

F.A.Q

Tender No. 83463894

Tender Title: Electric Vehicles (EVs) Charging Infrastructure Planning and Development of an online platform for Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA)

Date: 03.05.2024

| S.No. | Existing Clause | Page No. | Query | Response by GIZ |
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| 1 | | | As permitted in other GIZ tenders, we request you to consider permitting subcontracting under this mandate, wherein the onus of the entire work shall be on the lead bidder. This will allow us to engage specialist consultants in the interest of the project. We intend to propose these organizations in our proposal itself for your evaluation and consideration. | Consortia or sub-contracting are not allowed, as the quality of service is compromised with a consortium for such important tasks. |
| 2 | | | Please confirm the contracting entity (i.e. GIZ India or GIZ Germany) that will be issuing the contract for this project. This will help in estimating the applicability of GST. | GIZ India will be issuing the consultancy contract for this project. |
| 3 | | | We request you to please allow forming a consortium towards this submission. | Consortia or sub-contracting are not allowed, as the quality of service is compromised with a consortium for such important tasks. |
| 4 | The next task shall be to develop an online platform for providing the details of the EV Infrastructure in the city. | ToR, Work Package 2, Page 6 | We request the client to elaborate on the functionalities which the online platform is expected to cover under the 'details of the EV infrastructure in the city'. | 'Details of the EV infrastructure in the city': Includes information like growth of electric vehicle, installed charging stations, hotspots of EV population, charging facilities, potential |

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| | | | | locations and live status for charging infrastructure, etc. |
| 5 | The next task shall be to develop an online platform for providing the details of the EV Infrastructure in the city, and processing of the EV subsidy to the consumers of the state of Gujarat. | ToR, Work Package 2, Page 6 | Govt. of Gujarat has a state level online portal (Digital Gujarat) which facilitates individual users to avail subsidies to purchase EVs in the state. Is the existing TOR envisaging a separate online portal functional specifically at the city level for availing subsidies for purchasing EVs in Gandhinagar? Requesting the client to confirm the understanding. | Yes, this online portal will be developed specifically at the city level for availing subsidies for purchasing EVs in Gandhinagar. |
| 6 | Integration with the other state departments and agencies for processing of the applications. | ToR, Work Package 2, Page 6 | We understand that the client shall facilitate and connect the consultant team with the relevant departments to obtain requisite information and data. Requesting the client to confirm our understanding. | The consultant shall be responsible for data collection and coordination etc. |
| 7 | Support with the handholding and server for minimum 8 months. | ToR, Work Package 2, Page 6 | The timeline for completing both the work packages (WP 1&2) have been indicated as 5 months from the date of signing of the contract. | Yes, WP 2 must be completed 4 months from the date of signing of the contract (total contract period 6 months) and extra 6 months support is required for handholding. |
| 8 | Please note that the contract will be awarded for a validity of 8 months to complete all billing/payment and contract closing purpose. | ToR, Period of Assignment, Page 7 | The activity mentioned here indicates handholding support to be provided for minimum 8 months. We understand that these 8 months shall start from the date once the online portal is up and running (which is WP 2 deliverable milestone – 4 months from the date of signing of the contract). The contract period then goes beyond the contract period mentioned in the existing TOR document. We request the client to consider revising the contract duration (from | Yes, WP 2 must be completed 4 months from the date of signing of the contract (total contract period 6 months) and an extra 6 month support is required for handholding. In this assignment the consultant is responsible for developing an online |

