

Request for Quote/Proposal (RFQ/RFP)

Commodity/Service Required:	Productive Use of Energy (PUE) Technical Advisor
Type of Procurement:	Consultancy
Type of Contract:	Fixed Price
Term of Contract:	Consultancy
This Procurement supports:	Empowering East and Central Africa Program
Submit Proposal to:	eeeca_adminco-ordination@rti.org
Date of Issue of RFP:	February 6, 2024
Date Questions from Supplier Due:	February 12, 2024
Date Proposal Due:	February 19, 2024
Approximate Date Purchase Order Issued to Successful Bidder(s):	March 11, 2024

Method of Submittal:	
Email to signed copy of this RFP document with pricing to eeeca_adminco-ordination@rti.org	
Respond via e-mail with attached document in MS Word / pdf format. The Bidder/Seller agrees to hold the prices in its offer firm for 30 days from the date specified for the receipt of offers, unless another time is specified in the addendum of the RFP/RFQ.	
Solicitation Number:	REQ-EECA-035-2024

Attachments to RFP:

1. Attachment "A" – Commodity Specifications
2. Attachment "B" – Instructions to Bidders/Sellers
3. All PO Terms and Conditions are listed on our website at:
<https://www.rti.org/sites/default/files/rti-purchase-order-terms-and-conditions-v1.16.pdf>,
http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses.pdf or for commercial items:
http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses_Commercial_Items.pdf (hereinafter the "Terms").
Supplier's delivery of products, performance of services, or issuance of invoices in connection with this purchase order establishes Supplier's agreement to the Terms. The Terms may only be modified in writing signed by both parties.

All bidders/sellers are responsible to carefully review each attachment and follow any instructions that may be relevant to this procurement.

RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute. RTI and the RTI logo are U.S. registered trademarks of Research Triangle Institute.

Attachment A

Commodity Specifications or Statement of Work

Statement of Work

Indicate a description of the activity/service that is expected from the supplier. Provide product specifications or service expectations (both if applicable). Include deliverables, timelines, and any special terms and conditions.

Description of Activity/Service:

RTI International, a nonprofit research institute and leading international development organization, is the lead for a new USAID project, the Power Africa Empower East and Central Africa (EECA). Power Africa is a U.S. Government-led partnership, coordinated by USAID, that aims to increase access to electricity in sub-Saharan Africa by adding 30,000 megawatts of new generation capacity and 60 million new electricity connections by 2030.

Power Africa's Empowering East and Central Africa (EECA) activity aims to increase affordable, reliable, sustainable, and clean energy access in East and Central Africa. EECA's goal is to drive measurable development outcomes such as economic growth, resilience, improved livelihoods, and inclusive access to electricity-enabled services in sectors such as agriculture, water, education, transportation, and telecommunications.

Therefore, EECA is seeking to engage a PUE expert to provide technical assistance to stakeholders (i.e., small-medium enterprises, PUE companies, utilities, associations, government, etc.) to understand PUE market trends, investment landscapes, and enabling environment conditions; to further expand adoption of PUE. This may include:

- Support to off-grid companies in developing, refining and strategies and business models for the scaling up of PUE
- Support to investors in understanding and developing financing products and funds for PUE, including matchmaking and assistance on potential investment opportunities.
- Support to government partners and associations on improving PUE enabling environment.

Identify challenges and opportunities in the complementary sectors (e.g. agriculture, WASH, transportation, etc.) that can be unlocked through the implementation of PUE

Advise both off- and on-grid EECA advisors on issues and opportunities relating to PUE.

Identify and advance opportunities for partnerships and facilitate introductions between off-grid companies, financiers/donors (MFIs, Banks, NGOs), appliance manufacturers, value chain actors (aggregators), etc.

Undertake PUE specific research and/or develop tools to advance PUE uptake and deployment for both off-grid and on-gris contexts.

Deliverables, Timelines, Special Terms and Conditions:

Requirements for the role

1. Bachelor's degree in relevant field (e.g., engineering, economics, etc.) with at least 8 years of experience, or Masters degree with at least 5 years of experience.
2. Prior experience must include working in East and/or Central Africa, preferably in the agriculture/energy nexus.
3. Prior experience working with off-grid companies and development partners is preferred.
4. Possess excellent organizational and analytical skills;
5. Strong verbal and written English communications skills. Fluency in French is preferred but not required.

