

FAQ

ANSWERS TO THE QUERIES RAISED AGAINST TENDER FOR ENGAGEMENT OF A CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT TECHNICAL EVALUATIONS OF SELECTED ROOFTOP SOLAR PV POWER PLANTS IN INDIA – MOVING FROM KW TO KWH PART II, SAP

No.: 83356815

S. No.	REFERENCE OF BIDDING DOCUMENT				BIDDER'S QUERIES	Reply from GIZ
	Document	Clause No.	Page No.	Details		
1.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 1	4	The consultant shall identify a broad list of potential sites themselves by coordinating with the respective site owners, DISCOMs, State Nodal Agencies, Solar Energy federations, et cetera.	What will be the support by the GIZ for identifying the sites? Ideally the GIZ would select the sites and provide the contact persons, then the consultant would coordinate the access for the visits. Please confirm.	GIZ shall introduce the consultants to the prospective Central/State agencies and DISCOMs. The consultant shall then coordinate directly with these agencies and potential private players to identify, shortlist and finalize the sites. The consultant shall submit the final list to GIZ for the approval.
2.	Bid Submission				Does the bidder have to be a registered Indian entity, or can the bidder be an international company that meets all the tender requirements?	The bidder has to be a registered Indian entity only
3.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10	The leading consulting firm must have a minimum of 4 years of experience in the field of renewable & solar energy consulting and/or third-party inspections of solar photovoltaic projects.	Would the experience of owner's engineer including construction supervision be admitted as a Third-party inspection experience?	No. Third party inspection would entail independent onsite assessment of quality, performance and adherence to contract terms for installed PV plants
4.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10	The leading consulting firm must have a minimum of 4 years of experience in the field of	Experience & Financial clauses may kindly be relaxed to allow MSME registered New Companies in order	No, the criteria cannot be relaxed because of the technical nature of the

				renewable & solar energy consulting and/or third-party inspections of solar photovoltaic projects. The firm must also have a minimum experience of 2 years related to logistics of Solar PV.	to participate and contribute to the Project	assignment and quality of work required under this ToR.
5.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 1	4	The consultant shall identify a broad list of 60 sites in at least 4 different locations	Please confirm the Area / State to be covered in the first 30 + 30 Sites as mentioned in the ToR . This is important to know and measure the effective and competitive cost as it varies from state to state.	Preference shall be for the states mentioned below but not limited to: i. Gujarat ii. Uttar Pradesh iii. Delhi iv. Maharashtra Additionally, the consultant shall aim to target different geographical locations to fulfill the number of sites to be studied in the assignment
6.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 1	4	The consultant shall identify a broad list of 60 sites in at least 4 different locations	Please provide guidance on the states/locations being considered. This would be necessary to submit a quality proposal and optimize the resources to be proposed.	Preference shall be for the states mentioned below but not limited to: i. Gujarat ii. Uttar Pradesh iii. Delhi iv. Maharashtra Additionally, the consultant shall aim to target different geographical locations to fulfill the number of sites to be studied in the assignment
7.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 2	5	The inspections shall have a 'solution oriented' approach to the identified issues, failures or deviations from international standards	Could you please clarify if GIZ is considering the inclusion of any particular standards?	The inspection must be conducted according to the latest international and national standards for PV power plants

