



Questions & Answers

Title: Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) Project-Level GHG Estimation	
Solicitation Number: ISED-204337	Date: October 7, 2022

NO	Questions	Answers
1	For the mandatory and point rated requirements, can the Crown confirm if they would accept experience of the Bidder to include the experience of the parent, subsidiaries or other affiliates of the Bidder, its subcontractors, or its proposed resources?	Yes that is permissible, however the individuals that will ultimately end up working on the SIF files (subcontractors/consultants) must have the experience to meet the mandatory and point rated requirements.
2	Attachment 1 to Part 4 states “The Bidder must submit a detailed CV of their proposed resource(s) demonstrating that each proposed resource meets the minimum mandatory requirements (references, educational, and work experience) as per the flexible grid found in Table 1 below”. However, there does not appear to be a table identified as either “Table 1” or a flexible grid. Can the Crown confirm which requirements need to be met by proposed resources?	The flexible grid is referring to the Mandatory Technical Criterion table found on Pg. 17. Additionally, proposed resources should also provide support on how the bidder meets Point-Rated Technical Criteria.
3	We see the term “validation” used in reference to the scope of work. Our company is accredited by ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) to perform validations and verifications under ISO 14064-3:2006 (<i>Greenhouse gases — Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions</i>). However, based on the scope of work, this appears to be technical review and not a formal validation. Please clarify the expectation	We are requesting that consultants ensure that the proponent provided GHG estimate that is aligned with ISO 14064-2 standards (project accounting) and that it also adheres to program requirements. So yes, it may not be a complete formal validation, but we use the term ‘validate’ to mean that the estimate adheres to the ISO and program standards.



	whether the scope of work refers to a validation under the ISO standard, or a technical review based on SIF program requirements.	
4	In addition, we would like to request a two-week extension, if possible, to enable us to have sufficient time to collect the requested information and provide ISED with as comprehensive a team of varied resources as possible for potential call-up.	Yes, we will grant the two-week extension
5	Given that the proposed team of individuals would be working together to perform the services described, would ISED consider modifying the rated requirements to be demonstrated COLLECTIVE experience of the bidder's proposed team? ie. all proposed resources must meet the mandatory requirements, and then experience from some or all resources can be used to meet each of the rated requirements.	Yes that is permissible, however the application should clearly indicate how the individuals that will ultimately end up working on the SIF files (subcontractors/consultants) clearly have the experience to meet the mandatory and point rated requirements. Additionally, the bidder must ensure that should they be awarded the contract, all individuals described in the team contribute to the services.
6	Can ISED please confirm how many contracts they intend to award from this RFP?	ISED does not have a minimum or maximum threshold in terms of how many contracts will be awarded through this RFP. Successfully bidders will be selected based on their RFP application strength and alignment to the required objectives.
7	Can ISED please share how many projects/reviews are anticipated under this contract?	ISED cannot at this time identify the number of projects/reviews that are anticipated through this RFP. The Strategic Innovation Fund is a continuous intake program and the number of GHG validations required is entirely dependent on the relevant and applicable applications submitted to the program.
8	Is there, or has there been, an incumbent providing the described services (or similar services) in the last 24 months?	Yes, ISED had previously released a Request for Proposal in 2021 to secure third-party GHG expertise to support with the GHG validation of proposals.



		Successful bidders were awarded contracts. The previous RFP is set to expire, which is why SIF has launched a new RFP.
9	If the point rated criteria is to be scored by individual proposed resource, can ISED please clarify how the total technical score will be calculated when a bidder submits more than one resource?	The points are awarded based on the bidder's ability to demonstrate the requested experience. Should a team of individuals be working on the requested deliverables, the bidder must demonstrate how the team (group of individuals) meet the required criteria and the bidder will ensure that should they be awarded the contract, all individuals described in the team contribute to the services.
10	Page 18 of the RFP states that the minimum technical score is 80%, however the point rated technical criteria table states a minimum technical score of 50%. Can ISED please clarify the minimum technical score?	The minimum point rated technical criteria required to be further considered is 50%, and the bidder must demonstrate how they meet all the mandatory technical criteria.
11	Regarding RT2, can ISED please clarify what is meant by "on behalf" of the stated organizations? Would this include creating applications in conjunction with these organizations in order to source funding?	For this question, we are seeking to understand if the bidder has supported with GHG assessment to support program or policy development required by SDTC, ECCC or NRCan. This would not include creating applications in order to source funding, but it would including performing GHG analysis of projects.
12	Can ISED please clarify if the requirements in Attachment 1 to Part 4 are corporate requirements or resource requirements. If they are intended to be resource requirements, we respectfully request that ISED amend the mandatory and point-rated criteria tables to be directed at "The bidder's proposed team", not "the bidder".	Language in the RFP has been clarified to specify that the mandatory technical criteria applies to all of the resources provided by the Bidder and the point-rated technical criteria can be met by a team of individuals.
13	Given the nature of this contract (as and when requested services by TA), please confirm it is acceptable to propose a team of individuals that collectively meet the point rated criteria, as per the examples provided below: i) For example, in RT1, if we propose a team of 3 resources: If each	Yes, a team of individuals can collectively meet the point-rated criteria, however they all must meet the mandatory criteria.



	<p>resource provides 1 example project for a total of 3 examples, please confirm this approach will score a total of 3 points.</p> <p>ii) For example, in RT3, if we propose a team of 3 resources: if 1 resource has conducted GHG impact assessments on behalf of 2 Federal/Provincial programs and 1 resource has conducted GHG impact assessments on behalf of 3 Federal/Provincial programs for a total of 5, please confirm that this approach will score the full 5 points.</p> <p>iii) For example, in RT6, if we propose a team of 3 resources: if 1 resource has experience following ISO Standard 14064 (or equivalent) to quantify and assess GHG impacts of a project, please confirm this approach will score the full 5 points.</p>	
14	<p>Item 4.2.6 on page 16 of the RFP states, “The responsive bid with the highest combined rating of technical merit and financial will be recommended for award of a contract between 0 and 4 bids. It is possible for a bidder to be awarded more than 1 position.”</p> <p>A. Does this mean that up to 4 contracts will be awarded?</p> <p>B. Can ISED please clarify what is meant by “more than 1 position”?</p>	<p>This language has been removed, as it was causing confusion. All bids that meet the mandatory criteria will be ranked based on their combined technical and financial merit. We anticipate multiple bidders will be awarded contracts. Each successful bidder will also be assigned multiple tasks, on a rotational basis and based on availability and/or sectoral expertise.</p>
15	<p>In attachment 1 to Part 3 – Pricing Schedule, you ask for the bidders’ “all-inclusive fixed daily rate (in Can \$) for each of the resource categories identified.” When referencing categories, are you looking for bidders to provide multiple categories (i.e. Senior Consultant for the Greenhouse Gas Project, Intermediate Consultant for the Greenhouse Gas Project, etc...), or are you looking only for the single resource category, “Consultant for the Greenhouse Gas Project”, as identified in ANNEX B?</p>	<p>Depending on the composition of your team, categories can be provided for different levels of consultant experience, as you have specified (junior, intermediate, senior). However, if each consultant has similar experience, multiple categories are not necessary and a standard fixed daily rate can be applied to all resources.</p>



16	If your response is the former, and you are looking for bidders to potentially submit multiple resource categories, how will the different categories impact the price evaluation component of the bid?	For pricing structures which include multiple categories, separate grids will be used to evaluate and calculate the Financial score.
17	In section 4.2.6,, it states that “the responsive bid with the highest combined rating of technical merit and financial will be recommended for award of a contract between 0 and 4 bids. It is possible for a bidder to be awarded more than 1 position.” Does this mean that up to four companies will be awarded task-based contracts, and that they will be preferentially invited to bid on tasks depending on their score? Can you please elaborate or confirm as to how many companies will be eligible for a contract and how their score will impact their opportunity to bid on tasks under those contracts?	The reference to 0-4 bids has been removed as it was causing confusion. Essentially, all bids that meet the mandatory criteria will be ranked based on their combined technical and financial merit. We anticipate multiple bidders will be awarded contracts. Each successful bidder will also be assigned multiple tasks, on a rotational basis and based on availability and/or sectoral expertise.