



CLARIFICATION#2

FOR

Consultancy Services for Implementation of the Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) for Transmission Line Project, Ref. No (MCA-N/ETP/QCBS/015)

(ISSUED ON 10 JANUARY 2025)

SN	Reference to the Request for Offers	Questions from Offers	Response of Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal)
1.	General	We want to know on Organizational Capability and Experience of the Consultant, any consultant can apply for this project or who has already worked with MCA Nepal consultant can only bid for this project.	Please refer to RFO Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria- 3.4, ITO 24.1-1. Organizational Capability and Experience of the Consultant. MCA-Nepal invites offers from all eligible offerors, not necessarily having working experience with MCA-Nepal.
2.	Form TECH-2A Page 32 Accountable Entity's assessment of the Offeror's financial capacity will be based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Audited financial statements for the last three (3) years, supported by audit letters; or• Certified financial statements for the last three (3) years, substantiated by the corresponding tax	1. Does this refer to annual income or Turnover of company? 2. Does this refer to line of Credit? Or our own investment for the awarded project? 3. We assumed that evidence of financing includes either of the following:	1. The requirement of US\$490,000 does not refer to Income or Turnover of the company. 2. This requirement could be fulfilled by proposed dedicated lines of credit or that can be demonstrated by the consultant as per the requirements of the RFO. 3. Proposed dedicated line of credit issued by the Bank in favor of the Consultant for this project is acceptable

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	<p>returns. and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of financing (US\$490,000) dedicated to the implementation of the consulting services as attested by an authorized representative of the Consultant. 	<p>i. Company Bank balance, assets or investment of the firm.</p> <p>ii. Line of credit from the bank.</p> <p>We understand that if a consultant provides US\$490,000 dedicated amount or asset from an audited report / Balance sheet or credit line from the bank would be sufficient as evidence of financing</p> <p>4. Further, do all the JV partners and subconsultant require to present the Evidence of financing or only the lead firm must do.</p>	<p>i. bank balance and liquid assets/investments are acceptable.</p> <p>ii. proposed dedicated line of credit issued by a bank and the liquid assets and investments with proof like bank balance, FD certificate, investment in Government securities etc.</p> <p>4. All JV Partners are required to fulfill the requirement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audited financial statements for the last three (3) years, supported by audit letters; or Certified financial statements for the last three (3) years, substantiated by the corresponding tax returns. <p>The requirement “Evidence of financing (US\$490,000) dedicated to the implementation of the consulting services as attested by an authorized representative of the Consultant.”, may be fulfilled by “All members combined”.</p>
3.	Regarding JV Consortium?	Is there a limit to the number of partners in the JV and also sub consultants? Please clarify.	No.
4.	<p>3. Key personnel Page 13</p> <p><i>3.1 Team Leader</i></p> <p><i>3.1.5 Experience of working/engaging with multi-stakeholders in livelihood projects</i></p>	Please elaborate on the term " multi-stakeholders " in the context of livelihood projects. Specifically, does it refer to collaboration with various sectors, organizations, or groups?	Your understanding is correct. Furthermore, please refer to IFC definition on “Stakeholders”
5.	Refer to Page no. 12	For Clause 1.2; It would be flexible if you could replace "restoration programs" with "agricultural programs and projects." This change would broaden the scope and	Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFO is specially designed for Livelihood

