



MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT NEPAL (MCA-NEPAL)

Minutes of Pre-Information Meeting

**Pre-Information Meeting for “Procurement of Plant Design, Supply, Delivery, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of
Lot 1: 400kV Ratmate Substation and works at Lapsiphedi and New Hetauda Substations
Lot 2: 400kV New Butwal Substation
Lot 3: 400kV New Damauli Substation”**

MCA-N/ETP/CB/004

[VENUE: ONLINE](#)

11 April 2023

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I. INTRODUCTION:

The pre-information meeting session was called to order by the Procurement Agent Manager of the MCA-Nepal Procurement Agent. He welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their attendance. After the opening remarks, he also introduced the MCA-Nepal team attending the meeting. The pre-information meeting took place online from 5:00 PM (Nepal Standard Time) on 11 April 2023.

II. AGENDA:

05.00 PM to 05.05 PM 05.05 PM to 05.10 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome by Procurement Agent• Welcome Remarks by MCA-Nepal
05.10 PM to 05.40 PM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Highlights of SS Tender Document2. Site Visit Plan3. Do's and Don'ts for Site visit
05.40 PM to 06.00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Procurement Briefinga) Structure of the Bidding Documentb) Timelinec) Eligibility Verification including Conflict of Interestd) Requests for clarification process:<ol style="list-style-type: none">I. Submit Queries as soon as possibleII. If clarification changes the document an addendum will be issued
06.00 PM to 06.20 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question and Answers – Pre-information Meeting
06.20 PM to 06.25 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closing Remarks

III. MEMBERS PRESENT:

No.	Name	Organization/Firm
1	Mahesh Acharya	MCA-Nepal
2	Shalini Tripathi	MCA-Nepal
3	Sanjay Kumar Sharma	MCA-Nepal
4	Mahendra K Shrestha	MCA-Nepal
5	Ashish Bhandari	MCA-Nepal
6	Kalawati Rai	MCA-Nepal
7	Prakash Basnet	MCA-Nepal
8	Sujan Koirala	MCA-Nepal
9	Kamala Regmi	MCA-Nepal
10	Luis Villalta	DT-Global/Procurement Agent
11	Rakesh Kumar	DT-Global/Procurement Agent
12	Neelam Thapa	DT-Global/Procurement Agent
13	Ram Regmi	DT-Global/Procurement Agent
Online Registrants		
14	Kumar Adhikari	MCA-Nepal
15	Bhawani Gnwali	MCA-Nepal
16	Shyam Upadhyaya	MCA-Nepal

17	Pushpanjali Dhakal	MCA-Nepal
18	Sanju Adhikari	MCA-Nepal
19	Rajendra Thanju	MCA-Nepal
20	Rajib Dahal	MCA-Nepal
21	Pashupati Dhungel	MCA-Nepal
22	Pawan Joshi	MCA-Nepal
23	Satyam Pathak	MCA-Nepal
24	Abhijit Das	Bidder's representative
25	Abhinav Khanna	Bidder's representative
26	Abhishek Sharan	Bidder's representative
27	Adeline John	Bidder's representative
28	Ajinkya Avinash	Bidder's representative
29	Ajita Sengupta	Bidder's representative
30	Aman Choube	Bidder's representative
31	Amit Gehlot	Bidder's representative
32	Amit Narway	Bidder's representative
33	Anil Kumar	Bidder's representative
34	Anindya Datta	Bidder's representative
35	Anshul Ashish	Bidder's representative
36	Arjun Gurung	Bidder's representative
37	Arun R	Bidder's representative
38	Asheesh Srivastava	Bidder's representative
39	Ashish Jain	Bidder's representative
40	Ashutosh Gupta	Bidder's representative
41	Bhaskar Roy	Bidder's representative
42	Biraj Malla	Bidder's representative
43	CHENCHU REDDY A	Bidder's representative
44	Devesh Tamrakar	Bidder's representative
45	Devi Singh Sikarwar	Bidder's representative
46	Dewangsh Gurung	Bidder's representative
47	Diparun Bhattacharyya	Bidder's representative
48	Diparun Bhattacharyya	Bidder's representative
49	DIPTOJIT SENGUPTA	Bidder's representative
50	Harsh Saxena	Bidder's representative
51	Hassan Zaidi	Bidder's representative
52	Jagmohan Moriya	Bidder's representative
53	Karan	Bidder's representative
54	lama construction	Bidder's representative
55	Mayank Pande	Bidder's representative
56	MKB Anand	Bidder's representative
57	Mukta Mishra	Bidder's representative
58	Narendra Prajapati	Bidder's representative
59	Nawaz Khan	Bidder's representative
60	Neeraj Lamba	Bidder's representative
61	Niraj Thapa	Bidder's representative

