RFP No.: 21/04/KMID/2024-ISA

Country: India Issued on: 03/04/2024

Request For Proposal

For Developing a Standardized Global Framework for Floating Solar



International Solar Alliance (ISA) Secretariat, Surya Bhawan, NISE Campus, Gwal Pahari, Gurugram, Haryana – 122003, India Website: www.isolaralliance.org

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Section 1. Letter of Invitation

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) hereby invites you to submit a Proposal to this Request for Proposal (RFP) for the above-referenced subject.

This RFP includes the following documents and the General Terms and Conditions of Contract which is inserted in the Bid Data Sheet (BDS):

- Section 1: This Letter of Invitation
- Section 2: Instruction to Bidders
- Section 3: Bid Data Sheet (BDS)
- Section 4: Evaluation Criteria
- Section 5: Terms of Reference
- Section 6: Returnable Bidding Forms
- Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
- Form B: Bidder Information Form
- Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information Form (Not Applicable)
- Form D: Qualification Form
- Form E: Format of Technical Proposal
- Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form
- Form G: Financial Proposal Form

If you are interested in submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, please prepare your Proposal in accordance with the requirements and procedure as set out in this RFP and submit it by the Deadline for Submission of Proposals set out in Bid Data Sheet.

Please acknowledge receipt of this RFP by sending an email to procurement@isolaralliance.org, indicating whether you intend to submit a Proposal or otherwise. You may send the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files separately. The financial proposal shall be encrypted with password and clearly labelled. Any Amendments to the RFP will be notified on ISA Website. Should you require further clarifications, kindly communicate with the contact person/s identified in the attached Bid Data Sheet as the focal point for queries on this RFP.

ISA looks forward to receiving your Proposal and thank you in advance for your interest in ISA procurement opportunities.

Issued by: Vishal Pratap

Title: Procurement Unit Date: April 03, 2024

Section 2. Instruction to Bidders

GENERAL PROVISIONS		
1. Introduction	1 Bidders shall adhere to all the requirements of this RFP, including any amendments in Writing by ISA.	
	2 Any Proposal submitted will be regarded as an offer by the Bidder and do not constitute or imply the acceptance of the Proposal by ISA. ISA is uno no obligation to award a contract to any Bidder as a result of this RFP.	
2. Fraud & Corruption, Gifts and Hospitality	1 ISA strictly enforces a policy of zero tolerance on proscribed practices, including fraud, corruption, collusion, unethical or unprofessional practices, and obstruction of ISA vendors and requires all bidders/vendo observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement process and contract implementation.	
	2 Bidders/vendors shall not offer gifts or hospitality of any kind to ISA stat members including recreational trips to sporting or cultural events, ther parks or offers of holidays, transportation, or invitations to extravagant lunches or dinners.	me
	 In pursuance of this policy, ISA (a) Shall reject a proposal if it determines that the selected bidder has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question; (b) Shall declare a vendor ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract if at any time it determines that the vendor has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for, or in executing a ISA contract. 	ət
	4 All Bidders must adhere to the ISA Supplier Code of Conduct, which may be found at <u>https://isolaralliance.org/images/ISA%20Supplier%20Code%20of%20Cc</u> <u>duct 14.4.2023.final%20version.pdf</u>	-
3. Eligibility	1 A vendor should not be suspended, debarred, or otherwise identified ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any oth international Organization. Vendors are therefore required to disclose ISA whether they are subject to any sanction or temporary suspensi imposed by these organizations.	ner to
	2 It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure that its employees, joint ventumembers, sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/or the employees meet the eligibility requirements as established by ISA.	
4. Conflict of Interests	1 Bidders must strictly avoid conflicts with other assignments or their or interests, and act without consideration for future work. Bidders found have a conflict of interest shall be disqualified. Without limitation on t generality of the above, Bidders, and any of their affiliates, shall considered to have a conflict of interest with one or more parties in t	l to the be

solicitation process, if they:

a)	Are or have been associated in the past, with a firm or any of its
	affiliates which have been engaged by ISA to provide services for the
	preparation of the design, specifications, Terms of Reference, cost
	analysis/estimation, and other documents to be used for the
	procurement of the goods and services in this selection process;

- Were involved in the preparation and/or design of the programme/project related to the services requested under this RFP; or
- c) Are found to be in conflict for any other reason, as may be established by, or at the discretion of ISA.