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| | | | <p>existing 8 months to 12 months to account for 8 months of handholding support after the online portal is up and running) along with the costing requirements (to accommodate additional person days required for providing hand holding support) accordingly.</p> <p>We understand that the new online portal shall be hosted on the govt. owned servers. The requisite approvals to integrate the new online portal with the existing Digital Gujarat portal shall be facilitated by the client, and the time taken to accommodate these requests has been factored into the overall project duration mentioned in the TOR document. We request the client to confirm our understanding.</p> | portal for Gandhinagar city. Consultant shall complete the assignment (WP1&2) with in the 6 months. |
| 9 | Conduction of at least one workshop/presentation/round table talk to discuss the report and outcomes of activities carried out in Work Packages 1 to 2. | ToR, Work Package 2, Page 6 | <p>We understand that there will be one workshop/ presentation/ round table talk to disseminate the key outcomes of the project. Logistics related expenses (booking of venue, travel expenses of the participants, refreshments, printing of workshop material etc.) shall be taken care of by the client. The consultant shall support the client with activities like preparation of the agenda, sending out the invites, preparation of dissemination material (PowerPoint presentation, flyers) etc. Requesting the client to confirm our understanding.</p> | The Consultant shall be responsible for the logistics costs. |
| 10 | The selected consultant must complete the entire assignment and deliver the outputs within 6 months. | ToR, Period of Assignment, Page 7 | EV ecosystem comprises of multiple stakeholders and coordinating with them is a tedious and time consuming task. The timelines mentioned in the TOR are ambitious. | GIZ would like to stick to proposed timeline: 6 Months for completion of both work packages. WP 1 Deliverables - 5 Months after beginning of the |

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| | | | We request the client to consider revising the timelines as follows. WP 1 Deliverables - 6 Months after beginning of the assignment WP 2 Deliverables - 5 Months after beginning of the assignment | <p>assignment WP 2 Deliverables - 4 Months after beginning of the assignment.</p> <p>If required later GIZ can allow consultant to finish WP 1 Deliverables - 6 Months after beginning of the assignment WP 2 Deliverables - 5 Months after beginning of the assignment</p> |
| 11 | Team leader - The team leader for this project must hold the position of a senior consultant within the lead consultant's organization. | ToR, 5. Personnel Concept, Page 10 | <p>Requesting the client to elaborate on the condition mentioned for the Team Leader position.</p> <p>The condition of the team leader to hold the position of 'senior consultant' within the lead consultant's organization appears to restrict competition. We request the client to consider removing this condition since the position title held by a candidate should not be considered for evaluating an otherwise qualified candidate.</p> | Request Declined. |
| 12 | Team leader - The team leader for this project must hold the position of a senior consultant within the lead consultant's organization. | ToR, 5. Personnel Concept, Page 10 | We understand that the consortium/ sub-contracting is allowed. We request the client to confirm our understanding. | Consortia or sub-contracting are not allowed, as the quality of service is compromised with a consortium for such important tasks. |
| 13 | Team leader - Qualifications of the team leader - (2.1.2) Language: Good business language skills in English and Gujarati is mandatory. | ToR, 5. Personnel Concept, Page 10 | We have noted that good business language skills in Gujarati have been made mandatory for the Team Leader position. While majority of the relevant published reports and govt. orders/ policies are available in English | The eligibility criteria remain unchanged. |

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| | Weightage: 3% | | <p>versions too, and even local stakeholders are comfortable with Hindi & English languages, we request the client to consider removing the condition.</p> <p>Understanding of Gujarati may be made preferable, but not mandatory for the team leader position.</p> <p>To cover the Gujarati language specific understanding, we request the client to consider inclusion of any team member(s) out of the mentioned team structure (Team Leader, Expert-1, Expert2, short team expert pool, backstopping experts) to bring in the required Gujarati language specific proficiency.</p> | |
| 14 | | ToR, 5. Personnel Concept, Page 10 | The scope of work involves some critical activities (identification of routes with heavy EV usage and its spatial representation, conducting primary research etc.) requiring inputs of a skilled transport planner. We request the client to consider including a skilled professional with transport planning/ relevant degree who has worked in the domain and has relevant experience under the team structure (team members whose CVs are getting evaluated and scored). | Request Declined. |
| 15 | The deadline for submission of the proposal is 15th May 2024 | Tender for Notice | We request the client to provide at-least 3 weeks for the proposal preparation post providing responses to the queries raised by the bidders. | The timeline remains unchanged. |
| 16 | | | In the ToR, it is mentioned that "Consortium with other firms is not allowed in this assignment". Is sub-contracting or hiring an external vendor allowed to undertake part of the assignment. | Consortia or sub-contracting are not allowed, as the quality of service is compromised with a consortium for such |

