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Please include this amendment when submitting the bid.

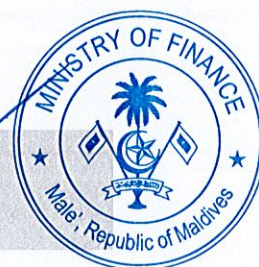
- **Answers for the queries is attached with this Clarification.**

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Name: Fathimath Rishfa Ahmed

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Signature:





Republic of Maldives

CLARIFICATIONS 01

Request for Bids

GRID-UPGRADING IN SELECTED ISLANDS IN THE MALDIVES

**Lot One: Grid-Upgrading in Addu City mainland, Addu City
Hulhumeedhoo, Fuvamulah City, and GDh. Thinadhoo.**

**Lot Two: Grid-Upgrading in B. Eydhafushi, Lh. Hinnavaru,
Kulhudhuffushi City**

RFB No: MV-MEE-266363-CW-RFB

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



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



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Ministry of Finance
Male' Republic of Maldives

Accelerating Renewable Energy Integration and Sustainable Energy (ARISE) Project

GRID-UPGRADING IN SELECTED ISLANDS IN THE MALDIVES

RFB No.: MV-MEE-266363-CW-RFB

Clarifications 01

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

Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
1			Construction and other details for the substations	Contractor is to prepare detailed design based on their equipment and geotechnical studies. A sample drawing (supplementary information - may not be relied upon) is provided to provide an indication of expectations. <i>Drawing is now added to the data room.</i>
1.1			Please provide Civil Drawings and construction details of substations which shall be constructed.	Contractor is to prepare detailed design based on their equipment and geotechnical studies. A sample drawing (supplementary information - may not be relied upon) is

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				provided to provide an indication of expectations. <i>Drawing is now added to the data room.</i>
1.2			Details about security fences & landscaping of the substations	Landscaping is not in Contractor's scope. Security fencing not required at substation as these are enclosed buildings.
1.3			Please clarify the Transformer location of the substation.(indoor/outdoor)	The transformer is to be located inside the substation building, and may be indoor rated.
2			Is there any Preferred suppliers for equipment (cables/TF & Switchgear)	There is no preferred supplier for equipment.
3			Are imported items subjected to duty free basis?	All imported items for grid upgrade tender under the ARISE Project will be eligible for duty exemption. However, such an exemption will not include administrative fees, taxes, associated with the import, logistics, installation, etc.). Furthermore, this does not relieve the bidder from any obligation under the laws and regulations of the country.
4			Is direct burial of the MV cables is acceptable?	Yes. Cables shall be rated for direct burial.
5			Please specify the transformer & switchgear protection schemes required.	Please refer to Specifications, Appendix B – Grid Infrastructure Requirements, Section 3.

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6			Please clarify the disposal location for removing switch gear, transformers & etc.	Redundant switchgear and transformers shall be delivered to FENAKA store yard on each island. FENAKA will retain ownership. Cables may remain in place where applicable, otherwise cables and other small items may be disposed of at the waste management facility on each island (and in accordance with the ESCP).
7			In the bidding documents, it states that the bid security shall be from a bank in employer country - is it acceptable a bank from a foreign country which has a branch in Maldives? for example Bank of Ceylon.	There is no such statement in the bidding documents. Please refer ITB 19. Bid Security. However, it is stated under ITB 19 that Bid Security shall be: "... from a reputable source from an eligible country. If an unconditional guarantee is issued by a non-bank financial institution located outside the Employer's Country, the issuing non-bank financial institution shall have a correspondent financial institution located in the Employer's Country ..." Furthermore, under BDS 19.3 it has been stated that "The Bid Security shall be unconditional guarantee issued by a reputable bank ..."
8			Who will integrate the new equipment/RTU related signals with the existing SCADA?	BESS contractor is responsible for Energy Management System and SCADA integration. They will be required to complete this integration with cooperation of grid upgrade contractor.

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				Solar Farm IPP will be responsible for validating communications of their plant to the EMS and SCADA, in cooperation with the BESS Contractor, with support of the Grid upgrade contractor if needed.
9			Will they (the personnel who will carry out the existing SCADA configurations) be available during the same time that we will carry out communication systems establishment during the commissioning stage?	It is intended that all parties will be available at the same time for completions and test, and considerable effort is underway to achieve this. However, if one or more parties are not available (for instance, if they have completed all works and are ready to demobilize before others are ready to test integration), then they will be required to conduct testing to the extent practical to validate functionality of the installed equipment only.
10			If they (the personnel who will carry out the existing SCADA configurations) are not available to check the SCADA signals coinciding with this project's commissioning time, is it possible for us to show the witness tests utilizing protocol emulators (SCADA Master emulators) on the SCADA end?	Yes, this is acceptable subject to approval of the detailed inspection and test plan during detailed design.
11			We understand that there may be different guidelines for road reinstatement provided by different authorities that are specific • For each island • For each type of road / carriage-way, etc.	Generally, three categories of roads, tar roads, paved roads and sand roads. Some islands may have a combination of paved/tarred and non-paved roads. Construction methods vary between islands and within islands. Bidders may wish to conduct site surveys as per ITB Clause 7.2 and 7.3.

