

Nepal Electricity Authority
(An Undertaking of Government of Nepal)

Engineering Services Directorate
Project Development Department

CLARIFICATION: 2

Date: 09.23.2024

Consulting Services: Detailed Engineering Design and Preparation of Tender Documents of Sunkoshi-3 Hydropower Project

Request for Proposal: NEA/ESD/PDD/SU-3/80/81/RFP-1

S. No	RFP Ref	RFP Provision/Chapter	Query/ Suggestions	Clarification from the Client
1.	Appendix A – Terms of Reference, Task 2, Section 2.3	In the ToR, under heading for Task 2, Section 2.3, it is mentioned that: Acquire all the data related to stream flow and other hydro-meteorological data (Precipitation, temperature, relative humidity, evaporation, solar radiation, wind speed, rainfall data etc.) from the gauging and climatic stations in the catchment area of SU-3 Project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being a storage project, long term records of the weather parameters will be required for project development. We understand that it is not the scope of the Consultant to install a new weather station or to operate and maintain the existing weather station (if available). Please confirm if the weather station is also installed and in functional condition. Additionally, we understand that the establishing gauging station (if any) will only provide the water level data. For stream flow data, discharge needs to be observed for development of rating curve and estimating the stream flow based on the water level from the gauging station. So, will it be scope of the consultant to observe the discharge at already established gauging station? 	<p>Acquisition of the stream flow and meteorological data shall be based on the existing meteorological station around the area.</p> <p>It will be the scope of the consultant to observe the discharge at already established gauging station near Project Location and if necessary establish an Automatic Hydrologic Gauging Station for more data</p>
2.	Appendix A – Terms of Reference, Task 2, Section 2.3	In the ToR, under heading for Task 2, Section 2.3, it is mentioned that:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The water level and flow measurements of dam location is crucial for hydrological analysis. As the consultant is asked for 	<p>As the location of dam as well as powerhouse are near to each other, on comparison to size of</p>



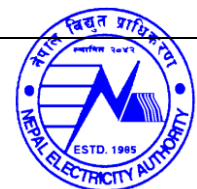
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		- Establish and carry out water level observations and water flow measurements at the powerhouse location	<p>measurements only at Powerhouse, how do we obtain those data for dam location?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For water level observation at Powerhouse, do we need to install manual gauges together with the telemetric stations? Also, the frequency of discharge measurement is not mentioned. In general it is recommended to observe discharge on monthly basis. Is it sufficient if we observe the discharge for one hydrological year of do, we need to conduct the measurement throughout the study period? 	<p>the catchment, observation of flow at dam or powerhouse does not make significant difference. Hence, consultant should determine the necessity of discharge measurement locations.</p> <p>The measurement should be carried out throughout the study period.</p> <p>Discharge measurement frequency should be as per the international standard and in line with DoED guidelines.</p>
3.	Appendix A – Terms of Reference, Task 2, Section 2.3	In the ToR, under heading for Task 2, Section 2.3, the frequency for suspended sediment sampling and measurement is provided.	However, it is not clear whether it needs to be conducted for the whole project duration or only for 1 Year. Please clarify	The measurement should be carried out throughout the study period using internationally adopted standard.
4.	Data Sheet 16.1	Provisional sums [NRs. 115,861,502.50] 1. NEA Manpower (Counterpart Staff) 5. On the Job training abroad for 20 Nos total 10 days	Please confirm the scope of work and deliverables towards on-the-job training and overseas training, as defined in TOR-Capacity Building and where mentioned in Task 1 to 19, are covered under this Provisional Sum and the Consultant is not required to include price/ cost for the same in its financial proposal (competitive component).	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.
	Appendix A - TOR	Capacity Building and Task 1 to 19		