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| | | | | important tasks. |
| 17 | | | If the sub-contracting is allowed, are there any formal agreement or declaration required from the sub-contracting party? | Consortia or sub-contracting are not allowed, as the quality of service is compromised with a consortium for such important tasks. |
| 18 | | | Qualifications of the team leader - "Language: Good business language skills in English and Gujarati is mandatory." We request to make the language Gujarati optional and not mandatory. | The eligibility criteria remain unchanged. |
| 19 | | | The total number of days for STE pool is 77 person-days. Can we split the person-days between the two STEs based on the work requirement. For example, WP 1 will need more person-days for STE as compared to WP2. Or are the person-days divided equally for the two STEs. | Yes, you can split the person-days between the two STEs based on the work requirement. |
| 20 | | | We understand that the projects completed, initiated or on-going in the last 3 years will qualify for the reference projects. Please confirm our understanding. | We required ongoing and completed projects as reference not just initiated projects. |
| 21 | | | In the financial bid, Table 2 Reimbursable Cost, is there a suggestive price for travel, airfare, accommodation or per-diem? Or should we leave this blank in the proposal stage with the understanding that during the execution phase, these prices would be reimbursed on actuals based on evidence? | Consultant should provide their proposal on reimbursable cost (travel, airfare, accommodation or per-diem). |
| 22 | | | What is the study horizon for the potential location of charging infrastructure and EV expansion (years)? | This study is focused on Gandhinagar city and consider EV expansion years would be 12 to 15 Years. |

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| 23 | | | What is the recommendation software for geo-mapping as part of the WP1. Will the license need to be purchased, or the consultant will be relying on open source. | Consultant would rely on open-source software. |
| 24 | | | Is the domain for hosting the website portal under the purview of GIZ or will the consultant need to purchase the domain for web portal hosting? | Consultant will be responsible for purchasing domain or web portal hosting. |
| 25 | | | We understand that the development of Website in Work Package 2 will be for the state of Gujarat and Work Package 1 will be restricted to city of Gandhinagar. Please confirm our understanding. | Yes, Work Package 1&2 will be for the city of Gandhinagar. |
| 26 | | TOR Section 4. Point 4 Criteria for Eligibility of Firms | We have extensive exposure of providing technological support and consulting services to our clients, however, we have not taken up the infra setup responsibility yet. Given a chance we can do it easily, however at this point, we do not have any references to share. | Reference projects are mandatory for eligibility of firms. |
| 27 | | TOR Section 4. Point 7 | We do not have experience of working in renewable energy sector. | We are looking for expertise in EV charging Infrastructure planning & development. And the Renewable Energy sector experience could add extra weightage. |
| | | TOR Section 2.2 | As per our understanding you require an individual consultant who will fulfill the requirements after historical data analysis. Not sure whether this RFP is for individual contractors or for the Firm. | This RFP is not for individual contractors, this RFP is for the Firms. |
| 28 | Work Package 2: The consultants needs to build an online platform which is | TOR Section 2.2 | Will this done by individual contractor or the Firm? Also, we will prefer the task to be elaborated in detail as the scope of the task | This work should be done by the Firm. |