62	Nitin Batra	Bidder's representative
63	Porur Selvam Kandavel	Bidder's representative
64	Prashant Singh	Bidder's representative
65	Rahul Anand	Bidder's representative
66	Rajesh Singh	Bidder's representative
67	RAMNIK AROTA	Bidder's representative
68	RANJITA CHUDAL	Bidder's representative
69	Sachin Sikri	Bidder's representative
70	Sakthi Perumalraja	Bidder's representative
71	Sameer Lama	Bidder's representative
72	Sampath kumar I	Bidder's representative
73	Sanima GIC Insurance	Bidder's representative
74	Santosh Reddy Y	Bidder's representative
75	Saurav	Bidder's representative
76	SEEMANT CHOURASIYA	Bidder's representative
77	Sheikh Anoar Ali	Bidder's representative
78	Siju Cherian	Bidder's representative
79	Sitaram Shrestha	Bidder's representative
80	Snehasish Debnath	Bidder's representative
81	Srinivas N	Bidder's representative
82	SUBHAJIT CHOWDHURY	Bidder's representative
83	Sudesh Dangol Maharjan	Bidder's representative
84	Sudhanshu Garg	Bidder's representative
85	Susmita Jha	Bidder's representative
86	Tanmay Banerjee	Bidder's representative
87	Tvv Satyanarayana	Bidder's representative
88	Tvv Satyanarayana	Bidder's representative
89	Vinay Gaikwad	Bidder's representative
90	vinoth kumar	Bidder's representative
91	Yansong Zhang	Bidder's representative

IV. WELCOME REMARKS BY PROCUREMENT AGENT:

Procurement Agent Manager of the Procurement Agent of MCA- Nepal explained the objectives of the pre-information meeting. He further added that MCA-Nepal will highlight important technical and procurement aspects.

V. WELCOME REMARKS BY MCA-NEPAL:

The MCA-Nepal Deputy Executive Director for Project Delivery welcomed all the interested bidders for this pre-information meeting and stated what MCA-Nepal is going to present. Further, he encouraged prospective bidders to seek clarifications and commented further on the upcoming site visit and pre-bid conference.

VI. HIGHLIGHTS OF SUBSTATIONS BIDDING DOCUMENT AND SITE VISIT SCHEDULE:

The Project Manager - Substations presented the estimated timeline for each lot and important aspects related to site access and other requirements of the bidding document. He has also presented the site visit plan which is scheduled to start on 20 April 2022. The ESP requirements were highlighted by the ESP Specialist of MCA-Nepal and the GSI requirements were highlighted by the GSI Specialist of MCA-Nepal. The presentation is attached in Annex A of these minutes.

VII. DO AND DON'T DURING SITE VISIT AND PROCUREMENT BRIEFING:

Procurement Agent Manager of MCA-Nepal Procurement Agent presented the rules on what the participants should do (Do) and should not (Don't) during the site visit. Further he provided a briefing on the Structure of the Bidding Document, Timeline, Eligibility Verification process under MCC funding and including Conflict of Interest and requests for clarifications. The presentations are attached as Annex A of these minutes.

Bidders were clarified that in case of ambiguity between the presentations and the bidding document, the bidding document shall prevail.

VIII. QUESTION AND ANSWERS:

The prospective Bidders were provided with the opportunity to ask questions, which were responded by MCA-Nepal team and the Procurement Agent. The bidders were clarified that the final responses shall be in writing. The Questions and Answers are attached as Annex B of these minutes.

IX. CLOSING REMARKS

The Deputy Executive Director – Management of MCA-Nepal thanked all the participants for asking the questions and MCA-Nepal team and procurement team for responding to the questions.

The meeting was closed around 6:35 PM by thanking all the participants for attending the meeting.

Annexes:

Annex A: Presentations during the Pre-information meeting

Annex B: Questions and Answers

ANNEXES/ATTACHMENTS:

Annex A

Presentations during the Pre-information meeting



Pre-information-all
slides_in pdf.pdf



Electricity Transmission Project (ETP) Substation Activity

Pre-Information Meeting Highlights of SS Tender Document

11 April 2023



SITE ACCESS



- The schedule for site access will be provided by the Employer, with assistance from the Engineer, based on the fulfillment of the site access protocol as applicable and as defined in the ESHSMP.
- The Contractor shall do their own assessment on how many shifts, if any, they shall work to complete the works on time and its corresponding costs.



REQUIREMENTS

- This being the Design and Build Contract, Contractor is to prepare final design and drawings based on preliminary design and drawings provided in the tender document.
- Transportation of Plant and Equipment: A copy of a document namely “Road assessment for Transportation of Heavy and Oversized Equipment to site” is provided with the tender document. However the study is now old and may need updating. Bidders may use the document for reference purpose only. Bidders will have to make their own assessment of the conditions of road and bridge along the route, and use the information in preparing price proposal.