Pricing

Item #	Quantity to be Purchased	Description of Preferred Commodity or Services Specifications	Unit of Measure	Unit Fixed Price (Each)	Total Fixed Price (Each)	Lead Time Availability (Number of Days)
1	2-3 days a week until 30 th Sept 2024	Professional fees daily rate in USD, inclusive of any applicable taxes	Days worked			
2						
3						
Total Value						

By signing this attachment, the bidder confirms he has a complete understanding of the specifications and fully intends to deliver items that comply with the above listed specifications.

Signature:

Title:

Date:

Attachment “B” Instructions to Bidders/Sellers

1. **Procurement Narrative Description:** The Buyer (RTI) intends to purchase commodities and/or services identified in Attachment A. The Buyer intends to purchase the quantities (for commodities) and/or services (based on deliverables identified in a Statement of Work). The term of the Ordering Agreement shall be from Award Date to the Delivery date of the Offeror unless extended by mutual agreement of the parties. The Buyer intends to award to a single “approved” supplier based on conformance to the listed specifications, the ability to service this contract, and selling price. We reserve the right to award to more than one bidder. If an Ordering Agreement is established as a result of this RFQ/RFP, supplier understands that quantities indicated in the specifications (Attachment A) are an estimate only and RTI does not guarantee the purchase quantity of any item listed.
2. **Procuring Activity:** This procurement will be made by **Research Triangle Institute (RTI International)**, located at

RTI International, Gigiri Square - Block A, 2nd Floor, United Nations Avenue, Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya

(insert full address of the office)

who has a purchase requirement in support of a project funded by

Empowering East and Central Africa Program

(insert client’s name)

RTI shall award the initial quantities and/or services and any option quantities (if exercised by RTI) to Seller by a properly executed Purchase Order as set forth within the terms of this properly executed agreement.

3. **Proposal Requirements.** All Sellers will submit a quote/proposal which contains offers for all items and options included in this RFQ/RFP. All information presented in the Sellers quote/proposal will be considered during RTI’s evaluation. Failure to submit the information required in this RFQ/RFP may result in Seller’s offer being deemed non-responsive. Sellers are responsible for submitting offers, and any modifications, revisions, or withdrawals, so as to reach RTI’s office designated in the RFQ/RFP by the time and date specified in the RFQ/RFP. Any offer, modification, revision, or withdrawal of an offer received at the RTI office designated in the RFQ/RFP after the exact time specified for receipt of offers is “late” and may not be considered at the discretion of the RTI Procurement Officer. The Seller’s proposal shall include the following:
 - (a) The solicitation number:
The date and time submitted:
 - (c) The name, address, and telephone number of the seller (bidder) and authorized signature of same:
 - (d) Validity period of Quote:

- (e) A technical description of the items being offered in sufficient detail to evaluate compliance with the requirements in the solicitation. This may include product literature, or other documents, if necessary.
 - (f) If RTI informs Seller that the Commodity is intended for export and the Commodity is not classified for export under Export Classification Control Number (ECCN) "EAR99" of the U.S. Department of Commerce Export Administration Regulations (EAR), then Seller must provide RTI the correct ECCN and the name of Seller's representative responsible for Trade Compliance who can confirm the export classification.
 - (g) Lead Time Availability of the Commodity/Service.
 - (h) Terms of warranty describing what and how the warranties will be serviced.
 - (i) Special pricing instructions: Price and any discount terms or special requirements or terms (special note: pricing must include firm guaranteed fixed prices for items requested.
 - (j) Payment address or instructions (if different from mailing address)
 - (k) Acknowledgment of solicitation amendments (if any)
 - (l) Past performance information, when included as an evaluation factor, to include recent and relevant contracts for the same or similar items and other references (including points of contact with telephone numbers, and other relevant information)
 - (m) **Special Note:** *The Seller, by his response to this RFQ/RFP and accompanying signatures, confirms that the terms and conditions associated with this RFQ/RFP document have been agreed to and all of its attachments have been carefully read and understood and all related questions answered.*
4. **Forms:** Sellers (potential bidders or suppliers) must record their pricing utilizing the format found on Attachment "A". Sellers must sign the single hardcopy submitted and send to address listed on the cover page of this RFQ/RFP.
5. **Questions Concerning the Procurement.** All questions in regards to this RFQ/RFP to be directed to

Bruce Malile

(insert name of procurement officer)

at this email address:

eeeca_adminco-ordination@rti.org

(insert email address of the procurement officer).

The cut-off date for questions is *(insert date)*.