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	1.2 The Consultant should have at least 15 years of work experience in designing, organizing and implementing livelihood development and restoration programs.	encourage wider participation by allowing professionals and organizations with extensive experience in agricultural development to qualify, ensuring a more competitive and comprehensive selection process. The current phrasing may limit the eligibility to a specific person or organization with experience in restoration programs.	Restoration of the MCA-Nepal's project affected families/individuals. MCA-Nepal is not intending to amend the RFO on this matter.
6.	Refer to Page no. 13 3.1 Team Leader 3.1.3 Experience in managing at least one livelihood restoration project in infrastructure projects. 3.1.4 Experience of mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and social aspects in at least two projects	For Clause 3.1.3: It would be appreciated if you could kindly revise " livelihood restoration " to " livelihood, Agriculture projects or programs " to allow for more inclusive and fair competition among offerors. Since this is a development-related project, infrastructure-specific experience may not be necessary. So please consider development instead of infrastructure. For Clause 3.1.4: Instead of focusing narrowly on "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects in at least two projects," It would be more flexible and practical to ask for "experience in development programs/projects as a Team Leader." or knowledge and experience of mainstreaming in gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects as a capacity of team leader. This broader requirement would better align with the nature of the project and enhance competition	Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFO is specially designed for Livelihood Restoration of the MCA-Nepal's project affected families/individuals. Please refer to Addendum#2 to the RFO available at MCA-Nepal website and also issued to the registered offerors for further detail. Thank you for the suggestion. However, in MCA-Nepal "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects" are key safeguarding components in the LRP implementation requirement that need to adhere to as per IFC PS. MCA-Nepal is not intending to amend the RFO on these matters.
7.	Refer to Page no. 13 3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist 3.2.2 Minimum 5 years of experience in leading monitoring and evaluation work for livelihood projects.	For Clause 3.2.2 and 3.2.3: It is requested to include "agricultural projects" along with "livelihood projects" for broader inclusiveness and fairness in competition. This adjustment allows individuals and organizations with relevant agricultural project experience to qualify, aligning with the project's development-oriented objectives.	Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFO is specially designed for Livelihood Restoration of the MCA-Nepal's project affected families/individuals. MCA-Nepal is not intending to amend the RFO on this matter.

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	<p>3.2.3 Developed M&E framework/plan for at least two livelihood projects.</p> <p>3.2.5 Experience in training under LRP</p>	<p>For clause 3.2.5: The current wording, "Experience in training under LRP," seems overly specific. It would be better to re-frame it as "Experience in training management" to make the requirement more flexible and applicable to a wider range of candidates with relevant expertise which is in line with your criteria- 3.3.5, 3.4.5 and 3.5.5.</p>	<p>MCA-Nepal intends to issue an addendum on this criterion 3.2.5 subjected to approval of the authority.</p>
8.	<p>Refer to Page no. 13</p> <p>3.3 Lot Program Coordinator - First</p> <p>3.3.2 At least 7 years' experience in leading and coordinating project/program management.</p> <p>3.3.3 Experience of mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and social aspects in at least one project.</p> <p>3.3.4 Experience of working/engaging with multi-stakeholders in the livelihood/skill training sector</p>	<p>For Clause 3.3.2: It is suggested to revise the requirement to "At least 7 years' experience in leading and coordinating district-level project/program management activities, particularly in livelihood and agricultural projects." This modification would ensure fairness and inclusivity for candidates with diverse yet relevant project management experiences.</p> <p>For Clause 3.3.3: Specifying "experience of mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and social aspects in at least one project" may appear overly restrictive. It is requested to broaden the scope to include a range of projects for more inclusive competition. If possible, Please consider knowledge and experience in gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects</p> <p>For Clause 3.3.4: It would be appreciated if "livelihood/skill training sector" is expanded to include the agricultural sector. This adjustment reflects the importance of agriculture in development-related programs and allows for a broader pool of qualified candidates.</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, MCA-Nepal's given criteria remain the same.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, in MCA-Nepal "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects" are key safeguarding components in the LRP implementation requirement that need to adhere to as per IFC PS.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>
9.	<p>Refer to Page no. 14</p> <p>3.6 Senior Agriculture Specialist</p>	<p>For Clause 3.6.2: It would be better to replace "experience in implementing agro-based projects"</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>