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| | limited to incentives for individuals purchasing the electrical vehicles. This is not related to providing of a software for running the charge stations. | | is not clear at present. E.g. The incentive calculation involves only the discount on Registration of vehicle or other aspects as well. | |
| 29 | Short-term expert pool with 2 members: As per our understanding this is the requirement of only 2 members who would be collectively meeting the eligibility for the entire assignment/process. | TOR Section 5, Expert 2 | Not sure whether this RFP is for individual contractors or for the Firm. | This RFP is not for individual contractors, this RFP is for the Firms |
| 30 | Serial No 8 to 12: 8. Mandatory grounds for exclusion as per section 123 GWB 9. Optional grounds for exclusion as per section 124 para.1 GWB 10. Optional grounds for exclusion as per section 124 para.2 GWB 11. Optional grounds for exclusion as per section 22 LkSG. | Grid for Assessing the Eligibility of Consulting firms – Commercial Eligibility Assessment | What kind of documentary evidence is required for the mentioned particulars? Kindly clarify. | Please refer “legal references” given with the tender documents. A bidder is expected to print it on the company’s letterhead, sign/stamp and submit along with their proposal. |
| 31 | | 12. Information: Evidence of commercial register entry. | We do not maintain the commercial register. Kindly suggest if there is any alternate document which the bidder can submit. | The bidder is required to submit “Certificate of Incorporation”. |
| 32 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 reference projects in the technical field (EVs charging infrastructure planning & development). • And at least 1 reference project online / web portal development EV sector. | Technical Eligibility Assessment | In the sheet provided for Grid for Assessing the Eligibility of Consulting firms, there is a drop-down menu for the no. of projects in the technical field. Kindly clarify what is the minimum and maximum no. of projects required for Technical Assessment. | Minimum 3 projects in the technical field of “EVs charging infrastructure planning & development” and minimum one project on “online / web portal development EV sector or |

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| | | | | RE sector” |
| 33 | Experience of development projects (at least 50% ODA-financed) | Experience of development projects (ODAfinanced) | What is ODA-financed projects? Kindly clarify. | Official Development Assistance (ODA) refers to government aid that promotes and specifically targets the economic development and welfare of developing countries. |
| 34 | The documentary evidence must be submitted for all the commercial as well as technical criteria defined under the GAEF Template. Incomplete/partial submission of documents will lead to rejection / disqualification of bid. | Standard Bidding Condition Document, Clause: Content/Document any evidence for eligibility of firms (GAEF). | Is there any specific format to submit technical and commercial information? Kindly clarify. | No specific format for submission of technical proposal. However, the format for submission of financial proposal is shared in the tender documents. |
| 35 | As GIZ envisages an on-site presence of consultant, please briefly mention the strategy to associate with GEDA and deliver the services mentioned in this assignment along with the assumptions and risks. | Terms of Reference, Clause 3.1 - Technicalmethodological concept | Do the Consultants need to be present in Gandhinagar, full time or as and when required? Kindly clarify. | Yes, consultant needs to be present in Gandhinagar whenever it is required. |
| 36 | Note: Consortium with other firms is not allowed in this assignment. | Terms of Reference Document, Clause 4. Criteria for Eligibility of Firms page 9 | In the Standard Bidding Condition Document, it is mentioned as below: In case the bidder enters a consortium, the bidder must submit the detailed consortium agreement duly signed by the respective parties. The agreement must clearly define the technical and financial arrangements/agreements between the parties. (Ref. Consortium Clause). Is consortium allowed for this assignment. Kindly clarify. | Standard bidding condition is a document which goes in every tender as it has standard conditions. Kindly follow instructions of TOR for consortium. |

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| 37 | (2.1.2) Language: Good business language skills in English and Gujarati is mandatory. | Clause 5. Personnel Concept Qualifications of the team leader page 10 | We would request to consider: "Any one of the team members of the project team should be aware of Gujarati language". | The eligibility criteria remain unchanged. |
| 38 | (2.2.1) Education/training: Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in relevant field (engineering/Science). | Clause 5. Personnel Concept Qualifications of Expert 1 page 11 | We would request to consider this clause as below: Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in relevant field (engineering/Science/Finance). | Yes considered. |
| 39 | In total, the contract has a volume of 180 working person-days to be covered by the short-term experts of the bidding organisation(s). | Clause 6.1 Assignment of personnel and travel expenses page 13 | Short-term expert pool (2 members): 77 person-days. Kindly clarify if person-days for short-term consultants is 77 or 180. | For short term expert pool: 77 Person days are provided. |