4.2 In the event of any uncertainty in the interpretation of a potential conflict of interest, Bidders must disclose to ISA, and seek ISA' s confirmation on whether or not such a conflict exists. The ISA shall have the discretion to disqualify or proceed with a bidder where there is a probable conflict of interest subject to further evaluation and review of various factors such as access to sensitive information which may confer unfair advantage as against other bidders. The decision on a probable conflict of interest shall be made in the best interest of the work of the ISA.

- 4.3 Similarly, the Bidders must disclose in their proposal their knowledge of the following:
 - a) If the owners, part-owners, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, of the bidding entity or key personnel are family members of ISA staff involved in the procurement functions and/or the Government of the country or any Implementing Partner receiving services under this RFP; and
 - b) All other circumstances that could potentially lead to actual or perceived conflict of interest, collusion or unfair competition practices.

Failure to disclose such an information may result in the rejection of the proposal or proposals affected by the non-disclosure.

4.4 The eligibility of Bidders that are wholly or partly owned by the Government shall be subject to ISA's further evaluation and review of various factors such as being registered, operated and managed as an independent business entity, the extent of Government ownership/share, receipt of subsidies, mandate and access to information in relation to this RFP, among others. Conditions that may lead to undue advantage against other Bidders may result in the eventual rejection of the Proposal.

PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS 5. General Considerations 5.1 In preparing the Proposal, the Bidder is expected to examine the RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested in the RFP may result in rejection of the Proposal.

5.2 The Bidder will not be permitted to take advantage of any errors or omissions in the RFP. Should such errors or omissions be discovered, the Bidder must notify the ISA

of Proposalsubmission of the Proposal, regardless of whether its Proposal was selected or not. ISA shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the procurement process.7. Language7.1 The Proposal, as well as any and all related correspondence exchanged by the Bidder and ISA, shall be Written in the language (s) specified in the BDS.8. Documents Comprising the Proposal8.1 The Proposal shall comprise of the following documents: c) Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder; d) Technical Proposal; (f) Proposal Security, if required by BDS; (g) Any attachments and/or appendices to the Proposal.9. Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder9.1 The Bidder shall furnish documentary evidence of its status as an eligible and qualified vendor, using the Forms provided under Section 6 and providing documents required in those forms. In order to award a contract to a Bidder, its qualifications must be documented to ISA's satisfaction.10.Technical Proposal Format and Content10.1 The Bidder is required to submit a Technical Proposal using the Standard Forms and templates provided in Section 6 of the RFP.10.2 The Technical Proposal containing material financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information may be declared non-responsive.10.3 Samples of items, when required as per Section 5, shall be provided within the time specified and unless otherwise specified by ISA, and at no expense to ISA11.Financial Proposals shall be provided in the language of the Bid as specified in the BDS.11.Financial Proposals in Section 6 of the RFP.11. The Financial Proposal shall be prepared u		
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Comprising the Proposalc)Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder; d) Technical Proposal; f)9. Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder9.1The Bidder shall furnish documentary evidence of its status as an eligible and qualified vendor, using the Forms provided under Section 6 and providing documents required in those forms. In order to award a contract to a Bidder, its qualifications must be documented to ISA's satisfaction.10.Technical Proposal Format and Content10.1The Bidder is required to submit a Technical Proposal using the Standard Forms and templates provided in Section 6 of the RFP.10.Zechnical Proposal Format and Content10.1The Bidder is required to submit a Technical Proposal using the Standard Forms and templates provided in Section 6 of the RFP.10.Zechnical Proposal Format and Content10.1The Echnical Proposal shall not include any price or financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information may be declared non-responsive.10.3Samples of items, when required as per Section 5, shall be provided within the time specified and unless otherwise specified by ISA, and at no expense to ISA11.Financial Proposals11.1The Financial Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Form provided in Section 6 of the RFP. It shall ist all major cost components associated with the services, and the detailed breakdown of such costs.11.Financial Proposals11.1The Financial Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Form provided in Section 6 of the RFP. It shall ist all major cost components associated with the services, and the detailed breakdown of such costs	7. Language	7.1 The Proposal, as well as any and all related correspondence exchanged by the Bidder and ISA, shall be Written in the language (s) specified in the BDS.
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	12. Proposal Security	12.1 A Proposal Security, if required by BDS, shall be provided in the amount and