REQUIREMENTS

- **Sign board and Branding:** Refer to Employer's Requirement Annex B01_2_Branding Guidelines_V02 of MCA-Nepal. The bidder must consider the associated cost to comply with the guideline.
- The Bidder has to submit both Price Schedule and Price Reasonability as a part of their bid document.



ESP-REQUIREMENTS

- MCA-Nepal/MCC ESP Compliance is stringent. The Contractor has to employ an ESP team with resources and should be of international standards so that the ESP deliverables meet the employer's requirement.
- Consistent with MCC Environmental guidelines, IFC standards (PS 1-8) and National policies, all risks/impacts associated with construction/implementation of the project must be avoided, mitigated or compensated so that the construction activities cause minimal impact to the community, region or the country as a whole.
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental Social Health and Safety Management Plan (ESHSMP) and Environment Social Management System (ESMS) are important part of the of the SS IFB, which identify all the impacts and mitigation measures associated with construction activities and associated cost implication.



ESP-REQUIREMENTS

- Contractor shall make use of ESHSMP price guideline(Annex_B01_4_ESHSMP_Price_Guideline) for preparation of ESHSMP related costs.
- The Contractor shall develop Contractor's Environmental, Social, Health & Safety Management Plan (CESHSMP) before commencement of construction activities.



ESP-REQUIREMENTS

- The Contractors should prepare site specific communication, health & safety plan before commencement of each major activities. Appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) such as Safety Jacket, Helmet, Safety Boots, Gloves, Mask etc. shall be used according to the nature of work, as and when required as per the ENGINEER's Project Specific Safety Plan requirements.
- Contractor will demonstrate a strong commitment to health and safety management in compliance with **OSHAS 18001:2007**.



GSI-REQUIREMENTS

1. Prevention of Gender-based Violence, Sexual Harassment, Children Employment
 - Zero tolerance policy against sexual harassment
 - Develop and implement Anti-Sexual Harassment Policy before starting work

2. Prevention and Mitigation of Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Risk
 - Zero tolerance policy against TIP
 - Entire ETP project sites are at high risk of TIP
 - Develop and implement TIP Risk Management Plan before starting work

3. Labor and Employment Opportunities including women employment
 - Work Plan, Methodology to prioritize women employees during bid submission
 - Safe and harassment free working environment
 - Anonymous Complaint Mechanism System



GSI-REQUIREMENTS

1. Work Plan, Methodology during BID submission
 - Strategy and actions to encourage women employment

2. Safe and harassment free working environment before starting construction work
 - Develop and implement Anti-Sexual Harassment Policy, Develop and implement TIP Risk Management Plan
 - Enforce worker's Code of Conduct
 - Anonymous Complaint Mechanism System
 - Written procedure of handling and investigation of complaints



GSI-REQUIREMENTS

3. Training, Communication, Reporting – throughout the project period
 - Training sessions to the entire team, refresher every year - before any field mobilization, regularly every year
 - Regular Tool Box talk
 - Targeted education sessions in and around construction sites
 - Posters, pamphlets on display
 - Updated record of all employees/labor by sex, age with proof
 - Reporting of GSI issues in ESHSMP Report

4. Staffing – throughout the project period
 - Dedicated GSI Officer in the DB Contractors team
 - Close coordination with the ESP, Health and Safety team

5. Labor Facilities
 - Gender Friendly Accommodation, Sanitation, Transportation



Reference Document for GSI Requirements

- Social and Gender Integration Plan (SGIP), 2021- Annex B01_8
- TIP Risk Management Plan, 2021 – Annex B01_9
- Environmental Social Health and Safety Management Plan (ESHSMP), 2022 - Annex B01_4
- Price Schedule 4.5 in each lot



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Thank You.



Site Visit Plan Prior to Pre- Bid Meeting Related to SS DB Contract

Date: 20 April 2023 to 23 April 2023



Assembly Time and Venue

Venue : Hotel Yak and Yeti, Durbar Marga

Date: 20th April 2023

Time: 8:30 AM-9:00 AM (Gathering at MCA-Nepal Office - Terrace)

09:00 AM-9:15 AM Welcome and Remark from ED (MCA-Nepal)

09:15 AM-9:25 AM (Briefing from PA and PM)

Departure from Yak and Yeti: 10:00 AM (Sharp)

Note:

Actual time of reaching destination / lunch may change depending upon the road condition / traffic.

Bidders are requested to carry PPE's, water bottles, packed food/fruits for your convenience.

Hotel booking, vehicle arrangements etc. are the obligation of respective bidders.