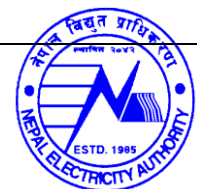
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5.	Data Sheet 16.1	Provisional sums [NRs. 115,861,502.50] 5. On the Job training abroad for 20 Nos total 10 days	Date Sheet 16.1, Provision Sum, Point No. 5, indicates "On-the-job training abroad for 20 persons, totalling 10 days." However, the ToR (page 56-57) specifies that a study tour will be conducted for 10 senior engineers (in 3 groups) for 10 days and workshop for 10 engineers (in 3 groups) for 10 days.	The details on the number of individuals in a single group for overseas study/workshop shall be informed during execution of the contract for Consulting Services.
	Appendix A - TOR	Capacity Building NEA's ten (10) senior engineers will visit the consultant's home officefor total period of ten (10) days in three groups.consultant shall arrange workshops session/s in its home office for the total of 10 (ten) engineers in the following disciplines for 10 (Ten) days. The training shall be conduct in three groups....	Please confirm the following: 1. The total number of individuals in a single group who are expected to be part of the overseas study tour. 2. The total number of individuals in a single group who are expected to be part of the overseas workshop.	
6.	Section 2, ITC 16.1 Data Sheet 16.1	16.1 The Financial Proposal shall list all costs associated with the assignment, including (b) other expenses.....	For international costs in USD: The Data Sheet 16.1 does not provide provision to cost for airport transfers and visa costs in consultants home country.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.
	Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms	Form FIN-4 Breakdown Of Other Expenses {e.g., In/out airport {Trip} transportation}	The Form FIN-4 does provide provision to cost for airport transfers but not visa costs. The Appendix C and D, provides provision to cost of flights only.	
	Section 8 – CoC - GCC	Appendix C Cost of Flight for International Expert	Please confirm if Consultants can include additional costs items/headings (USD) under Fin Form-4 (additional to what is	



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			listed in Data Sheet 16.1 and mentioned as examples in Fin Form-4).	
7.	Section 2, Data Sheet 21.1	<p>Criteria 2: Adequacy of the proposed work plan and methodology</p> <p>.. Understanding of Objectives (TOR) in not more than 5 pages....</p> <p>.. Methodology in not more than 30 pages...</p> <p>.. work plan with method statement in not more than 5 pages...</p>	It is understood, the page limits provided in Criteria 2 applies to Form TECH-4 and there is no page limit to Form TECH-3. Please confirm.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.
8.	Section 2, ITC 14.1.3 failing which the Financial Proposal will be adjusted for the purpose of comparison of proposals and decision for award in accordance with the procedure in the Data Sheet.	Adjustment mechanism is not defined in Data Sheet. Please provide.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.
9.	Section 2, Data Sheet 14.1.3	for time- based contracts only: Minimum time-input of International Key Experts' is: 88.5 person-months Minimum time-input of National Key Experts' is: person-months...	<p>1. Please confirm, the person-months for Key Experts (international and national) provided in the RFP are to be taken as “minimum” time-input.</p> <p>2. Please confirm, the bidders are free to propose it's own estimate of person-months for each key experts, provided the total for key experts as defined in Data Sheet 14.1.3 is maintained.</p>	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.
	Appendix A - TOR	Project Team Composition		



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		...The breakdown of the estimated inputs (person months) of international experts is given in the following table.	<p>3. Please confirm, the bidders are free to propose its own estimate of person-months for non-key experts and the person-months provided in Appendix A, table 1 and 2 (page 35 to 37) is not a mandatory requirement.</p> <p>4. Please confirm, the bidders are free to propose non-key experts from home office and the home-field person-months provided in Appendix A, table 1 and 2 (page 35 to 37) is not a mandatory requirement.</p>	
10.	RFP, Data Sheet 21.1	Criteria 3 – Qualification and Experience of the Key Staff Sub-criteria – Academic Qualifications	In Appendix A - TOR - Qualification Requirements - Key Experts (page 39 to page 46), the bachelor's degree, required for each Key Expert are mentioned. However, in RFP it is not mentioned if these are threshold criterias. Please confirm.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.
11.	Section 8 – CoC	SCC 24.1 ...(ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds (A) the total payments for professional fees and reimbursable expenditures made or expected to be made to the Consultants hereunder, or (B) the proceeds the Consultants may be entitled to receive from any insurance maintained by the Consultants to cover such a liability, whichever of (A) or (B) is higher;...	In order to offer reasonable insurance fees, the insurers require the insured to ensure sound contractual limitation of liability. If bidders accept clauses like the proposed, the insurers penalize the bidders with much higher fees and high deductibles. Bidders would need to add a provision for this risk. In order to avoid this unnecessary price increase we propose to delete (B).	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.



