

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Technical Assistance for Fiji

SUMMARY OF PROCUREMENT

The NDC Partnership Support Unit is searching for a consultant, vendor or organization (herein referred to as vendor) to provide technical assistance to the Government of Fiji. This will include the design of a private sector-led facility that can effectively expedite the deployment of renewable energy access in Fiji and other Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS). It will also include the preparation of a comprehensive Investment Product Development Plan, which will serve as the basis for the facility. The plan will comprise of three main activity areas:

1. Project Pipeline – develop and refine a pipeline of projects across PSIDS.
2. Legal, Financial & Structuring – incorporating initial legal and financial structuring for the facility.
3. Development & Private Sector Investor Market Sounding, Investor Agreements – develop and undertake preliminary investor market sounding of legal and financial structures—including de-risking structures—for the facility and any additional entities, including regulatory and tax advice.

These activities should be delivered within six (6) months of the start of the contract. Proposals, along with all requirements, should be submitted by 08 January 2021. The maximum contract amount will be USD 275,000.

About the NDC Partnership

The NDC Partnership is a global coalition of countries and institutions collaborating to drive transformational climate action through sustainable development. Through our Partnership, members leverage their resources and expertise to provide countries with the tools they need to implement their NDCs and combat climate change to build a better future. The NDC Partnership Support Unit is jointly hosted by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the UN Climate Change Secretariat. For this project, the vendor would be contracted directly through WRI.

About the World Resources Institute

Founded in 1982, the World Resources Institute (WRI) is a global environmental think tank that goes beyond research to put ideas into action, by working with governments, companies, and civil society to build solutions to urgent environmental challenges. WRI's transformative ideas protect the earth and promote development because sustainability is essential to meeting human needs and fulfilling human aspirations in the future.

SCOPE OF WORK AND ACTIVITIES

Within Fiji, the Partnership has coordinated with the Government to elaborate the specific work activities and deliverables that pertain to their request. Fiji has requested assistance to develop a dedicated

financing facility to efficiently expedite private sector-led deployment of renewable energy access in Fiji and other Pacific Island Countries. The proposed facility is expected to attract stronger private sector-led investment in the region and provide the capital required to attract new technologies, capabilities, practices, and sustainable investment models to maximize the lifecycle of renewable energy projects. The Government envisions that the facility will target new private sector investment across the region. The Government also envisions the facilities operating model to be “pay-for-performance (i.e. build, own, operate)” to ensure sustainability of the investments over their lifetime. The fund must also align investor returns with long-term community needs.

The objectives of the facility are to:

1. Increase energy access across the Pacific Island Countries;
2. Originate, finance, design, build, own, operate and maintain reliable, affordable, renewable energy to Pacific Island States, typically as an Independent Power Producer (IPP) via long-term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with local utilities;
3. Displace expensive, emissions-intensive diesel generation, reducing CO2 emissions among Pacific Island Countries, electricity costs, and economic exposure to global oil markets;
4. Enhance PSIDS network and infrastructure capabilities;
5. Build local skills and capacity, including local, long-term, high-paying, high-skilled jobs;
6. Demonstrate to utilities and PSIDS sponsor governments the benefit of contracting with an experienced, well-capitalized counterparty; and
7. Demonstrate to all stakeholders the alignment of a profit driven "pay-for-performance" model aligned with long-term community needs.
8. Enhance environmental, social and governance (ESG) and gender aspects of the identified projects consistent with UN PRI guidelines or global best practice.

The original request is enclosed in this RFP, in addition to the elaborated work activities and deliverables expected outline below. The deliverable deadlines are also included, related to specific activities. The maximum available country budget is indicated below.