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	<p>3.6.2 At least 10 years of experience in implementing agro-based projects.</p> <p>3.6.3 Experience of providing at least five agro-based trainings</p>	<p>with "experience in implementing agri-based projects." The revised phrasing better aligns with the project's focus on development and production activities, such as nursery management and plantation, rather than industrial contexts.</p> <p>For Clause 3.6.3: It would be better to replace "experience of providing agro-based trainings" with "experience of providing agri-based trainings" to accurately reflect the project's emphasis on agricultural development and production-related trainings.</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>
10.	<p>Refer to Page no. 14</p> <p>3.7 Senior Livestock Specialist</p> <p>3.7.1 Master's degree in animal science</p> <p>3.7.2 At least 10 years of experience in implementing livestock related projects.</p>	<p>For Clause 3.7.1: It would be better if you could replace "Master's degree in animal science" with "Master's degree in Livestock." This broader term includes animal science, veterinary science, and fisheries, making the qualification more competitive and inclusive for various expertise areas it is in line with your clause 3.6.1 where you have mentioned master's degree in agriculture.</p> <p>For Clause 3.7.2: It would be better if you could revise the requirement to "At least 10 years of experience in implementing district-level livestock-related projects/programs/activities." This change emphasizes practical, field-level experience relevant to the project's objectives.</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>
11.	<p>Refer to Page no. 76</p> <p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>Table 6: Types of livelihood options and necessary input and resources</p> <p>1. <i>Agriculture Based Livelihood Options: Input and resources associated with</i></p>	<p>As the consultants are expected to provide seeds, fertilizers, tools, and other necessary equipment, goat keeping, it is essential that they factor in the cost of these items in their financial proposals. We kindly request that you provide the specifications and minimum standards for the seeds, fertilizers, materials, and equipment. We would also request you to provide information regarding specific quality and quantity or allocate the</p>	<p>The Offerors are requested to meet the minimum specification/standards/norms recommended by the Government of Nepal entity like Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Nepal Agriculture Research Council (NARC), Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) etc.</p>

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	<p><i>different categories of livelihood options:</i> Tools and materials, training, refresher training, transportation, seeds, fertilizers, cross visit, irrigation facilities, market linkage, value adding support, linkage with government entity and saving and credit cooperative/groups, fish pond construction, fish meal.</p>	<p>amount of money to provisional sum. This will ensure a fair and consistent approach for all bidders when submitting their financial proposals for the training.</p>	<p>For the quantity, please refer to “Table 6: Types of livelihood options and necessary input and resources”, under the Terms of Reference.</p>
12.	<p>Refer to Page no. 12 1.2 The Consultant should have at least 15 years of work experience in designing, organizing and implementing livelihood development and restoration programs.</p>	<p>"If possible kindly request you to replace 'restoration programs' with 'agricultural programs and projects' in Clause 1.2. This change broadens the scope, encouraging wider participation and allowing professionals and organizations with agricultural development experience to qualify, leading to a more competitive and comprehensive selection process."</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFO is specially designed for Livelihood Restoration of the MCA-Nepal’s project affected families/individuals.</p> <p>MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this respect</p>
13.	<p>Refer to Page no. 13 3.1 Team Leader 3.1.3 Experience in managing at least one livelihood restoration project in infrastructure projects. 3.1.4 Experience of mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and social aspects in at least two projects</p>	<p>"It is better to revise 'livelihood restoration' to 'livelihood, agricultural projects or programs' in Clause 3.1.3. This will foster a more inclusive and fair competition. Since this is a development project, infrastructure-specific experience may not be required—consider focusing on development experience instead."</p> <p>"It would be better to replace 'mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects in at least two projects' with 'experience in development programs/projects as a Team Leader' in Clause 3.1.4. This broader requirement aligns better with the project’s nature and enhances competition, while also demonstrating the</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFO is specially designed for Livelihood Restoration of the MCA-Nepal’s project affected families/individuals.</p> <p>MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this respect</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, in MCA-Nepal “mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects” are key safeguarding components in the LRP implementation adhering to IFC PS.</p>

