment shall also be considered since a number of assignments where we provide such trainings, the scope of the training is only one of the components of work and not the only component.	The page limit for 'Eligibility Requirements' is extended to maximum 4 pages. Trainings conducted under larger regulatory assignment can be considered. However, the trainings under such assignments should be comparable to the requirement of the RFP, and not a short a duration workshop/consultation meeting/webinar. Bidder to provide explanation of such trainings in the project description.
8	Proposal Content – Summary of Fees	We understand that for a firm based out of India, we would be required to quote the fees in INR which would be subject to GST as applicable. The understanding may be confirmed. Also, it may be clarified if the total fees with or without taxes shall be used for evaluation.	The quoted fee should be inclusive of all applicable taxes. Price bid should clearly show the applicable taxes. All-inclusive quote will be considered for financial evaluation.
9	Indicate topics with tentative time allocation	It is understood that the training content for each of the sessions shall cover the basic regulatory principles, existing process or regulations in practice in Bhutan, relevant case studies and mock exercises/hands on, as applicable. The understanding may be confirmed.	Indicative topics with tentative time allocation are provided in Annexure-A of the RFP. Bidder can propose additional topics and duration that they find relevant. The final agenda will get developed in consultation with Bhutan Electricity Authority (BEA) and Bhutan Power Corporation (BPC).

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10	Confidentiality Agreement and Undertaking	Even with the exclusion for materials in the public domain referenced in Section 3, the definition is overly broad. Can the consultant limit confidentiality undertakings to the non-public, proprietary and confidential information required for performance of the subcontracted work, and for such materials to be appropriately marked?	Yes, bidder can limit the confidentiality undertaking to the mentioned categories.
11		Can consultant will be exempted from the data retained in automated data storage systems from deletion and removal requirements. Complying with the request would entail expense exceeding the amount of the subcontract.	No, this cannot be exempted. The data shared is for the performance of the services listed in the contract. Once the purpose is over, you are obligated to return/delete the data, as the case may be at your expense unless there is a legal basis to retain such data.
12	Master Services Agreement	whether Annexure A take precedence over or is subordinate to the MSA.	With respect of Confidential Information, the NDA takes precedence over the MSA.
13		Pl. clarify what is the "date of transaction" and whether or not this is a reasonable period of time for a delayed invoice to be deemed invalid.	For the purpose of this clause, "date of transaction" means date when the services (deliverables) are completed.
14		The consultant has no insight to the internal approval process and how long payment may be held following submission of a proper invoice.	Payment milestones as mentioned in VII. PAYMENT SCHEDULE of the RFP (page 8) will be applicable. Invoices will be approved by SAREH activity manager after satisfactory completion of the deliverables.
15		Does it include the people responding independently to public advertisements are exempted?	No, it does not include people responding to advertisements independently.