8.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 2, sub task a. ix.	5	Fire safety compliances	Evaluation of safety is a very important part of the project and the ToR does mention safety compliance checks several times. However, the skills requested in the proposed project team may not be adequate to analyze this aspect adequately.	The consultant may suggest experts for verifying the fire safety compliances in the technical bid
9.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10	The firm must also have a minimum experience of 2 years related to logistics of Solar PV.	Please clarify if the experience of logistics in solar PV has to be with the leading firm or if it can be attributed to the partners as well.	Yes, logistics experience can be attributed to the partner firm within the consortium
10.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10	The leading consulting firm shall meet the following minimum requirements and submit documentary evidence, the reference projects shall have value more than INR 25 Lakh (INR 2.5 million)	As per our experience, even complete PMC projects for multi-MW size rooftop solar projects are in a few lakhs and are considerably under the 25 Lakh capacity. We would request you to kindly consider revising these limits.	The criteria cannot be relaxed
11.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10	Conducted at least 2 third party inspection of rooftop solar plants in India on behalf of a DISCOM, State Nodal Agency, MNRE or SECI in the last 3 years	We would request you to also consider including work experience for Municipal Bodies, public bodies, etc.	The criteria cannot be relaxed
12.	Terms of Reference	Section 5 ; Logistics expert	12	University qualification (Degree) in Logistics management, Supply Chain management or allied technical fields. Development Cooperation (DC) experience	Even though there are several professionals who work in the logistics and transportation of solar PV sector, in our opinion, it would be rare to find candidates with academic degrees specifically in	A degree under 'Allied technical fields' would include fields related to Logistics and Supply Chain Management such as Transportation Management, International Shipping, Operations Management, etc

					logistics management. Additionally, the requirement of development cooperation in this profile can potentially make it rarer. Could you please clarify which other degrees and qualifications may be included under "allied technical fields"?	
13.	Bid Submission				As per Tender Notice " The bidder must submit their proposals (technical and financials separately) in hard copies as well as in soft copies in pen drives " Whereas in Bidding Condition it is mentioned that " The bids & queries should only be submitted electronically and only on the specified email ID's ". Please confirm if we need to submit the hardcopy and pen drive also to the address mentioned in Sr. 6 of Bidding Document.	Bids are only to be submitted on email as per the instructions in the bidding conditions. The tender notice has also been updated accordingly.
14.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10		The Eligibility Criteria mentioned is not exactly in line with the Excel document "Assessing eligibility of consulting firm". Is there any minimum marks requirement to qualify the eligibility as per the sheet?	The bidder must meet the eligibility criteria as mentioned in the ToR.
15.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 1	4	The consultant shall identify a broad list of 60 sites in at least 4 different locations	Can Consultant select same 2 states for Phase 1 & Phase 2	No. Preference shall be given to a different state in Phase 2 to account for geographical/regional Variations

16.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 1	4	The consultant shall identify a broad list of potential sites themselves by coordinating with the respective site owners, DISCOMs, State Nodal Agencies, Solar Energy federations, et cetera.	Can consultant select the sites where consultant have been stakeholder as consultant or contractor during development of that project?	Yes, granted the site analysis shall be done without bias and objectively.
17.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 2	5	Specifically, for each site, the consultant shall conduct on-site tests for identifying general degradation rate, PID, hot spots, soldering failures, micro-cracks, by-pass diodes among others using industry Standards measuring tools like IV tracer, Infra-red camera and Electroluminescence on modules. In addition, string level electrical measurements (I-V curve) should be plotted.	Is there any sampling criteria need to be followed for online testing (IV Curve testing/Thermography/EL Testing)?	Onsite evaluations shall be conducted on all sites shortlisted as per selection criteria for Task 1 as mentioned in the ToR. The consultant shall conduct Thermography, IV curve tracing and EL testing on all the shortlisted sites to the extent possible.
18.	Terms of Reference	Section 5 ; Logistics expert	12	University qualification (Degree) in Logistics management, Supply Chain management or allied technical fields. Development Cooperation (DC) experience	The tender specifies for Logistics Expert (1 position) As per Scope of Work, we have to examine the roof top PV system only. Please clarify what you mean by Supply chain management of allied technical fields. Is it can be a mechanical electrical engineer having experience in supervising the handling of Solar PV Panel?	i. As per Section 2, Task 3: Logistics Monitoring, consultant shall have to identify damages during transportation of modules by analyzing each step of the supply chain. ii. A degree under 'Allied technical fields' would include fields related to Logistics and Supply Chain Management such as Transportation Management, International Shipping, Operations Management, et cetera.