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12.	Section 8 – CoC	GCC 35.1 Working hours and holidays for Experts are set forth in Appendix B.	Working hours are not provided in Appendix B. Please confirm, One month equals 21 working days and One working (billable) days shall be not less than eight (8) working (billable) hours.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
13.	Section 8 – CoC	GCC 38.1 If, after the date of this Contract, there is any change in the applicable law in the Client’s country with respect to taxes and duties which increases or decreases the cost incurred by the Consultant in performing the Services, then the remuneration and reimbursable expenses otherwise payable to the Consultant under this Contract shall be increased or decreased accordingly.....	What if there are changes in other laws of Nepal, which increases or decreases the cost incurred by the Consultant in performing the Services. In such a scenario, will the GCC 38.1 shall be applicable. Please confirm.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
14.	Section 8 – CoC -	GCC 43.2 All payments shall be at the rates set forth in Appendix C and Appendix D.	Rates: For “other expenses” items as mentioned in Data Sheets 16.1 and/ or Fin Form-4 and/or Appendix C and D, their applicable rates are understood as “actual” rates as defined in GCC 43.1 and as supported by “receipts or other appropriate supporting documents” as defined in GCC 46.1(b). The Client shall pay as per the actual rates explained above and not as per the rates in the Appendix C and D. The rates in Appendix C and D are only to be referred to arrive at contract ceiling amount under SCC 42.2. Please confirm.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.



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15.	Section 8 – CoC	SCC 44.1 i) The Consultant, the Sub-Consultant and the Experts are responsible for meeting any and all tax liabilities	In our experience, Consultant staff working in Nepal must register for PAN and are subject to Personal Income Tax up to 45%. Please confirm.	As per the prevailing rules and regulation of Nepal Government
16.	Section 8 – CoC	GCC 46.1(a) Advance payment: the Client shall pay to the Consultant an advance payment as specified in the SCC SCC 46.1(a): Not Applicable....	This project, in the first month itself, will require setup of project office in Kathmandu, purchase/ hiring of vehicles, flight ticket purchase and visa for expatriate staff, advance payment to surveyor, advance payment to hydraulic lab, advance payment to drilling agency, advance payment for G&D equipment and so on. It is requested to allow provision for Advance Payment as suggested below: (1) An advance payment 20% of the total Contract Amount in foreign currency [and of [insert amount] in local currency] shall be made within 7 (seven) days after the Contract signature. The advance payment will be set off by the Client in equal instalments against the statements for the first [insert number] months of the Services until the advance payment has been fully set off. (2)The advance payment bank payment guarantee shall be in the amount and in the currency of the currency(ies) of the advance payment. The advance payment bank guarantee shall be released and promptly returned when the advance payment has been fully set off	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.



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17.	Appendix A - TOR	Task 1: Inception report on the assignment The Consultant shall undertake an Inception visit to the project site....	In order to undertake the site visit, the international and / or national staff of the Consultant must travel to project site. In Appendix C and D, there is no provision for such cost items (man-days, ground travel, accommodation, etc.). Please confirm, if consultants can include them in FIN-4.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
18.	Appendix A - TOR	Task 2: Review, Recommend and update site investigation and associated studies including additional field investigations, if any The consultant shall then carry out required supplementary field investigation after getting approval from the client....	In order to monitor the supplementary site investigations, the international and / or national staff of the Consultant must travel to project site. However, in Appendix C and D, there is no provision for such cost items (man-days, ground travel, accommodation, etc.). Please confirm, if these will be paid via Provisional Sum?	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
19.	Appendix A - TOR	Task 18: Study of Re-regulatory Dam The consultant shall also recommend and carry out additional investigations if required during the aforementioned study.	It is understood that such investigations shall be under the Provisional Sum and the Consultant is not required to include this cost in their financial proposal. Please confirm.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
20.	Appendix A - TOR	Capacity Building NEA's ten (10) senior engineers will visit the consultant's home officefor total period of ten (10) days in three groups. consultant shall arrange workshops	1. For home country study tours and workshops, the Consultant shall incur costs towards trainers, training material, trainers travel & accommodation, training room, etc. Please confirm such costs are covered under this Provisional Sum (specified in Data Sheet 16.1) and the Consultant is not required to include price/cost for the same	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.