Original Request	RFP Activities / Deliverables	Deadline	Budget
ACTIVITY CODE: F001			
Project Pipeline	Develop and refine a pipeline of a minimum of 6 projects across PSIDS, including 3 to the level of detailed technical and commercial feasibility; develop a framework to address ESG and gender considerations.	6 months after commencement of contract	US\$ 110,000.00
ACTIVITY CODE: F002			
Legal and Financial Structuring	Incorporating initial legal and financial structuring, identify and negotiate de-risking structures	4 months after commencement of contract	US\$ 80,000.00
ACTIVITY CODE: F003			
Concessional & Private Sector Investor Market Sounding, Investor Agreements	Develop and undertake preliminary investor market sounding of legal and financial structures—including de-risking structures—for the facility and additional entities, including regulatory and tax advice. Agreements with development and/or private sector investors.	6 months after commencement of contract	US\$ 85,000.00
TOTAL COUNTRY BUDGET			US\$ 275,000.00

TIMELINE

The vendor procurement for this RFP will follow the below timeline (all dates are considered by 11:59 pm EST):

RFP issued	2 December 2020
Expressions of interest and RFP questions (optional)	14 December 2020
Deadline for submission of proposals	08 January 2021
Selection of vendor and signing of contract	01 February 2021
Start of contract	02 February 2021
All activities finalized	30 July 2021

All questions to the RFP should be sent directly to: putera.zenata@ndcpartnership.org. Answers to RFP questions will be shared with all parties who have asked questions or otherwise expressed interest in submitting a proposal.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Requirements

The selected vendor must demonstrate capacity in similar work, particularly:

- Proven results in designing, developing and/or catalyzing climate finance
- Experience identifying and delivering renewable energy projects and related services in the PSIDS for governments, donor agencies and/or private sector. References for completed PSIDS projects should be provided.
- Proven experience of working with governments and the private sector in Pacific Island Countries;
- Strong understanding of planning, budgeting, public investment procedures of the governments;
- Experience of transaction advisory services to the governments is desirable;
- Proven track record and expertise on public and private sector finance, particularly in the context of energy infrastructure development;
- Developing the capacity of governments related to the financing of climate change initiatives;
- Experience with a partnership-based approach where different organizations work jointly to deliver work in country;
- Expertise in successfully engaging key government ministries and other relevant stakeholders, particularly planning and finance ministries/treasury;
- Applying gender principles to approach the assignment, and wherever possible, produce sex-disaggregated data and gender-responsive actions.
- Demonstrated history of ongoing participation and involvement with Pacific energy sector, private sector and/or government sectors – will be well regarded

A consortium of vendors will be considered if it contributes to the technical requirements and delivery of activities. Sub-contracting will also be permitted.

Content

Prospective vendors should submit the below. Note the entire package should not exceed 20 pages.

- A statement of interest describing the proposed team and how it meets the above requirements;
- CVs of team members;
- Examples of and references to similar previous work as described in the requirements;
- An outline of the proposed methodology and workplan to deliver on the above-mentioned activities;
- An account of how the work and/or vendor is environmentally sustainable;
- A Gantt chart of work activities to deliverable dates;
- A detailed budget. (Bidders are strongly encouraged to use the RFP Budget Template, available for download [here](#).)

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Evaluation Criteria

The following elements will be the primary considerations in evaluating all proposals submitted in response to this RFP.

- Completeness of all required elements;
- Experience with similar projects;
- Vendor's technical expertise relevant to the stated requirements of the RFP;
- Vendor's ability to complete the activities within the set timelines;
- Overall cost of the vendor's proposal and best value for money.

Selection Process

No proposal development costs shall be charged to WRI; all related expenses are to be borne by the bidders. WRI may award to the bidder offering best value without discussions. However, WRI reserves the right to seek bidder clarifications and to negotiate with those bidders deemed to be within a competitive range. WRI may, at its discretion and without explanation to the prospective vendors, choose to discontinue this RFP without obligation to such prospective vendors, or make multiple awards under this RFP.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All proposals must be submitted by 08 January 2021, 11:59 pm EST to putera.zenata@ndcpartnership.org. Please use the following format for the email subject line: FIJI.RFP_ORGANIZATION NAME. All proposals must be submitted in electronic format.