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		Team Leader's capacity in mainstreaming gender, social inclusion, and environmental aspects."	MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this respect
14.	<p>Refer to Page no. 13</p> <p>3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist</p> <p>3.2.2 Minimum 5 years of experience in leading monitoring and evaluation work for livelihood projects.</p> <p>3.2.3 Developed M&E framework/plan for at least two livelihood projects.</p> <p>3.2.5 Experience in training under LRP</p>	<p>For Clause 3.2.2 and 3.2.3:</p> <p>"Please include 'agricultural projects' along with 'livelihood projects' for broader inclusivity and fairness in competition. This change allows individuals and organizations with agricultural experience to qualify, aligning with the project's development objectives."</p> <p>"If possible kindly request to revise 'Experience in training under LRP' to 'Experience in training management' in Clause 3.2.5. This makes the requirement more flexible and aligns with criteria 3.3.5, 3.4.5, and 3.5.5."</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p> <p>MCA-Nepal intends to issue an addendum to the RFO to modify this criterion 3.2.5 subject to approval by the authority.</p>
15.	<p>Refer to Page no. 13</p> <p>3.3 Lot Program Coordinator – First 3.3.2 At least 7 years' experience in leading and coordinating project/program management.</p> <p>3.3.3 Experience of mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and social aspects in at least one project.</p> <p>3.3.4 Experience of working/engaging with multi-stakeholders in the livelihood/skill training sector</p>	<p>"If Possible kindly request to revise Clause 3.3.2 to: 'At least 7 years' experience in leading and coordinating district-level project/program management activities, particularly in livelihood and agricultural projects.' This ensures fairness and inclusivity for candidates with relevant experience."</p> <p>"It is better to broaden Clause 3.3.3 by including a range of projects for more inclusive competition. Consider revising to: 'Knowledge and experience in mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects across various projects.'"</p> <p>"It is better to expand 'livelihood/skill training sector' in Clause 3.3.4 to include the agricultural sector. This reflects the importance of agriculture in development programs and broadens the pool of qualified candidates."</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, in MCA-Nepal "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects" are key safeguarding components in the LRP implementation adhering to IFC PS. MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this respect</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>

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16.	Refer to Page no. 14 3.6 Senior Agriculture Specialist 3.6.2 At least 10 years of experience in implementing agro-based projects. 3.6.3 Experience of providing at least five agro-based trainings	"IT is better to revise Clause 3.6.2 to 'experience in implementing agri-based projects' to better align with the focus on development and production activities. Similarly, revise Clause 3.6.3 to 'experience in providing agri-based trainings' to accurately reflect the emphasis on agricultural development and production-related trainings."	Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.
17.	Refer to Page no. 14 3.7 Senior Livestock Specialist 3.7.1 Master's degree in animal science 3.7.2 At least 10 years of experience in implementing livestock related projects.	"It is better to revise Clause 3.7.1 to 'Master's degree in Livestock' to broaden eligibility, aligning with Clause 3.6.1. For Clause 3.7.2, It is better to revise to 'At least 10 years of experience in implementing district-level livestock-related projects/programs/activities' to emphasize practical, field-level experience relevant to the project."	Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.
18.	Refer to Page no. 76 Terms of Reference Table 6: Types of livelihood options and necessary input and resources <i>1. Agriculture Based Livelihood Options: Input and resources associated with different categories of livelihood options:</i> Tools and materials, training, refresher training, transportation, seeds, fertilizers, cross visit, irrigation facilities, market linkage, value adding support, linkage with government entity and saving and credit	"Since consultants are expected to provide seeds, fertilizers, tools, and equipment for goat keeping, we kindly request you to provide specifications and minimum standards for these items. This will ensure fairness and consistency in financial proposals. Alternatively, it is easy to allocate a provisional sum for these items or specify the quality and quantity required."	The Offerors are requested to meet the minimum specification/standards/norms recommended by the Government of Nepal entity like Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Nepal Agriculture Research Council (NARC), Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) etc. For the quantity, please refer to "Table 6: Types of livelihood options and necessary input and resources", under Terms of Reference.