Day 1 (Date: 20 April, Thursday)

Ratmate Substation: MCA Nepal will explain about the substation foot print and entry points of various transmission lines

Arrive Ratmate Substation : 1:00 PM (Observation time 1 hour)

Reach Mugling: 5:00PM

Reach Bandipur : 6:00PM

(Lunch, Snacks time have been incorporated in the assumption/Night Stay at Bandipur)



Day 2 (Date: 21 April, Friday)

Start Time from Bandipur : 8:00 AM

Reach New Damauli SS: 9:30AM

Depart from New Damauli SS : 11:00 AM

Reach Narayanghat : 2:00 PM

Reach Butwal : 7:30PM

(Poor road condition/Night stay at Butwal)



Day 3 (Date: 22 April, Saturday)

Start from butwal : 9:00 AM

Reach New Butwal SS: 10:00AM

Depart from New Butwal SS: 12:00 Noon

Reach Narayanghat: 05:00 PM

(Stay at Narayanghat)



Day 4 (Date: 23 April, Sunday)



Start Time from Narayanghat : 9:00 AM

Reach Kathmandu: 2:30PM



For further coordination:

Mr. Sanjay k Sharma: 9851108525

Mr. Prakash Basnet : 9841404405



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Thank You.



Electricity Transmission Project

Sub-Station Pre-Information Meeting and Feedback
Session/Site Visit
Online

11 April 2023



Site Visit

- Important Activity
- Not Mandatory - but strongly recommended
- Will allow potential bidders to gather important information to prepare their bids
 - Terrain
 - Access to Construction Sites
 - Resettlement
 - Communities
 - Environmental Aspects
 - Other important potential issues



Do and Don't for Site Visit:

Do

A. Registration & Safety

1. For logistic purposes, interested bidders should register their intention to attend the site visit
2. Preferred number of personnel from each firm is maximum 3 person plus 1 driver for Site Visit.
3. Participants shall cover all expenses for their participation in the site visit



Do and Don't for Site Visit:

A. Registration & Safety

4. MCA-Nepal is not liable for any incident during the site visit; thus, participants are encouraged to ensure safe participation following the rules below:
 - a. Take Covid Precautions (masks, social distance as possible, washing hands, etc.)
 - b. Use Personal Protective Equipment as applicable and bring umbrella and Cap for the visit.
 - c. Follow safety instructions to be provided by MCA-Nepal
 - d. Follow common safety rules while visiting a Site
 - e. Park your vehicle in a safe place and make sure it does not obstruct traffic
 - f. Use high visibility cloth/jacket
 - g. Use a protective mask all the time
 - h. Keep safe distance from other as applicable
 - i. Always stay within the Group, don't explore by your self
 - j. Follow all traffic and other rules and do not endanger yourself or others



Do and Don't for Site Visit

B. Communications and Logistic

5. Please daily assemble at the starting area on time, listen to daily briefing carefully and follow any instruction issued.
6. Professional Courtesy to others is a must. Pay attention while explanations are ongoing; handling a group in the field is a both ways responsibility.
7. Fill and sign the daily attendance sheet and indemnity form that will be available at the Site Visit Starting point.
8. In case, you need any assistance during Site Visit Contact Mr. Sanjay Kumar Sharma-9851108525 or Mr. Prakash Basnet-9841404405. For all other queries related to this procurement please write to our procurement agent at MCANepalPA@dt-global.com.
9. Please inform MCA-Nepal if you are not going to continue with site visit
10. Manage your vehicle, accommodation, food and logistics etc.
11. Please share your what's app number, we will create a group for site visit, to transmit any information related to site visit.



Do and Don't for Site Visit

Do not

1. Please do not approach members of the Community or entertain questions
2. Not to approach MCA-Nepal staff attending the site visit for private discussions on the ongoing and any upcoming procurements.
3. In case of any doubt or concern, please approach the Procurement Agent Representative.



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Electricity Transmission Project (ETP) Transmission Line Activity