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		session/s in its home office for the total of 10 (ten) engineers in the following disciplines for 10 (Ten) days. The training shall be conduct in three groups....	<p>in its financial proposal (competitive component).</p> <p>2. For home country study tours and workshops, the client staff/ trainees, are required to acquire travel / health insurances. Please confirm such costs are covered under this Provisional Sum (specified in Data Sheet 16.1).</p> <p>3. For home country study tours and workshops, the client shall ensure their staff/ trainees shall adhere to the laws of Nepal, laws of country of the Consultant and laws of country of the parent of the Consultant. Please confirm.</p>	
21.	Appendix A - TOR	Other Facilities and Support Services ... After the completion of the assignment, the above facilities shall be handed over to the Client.	The facilities also list office space, accommodation, etc. We understand, only facilities purchased by the Consultant quoted under the financial proposal has to be handed over. Rented facilities, vehicles and equipment, need not be handed over to the Client. Please confirm.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15th July, 2024.
22.	APPENDIX C	Cost Estimates In Foreign Currency Model Form I Breakdown of Agreed Fixed Rates in Consultant's Contract	Please confirm the Model Form I, is not required in the financial proposal and shall not be applicable to Appendix C of the Contract.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
23.	APPENDIX C	Cost of Flight for International Expert total flights 46 nos.	It is understood, for each expert, the Consultant can propose their own estimation of the flight numbers.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
24.	Appendix D	Table: Cost for Office Operation - S. No. A5 Purchase of vehicles.	We request client to allow vehicle rental because i) purchase of vehicles will be very upfront capital intensive and it is very common for consultants to hire	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.



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			vehicles ii) bids can be evaluated on equal footing basis if bidders quote on rental basis for vehicles as otherwise if purchase of vehicle to be quoted in competitive component, different bidders can propose different vehicle for purchase whose cost may vary significantly and shall have affect in the financial. If to be purchased, it is requested to keep it under Provisional Sum.	
	Appendix D	Table: Cost for Office Operation - S. No. A6 Fuel and Drivers for Two vehicles including its O&M Quantity: 48 months	In our understanding, when the contract period is for 24 months, we cannot invoice for 48 months. Please modify the quantity to 24 month.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
25.	Appendix D	Table: Cost for Office Operation and Logistics	1. Please allow/ include heading to cost for motorcycle rentals. 2. Please allow/include heading to cost for report production.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.
26.	Addendum 1	The time for the RFP submission has been extended to 28th September, 2024	To allow sufficient time to bidders to incorporate the clarifications from client and prepare a comprehensive proposal, it is requested to please allow a 2 weeks extension of the bid submission date.	Please refer to Addendum-1 for the issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024. Note: For the case “last date of obtaining and submission of the RFP documents happens to be a holiday”, the next working day will be deemed as the due date but the time will be the same as stipulated.
27.	Addendum 1	Appendix-D: Cost of Hydrological Investigations	Appendix A, TOR, Tabe: Schedule for Deliverables, S No 4 (page 55), requires the final Hydrology and Sedimentation	Cost of Hydrological Investigations 5. Local staff for Gauge reading



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		5. Local staff for Gauge reading Quantity: 24 months	Study Report to be concluded at Month 20. Kindly confirm, the gauge readings are required to taken up to month 20 or 24?	Quantity shall be until the submission of Final Hydrology and Sedimentation Study Report
	Clarification 1	SN.20 - CV and PIS of non-key should be submitted.	We understand that just the CVs of the Non-key (International and National experts) should be submitted, and PIS is not required as the RFP does not provide any PIS format for the non-key experts. Please confirm.	Please refer to issued RFP document dated 15 th July, 2024.

