

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Date: 31 March 2023

Country: Republic of Uzbekistan

Project ID: -P000374-UZB

Project: Bukhara region water supply and sewerage project (Phase-2)

Assignment title: Development of a detailed design for construction works of water supply system.

Package number: BWSP2/QCBS-W/01

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan has applied to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with a request to finance the "Bukhara Region Water Supply and Sewerage Project (Phase-2)". AIIB is planning to provide a financing loan of US \$ 248.4 million to cover water supply and sewerage costs for the project in accordance with the General Procurement Notice dated 12 April 2022. The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan intends to use part of the loan for consulting services.

JSC "Uzsuvtaminot" as the PIE invites Consultants (competent consulting companies or joint ventures) that meet the requirements below to submit an Expression of Interest. Consulting services include the development of a detailed project for the rehabilitation and new construction of a water pipeline: water distribution centers (WDC), main and distribution networks in Gijduvan district, Shafirkan district, Vabkent district, of Bukhara region. The Consultant will report to the Project Coordination Unit (PCU), assist in revising the technical approach at the detailed design stage, checking the quality of technical solutions (fit for purpose) and preparing the detailed design. The Consultant's Terms of Reference contains all the information about the consultant's responsibilities and an interim draft is available at the following link: https://uzsuv.uz/media/uploads/2023/03/27/tor_ws_finalproc_aiib.docx

The purpose of the consulting services is:

- 1) Critical evaluation of the results of the feasibility study,
- 2) Development of detailed design in terms of water supply systems of the project (according to the FIDIC Red Book),
- 3) Support the PCU to manage the project during the design phase,
- 4) Assist and support PCU in confirming the environmental screening of the subprojects carried out by PCU with the help of the criteria given in the project Environment and Social Management Planning Framework (ESMPF). Assist and support PCU in confirming the social and resettlement subproject screening carried out by PCU with the help of the criteria given in the project ESMPF, to confirm whether physical and/or economic displacement impacts arising out of subproject land requirements that would trigger preparation of a Resettlement Plan;
- 5) Preparation, disclosure and stakeholder engagement of subproject-specific E&S documents, including Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), Resettlement Plans (RPs), and Gender Action Plan in accordance with the criteria and procedures described in the project Environment and Social Management Planning Framework (ESMPF) that includes a Resettlement Planning Framework (RPF) and obtaining the Environmental Clearance from concerned authority in accordance with Uzbekistan regulations. ESIAs/ESMPs will include the consideration of hazardous liquid and solid waste of the subproject during the construction and operation stages,
- 6) Conduct author's supervision of the project according to Uzbek regulation.

The consulting company will be selected on the basis of Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS), including a complete and separate sealed technical proposal and sealed financial proposal, in accordance with the AIIB Procurement Instructions for Recipients. The contract is expected to be awarded in the 1st half of 2023 and with a duration of 18 months from the date of the contract.

Participants must provide comprehensive information, including a brochure (company profile, contract duration, amount, total project cost, percentage of participation, start and end date) reflecting their qualifications to achieve maximum scores in evaluation, in particular:

- Experience in successfully implementing 4 (four) or more water supply projects as a leading consulting firm with a consulting contracts value of at least 3 Mil. USD for the period since January 1, 2015.

- Experience in the development of 4 (four) or more detailed design assignments water supply projects with a consulting contracts value of at least 3 Mil. USD for the period since January 1, 2015.

- Financial stability of the company - the presence of an annual turnover of at least 3 Mil. USD or more in any of the financial years since January 1, 2015.

- The company's experience in 4 (four) or more projects in the field of water supply financed by IFIs with an investment value of the project of at least 100 Mil. USD.

Also please pay attention that if the EoI is provided by a joint venture, each member of the joint venture must meet at least the following portion of requirements independently:

1. In case of 1 partner in JV - 60% for the Leader and 40% for the Partner

2. In case of 2 partners in JV - 60% for the Leader and 20% for each Partner

3. In case of 3 partners in JV - 40% for the Leader and 20% for each Partner

Key Experts will not be assessed during the shortlisting stage.

Note: It is noted that in order to carry out the expected services, the Consultant, its local partner or specialized sub-consultant will need to provide compliance of design documentation with local design standards prepared by the Consultant during the project implementation. Also, having a license from the Ministry of Construction of the Republic of Uzbekistan for design activities is an advantage during implementation, but not a requirement.

Consultants can partner with other firms in a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. In the case of a joint venture (JV), all members of the JV will be assessed separately for shortlisting purposes and are jointly and severally liable for the assignment and sign the contract if the JV contract is awarded.

Interested consultants should clearly indicate the structure of their association and the responsibilities of partners and sub-consultants in their proposal. A vague definition of expressions of interest using terms such as "in common with" and / or "in affiliation with", etc., may result in not being considered for shortlisting. While maintaining the principle of one expression of interest for the firm, the consulting firm can decide whether it wishes to participate as a sub-consultant, or as a stand-alone consultant, or as a partner in a joint venture. Note, that a firm must submit only one EoI in one selection process, either independently as a consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. No firm can submit a proposal as a sub-consultant in one and an independent participant in another EoI. A firm, acting as a sub-consultant to any EOI, may participate in more than one EOI, but only as a sub-consultant. The experience of the sub-consultant will not count towards the shortlisting.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in electronic or paper form by 16:00 (Tashkent time) April 30, 2023 to the address below. Late applications will not be accepted. The EoI must be prepared in English. Expressions of interest must be clearly labelled as "*Development of a detailed design for construction works of water supply system.*"

Additional information can be obtained at the address below during business hours from 9:00 to 17:00 Tashkent time.

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