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	cooperative/groups, fish pond construction, fish meal.		
19.	Refer to Page no. 88 to 97 Terms of Reference 7: Team composition, key responsibilities, required qualifications and experience	All the key experts are mentioned as full-time experts i.e. for 30 months. However, it has not been mentioned whether the non-key staff shall have full-time or part-time input. In case, they shall have part-time input, please clarify the total no. of input in person-months the non-key expert shall have. The input will have a significant impact on the financial proposal of the consultant. To ensure a fair and consistent approach for all bidders when submitting their financial proposals, kindly clarify the total no. of inputs for all the experts.	MCA-Nepal has disclosed the budget and hence will not be able to disclose the level of effort. The consultant -using its expertise- shall propose the level of effort of the non-key experts that are required to successfully complete the assignment as per the Terms of Reference and Conditions of Contract.
20.	Refer to Page no. 12 1.2 The Consultant should have at least 15 years of work experience in designing, organizing and implementing livelihood development and restoration programs.	For Clause 1.2; It would be flexible if you could replace "restoration programs" with "agricultural programs and projects." This change would broaden the scope and encourage wider participation by allowing professionals and organizations with extensive experience in agricultural development to qualify, ensuring a more competitive and comprehensive selection process. The current phrasing may limit the eligibility to a specific person or organization with experience in restoration programs.	Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFP is specially designed for Livelihood Restoration of the MCA-Nepal's project affected families/individuals. MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this matter.
21.	Refer to Page no. 13 3.1 Team Leader 3.1.3 Experience in managing at least one livelihood restoration project in infrastructure projects. 3.1.4 Experience of mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and social aspects in at least two projects	For Clause 3.1.3: It would be appreciated if you could kindly revise "livelihood restoration" to "livelihood, Agriculture projects or programs" to allow for a more inclusive and fair competition among offerors. Since this is a development-related project, infrastructure-specific experience may not be necessary. So please consider development instead of infrastructure. For Clause 3.1.4: Instead of focusing narrowly on "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion,	Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFP is specially designed for Livelihood Restoration of the MCA-Nepal's project affected families/individuals. MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this matter. Thank you for the suggestion. However, in MCA-Nepal "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects"

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		<p>environmental, and social aspects in at least two projects," It would be more flexible and practical to ask for "experience in development programs/projects as a Team Leader." or knowledge and experience of mainstreaming in gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects as a capacity of team leader. This broader requirement would better align with the nature of the project and enhance competition</p>	<p>are key safeguarding components in the LRP implementation adhering to IFC PS.</p> <p>MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this matter.</p>
22.	<p>Refer to Page no. 13 3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist 3.2.2 Minimum 5 years of experience in leading monitoring and evaluation work for livelihood projects. 3.2.3 Developed M&E framework/plan for at least two livelihood projects. 3.2.5 Experience in training under LRP</p>	<p>For Clause 3.2.2 and 3.2.3: It is requested to include "agricultural projects" along with "livelihood projects" for broader inclusivity and fairness in competition. This adjustment allows individuals and organizations with relevant agricultural project experience to qualify, aligning with the project's development-oriented objectives.</p> <p>For clause 3.2.5: The current wording, "Experience in training under LRP," seems overly specific. It would be better to re-frame it as "Experience in training management" to make the requirement more flexible and applicable to a wider range of candidates with relevant expertise which is in line with your criteria- 3.3.5, 3.4.5 and 3.5.5.</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, the RFO is specially designed for Livelihood Restoration of the MCA-Nepal's project affected families/individuals. MCA-Nepal is not intending to amend the RFO on this matter.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, in MCA-Nepal "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects" are key safeguarding components in the LRP implementation adhering to IFC PS. MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this matter.</p>
23.	<p>Refer to Page no. 13 3.3 Lot Program Coordinator - First 3.3.2 At least 7 years experience in leading and coordinating project/program management. 3.3.3 Experience in mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and</p>	<p>For Clause 3.3.2: It is suggested to revise the requirement to "At least 7 years' experience in leading and coordinating district-level project/program management activities, particularly in livelihood and agricultural projects." This modification would ensure fairness and inclusivity for candidates with diverse yet relevant project management experiences.</p> <p>For Clause 3.3.3: Specifying "experience of mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental and social aspects in at least one project" may appear</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. However, in MCA-Nepal "mainstreaming gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects"</p>