						iii. The expert should have a degree in Logistics / Supply chain management apart from the mechanical/electrical engineering degree.
19.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10	Average annual turnover of the firm for the last 3 years shall be at least INR 3 Crore (INR 30 million)	Request to modify turnover of at least 360000 Euro in any of the three financial years or revise the same to 260000 Euro as average of three years.	We have deliberated on the request and have concluded that the criteria cannot be relaxed.
20.	Terms of Reference	Section 5 ; Logistics expert	12	University qualification (Degree) in Logistics management, Supply Chain management or allied technical fields. Development Cooperation (DC) experience	Consultant is not required for transportation of the material. However, our site engineers at the plant have experience of un-loading, stocking, handling during construction. Will this be considered as experience in logistic experience in Solar PV. Please confirm that the same is acceptable.	AS per the TOR, University qualification (Degree) in Logistics management, Supply Chain management or allied technical fields, 5 Years of experience in Logistics and transportation; 3 years' experience in logistics of Photovoltaic components. The expert meeting the above criteria shall be accepted by us.
21.	Terms of Reference	Section 4	10	Additionally, the firm may form a consortium with relevant partners to undertake specific tasks as part of the assignment.	A consortium has been allowed. Please confirm should we have consortium with consultancy firm only or we can have consortium with Consultant cum Solar EPC company also, who have not worked in GIZ roof top solar scheme.	Experienced consultant cum EPC company is allowed and should meet the criteria listed under section 4. (Company Profile) in the ToR.
22.	Bid Submission				We have to submit the financial proposal giving Professional fee & reimbursement fee with	Normally all reimbursable are paid on actuals

					break up for the same. Please advise how the payment will be made on Lump sum basis or on actual expenditure vouchers?	
23.	Payment terms				The payment terms and payment procedure has not been specified in the tender conditions. What are the documents to be submitted with invoice may also please be clarified.	This will be discussed with the winning firm
24.	1. Assessing Eligibility of Firms 2. The Technical Evaluation Grid				We request to kindly share these documents as mentioned in the Tender Notice.	They are already uploaded on the same page as the tender notice the day tender was made live. Please re-check.
25.	Bidding Condition	Clause 2 Consortium/joint venture		Specifically, all members must name the lead member and authorize this member to represent the association and to receive payments on behalf of the other members.	Clarify- Payments shall be done in only one bank account in case of consortium or multiple bank accounts shall be allowed to receive the payment.	The contract shall be made in the name of lead partner; hence payments shall also be made to them.
26.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 1	4	The consultant shall identify a broad list of potential sites themselves by coordinating with the respective site owners, DISCOMs, State Nodal Agencies, Solar Energy federations, et cetera.	The responsibility of selection of site shall be in scope of GIZ/ Client. Consultant can extend help in selecting and finalizing of sites.	GIZ shall introduce the consultants to the prospective Central/State agencies and DISCOMs. The consultant shall then coordinate directly with these agencies and potential private players to identify, shortlist and finalize the sites. The consultant shall submit the final list to GIZ for the approval.
27.	Terms of Reference	Section 2, Task 2, Subsection c	6	Design of the mounting structure	Kindly modify as- Design of the mounting structure (if available) or Basic arrangement of mounting structure	Clause cannot be changed. Definition of mounting structure will include any structure present on site which has been used for mounting PV modules.

28.	Terms of Reference	Section 2.1	8 & 9	Period of assignment: The duration of the contract shall be for a period of one year from the date of signing the contract	Kindly include the provision for delay in the study due to site availability & COVID situation	Refer to section 10 of ToR : Unforeseen eventualities due to COVID-19 Any possibilities for delay and way forward will be discussed and finalised during the kick-off meeting
29.	Terms of Reference	Section 5	11	Team leader: Senior system engineer– Solar Energy (1 position)	Request to allow either master’s degree or additional 2 years of professional experience	Criteria cannot be changed
30.	GTCC	Section 10		Payment Terms	Payment terms including advance payment needs to be specified.	This will be discussed with the winning firm
31.	Terms of Reference	Section 2.1	8 & 9	Period of assignment: The duration of the contract shall be for a period of one year from the date of signing the contract	What is the suggest timeframe to begin with site visits given the current development of Covid-19 in India and possible quarantine regulations for travel between certain states domestically?	Refer to section 10 of ToR : Unforeseen eventualities due to COVID-19 Owing to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 situation in India, the time frame for site visits will be finalized during the kick-off meeting