Sub-Station Pre-Information Meeting and Online Feedback
Session

11 April 2023



Objectives of the Pre-information Meeting



Objective of the Presentation

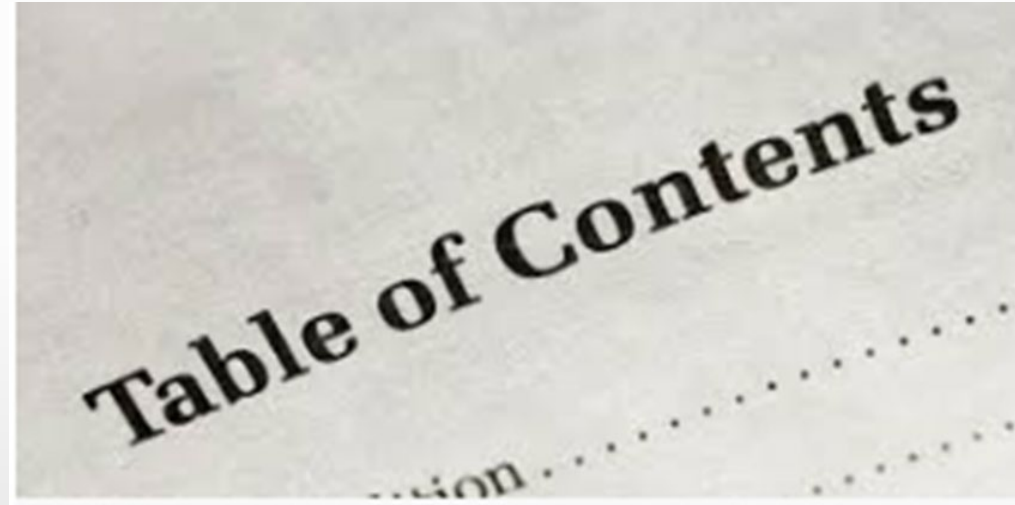
- Provide Relevant Information/Clarification To Prospective Bidders
 - Technical Information
 - Procurement Information
- Discuss Important Highlights of the IFB
- First Contact with Potential Contractors
- Receive Questions Clarifications from Prospective Bidders
 - Acknowledge potential issues with IFB
 - Clarify





Table of Contents

- Structure of the Bidding Document
- Timeline for the Procurement
- Eligibility Verification
- Conflict of Interest
- Request for Clarifications Process





Structure of The Bidding Document

- Structured in 3 Parts and 8 Sections
 - Part 1: Bidding Procedures: How we will conduct the Procurement and Rules to Apply and ultimately How we will Award the Contract(s)
 - Section 1: Instructions to Bidders
 - Section 2: Bid Data Sheet...Complement the Instructions to Bidders
 - Section III: Qualification and Evaluation Criteria
 - Section IV: Bid Submission Forms
 - Technical and Financial Forms all classified by Type: Make sure that all Forms are submitted as per requirement of ITB 12.2 and ITB 12.3 of BDS, as 1 in 10 Proposal is submitted incomplete.
- Part 2: Employer's Requirements: What We Want to Procure, Technical Specifications, Price Schedule, Drawings, etc. One Single Section:
 - Section V: Employer's Requirements
- Part 3: Contractual Arrangements:
 - Section VI: General Conditions of Contract...FIDIC Yellow Book Design and Build
 - Section VII: Particular Conditions of Contract...Designed by MCC to be used by MCA's Entities.
 - Section VIII: Contract Form and Annexes..... 10 Forms attached to the Contract



Timeline



- **20-23 April 2023**
 - Site Visit
 - Special Program to be explained during second presentation
- **18 April 2023: Questions shall be submitted not later than 7 days before Pre-bid Meeting (for Pre-Bid meeting)**
- **25 April 2023: Pre-Bid Conference**
 - Venue will be notified to the registered bidders through email and also published at MCA-Nepal website
 - Start the Registration Process for Logistic Purposes
 - Venue to accommodate the expected number of participants
- **17 May 2023: Last date for requesting clarifications**
- **31 May 2023: Last date for providing response to the requested clarifications**



Timeline



- **30 June 2023**
 - Bids Submission deadline
 - Bids Opening---→ Publicly
- **45 to 60** days Technical Evaluation Period
- Notification of Results + 5 Days cooling Period Bid Challenge Period
- **21 Days**
 - Financial Opening + Combined Report Approval
 - Notification of Final Results Plus bid Challenge Period around Third week of October 2023
 - Contract Negotiations should start around First half of November 2023



Eligibility Verification and Conflict of Interest

- What Countries are Eligible to Participate in MCC Funded projects?
 - All Countries except four (4) as of Now.

Countries determined by the Secretary of State to have repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism are designated pursuant to three laws: section 1754(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, and section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. Taken together, the four main categories of sanctions resulting from designation under these authorities include restrictions on U.S. foreign assistance; a ban on defense exports and sales; certain controls over exports of dual use items; and miscellaneous financial and other restrictions.

Designation under the above-referenced authorities also implicates other sanctions laws that penalize persons and countries engaging in certain trade with state sponsors. Currently there are four countries designated under these authorities: Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), Iran, and Syria.

Country	Designation Date
Cuba	January 12, 2021
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)	November 20, 2017
Iran	January 19, 1984
Syria	December 29, 1979

For more details about State Sponsors of Terrorism, see "Overview of State Sponsored Terrorism" in Country Reports on Terrorism.