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	<p>social aspects in at least one project.</p> <p>3.3.4 Experience in working/engaging with multi-stakeholders in the livelihood/skill training sector</p>	<p>overly restrictive. It is requested to broaden the scope to include a range of projects for more inclusive competition. If possible, please consider knowledge and experience in gender and social inclusion, environmental, and social aspects</p> <p>For Clause 3.3.4: It would be appreciated if the "livelihood/skill training sector" is expanded to include the agricultural sector. This adjustment reflects the importance of agriculture in development-related programs and allows for a broader pool of qualified candidates.</p>	<p>are key safeguarding components in the LRP implementation adhering to IFC PS. MCA-Nepal does not intend to amend the RFO on this matter.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>
24.	<p>Refer to Page no. 14</p> <p>3.6 Senior Agriculture Specialist</p> <p>3.6.2 At least 10 years of experience in implementing agro-based projects.</p> <p>3.6.3 Experience of providing at least five agro-based trainings</p>	<p>For Clause 3.6.2: It would be better to replace "experience in implementing agro-based projects" with "experience in implementing agri-based projects." The revised phrasing better aligns with the project's focus on development and production activities, such as nursery management and plantation, rather than industrial contexts.</p> <p>For Clause 3.6.3: It would be better to replace "experience of providing agro-based trainings" with "experience of providing agri-based trainings" to accurately reflect the project's emphasis on agricultural development and production-related trainings.</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>
25.	<p>Refer to Page no. 14</p> <p>3.7 Senior Livestock Specialist</p> <p>3.7.1 Master's degree in animal science</p> <p>3.7.2 At least 10 years of experience in implementing livestock-related projects.</p>	<p>For Clause 3.7.1: It would be better if you could replace "Master's degree in animal science" with "Master's degree in Livestock." This broader term includes animal science, veterinary science, and fisheries, making the qualification more competitive and inclusive for various expertise areas it is in line with your clause 3.6.1 where you have mentioned a master's degree in agriculture.</p> <p>For Clause 3.7.2: It would be better if you could revise the requirement to "At least 10 years of experience in</p>	<p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion. MCA-Nepal's criteria remain same.</p>

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		<p>implementing district-level livestock-related projects/programs/activities." This change emphasises practical, field-level experience relevant to the project's objectives.</p>	
26.	<p>Refer to Page no. 76 Terms of Reference Table 6: Types of livelihood options and necessary input and resources 1. Agriculture-Based Livelihood Options: Input and resources associated with different categories of livelihood options: Tools and materials, training, refresher training, transportation, seeds, fertilizers, cross visit, irrigation facilities, market linkage, value-adding support, linkage with a government entity and saving and credit cooperative/groups, fish pond construction, fish meal.</p>	<p>As the consultants are expected to provide seeds, fertilisers, tools, and other necessary equipment, for goat keeping, they must factor in the cost of these items in their financial proposals. We kindly request that you provide the specifications and minimum standards for the seeds, fertilisers, materials, and equipment. We would also request you to provide information regarding specific quality and quantity or allocate the amount of money to a provisional sum. This will ensure a fair and consistent approach for all bidders when submitting their financial proposals for the training.</p>	<p>The Offeror are requested to meet the minimum specification/standards/norms recommended by the Government of Nepal entity like Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Nepal Agriculture Research Council (NARC), Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) etc. For the quantity, please refer "Table 6: Types of livelihood options and necessary input and resources", under the Terms of Reference.</p>
27.	<p>Clause 17.3 of GCC RFP Page No.123 Applicability of Withholding Tax</p>	<p>Could you please confirm, if withholding tax is applicable to this project or not? If applicable, what percentage of the contract value will it entail?</p>	<p>Please refer to Section 2.8 of the Compact along with related Schedules and Annex for taxation.</p>
28.	<p>Clause 3.6 of Section III: Qualification and Evaluation Criteria RFP Page No.16 Manpower</p>	<p>The required manpower outlined in the RFP appears insufficient considering to the scope of work mentioned in Section V: Terms Of Reference (TOR) and 315 km length of the project spanned in</p>	<p>The Offeror shall propose the required level of effort that is required to carry out the assignment successfully as per the requirement of the RFO. The consultant is also free to propose the required number of personnel under the RFO</p>

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	Requirements	10 districts. We request you to increase the manpower to include at least 20 Key and Non-Key Experts to ensure effective implementation of the project.	requirement and thus, if in the judgment of the Consultant, it is required to increase the manpower, please propose the same.
29.	Clause 3.4 of Section III: Qualification and Evaluation Criteria RFP Page No 13-14 Eligibility Criteria Evaluation for Experts	We kindly request you to award full marks based on the eligibility criteria defined for experts, rather the qualitative evaluation framework specified in Clause 3.6 of Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria on Page 16 of the RFP. This adjustment would help ensure a fair assessment of the proposed candidates.	The evaluation criteria are based on the standard bidding document of MCC and cannot be amended.
30.	Additional Project Context	Annex 3 includes the MCC Policies and Frameworks. It does not include the RAP/LRP Plans and Ratmate LRP evaluation report as mentioned in the RFO. Will these be provided in a separate link or at a later stage?	For information to the prospective offerors, the Executive Summary of Ramate LRP and evaluation report can be accessed through the link below: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JG-pQ3Kiwie70nATAaDpORsDQdQ3gqfX?usp=sharing Please check under folder Annex III_MCC and MCA-Nepal Policy Documents.
31.	Additional Project Context	If the cutoff data was 17 February, 2024, are additional users beyond the CFUG expected to be identified at this stage? Would those persons be eligible for land-based compensation?	The question is not clear. However, the scope and number provided in the Request for Offers document remains as it is. Land-based compensation is not included in the scope of this work.
32.	Additional Arrangements	Are the costs for selecting and procuring from local input suppliers for RAP implementation to be included in the Proposal Cost? (Section 4.3 of ToR).	We understand that the prospective offeror is talking about LRP implementation and not RAP implementation.

