

**SAREP RFP-2023-014: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

S No.	RFP Section	Reference Details in RFP Section	Question	RTI Response
1.	D. Scope of Work	Analysis as mentioned above (in Section C) for the three Indian states - Haryana, Gujarat, and one other state which will be decided by USAID	<p>Following key data would be required for analysis of transmission level BESS through load flow simulation tools like PSSE, etc.:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Network diagram (SLD) of inter-state and intra-state network of the states</li> <li>• Details of Grid Sub-Stations (GSS) at 765/400 kV, 400/220 kV, 220/132 kV, 132/33 kV etc. and associated transformation capacities</li> <li>• List of inter- state / intra- state transmission lines with their length and conductor type, origin and termination sub-stations, transfer capacity.</li> <li>• Tie link flows (peak) in MW</li> <li>• Bus wise generation / load data</li> <li>• Equipment and machine ratings, if available</li> <li>• Line parameters (R, X, B)</li> <li>• Power system constraints, if any</li> <li>• Space constraints for installation of BESS (if any)</li> <li>• Generation profiles for Renewable energy in the region</li> <li>• Overall load shape in the region</li> <li>• Available Load flow reports conducted for the region / states</li> </ul> <p>Please confirm that the aforementioned data would be made available (also the format in which it will be made available) to the consultant by concerned Authorities for the assignment and the request shall be facilitated by RTI / USAID.</p> <p>Also, since the output of the modelling can only be firmed up once the data is made available to us, the timeline for the deliverables should be accordingly adjusted from the receipt of the data from</p>	Collection of data required for the study will be the responsibility of entity. USAID and RTI will facilitate by sending e-mails.

			<p>concerned Authorities</p> <p>Based on experience in the recent past for conducting such simulation studies, it is requested to the RTI / USAID to arrange for a request letter to the concerned Authorities for sharing of data with the Consultant. This facilitates the process to great extent and the process could be expedited.</p>	
2.	D. Scope of Work	<p>Analysis as mentioned above (in Section C) for the three Indian states - Haryana, Gujarat, and one other state which will be decided by USAID</p>	<p>For conducting analysis, following additional data would be required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital expenditure plans / investment proposals by concerned utilities</li> <li>• Inter- state and intra-state transmission system expansion plans (transmission lines, EHV / HV substation growth)</li> <li>• Details of upcoming generation capacity (All Generating Sources), connected at transmission voltage, and their injection nodes in the grid</li> </ul> <p>Please confirm that the aforementioned data would be made available (also the format in which it will be made available) to the consultant by concerned Authorities for the assignment and the request shall be facilitated by USAID. Also, since the output of the modelling can only be firmed up once the data is made available to us, the timeline for the deliverables should be accordingly adjusted from the receipt of the data from concerned Authorities.</p> <p>Please clarify if the network model is available in PSSE or any other file formats. Also, please clarify whether it includes projected network model till 2030 / 2035. In absence of the same, data regarding generation (Conventional and RE generation),</p>	<p>Collection of data and model required for the study will be the responsibility of entity. USAID and RTI will facilitate by sending e-mails.</p>

			<p>transmission and distribution network anticipated growth needs to be provided as mentioned above.</p> <p>Based on experience in the recent past for conducting such simulation studies, it is requested to the RTI / USAID to arrange for a request letter to the concerned Authorities for sharing of data with the Consultant. This facilitates the process to great extent and the process could be expedited.</p>	
3.	D. Scope of Work	Analysis as mentioned above (in Section C) for the three Indian states - Haryana, Gujarat, and one other state which will be decided by USAID	<p>We understand that there would be a need for undertaking the dispatch simulation study. Hence, following data on scheduling and dispatch on a 15-minute time block basis for entire 12 months of last two years will be required for each of the states (Discom-wise when it comes to Demand data):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Station wise day-ahead availability (DC) / schedule and actual dispatch (MW) for all generating plants with whom the Discoms have PPAs (State + Central + IPPs)</li> <li>• Actual RE Generation (MW)</li> <li>• Actual Demand drawal (MW) for each of the Discoms in the state</li> </ul> <p>DSM units transacted by the state and total charges In addition to this, the variable cost and Merit order despatch schedule for all generating plants in the state (State + Central + IPPs) would be required.</p> <p>In addition, for a security constrained dispatch simulation, the ramping characteristics and technical minimum for each generating station (State + Central + IPPs) would be required. In absence of such data, requirement specified in Grid Code and Regulations will be considered.</p>	<p>Collection of data and model required for the study will be the responsibility of entity. USAID and RTI will facilitate by sending e-mails</p> <p>The horizon/target year for which the analysis in the study is required to be performed is 2030.</p>