Eligibility Verification Form CON-2 1 and Conflict of Interest

- The Bidder/Contractor shall verify that any individual, corporation, or other entity that has access to or is (or would be) a recipient of MCC Funding, including Bidder/Contractor staff, consultants, Subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, and grantees, is not listed on any of the following (or, in the case of #8 below, is not a national of, or associated in, any country appearing on such list):
 - 1. System for Award Management (SAM) Excluded Parties List - <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/searchRecords/search.jsf>
 - 2. World Bank Debarred List - <https://www.worldbank.org/debarr>
 - 3. US Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List - <https://sanctionssearch.ofac.treas.gov/>
 - 4. US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security, Denied Persons List - <https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/the-denied-persons-list>



Eligibility Verification Form CON-2 1 and Conflict of Interest

- 5. US State Department, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, AECA Debarred List - https://www.pmdtcc.state.gov/ddtc_public?id=ddtc_kb_article_page&sys_id=c22d1833dbb8d300d0a370131f9619f0
- 6. US State Department, Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO) List - <https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/>
- 7. US State Department, Executive Order 13224 - <https://www.state.gov/executive-order-13224/>
- 8. US State Sponsors of Terrorism List - <https://www.state.gov/state-sponsors-of-terrorism>



The GOE Policy is an Important Eligibility Criteria

1. Part 13 of the Program Procurement Guidelines
2. GOEs are not eligible to compete for MCC-funded contracts for goods or works
3. The Process to Determine a Firm as a GoE is a MCC process
4. What is a GOE?
 - “Government-Owned Enterprise” or “GOE” is any enterprise established for a commercial or business purpose that is owned and/or controlled by a Government (whether directly or indirectly).
 - “Government” means one or more governments, including any agency, instrumentality, subdivision or other unit of government at any level of jurisdiction (national or subnational).
 - “Owned” means a majority or controlling interest (whether by value or voting interest) of the shares or other ownership interest of the entity is owned (whether directly or indirectly and whether through fiduciaries, agents, or other means).
 - P13.1.5 states “Additional evidence of control may be found in the organizational history of the enterprise regardless of its current status. In some cases, a GOE may be privatized or otherwise reorganized in such a manner that it loses its status as a GOE. In other cases, a GOE may purportedly have been privatized, but continue to receive subsidies or other forms of support from a government to such a degree that it can effectively be considered to be controlled by the government”.
 - Furthermore, “Evidence of control may also be assumed by MCC for enterprises from countries that have been deemed non-market economies by either the US Department of Commerce or the World Trade Organization.”



Conflict Of Interest

- It is suggested to review ITB 5.8 to 5.13
- Those Provisions establish the types of Conflict of Interest that may disqualify a bidder
- Government Employees
- Others



Request for Clarifications

- Submit Queries and Clarifications as soon as possible
- MCA-Nepal will consolidate all submitted queries and will respond in due course, without identifying the source of the queries.
- It is possible that some clarifications and its responses may trigger an addendum to the bidding document.
- Thus, as time is of the essence for all parties, submit your queries as soon as possible



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Annex B

Questions and Answers

#	Request for Clarifications	Response
1.	Whether same supplier considered by different contractor in bid for supply of main equipment shall be considered as conflict of Interest?	<p>Please refer ITB 5.8 (d), which states “participate in more than one Bid in this process; participation by a Bidder in more than one Bid will result in the disqualification of all Bids in which the party is involved; however, this provision does not limit the inclusion of the same subcontractor in more than one Bid”.</p> <p>Please note that subcontractor or supplier are treated similarly’</p>
2.	If a manufacturer is having type test report older than 10 years old, is it mandatory to get it type tested from STL accredited lab only?	Only type tested equipment shall be used. Type test reports of similar equipment - in terms of mechanical and electrical size/measures, mechanical and electrical technical data, similar model type, and not older than 10 years at the bid opening date, shall be accepted. In case no type test report may be submitted which are not older than 10 years, it is mandatory to get the designated equipment tested from STL accredited lab only.
3.	If a OEM of GIS/Transformer/CRP etc. will participate as a bidder whether he/she can be a supplier of key equipment to other bidders?	Please refer to the provisions stated under ITC clause 5.8.
4.	Please clarify Price BID BASE & OPTION submission procedure & Evaluation to get "Sf" score of Financial bid?	<p>The Bidder is required to submit the Price Schedule for both Base and Option for the lot the Bidder is submitting the Bid.</p> <p>For calculation of Sf, please refer Section III B3. Determination of Combined Technical and Financial Scores, which states:</p> <p>“The lowest evaluated Financial Offer (Fm) is given the maximum financial score (Sf) of 100.</p> <p>The formula for determining the financial scores (Sf) of all other Offers is calculated as following: Sf = 100 x Fm/ F, in which “Sf” is the financial score, “Fm” is the lowest price, and “F” the price of the Offer under consideration.”</p>
5.	A bidder can support other bidders as supplier.	Please refer to the provisions stated under ITC clause 5.8.

