



## CLARIFICATION 1

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ނަންބަރު No:	TES/2021/G-010	
ފްރޮޖެކްޓްގެ ނަންބަރު Project:	Supply, Install, Commission & Operate & Transfer of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) on Selected Islands in Maldives	
ޖުމްލަތާ ދަންނަވާ ދުވަހުގެ ތާރީޚު Issued Date	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	
ސަފުހާގެ ނަންބަރު No. of Pages: -10	ބޯޕްގެ ނަންބަރު Boq: -00	ޑްރޯޕިންގ ގެ ނަންބަރު Drawings: -00

Please include this amendment when submitting the bid. ބަދަލުގެ ސަބަބުން ބަދަލު ގެ ނަންބަރު ޖަހަން ޖެހޭނެ ގޮތަށް ޖަހަން ޖެހިފައި ވެއެވެ.

- Find the attached Clarification 1

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Name: Fathimath Rishfa Ahmed

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Signature:



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Republic of Maldives

**CLARIFICATION 01**  
**PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**for**  
**Supply, Install, Commission & Operate Battery**  
**Energy Storage Systems (BESS) on Selected Islands in**  
**Maldives**

**RFB No.: MV-MEE-224266-CW-RFB**

**Accelerating Renewable Energy Integration and Sustainable**  
**Energy (ARISE)**  
**Project ID: P172788**

**Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology**  
**Republic of Maldives**

**Issued on: August 12, 2021**

**Issued by: National Tender**  
**Ministry of Finance**  
**Republic of Maldives**



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**Ministry of Finance**  
Male' Republic of Maldives

**Accelerating Renewable Energy Integration and Sustainable Energy (ARISE) Project**  
ARISE-P172788

**Supply, Install, Commission & Operate Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) on Selected Islands in Maldives**

**RFB No.: MV-MEE-224266-CW-RFB**

**Clarifications 01**

The following table comprises the **clarifications for the queries raised, amendments to the Prequalification documents and other supplementary information required.**

Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
1	N/A	N/A	<p>Are there any preliminary design documents for the proposed project?</p> <p>a) If yes, may we have it before prequalification application submission?</p> <p>b) If no, is it under our scope to design complete civil, mechanical, electrical and environmental engineering?</p>	<p>Details regarding design and other related technical requirements will be provided at the bidding stage.</p> <p>Design and supply of BESS along with EMS will be under the scope of the bidder. Bidders are requested to refer to Article 1.2.6 under Section VII.</p>
2	N/A	N/A	<p>What will be the qualification process?</p>	<p>Please refer Prequalification document Section I - Instructions to Applicants; Part F. Evaluation of Applications and Prequalification of Applicants.</p>
3	N/A	N/A	<p>What specific documents that will be required for the project?</p>	<p>Supporting documents to be submitted is covered throughout the PQ Document. Please also refer Section III - Qualification Criteria and Requirements and Section IV - Application Forms.</p>



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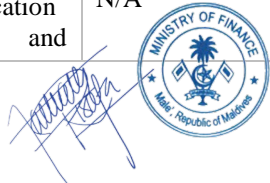
Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
4	N/A	<p>Quoted as below from PFP that the works will draw on a mix of loan and grant financing mobilized under the ARISE project. The funding for the BESS component of ARISE is through a US\$ 23 million concessional loan allocated from Clean Technology Fund. The BESS procurement covered by this prequalification will support grids where solar PV is deployed under ASPIRE Phase III (11 MW) and first two phases of ARISE (10 MW Floating PV and another 11-14 MW land-based PV installations).</p> <p>Quoted as below from PFP that The Borrower or Recipient (hereinafter called "Borrower") indicated in the PDS has applied for or received financing (hereinafter called "funds") from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the International Development Association (hereinafter called "the Bank") in an amount specified in the PDS, towards the cost of the project named in the PDS. The Borrower intends to apply a portion of the funds to eligible payments under the contract(s) resulting from the bidding for which this prequalification is conducted.</p>	<p>Project financing availability &amp; amount sufficiency for Lot 1 &amp; Lot 2: Loan or Financing Agreement amount: USD 23 Million , can you indicate the source or project financing &amp; alternative financing solution from MOF if the loan credit USD 23 Million is not enough ?</p>	<p>Bidders are not required to provide finance for BESS EPC contract other than their own working capital requirements between stated payment milestones.</p> <p>Employer will ensure sufficient capital budget for Lots 1 and 2, over and above USD 23 Million if required by the lowest qualified bidder.</p>
5	N/A	N/A	<p>2) Project model would be on the basis of EPC or BOT:</p> <p>We noticed that the scope of work had been defined as "Supply, Install, Commission, Operate &amp; Transfer of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) on Selected Islands in Maldives" in IFB but the criteria described in RFP is against project development reference for EPC project. Or the operation &amp; transfer is only against initial period of O&amp;M activities after system commissioning.</p>	<p><b>Refer Addendum 01.</b></p> <p>The project is based on Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance basis. Bidders would be required to provide O&amp;M services for an initial period, which will be defined in the RFB, along with providing and maintaining spares and consumables. Bidders may refer to 1.2.6 of Section VII of the PQ document.</p>



Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
6	N/A	<p>Although we are very interested, and believe could be a very serious contender, we are afraid the eligibility criteria are too stiff and will not allow us to participate.</p> <p>We have several similar projects (islands, off-grids, PV integration), but either commissioned &gt; 5 years ago (6 years ago..), or currently under construction. Our isolated off-grid projects under operation using our EMS serve a load of 400 kW instead of 1 MW requested.</p>	Any chance these criteria will be revised?	<p>No changes to Experience Eligibility and Qualification Criteria.</p> <p>Applicants may form JVs to meet the requirement as indicated in the PQ Documents.</p>
7	Query 1 - Section III - Qualification Criteria and Requirements , Clause 4.2.a	<p>“The Applicant must have experience either as a prime contractor, joint venture member, management contractor or sub-contractor of having successfully completed Design, Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Grid Connected Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of cumulative capacity of 5MWh (Five Mega Watt Hour) or above in the last 5 (Five) years, starting 1st January 2016.</p>	<p>As evident the scope for these projects include supply of Solar PV Plants, Battery Storage Units along with integration of complete system with existing Diesel Generation sets with the evacuation and distribution and Power being supplied by the system at 11kV grid level.</p> <p>We understand and infer that these credentials mentioned in the above table would enough to fulfill the qualification criterion of document in terms of expertise of bidders to undertake this prestigious project.</p>	Please refer to Section III qualification requirement and Section VII scope of work.
8	N/A	N/A	<p>Joint Venture</p> <p>As the document allows the bidder to go for a Joint Venture in order to be eligible for bidding. However, we would like to understand if this Joint Venture (JV) has to be a registered JV where both the parties form a new company or this can be unregistered JV where the bidder's do not form a separate company. Also we understood from the document that the bidders can submit their response with a letter specifying an intent to form a JV upon being successful. Can you please confirm if the understanding is correct?</p>	Applicants are not required to register a JV company at this stage. Applicants may refer to ITA 4 for more details on eligibility for individual members and joint venture. Further details regarding registration of JV would be provided at the bidding stage.



Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
9	4.2 Specific Experience - Developing Projects (a)	<p>(i) The Applicant must have experience either as a prime contractor, joint venture member<sup>5</sup>, management contractor or sub-contractor of having successfully completed Design, Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Grid Connected Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of cumulative capacity of 5 MWh (Five Mega Watt Hour) or above in the last 5 (Five) years, starting 1st January 2016;</p> <p>(ii) Cumulative capacity as per 4.2 (a) (i) must include at least 02 (Two) Grid connected BESS Plants, having minimum capacity of 2 MWh (Two Mega Watt Hour) each in a single installation (single point of connection). The BESS Project must have been in satisfactory operation for at least 6 (Six) months from its date of commissioning;</p> <p>(iii) The Applicant must have experience either as a prime contractor, joint venture member<sup>7</sup>, management contractor or sub-contractor of having successfully completed Design, Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of communications architecture and energy management system (EMS) to maximize renewable energy use in at least 01 (one) isolated network with a peak load exceeding 1 MW.</p>	<p>We Request tendering authority to consider qualification criteria for grid connected storage of having minimum Experience of 2 MWh cumulative capacity by any of the joint venture member to meet the qualification criteria in last five years as battery storage system being a very new in renewable energy industry, meeting qualification criteria will be tough.</p>	<p>No changes to Experience Eligibility and Qualification Criteria. Applicants may form JVs to meet the requirement as indicated in the PQ Documents.</p>
10	Section III- Qualification Criteria and	N/A	<p>According to 3.1 Financial Capabilities(i), could you tell me what will be the evidence that liquid assets achieved the USD 5 Million? Maybe a bank certification?</p>	<p><b>Refer Addendum 01.</b> For evidence, please refer Section IV - Application Forms; Form FIN – 3.1 Financial Situation and Performance; Number</p>



Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
	Requirements		and which period will the evidence cover, some days during the July or August?	2. Sources of Finance. Documentary evidence should be endorsed as of 30th June 2021.
11	Section III- Qualification Criteria and Requirements	N/A	According to 4.2 Specific Experience in managing ES aspects(b), "Safety Data Sheets for hazardous materials", what is the specific scope of hazardous materials?does the data refer to project performance data?	Safety Data Sheets: such as defined under the with European Chemicals Agency Guidelines, or equivalent international standard (See Section 4.2 (b)). Contractor's experience shall include supplied and management for all hazardous materials on their reference projects.
12	N/A	N/A	Since this is going to be a micro-grid project, why is there a need for grid connected project experience?	<b>Refer Addendum 01.</b> 'Grid connected' may include isolated grids with peak load exceeding 1 MW.
13	N/A	N/A	ITA 25 restricts experience of sub-contractor. Is it possible to get some flexibility to show experience of subcontractor / EPC for the company?	No changes to the requirement.
14	N/A	N/A	How is the project being paid-off? Is it on someone's Balance Sheet or rate payer on per-unit basis? Is there a regulatory approval required?	Source for funding is mentioned in the PQ Document. Please refer to Section I - Instructions to Applicants; 2. Source of Funds; Clause 2.1. Regulatory approvals required will be covered in the bidding document. For the Prequalification the Applicant should submit required information under qualification requirements.
15	N/A	N/A	In the list of supporting documents, what are the details to be attached in the supporting files?	Supporting documents to be submitted is covered throughout the PQ Document. Please also refer Section III - Qualification Criteria and Requirements and Section IV - Application Forms.
16	N/A	N/A	What are the grid functionalities expected out of the BESS system?	Please refer PART 2 – Project Requirements of the PQ Document.
17	N/A	N/A	In case of a JV, is it possible for one party to meet the financial criteria and the other party to meet the experience criteria for qualification?	Please refer Section III - Qualification Criteria and Requirements; Compliance Requirement for 3. Financial Situation and Performance and 4. Experience.



Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
18	N/A	N/A	Is it required for each JV member to register in Maldives during EPC execution phase?	There is no need for each entity to register separately for the execution phase. Formation of the contractor's entity will be further detailed in the bidding documents after prequalification.
19	N/A	N/A	Is lot 1 and lot 2 going to be two separate biddings? Would there be common sites in the two lots?	It will be a single tender. After prequalification bidder may bid for either or both lots. For information on sites please refer Section II and VII for further details.
20	N/A	N/A	Would the bids also be accepted through online bid submission mode?	Applicants shall not have the option of submitting their applications electronically. Please refer Section II - Prequalification Data Sheet (PDS); D. Submission of Applications; Clause ITA 17.1
21	N/A	N/A	Will the presentation be shared with the participants?	The presentation contains no new information. It is taken directly from the PQ documents. Therefore, it will not be shared.
22	N/A	N/A	Please confirm my understanding of the role of the EMS - is this intended as a system level controller responsible for all subsystems, as opposed to the EMS that may be referred to as the BESS controller. What exactly is the function of the EMS?	This understanding is correct. The EMS is a system level controller or dispatch system for managing power output, curtailment, reserve or state of charge of BESS, solar PV and diesel generators. This is specified in the PQ documents with full details to come in the bidding document.
23	N/A	N/A	In the interest of supplying submissions in a renewable and sustainable manner, will you consider proponents provide their submission electronically via some type of online tender portal, as opposed to having to submit via hardcopy printed format and outdated electric hardcopy (CD rom) which needs to be mailed/air-freighted.	Applicants shall not have the option of submitting their Applications electronically. Please refer Section II - Prequalification Data Sheet (PDS); D. Submission of Applications; Clause ITA 17.1
24	N/A	N/A	During the EPC execution phase, Please could you confirm if each member in a JV shall have a registered office or establish affiliate company in Maldives?	There is no need for each member to register separately for the execution phase. Formation of the contractor's entity will be further detailed in





Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
				the bidding documents.
25	N/A	N/A	Will the clarifications be circulated in writing to the interested applicants?	Yes, clarifications will be provided in writing to all applicants.
26	N/A	N/A	Will the presentation be shared to the participants?	The presentation contains no new information. It is taken directly from the PQ documents. Therefore, it will not be shared.
27	N/A	N/A	For Application Submission , can bidder submit the original and the copies mentioned in ITA 15.2 by mailing to the ITA 17.1 employer's address without any personnel come to Maldives?	Submitting the prequalification document by courier is permitted. However, delivery to the correct address, on the date and time required will remain as a responsibility of the Applicant.
28	4.2 Specific Experience - Developing Projects (a)	<sup>6</sup> In the case of JV, the value of contracts completed by its members shall not be aggregated to determine whether the requirement of the minimum value of a single contract has been met. Instead, each contract performed by each member shall satisfy the minimum value of a single contract as required for single entity. In determining whether the JV meets the requirement of total number of contracts, only the number of contracts completed by all members each of value equal or more than the minimum value required shall be aggregated.	<p>From above, it can be observed that point 6 mentioned in superscript states that “All the JV partner should satisfy the minimum requirement of technical experience”, which is in contrary to the point mentioned in 4.2(a) given in above table.</p> <p>Hence, we request you to consider following and accordingly amend the PQR in aforementioned tender:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In technical experience either of the JV partner can meet 100% of requirement whereas financially requirement shall be met as per existing requirement given in the document.</li> </ul> <p>This will enable a very healthy participation and shall help to get competitive price for the subject tender.</p>	There are no conflicts in the texts noted. No changes to Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria.
29	N/A	N/A	Does one entity have the right to establish two JV to participate in the bid?	Please refer to Section I - Instructions to Applicants; Clause 4.3.
30	N/A	N/A	For the EXP, Specific Experience - Developing Projects, means the applicant must be EPC or 51% equity holder? Can applicant be the sub contractor for BESS system?	No changes to the requirement.
31	N/A	N/A	For FIN, current soundness of the Applicant's financial	The applicant should meet Eligibility and Qualification Criteria



Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
			<p>position, for a battery cell manufacturer, due to the heavy fixed assets, the profit and cash flow will not be good, profit can even be negative due to the fixed assets depreciation and amortization, but the business is pretty good, every year the opening revenue is going up, will this be qualified or disqualified for FIN?</p>	<p>as per Section III - Qualification Criteria and Requirements; 3. Financial Situation and Performance.</p>



End of Document.