			<p>Please confirm that the data would be provided to the consultant for the simulation study.</p> <p>Please specify the horizon / target year till which the study is required to be performed.</p>	
4.	D. Scope of Work	Analysis as mentioned above (in Section C) for the three Indian states - Haryana, Gujarat, and one other state which will be decided by USAID	<p>To calculate the revenue streams from synthetic inertia, a <b>transient/ dynamic analysis</b> of BESS at transmission voltage is generally performed. Generator characteristics and parameters (both static and dynamic) for each station such as Rated Capacity of generator (MW, MVA, KV rating), Neutral grounding resistance, reactance, Droop characteristics, short circuit parameters of the machine, etc. are required. In addition, transmission parameters such as type of conductor, voltage level, length, +ve sequence and zero sequence parameters of resistance, reactance and susceptance, inertia (MJ/MVA) , AVR and PSS parameters etc. are also required.</p> <p>It is near to impossible to perform this analysis within this period. Generator wise data is not available, and collection of such data will be again near to impossible.</p> <p>It is requested to exclude this from the scope of work.</p>	We do not expect transient/dynamic analysis in this assignment.
5.	C. Analysis	b. Difference between revenue streams of BESS from energy services, ancillary reserve services (synthetic inertia, and various kinds of reserves), and balancing services, based on location in the grid		
6.	C. Analysis	d. How demand response interacts with BESS operations?	<p>In the absence of a cost estimate for demand response or suitable proxies such as ToD tariffs, we would need to rely on assumptions such as marginal cost of the state's contracted fleet or the power exchange cap price.</p>	<p>In case of absence of a cost estimate for demand response or suitable proxies such as ToD tariffs, the entity is free to take assumptions. However, the entity is expected to convince RTI that data/information is not available and will support the assumptions with proper justifications.</p>

7.	D. Scope of Work	<p>Development of a draft staff paper for regulators - Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (HERC), Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (GERC) and Regulatory Commission of the third state. The draft staff paper should be developed in close coordination with respective regulatory commissions</p> <p>Review and finalization of staff paper for the three state regulators which would be used by respective state regulatory commissions for inviting comments from stakeholders. The staff paper should be finalized in close coordination with respective regulatory commissions.</p> <p>Providing recommendations to the respective regulatory commissions based on the comments received on the final staff paper</p>	<p>Please clarify on the contents of the staff paper by providing an indicative ToC.</p>	<p>Staff paper is expected to be on same pattern which regulators use for consulting stakeholders.</p>
8.	Delivery schedule		<p>Undertaking the analysis for three states would take substantial efforts in data collection. In addition, we feel there would be need for additional time for completing the modelling and analysis for all the three states.</p> <p>Please note that finalization of staff paper is subject to availability of concerned staff of Regulators as well as conduct of stakeholder consultations all of which would take substantial time and depends on availability of concerned personnel.</p> <p>In the wake of the above, we kindly suggest the</p>	<p>The bidders can provide their suggestions for timeline in their proposal.</p>

			<p>following Deliverable schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception report: T0+Week 1</li> <li>• Draft report: T0+Week 14</li> <li>• Summary note: T0+Week 16</li> <li>• Final report: T0+Week 18</li> <li>• Draft staff paper for the regulators: T0+Week 22</li> <li>• Final staff paper for the regulators: T0+Week 26</li> <li>• Recommendation report: T0+Week 30</li> </ul>	
9.	Pricing schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception report: not to exceed 15%</li> <li>• Final report: not to exceed 25%</li> <li>• Final staff paper: not to exceed 35%</li> <li>• Recommendation report: not to exceed 25%</li> </ul>	<p>We sincerely request to consider the following Price schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception report: not to exceed 15%</li> <li>• Draft report: not to exceed 20%</li> <li>• Final report: not to exceed 20%</li> <li>• Draft staff paper: not to exceed 15%</li> <li>• Final staff paper: not to exceed 15 %</li> <li>• Recommendation report: not to exceed 15%</li> </ul>	Payment terms remain unchanged.
10.	Budget		<p>The assignment would involve significant effort in terms of data collection, data modelling and analysis in addition to the other elements, as specified under the RFP SOW. Please consider revising the budget upwards to at least USD 200000-250000 including revising the milestones as proposed above so that the selected Consultant can be paid in accordance with the effort put in collecting data, screening data, modelling the data and then analyzing the data upfront.</p>	Bidder is free to estimate its budget in the proposal, over and above the estimated price range indicated in the RFP.
11.	Statement of Work	C. Analysis	<p>Under the modelling / analysis task, what will be provided by RTI to the subcontractor to assess each <b>of the following subtasks in 3 states:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substations (132KV level) where BESS needs to be installed</li> <li>Difference between revenue streams of</li> </ol>	Collection of data and model required for the study will be the responsibility of the entity. USAID and RTI will facilitate by sending e-mails

