



## MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT NEPAL (MCA-NEPAL)

### OUTREACH EVENT – UPCOMING PROCUREMENTS ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECT

#### Pilot Road Recycling Project

#### East – West Highway – Dhan Khola Lamahi Road Section (DLRS)

27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

#### Questions and Answers Sessions

No.	Question	Response
<b>Noted questions raised in the floor</b>		
1.	The proposed road section is being connected with the 4 Lane highway, but MCA Nepal is constructing just 7M of carriage way and 2.5 meter of shoulder, will this project be just a training of this new technology? Could you please explain about the durability of the project and explain why only 7M carriage way was proposed?	The width of the road is determined according to the traffic volume as per Nepal Road Standard guidelines for road network selection. MCA-Nepal did an extensive pre-feasibility study and conducted economic analysis by HDM4. Based on this fact MCA-Nepal communicated to Department of Roads for the proposed road section for selection and was accordingly endorsed by MoPIT and DoR sending letter specifying the road width as 7 m carriageway and 2.5 m paved shoulder either side for the selected section Dhan khola to Lamahi.
2.	Is there any provision of reward and penalty for the contractor with reference to IRI?	This information shall only be disclosed in the bidding document to be issued, as applicable.
3.	What type of Bitumen grade is 76H- 22?	The bitumen grade proposed is a Performance Grade (PG) bitumen that can withstand the indicated temperature variations for high traffic. The designated bitumen grade of PG 76-22 implies that the proposed bitumen can withstand the highest pavement temperature of 76°C and lowest temperature of – 22°C. This has been identified by climate zoning and temperature map of DLRS road section that lies at Dang district of Nepal. The proposed bitumen is suitable as Superpave wearing course of the DLRS road.

No.	Question	Response
4.	Is the FDR technology more cost efficient than the existing technology being used in Nepal?	Yes. Since the existing pavement material is being 100% reused by pulverization, the FDR with cement results in a cheaper and a stronger base course compared to granular sub-base and base-course that are being used in the traditional construction method. As the existing material is reused and the design period is 20 years it is cost efficient than the existing technology.
5.	Can the Nepalese contractor get support from the Government or DOR with the purchase of the FDR equipment? Will there be any support from the government and DOR?	If a Nepalese contractor is selected for the contract works, the contractor can rent, sub-contract or acquire the recycler. All Compact-associated goods and services in Nepal are tax exempted. For the standalone purposes apart from the MCC Nepal Compact related contract works – Nepalese contractors can consult with DoR, MoPIT and other GoN agencies in following applicable business processes. This is to be consulted with DoR. However, there is no such evidence of support from the government to purchase equipment for the contractors.
6.	Can the government promise to keep up with the technology. What is the future forward for the FDR construction for Nepalese contractor?	FDR with cement has been proposed as a viable solution to road construction and maintenance in Nepal after extensive research and study jointly conducted between MCC and GoN during the Compact Threshold Development Stage and has been put forward in RMP road maintenance works as an environmentally viable, durable and safe road construction technology. DoR is interested to continue this technology and a material testing lab has been established in the premise of DOR at Chakupat for future forward it will be decided after this pilot project completes.
7.	Is there any preference given to the Local contractor?	Under the Accountable Entity Policy & Procurement Guidelines (PPG) the concept of National/Local Preference is not included.
8.	How and why does Nepalese contractor bid for this procurement? What attracts the Nepali contractor in this project?	MCA-Nepal is not in a position to determine or suggest a business strategy for the contractors/firms. Individual contractors shall determine, at their own discretion, whether participation in the project described in the Outreach match their capabilities and experience or they will need to participate in Association with other firms or not to participate.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Response</b>
9.	Will the Nepali contractor get equal opportunities?	Under MCC AE PPG all contractors, independently of their nationality, compete on the same grounds. All contractors, regardless of their nationality, are treated equally and have equal opportunities to compete for projects except government owned entities.
10.	Will there be an FDR experience criterion set out during the evaluation?	Yes. Having experience in FDR technology will be included in the Invitation for Bids as an evaluation criterion.
11.	Does MCA Nepal have any plan for conducting the training programs for Nepalese Labor?	At this time, conducting training programs for Nepalese Labor is not included in MCA-Nepal work plan. It shall be noted that MCA-Nepal is bound to implement only those projects, tasks and activities included in the Compact signed with the USA Government and training programs for Nepalese Labor is not a foreseen activity in the Compact.
12.	As said MCA nepal is partnering with DOR for this project, but why they are not present in this event?	They were invited. Anyway, we will convey and discuss the queries raised with DoR.
13.	How many packages will be there?	One.
14.	In current scenario, Nepalese contractors have also completed many big projects, there is no need for JV for this project and Nepali contractor are capable of doing this project alone? Can you make Nepali contractor a priority for this project?	As stated during the Outreach, under AE MCC PPG, there is no Local or National Preference,
15.	Can you show the eligibility criteria so that we can ascertain if we are eligible? Is there provision of each partner will be there?	Eligibility Criteria as well as Qualification and Evaluation Criteria shall be disclosed in the Invitation for Bids (IFB). Certainly, the IFB will include specific provisions/requirements for Joint Ventures and Associations including requirements for each partner, lead partners and all partners.