REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

First Publication Date: September 4, 2018

Country: Nepal
Name of Project: Nepal Distribution System Upgrade and Expansion Project (DSUEP)
Assignment Title: Consultancy services for a Planning, Detail Engineering Design and Feasibility Study for Network Expansion and Development in the Western and Far Western Regions of Nepal

Reference No.: DSUEP/CSC-01

1. The Government of Nepal (GoN) has received a grant from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) toward the cost of the project preparatory activities for the ‘Nepal Distribution System Upgrade and Expansion Project (DSUEP)’ and Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), as the implementing agency, intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services on Planning, Detail Engineering Design and Feasibility Study for Network Expansion and Development in the Western and Far Western Regions of Nepal.

2. Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) has identified a project covering 32 districts (39 locations) in the Western and Far western regions and anticipates the establishment of 29 new 33/11 kV substations and 13 augmentations of existing substations. According to preliminary estimates of NEA, the total feeder length of 33 kV lines to supply the new substations is 537 km and the 11 kV feeder lengths to bring the supply to villages and settlements are 900 km from the new substations and 420 km from the augmented substations.

3. NEA intends to carry out a network planning study, followed by detailed engineering design and feasibility study analysis to identify appropriate development options that will be suitable for the intended electrification program.

4. The consultancy service involves conducting a pre-feasibility level planning study for the network development under the proposed project. During this work, consultant will be required to carry out the following activities:
   a. collect the necessary data for a power distribution system expansion program,
   b. prepare suitable network expansion and alternative development proposals based on load flow, losses, and voltage drop considerations,
   c. carry out the needed technical, economic and financial analyses,
   d. prepare pre-feasibility level reports for the sub projects

It is expected that the consulting services for DSUEP will last about Six (6) months in total.

5. Following publication of a General Procurement Notice (GPN) reference number AIIB-22-08/18 on 31 August 2018, the NEA now invites eligible Consulting Firms/Utility Firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. All the Consulting firms including JV firms must have been legally registered for at least Seven (7) years from the last date of submission of EOI.

Following documents shall be submitted along with the EOI application by all the Consulting firms including JV firms.
   a. Notarized or certified copies of Certificates of incorporation or Registration of the consulting firm.
   b. Audited Financial Statements of the last three fiscal years.
   c. Company Profile.

The consulting firms must provide information on jobs undertaken in the last five (5) years giving a brief description of each job undertaken, the funding source(s), amount of contract and information on the employer. Consulting firms’ work experiences shall be evidenced by certified copies of client’s references with contact and email addresses on the letterhead of the client’s organization and shall be written in English. If the references are in other languages, they shall be accompanied by an accurate translation into the English language duly authenticated by notary agencies or the nationally/internationally recognized translating body/agency. Any work experiences without client/employer’s reference shall not be considered.

Evaluation will be based on the experience and financial status of the firm. Under development and under implementation Planning and studies will not be considered for evaluation.

The short listing criteria are:
   (i) The firm shall have completed at least two Consulting contacts of Planning, Detail Engineering Design and Feasibility Study for Network Expansion and Development in the last five years.
   (ii) Minimum average annual turnover of best three years over the last five years shall be US$ 1 Million.

6. Shortlisting and Selection of the Consultant will be carried out according to the QCBS method as set out in Section II paragraph 13.4 and 13.3 (a) of the Bank’s Interim Operational Directive on Procurement Instructions for Recipients. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 5.9 of the Procurement Policy on conflict of interest and Section II paragraph 4.4.2 the of the Bank’s Interim Operational Directive on Procurement Instructions for Recipients.

7. Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. Experience and Qualification of other firms, whether parent or subsidiary firm, will not be considered for evaluation. Likewise, qualification and experience of the consulting firm associated as a sub-consultancy will not be considered for evaluation for shortlisting.

8. All submittals from the consulting firms shall be in English language.

9. The Terms of Reference (ToR) and this request for Eoi can be either downloaded from the NEA’s website: www.nea.org.np or collected from the address mentioned below.

10. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours.

11. Expressions of Interest must be delivered in two printed copies to the address mentioned below on or before 13:00 hrs local time on 23 September 2018. If the last date of submission happens to be a public holiday, the submission shall be made on the next working day. The submission shall be made in closed envelope and the title shall be “Expression of Interest (EOI) for Consulting Services: Nepal Distribution System Upgrade and Expansion Project (DSUEP)”. Electronic submission is not acceptable.

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