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				Employer may provide further clarification if sample constructions can be obtained on which Bidders may base their pricing.
12			Therefore, we kindly request to provide an exhaustive road reinstatement guideline for the road crossings involved in this project.	Generally, three categories of roads, tar roads, paved roads and sand roads. Some islands may have a combination of paved/tarred and non-paved roads. Construction methods vary between islands and within islands. Bidders may wish to conduct site surveys as per ITB Clause 7.2 and 7.3. Employer may provide further clarification if sample constructions can be obtained on which Bidders may base their pricing.
13			Please provide the existing (underground) utility services maps for all islands pertinent to this contract	Not all underground services are mapped. For water, sewerage, gas, and electricity, the winning Contractor is required to check for such services, for example using non-penetrating sensors. FENAKA hold some maps on some islands for water infrastructure and Employer may provide further clarification of which islands and services this is available for. All such maps available to FENAKA will be made available to the winning Contractor. Optic fiber is installed on some islands only. Employer may provide further clarification of which islands include underground optical fiber. Where optical fiber is installed it is normally mapped and any available network maps will be

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				provided to the winning Contractor.
14			Experience requirements - is the km of distribution experience cumulative over the 3 projects?	Yes, the stated km of distribution experience is cumulative over the three projects.
15			The timelines are very short and we are concerned about how to coordinate - will other contractors be available at the time for commissioning.	Please see other clarifications on interface with other Contractors.
16			How long is the validity period of the performance guarantee?	Refer FIDIC 2017 GC Clause 4.2 " . . . The Contractor shall ensure that the Performance Security remains valid and enforceable until the issue of the Performance Certificate and the Contractor has complied with Sub-Clause 11.11 [Clearance of Site] . . . "
17			Bid requires 2.5% E&S guarantee. When should they issue this guarantee and how long should it be valid?	Refer ITB 48. Performance Security "48.1 Within twenty-eight (28) days of the receipt of the Letter of Acceptance from the Employer, the successful Bidder shall furnish the Performance Security and, if required in the BDS, the Environmental and Social (ES) Performance Security . . . "
				Refer FIDIC 2017 GC Clause 4.2

Item No.	Reference	Quoted Text	Clarifications / Question	Responses / Confirmation / Addendum
				"... The Contractor shall ensure that the Performance Security remains valid and enforceable until the issue of the Performance Certificate and the Contractor has complied with Sub-Clause 11.11 [Clearance of Site] ..."
18			Where nil is written in the BoQ, are bidders required to enter a price?	Where 'nil' or '-' is shown as the quantity in the BoQ, bidders are not required to provide a price, EXCEPT for: Bill No. 2 in each Lot, when there is any quantity shown in Category 2.0 (MV and FO Cable) for an island, then prices should be given for all sizes in that category for that island. Bill No. 2 in each Lot, when there is any quantity shown in Category 3.0 (substation) for an island, then prices should be given for all equipment in that category for that island. Bill No. 2 in each Lot, when there is any quantity shown in Category 4.0 (LV Distribution Cable) for an island, then prices should be given for all sizes in that category for that island.
19			What is the last date for clarifications submissions?	Refer ITB Clause 7 and BDS ITB 7.1 "Requests for clarification should be received by the Employer no later than: 28 days prior to Bid submission date." Last date for clarifications submission is 4th May 2022

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20			When will be the starting date contractually?	Refer Section IX - Particular Conditions; Part B - Special Provisions; Sub-Clause 8.1 Commencement of Work "The Engineer shall give a Notice to the Contractor stating the Commencement Date, not less than 14 days before the Commencement Date. The Notice shall be issued promptly after the Engineer determines the fulfilment of the following conditions: . . . " Please also refer to ITB 47 for the time to sign the Contract
21			What if permits are delayed - does this need to be allowed in the schedule?	Refer FIDIC 2017 GC Clause 8.6 Delays Caused by Authorities " . . . delay or disruption will be considered as a cause of delay under sub-paragraph (b) of Sub-Clause 8.5 [Extension of Time for Completion]."
22			Can we do site inspection during bidding?	Refer ITB Clause 7.2 and 7.3
23			We find some conflicts in the bidding documents - between the BoQ, the drawings and even the work requirements - which section has priority	Bidders should please raise a written clarification specifically identifying such conflict. Bidders should also refer to Refer FIDIC 2017 GC Clause 1.5 and

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24			RMU and transformer - if prefabricated or outdoor type do they need the shed?	Refer Section IX - Particular Conditions; Part B - Special Provisions; Sub-Clause 1.5 Priority of Documents Prefabricated or kiosk style integrated outdoor transformer and RMU are not allowed. Enclosure for Transformer and RMU shall conform to the Specification. Note that Hulhumeedhoo SS09 is an exception as described in the Specifications, Appendix B

Important Notes:

- Data Room Link as in Bid Document:
https://mofmv-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/ibrahim_aflah_finance_gov_mv/Eu6Kwo0pHu9EsVbFkIr8Y1sBFIBZjXvMvx3YQochIXeIA?e=aKjkMT
- Last date for clarifications submission is 4th May 2022.
- Appendix D has the Environmental and Social Requirement; In some places of the bid document Environmental Social Code of Practice is referred to be in Appendix D but this is a typo and Environmental Social Code of Practice is in the data room.