SN	Reference to the Request for Offers	Questions from Offers	Response of Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal)
			The Offeror should include all costs required to carryout the assignment as per the RFO requirements, which includes the referred procurement.
33.	Additional Arrangements	<p>In addition to 127 households from the Hetauda Sub Metropolitan area, how many additional non-land-based trainings are expected?</p> <p>What will be the provisions in the event that all eligible household members from a PAH have immigrated abroad for other opportunities?</p>	<p>Please consider the scope given in the RFO, which states 127 households for non-land based trainings. The awarded/winning Offeror shall have to carry out Task 4.1 to identify the non-land-based trainings.</p> <p>Please see the note under the Table in form FIN-3, which states “In case of change in number of training courses (more or less), the amount of training shall be adjusted (upward or downward) based on the rate calculated by dividing the amount into the number of trainings.”</p>
34.	Additional Arrangements	<p>Section 4.8 highlights that financial literacy trainings will be a 3-day long program. Will it be possible to extend these trainings further?</p> <p>Are there expectations on the total number of trainings for other entrepreneurship development and life skill trainings?</p>	<p>The modality of the financial literacy training can be proposed by the Offeror and include the cost for the same in their financial proposal. The 3-days duration is a minimum.</p> <p>The training for entrepreneurship development and life skill trainings should be provided to 1500 PAPs. The Offeror can propose the modality as per their experience and project requirements.</p>
35.	Additional Arrangements	Are the trainings on the IFC Performance Standards also to be extended to the local input suppliers?	The project delivery team and awarded consultant should meet the minimum requirements of IFC Performance Standards.

SN	Reference to the Request for Offers	Questions from Offers	Response of Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal)
			The service provider involved with the training of the PAP must meet the minimum requirements of the IFC Performance Standards.
36.	Additional Arrangements	Are data collection systems such as Survey Solution Software used for the LRP Survey and LRP development mandatory? We would like to propose their own data collection and validation software solutions. Would this be acceptable?	The RFO expects the Offerors to submit a proposal on the LRP implementation Database Management System, but the Offerors are free to propose any equivalent systems subject to approval by MCA-Nepal after contract award.
37.	Additional Arrangements	Could you clarify the specific facilities, services, or counterpart personnel that the client will provide? Are these details outlined in any document, or is this open for negotiation?	Please refer to ITO 1.4 under Section II. Data Sheet which states “The Accountable Entity will provide the following inputs and facilities: Documents as per Para 12 in Section V. Terms of Reference and support stated under General Conditions of the Contract (43.1).” No counterpart personnel shall be provided by MCA-Nepal to the awarded Consultant.
38.	Additional Arrangements	Are there additional compliance requirements for gender and social inclusion beyond what is outlined in the Terms of Reference (TOR)?	Please refer to Social & Gender Integration Plan (SGIP) and Environmental Social Health and Safety Management Plan (ESHSMP) for all the compliance related requirements. You can find these two documents under Annex III in the following link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JG-pQ3Kiwie70nATAaDpORsDQdQ3gqfX?usp=sharing
39.	Financial Terms Clarifications	Contract Payments Mechanism to JV Partners: As per the RFP documents, it is assumed that all contract payments will be made to the JV Lead, an international entity. To minimize costs related to onward transfers to the Nepal-based JV partner, would it be possible for the client to pay the Nepal-based JV partner directly in local	The RFO does not indicate that the JV lead partner should be an international entity. Payments can be made to the bank accounts (in Nepal and other countries) if such provision is clearly mentioned in the contract.