February 12, 2024

6. **Notifications and Deliveries:** Time is of the essence for this procurement. Seller shall deliver the items or services no later than the dates set forth in the contract that will be agreed by both parties as a result of this RFQ/RFP. The Seller shall immediately contact the Buyer's Procurement Officer if the specifications, availability, or the delivery schedule(s) changes. Exceptional delays will result in financial penalties being imposed of Seller.
7. **Documentation:** The following documents will be required for payment for each item:
 - (a) A detailed invoice listing Purchase Order Number, Bank information with wiring instructions (when applicable)
 - (b) Packing List
 - (c) All relevant product/service documentation (manuals, warranty doc, certificate of analysis, etc.)
8. **Payment Terms:** Refer to RTI purchase order terms and conditions found in <https://www.rti.org/sites/default/files/rti-purchase-order-terms-and-conditions-v1.16.pdf> , [http://www.rti.org/files/PO FAR Clauses.pdf](http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses.pdf), or [http://www.rti.org/files/PO FAR Clauses Commercial Items.pdf](http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses_Commercial_Items.pdf). Payment can be made via wire transfer or other acceptable form. Sellers may propose alternative payment terms and they will be considered in the evaluation process.
9. **Alternative Proposals:** Sellers are permitted to offer "alternatives" should they not be able to meet the listed requirements. Any alternative proposals shall still satisfy the minimum requirements set forth in Attachment A Specifications.
10. **Inspection Process:** Each item shall be inspected prior to final acceptance of the item. All significant discrepancies, shortages, and/or faults must be satisfactorily corrected and satisfactorily documented prior to delivery and release of payment.
11. **Evaluation and Award Process:** The RTI Procurement Officer will award an agreement contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible Seller (bidder) whose offer conforms to the RFQ/RFP will be most advantageous to RTI, price and other factors considered. The award will be made to the Seller representing the **best value** to the project and to RTI. For the purpose of this RFQ/RFP, price, delivery, technical and past performance are of equal importance for the purposes of evaluating, and selecting the "best value" awardee. RTI intends to evaluate offers and award an Agreement without discussions with Sellers. Therefore, the Seller's initial offer should contain the Seller's best terms from a price and technical standpoint. However, RTI reserves the right to conduct discussions if later determined by the RTI Procurement Officer to be necessary.

The evaluation factors will be comprised of the following criteria:

- (a) **PRICE.** Lowest evaluated ceiling price (inclusive of option quantities) .
- (b) **DELIVERY.** Seller provides the most advantageous delivery schedule.
- (c) **TECHNICAL.** Items/Services shall satisfy or exceed the specifications described in RFQ/RFP Attachment A.

- (d) **PAST PERFORMANCE** - Seller can demonstrate his/her capability and resources to provide the items/services requested in this solicitation in a timely and responsive manner.

(e) **OTHER EVALUATION CRITERIA.**

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12. **Award Notice.** A written notice of award or acceptance of an offer, mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful supplier within the time acceptance specified in the offer, shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party.
13. **Validity of Offer.** This RFP in no way obligates RTI to make an award, nor does it commit RTI to pay any costs incurred by the Seller in the preparation and submission of a proposal or amendments to a proposal. Your proposal shall be considered valid for 30 days after submission.
14. **Representations and Certifications.** Winning suppliers under a US Federal Contract are required to complete and sign as part of your offer RTI Representations and Certifications for values over \$10,000.
15. **Certifications.**
Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions - Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transaction as referenced in FAR 52.203-11 is hereby incorporated into this Request for Proposal as a condition of acceptance.
- Limitation on Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions-** Limitation on Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions as referenced in FAR 52.203-12 is hereby incorporated into this Request for Proposal as a condition of acceptance.
16. **Anti- Kick Back Act of 1986.** Anti-Kickback Act of 1986 as referenced in FAR 52.203-7 is hereby incorporated into this Request for Proposal as a condition of acceptance. If you have reasonable grounds to believe that a violation, as described in Paragraph (b) of FAR 52.203-7 may have occurred, you should report this suspected violation to the RTI's Ethics Hotline at 1-877-212-7220 or by sending an e-mail to ethics@rti.org. You may report a suspected violation anonymously.
17. **The John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019 - section 889.** RTI cannot use any equipment or services from specific companies, or their subsidiaries and affiliates, including Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, and Dahua Technology Company ("Covered Technology"). In response to this request for proposal, please do not provide a quote which includes any Covered Technology. Any quote which includes Covered Technology will be deemed non-responsive. Additionally, if the United States Government is the source of funds for this RFP, the resulting Supplier shall not provide any equipment, system, or service that uses Covered Technology as a substantial or essential component

Acceptance:

Seller agrees, as evidenced by signature below, that the seller's completed and signed solicitation,

seller's proposal including all required submissions and the negotiated terms contained herein, constitute the entire agreement for the services described herein.

By: *(Seller Company Name)*

Signature: _____

Title:

Date: