



MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT NEPAL (MCA-NEPAL)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Request for Information about prospective Consulting Services for the Technical Assistance Program to Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) under Electricity Transmission Project (Power Sector Technical Assistance Activity) in Nepal

Background

The Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, acting through the Ministry of Finance (the “Government”) and the United States of America, acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (“MCC”), entered into a Millennium Challenge Compact on September 14, 2017, providing for a grant of up to FIVE HUNDRED MILLION United States Dollars (US \$500,000,000) to advance economic growth and reduce poverty in Nepal (the “Compact”), to which the Government will contribute up to US\$130,000,000 for a program to reduce poverty through economic growth in Nepal. The Government intends to apply parts of the proceeds of the funds to payments for contracts for goods, works and services. MCC is a U.S. government agency focused on assisting countries dedicated to good governance, economic freedom, and investments in people.

The goal of the Compact is to reduce poverty through economic growth. The Compact program includes two projects: (i) construction of about 300 kilometers of 400kV electricity transmission lines, three substations, and technical assistance for the power sector; and (ii) technical assistance to improve the road maintenance regime and road maintenance works on about 300 kilometers of the strategic road network. The technical assistance activity for the power sector will support activities designed to strengthen the performance of Nepal’s power sector institutions, including the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) and the Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC) in support of the overall project objective. The Compact can be accessed at: http://mcanp.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Millennium_Challenge_Compact.pdf.

The Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal) is in the process of gathering information to support the development of an anticipated consultancy assignment to support the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA). MCA-Nepal expects to hire long-term consultancy services (the details of the assignment and its duration are described in the draft Terms of Reference (ToR), which can be provided at your request by sending an email to MCANepalPA@Cardno.com with a copy to MCANepalPA@mcanp.org) which will comprise a diverse set of activities to support NEA under the Electricity Transmission Project in Nepal. There are six assignments in the combined ToR namely:

- Transmission Business Transformation (TBT)
- Network Development Effectiveness (NDE)
- System Planning (SM)
- Asset Maintenance & Operation (AMO),
- System & Market Operation (SMO) and
- Utility Financial Management (UFM).

This is a **Request for Information (RFI)**, which offers the opportunity for interested organizations/ consulting firms to provide recommendations on approaches to contracting the expected technical assistance on various activities mentioned under the provided Terms of Reference (ToR) to support the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA). In responding to this RFI, significant emphasis should be placed on reflecting capacity to respond to different contracting scenarios and risks or constraints that may help inform MCA-Nepal's decision-making.

By issuing this RFI, MCA-Nepal is seeking responses to the questions outlined below. MCA-Nepal is not seeking proposals at this time. Responses to this RFI are voluntary. Responders are free to address any or all questions, as well as provide additional information they think is relevant. MCA-Nepal will not compensate respondents for any information provided in response to this RFI. Any future solicitations related to the MCA-Nepal initiative will be announced at <https://mcanp.org/>, www.mcc.gov, www.mcc.dgmarket.com, www.devbusiness.com as well as in local newspapers at a later date.

Information Requested

The prospective consulting firms are requested to provide information that will help MCA-Nepal to develop an effective approach to support the NEA through the Compact. The information requested are as follows:

1. Name of the Organization/firm/Consultant, Address, Contact Person, E-mail ID of Contact Person.
2. Do you have similar experiences providing technical assistance/support to similar public institutions? if yes, please provide the name and place of the major assignments.
3. Based on your experience and your analysis of the ToR, what would be your recommendations on how to **package** the above mentioned six assignments? How **many numbers of assignment you will be able to undertake** based on your experience, availability of man-power and financial capacity among Transmission Business Transformation (TBT), Network Development Effectiveness (NDE), System Planning (SM), Asset Maintenance & Operation (AMO), System & Market Operation (SMO) and Utility Financial Management (UFM) for full-time, fixed-term support as mentioned in detail Terms of Reference (ToR)?
4. Describe your firm's capacity and experience in any or all of the six activities for full-time, fixed-term support. The Consultant may also indicate their capability/experience in terms of capacity building/training in these areas including usage of software specific to these areas.
5. How would you **schedule the timeline for these six assignments or less than six assignments for what you are able to provide services?**

6. What are the possible compositions of staffing (e.g. fixed term – full time, intermittent, part-time) that could be applied to these assignments to achieve the expected goals?
7. What arrangements would you expect to be in place in order for you to effectively mobilize for these type of assignments?
8. Based on the draft terms of reference, what duration of assignment would you consider necessary to implement these six assignments as per details provided in draft ToR?
9. MCA-Nepal anticipates the Consultant/s to be on board by the end of 2021. Please describe your firm's ability to mobilize your team in Nepal for carrying out the assignment according to this timeline.
10. What are your additional suggestions that MCA-Nepal should consider before launching these assignments?

RESPONSES SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Interested consultants shall register their interest and request the Terms of Reference by sending an email providing full contact details of the Consultant to the MCA-Nepal Procurement Agent at MCANepalPA@Cardno.com with a copy to MCANepalPA@mcanp.org.

Please send your responses to the questions in this RFI to the email id MCANepalPA@cardno.com with a copy to MCANepalPA@mcanp.org and gokul.mishra@cardno.com by **9 February 2021, 17:00 hours Nepal time (GMT +5:45)**.

Important:

This is not a request for offers/proposals/expressions of interest. MCA-Nepal is not requesting the submission of proposals in response to this Request for Information notice. This is also not intended to be a shortlisting process. The purpose of this Request for Information notice are as follows:

- (a) Request Information from prospective Consultants to help MCA-Nepal to gather useful market information for the preparation of an upcoming procurement for assignment in Nepal.
- (b) Identify interested and qualified Consultants.

MCA-Nepal intends to publish a Specific Procurement Notice for release the Request for Proposals Document tentatively by second quarter of 2021.

This Request for Information notice does not obligate MCA-Nepal to release a Procurement Document or award a contract, nor does it commit MCA-Nepal to pay for costs incurred in response to this Request for Information notice.

Consultants interested in receiving the Procurement Document should register their interest by sending an e-mail, giving full contact details of the Consultant to the email addresses provided in this RFI. This will ensure that the prospective consulting services

(Organization/firm/consultant as applicable) receive a copy of the Procurement Document and updates regarding the Procurement Document.

Millennium Challenge Account - Nepal

Hotel Yak & Yeti Convention Center, second floor, Durbar Marg

Katmandu, Nepal.

Attention: Procurement Agent

Email: MCANepalPA@cardno.com with a copy to MCANepalPA@mcanp.org and gokul.mishra@cardno.com

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