			<p>BESS from energy services, ancillary reserve services (synthetic inertia, and various kinds of reserves), and balancing services, based on location in the grid</p> <p>c. Transmission costs / and costs of peaking assets obviated by BESS</p> <p>d. How demand response interacts with BESS operations</p> <p>e. Market design, regulatory, and market power considerations with BESS and especially when firms jointly own BESS, and other generation, and transmission assets in the grid</p>	
<b>12.</b>	Statement of Work	D. Scope of Work	<p>Under section D (Scope of Work), it is indicated that review of existing studies/work in India and globally will be required.</p> <p>Our question is: Will RTI provide the referenced studies for subcontractor's review? Also, please share more details on this task requirements and the deliverable</p>	The entity is expected to identify relevant studies based on secondary research and provide suggestions emanating from them.
<b>13.</b>	Statement of Work	D. Scope of Work and Delivery Schedule	Where will the stakeholder consultations and workshop be held? Could it be done virtually or will a US resource need to attend in-person?	Stakeholder consultations and a workshop is envisaged to be held in-person.
<b>14.</b>	Pricing Schedule		In page 8, it is indicated that the proposed budget should include: arranging travel and stay of participants for the workshop, as well as domestic travel. Should the travel budget be included within the \$40k - \$50k price range which is in page 1 of the RFQ?	Yes.

15.	Estimated Price Range	Page 1 of the RFP	The \$40k - \$50k budget does not seem sufficient to perform the extensive scope of work described in the RFQ	Bidder is free to estimate its budget in the proposal, over and above the estimated price range indicated in the RFP.
16.	RFP Document: Definition of Sub-contractor; Page 17		We request you to kindly confirm that the arrangement between the subcontractor and RTI will be a commercial contract, and not a grant / sub-grant, with the subcontractor being allowed to charge profit on its services.	The RFP is for awarding a subcontract and not a grant. A bidder can include Fee/Profit in the priced deliverables. Note that Fee/Profit is not to be indicated separately under the priced deliverables in the financial proposal.
17.	RFP Document; Standard Subcontract Terms and Conditions; Article 4 Page 17		It is understood that since it is a commercial contract, the sub-contractor is not required to have registration under Foreign Contributions Regulations Act (FCRA) or any other specific welfare Act for this contract, that is otherwise required for grants. We request for your confirmation on the same.	FCRA registration is not required for contracts.
18.	RFP Document; Liability of the sub-contractor		We request you to kindly confirm that the maximum cumulative liability of the Sub-Contractor shall be limited to the contract value for the agreement to be signed for this subcontracting arrangement.	Kindly refer to the following Sections in the RFP Attachment "C" - Standard Terms and Conditions 1. For subcontractor liability: Article 16 (Taxes); Article 24 (Indemnification); and Article 32 (Insurance) 2. As per Article 1, unless terms of the Agreement stipulate otherwise, <b>the Subcontractor's provisional billing rates represent RTI's maximum liability for the reimbursement of indirect expenses.</b>



19.	RFP Document; Unique Entity ID in System for Award Management (SAM) Requirement; Page 9		As SAM is mandatory towards participating in this tender, we request you to kindly confirm if we can propose a SAM of our US group entity who in turn will sign the contract, however the services will be executed by our office in India. We request you to kindly confirm this arrangement.	<p>SAM registration is not a mandatory requirement. However, a subcontractor must have a SAM UEI number. A Quick Start Guide for obtaining a UEI number is provided in Attachment “D” of the RFP</p> <p>The applicable geographic code for sourcing subcontractors is 937. As per USAID ADS 310 (<a href="https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/310.pdf">https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/310.pdf</a>), <b>US based entities are allowed to bid for and receive subcontracts under Geo Code 937.</b></p>
20.	Attachment “C” Standard Terms and Conditions	Article 49	Kindly refer to Article 49- Employee Eligibility Verification which states “Employee assigned to the Subcontract” means an employee who was hired after November 6, 1986 (after November 27, 2009, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), who is directly performing work, in the United States, under a Subcontract that is required to include the clause prescribed at 22.1803.” It appears that the Participation in this tender is not open to all countries and is limited to select countries only. Kindly Clarify	<p>This clause is applicable to contracts and subcontracts where work is to be performed in the United States. Non-US firms are eligible to bid, if they belong to a Geographic Code 937 country in accordance with USAID ADS 310. Geographic code 937 is defined as the United States, the cooperating country/recipient country (India in this case), and developing countries other than advanced developing countries, and excluding prohibited sources. For more information on this, you can refer to <a href="https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/310.pdf">https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/310.pdf</a>.</p> <p><b>Please note that since this is a USAID funded project, therefore as per USAID ADS 310, only firms that belong to Geographic Code 937 country can bid for and receive a USAID funded subcontract from RTI. Geographic code 937 is defined as - the United States, the cooperating country/recipient country (India in this case), and developing countries other than advanced developing countries, and excluding prohibited sources. For more information on this, please refer to <a href="https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/310.pdf">https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/310.pdf</a>.</b></p>

<b>21</b>	RFP Page 1	Date Proposal Due: March 22, 2023	Request that the bid submission date be extended up to March 30, 2023	The RFP has been amended to extend the bid submission deadline up to March 30, 2023.
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