6.	All the payments to contractor shall come from MCC, USA- Funding agency?	It depends. MCA-Nepal has different sources of fund and payment models.
7.	How can we get GIS drawings and GIS specifications?	No further documents are available regarding this. There are preliminary drawings provided in the tender document as well as Technical Specifications for GIS equipment.
8.	Validity of type test for GIS reports should be 15 years with parent company reports is acceptable?	Validity shall remain 10 years as outlined in the tender document.
9.	Ours is Govt. of India undertaking company. Govt. is having major stake but in day to day functions/activities, govt. is not interfering. Only for high value investments, we take govt. approval. Are we eligible to participate in this procurement process?	<p>As per ITB 5.6, Government-Owned Enterprises (“GOEs”) are not eligible to compete for MCC-funded contracts for goods (which includes contracts for the supply and installation of information systems) or works. For better understanding, please read carefully Part 13. Government-Owned Enterprise provisions under the MCC Program Procurement Guidelines, which can be found on the below link: https://assets.mcc.gov/content/uploads/guidance-2020001236804-procurement-program.pdf</p> <p>MCC will verify the submitted Government-Owned Enterprises (GOE) certification form and will make a decision based on (i) the submitted documentation and (ii) further research regarding the GoE status of all firms that submit proposals.</p> <p>A Government-Owned Entity is not eligible to compete for MCC funded contracts for goods and works.</p>
10.	Scope of tree cutting & dismantling of existing structure at SS premises falls under which item under the price schedule?	Yes, it falls within regular clearing, stripping works of substation site.
11.	Conflict of Interest will be counted across all lots, or it will be evaluated each lot wise?	If the bidder is submitting bid for one Lot or more, Conflict of Interest will be evaluated for all the Bidder and under each Lot.
12.	Is there any discounted custom charges for Steel, cement procured from outside Nepal?	Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. The bidder needs to assess the application of taxes on its own as per Section 2.8 of the Compact.

		The Tax exemption letter will be provided by MCA-Nepal for the Goods imported for the purposes of the Compact.
13.	For establishing the experience, Currency conversion & appreciation rates for previous executed projects are not mentioned in tender document. Could you please specify	The Contract Price of contracts completed in the past shall be stated without any inflation incorporated in it. Contract Price in different currency shall be converted using exchange rate of the date of completion.
14.	What about the TDS deduction on supply portion procured from outside Nepal?	The Taxes and Duties sourced from outside Nepal may be exempted or refunded subject to Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII. Potential bidders are encouraged to study all tax schedules under MCC Compact. However, you are requested to quote for all the responsibility for supplying the Goods from outside Employer's country up to site. If applicable, the tax exemption letter will be issued in line with the Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII. Any taxes and duties levied (not covered by section 2.8 of the Compact) will be in the scope of the Contractor.
15.	What is the tentative budget for this procurement?	MCA-Nepal has decided not to disclose the budget. However, if MCA-Nepal decides to modify this decision, it will be done only through issuing and addendum to the Bidding Document.
16.	In qualification criteria, requirement of design experience is there. In south - east Asian contracts Design is part of Contract of EPC but no separate price schedule. Price of design is included in product. How this type of design experience will be accounted for. Will the certification from Charter accountant firm be acceptable?	The certificate issued by your chartered accountant certifying that the design turnover was of value US\$XXX will be acceptable.
17.	Custom duty is exempted for the items imported from outside Nepal?	Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. The bidder needs to assess the application of taxes on its own as per Section 2.8 of the Compact. The Tax exemption letter will be provided by MCA-Nepal for the Goods imported for the purposes of the Compact.
18.	As you mentioned warranty period is 1 year. at the same time extended warranty is asked for Transformer, GIS , CRP, SAS and Air conditioning.	We have mentioned Defect Notification Period of one year. Extended warranty as required will be handled by the beneficiary of the project i.e. Government of Nepal (GoN) after closure of the Compact, GoN may in the end decide to assign

	How you are looking this if contract over in Dec'28	the project/its assets to one of its undertakings like NEA etc.
19.	In India most contracts design part is part of overall contract, hence can we provide some percentage value for annual design turn over certified by audited chartered accountant? Under Note it is mentioned that For each lot, the Bidder needs to include separate information for Criteria 2 and Criteria 3. We understand that Criteria 1 is not applicable for each Lots. Please confirm our understanding	The certificate issued by your chartered accountant certifying that the design turnover was of value US\$XXX will be acceptable.
20.	Is there a specific list of approved makes for equipment for this bid?	Not so in general. In case of OLTC, at the suggestion of Power Utility and to harmonize with other transformers in their grid system, OLTC needs to be manufactured either by MR GERMANY or ABB SWEDEN.
21.	We have understood that your QR criteria and qualification rules are very stringent. Due to that in case only one bid is received eventually, what will be the evaluation and order award process?	Please refer to MCC Program Procurement Guidelines https://assets.mcc.gov/content/uploads/guidance-2020001236804-procurement-program.pdf P1.A.2.75, which states “Even when only one bid is submitted, the bidding process may be considered valid if the bid was satisfactorily advertised and prices are reasonable in comparison to market values.”. Thus, the procurement process will be followed as per the Bidding Document requirements and MCC Program Procurement Guidelines.
22.	Are taxes & duties exempted under MCC procurement?	Tax exemptions shall be as per Section 2.8 of the Compact read along with tax Schedule VII.
23.	Bidder can quote in Nepali Rupees (NPR) currency for the onshore portion?	No, however please note that under the Letter of Financial Offer the Bidders can insert a percentage in the below statement indicating the amount (% of contract price) they want to get paid in NPR. “We estimate% [insert percentage if Bidder wants to get part of the payment in Local currency for making local payment] of our Contract Price to be paid in Local Currency (Nepalese Rupees) at prevailing exchange rate (buying) of Nepal Rastra Bank on the date of submitted Request for Interim/Final Payment Certificate/invoice. ”
24.	Can we submit the similar Qualification related documents for each lot as per the IFB requirements?	You are required to submit the documents as per the requirements of Section III. One set of Qualification document may be submitted identifying the qualification

		requirement submitted for which lots for the requirement stated under Section III: Qualification and Evaluation Criteria, Qualifications - Documents Establishing the Qualifications of the Bidder
25.	What is the Day work under 4.4.1 of BOQ.	Please refer to note viii of Breakdown of Rates and Prices Schedules, which states “The Dayworks Schedule items shall only be exercised, if MCA-Nepal requires any additional works to be carried out (which are not scope of Employer’s Requirement) during Contract implementation. The price quoted under Daywork Schedule shall be considered for evaluation and comparison of price purpose only but shall not form part of the Contract Price. ”
26.	If the Tax Invoices are generated within Nepal, will 13% VAT be applicable?	This shall be as per section 2.8 of the Compact read along with Schedule A, Annex VII- Schedule A.
27.	As per PSR Vehicle (CAR/ 4WD etc.) including running cost, Driver, Maintenance Insurance etc. Request you to amend a separate line item for Vehicle. presently it is in lot with other item.	All the items required under the Employer’s requirement are not listed in Price Schedule. You are required to include the price of these items and all other items required to be carried out as per the Employer’s requirement but not stated under Price Schedule, in the price of other items. The total Bid Price should include cost of all items needed to be carried out as per Employer’s requirement, Conditions of Contract and resulting Contract.
28.	Some specification not available e.g. Water Treatment plant, Fire fighting civil specification etc.	Specification if any missed but available with MCA-Nepal/Employer will be provided as an addendum subjected to approval by the authority.
29.	In Specific construction experience of QR you have asked 3 projects (of certain Volume) for each of Lot-1,2,3. Please clarify whether same set of 3 projects can be shown against each of the Lots if it satisfies the criteria for any and all of the lot	Three different set of projects satisfying the requirement for the lot in consideration is required to be provided by the Bidder.
30.	If Bidder is having enough Civil Experience and meeting QR criteria of Civil contractor of Section III point 10. Bidder Credential can be submitted for evaluation. During execution stage the Bidder may subcontract and execute with local people. Please suggest	The Bidders are required to provide the required details in Section III. If the Bidder satisfy all the requirements of the bidding document and awarded the Contract, the works is expected to be carried out by the Contractor. Please refer PCC 4.4 which states “The consent of the Engineer shall not be required if the

		<p>subcontract is less than one percent (1%) of the Contract Price with a maximum limit of US\$100,000. If the cumulative value of all subcontracts issued to un-approved subcontractors attains US\$250,000, each subsequent use of a non-approved subcontractor shall require the prior consent of the Engineer.”</p> <p>In addition, please refer MCC Program Procurement Guidelines (https://assets.mcc.gov/content/uploads/guidance-2020001236804-procurement-program.pdf) Part 6. Subcontracting, which states “After the contract award, if any contractor or subcontractor decides to subcontract an additional major item of goods, works, consulting services, or non-consulting services (including information systems) (deemed major if valued in excess of USD100,000) shall seek the MCA Entity’s prior written approval before proceeding.”</p>
31.	We request MCA to accept the price adjustment for substation structure and service portion i.e Erection and Civil works also.	The bidding document shall not be amended.
32.	Entire Project Insurance can be taken from Nepalese Insurance agency or from Bidder country's Insurance agency?	The Contractor can arrange insurances from any eligible country. However, the insurances provided should be applicable in the Territory of Nepal for it to be acceptable.