SN	Reference to the Request for Offers	Questions from Offers	Response of Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal)
		currency into their bank accounts in Nepal? This would reduce transaction handling fees, double taxation, and bank transfer costs by approximately 20% for the project.	
40.	Financial Terms Clarifications	Use of Rented Vehicles for Insurance Compliance: Regarding the requirement to maintain third-party motor vehicle insurance, could the contractor use comprehensively insured rented vehicles in Nepal to cover the associated risks, thereby avoiding the need to purchase separate third-party motor vehicle insurance?	In case the awarded consultant uses only hired/rented vehicle for the assignment, they will be required to provide evidence that the hired/rented vehicle is properly covered by the insurances in accordance with SCC/GCC 36.1
41.	Financial Terms Clarifications	Employer's Liability and Workers' Compensation Insurance: For the requirement to maintain employer's liability and workers' compensation insurance for the personnel of the consultants and subconsultants in accordance with the relevant provisions of Nepalese law, can the contractor use its existing insurance policies (which fully cover such risks) instead of purchasing new policies specific to Nepalese laws?	If the existing policy covers the proposed personnel as per the requirements of the proposed contract under the RFO, specifically in accordance with SCC/GCC 36.1, it will be acceptable after review by the MCA-Nepal.
42.	Financial Terms Clarifications	Document Insurance Coverage: With respect to document insurance, can you confirm whether the existing Professional Indemnity insurance coverage is sufficient to address this risk, or is the purchase of additional insurance required? Any clarity on the nature of this insurance or coverage value would be appreciated.	If the existing Professional Indemnity Insurance covers all the contracts of the Consultant and the insurance company confirms that the existing Professional Indemnity Insurance provides the required coverage in accordance with SCC/GCC 36.1 for the proposed Contract, in that case the existing Professional Indemnity Insurance may be acceptable after review by the MCA-Nepal.
43.	Financial Terms Clarifications	Equipment Insurance Requirement: Is there a specific list of equipment that must be insured under the equipment insurance clause, or is this requirement intended as a general precautionary measure?	The equipment to be used under the Contract need to be insured.

SN	Reference to the Request for Offers	Questions from Offers	Response of Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal)
44.		<p>I am writing to seek further clarification regarding the allocation of person-months for both key and non-key experts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Key Experts: Could you kindly clarify the distribution of person-months between fieldwork and office work for the key experts? This information is crucial for effective planning and resource allocation. 2. Non-Key Personnel: Additionally, Could you please clarify how many months the non-key personnel will work on a part-time basis, and how the person-months will be allocated between field and office work? Specifically, how many person-months are assigned to field activities, and how many are assigned to office work for these roles? 	<p>1 and 2. This is the Offerors' responsibility. Using the Offeror's expertise and based on their approach and methodology they are required to propose adequate resources to successfully carryout the assignment as per the requirements of the RFO.</p>
45.		<p>I am writing to inform you that the LRP Consultation Summary Sheet (Kathmandu) referenced in Annex IV is missing. We also checked the compiled Excel sheet, but the file could not be found.</p> <p>I kindly request you to share the missing document at your earliest convenience. Your support in this matter would be greatly appreciated</p>	<p>The work is not completed for Kathmandu district, hence not included in the RFO. However, the total trainings required to be provided is for 1500 PAPs including Kathmandu.</p>
46.		<p>I'm reaching out to request some documents related to the Ratmate Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP). As mentioned in the Terms of Reference (ToR t), the Ratmate LRP and Implementation Reports plus the Evaluation Reports are supposed to be available to bidders, but I haven't been able to find them.</p> <p>Could you kindly guide me on how to obtain these documents or provide them directly if possible? I would appreciate any further instructions or clarification regarding the availability and process for accessing this information.</p>	<p>For information to the prospective offerors, the Executive Summary of Ramate LRP and Evaluation report can be accessed through the link below:</p> <p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JG-pQ3Kiwie70nATAaDpORsDQdQ3gqfX?usp=sharing</p> <p>Please check under folder Annex III_MCC and MCA-Nepal Policy Documents.</p>