	form indicated in the BDS. The Proposal Security shall be valid up to thirty (30) days after the final date of validity of the Proposal.
	12.2 The Proposal Security shall be included along with the Technical Proposal If Proposal Security is required by the RFP but is not found along with the Technical Proposal, the Proposal shall be rejected.
	12.3 If the Proposal Security amount or its validity period is found to be less than what is required by ISA, ISA shall reject the Proposal.
	12.4 In the event an electronic submission is allowed in the BDS, Bidders shal include a copy of the Bid Security in their proposal and the original of the Proposal Security must be sent via courier or hand delivery as per the instructions in BDS.
	12.5 The Proposal Security may be forfeited by ISA, and the Proposal rejected in the event of any one or combination, of the following conditions:
	 a) If the Bidder withdraws its offer during the period of the Proposa Validity specified in the BDS, or; b) In the event that the successful Bidder fails: to sign the Contract after ISA has issued an award; or to furnish the Performance Security, insurances, or other documents that ISA may require as a condition precedent to the effectivity of the contract that may be awarded to the Bidder.
13. Currencies	13.1 All prices shall be quoted in the currency or currencies indicated in the BDS Where Proposals are quoted in different currencies, for the purposes of comparison of all Proposals:
	 a) ISA will convert the currency quoted in the Proposal into the ISA preferred currency, in accordance with the prevailing UN operationa rate of exchange on the last day of submission of Proposals; and
	b) In the event that ISA selects a proposal for award that is quoted in a currency different from the preferred currency in the BDS, ISA shal reserve the right to award the contract in the currency of ISA's preference, using the conversion method specified above.
14. Joint Venture, Consortium or Association	14.1 If the Bidder is a group of legal entities that will form or have formed a Joint Venture (JV), Consortium or Association for the Proposal, they shal confirm in their Proposal that : (i) they have designated one party to act as a lead entity, duly vested with authority to legally bind the members of the JV, Consortium or Association jointly and severally, which shall be evidenced by a duly notarized Agreement among the legal entities, and submitted with the Proposal; and (ii) if they are awarded the contract, the contract shall be entered into, by and between ISA and the designated lead entity, who shall be acting for and on behalf of all the member entities comprising the joint venture.
	14.2 After the Deadline for Submission of Proposal, the lead entity identified to represent the JV, Consortium or Association shall not be altered without the prior written consent of ISA.
Consortium or	 a) ISA will convert the currency quoted in the Proposal into the preferred currency, in accordance with the prevailing UN operat rate of exchange on the last day of submission of Proposals; and b) In the event that ISA selects a proposal for award that is quoted currency different from the preferred currency in the BDS, ISA reserve the right to award the contract in the currency of preference, using the conversion method specified above. 14.1 If the Bidder is a group of legal entities that will form or have formed a Venture (JV), Consortium or Association for the Proposal, they confirm in their Proposal that : (i) they have designated one party to a a lead entity, duly vested with authority to legally bind the members or JV, Consortium or Association jointly and severally, which sha evidenced by a duly notarized Agreement among the legal entities, submitted with the Proposal; and (ii) if they are awarded the contract contract shall be entered into, by and between ISA and the designated entity, who shall be acting for and on behalf of all the member encomprising the joint venture. 14.2 After the Deadline for Submission of Proposal, the lead entity identifier represent the JV, Consortium or Association shall not be altered with

	14.3 The lead entity and the member entities of the JV, Consortium or Association shall abide by the provisions of Clause 15 herein in respect of submitting only one proposal.
	14.4 The description of the organization of the JV, Consortium or Association must clearly define the expected role of each of the entity in the joint venture in delivering the requirements of the RFP, both in the Proposal and the JV, Consortium or Association Agreement. All entities that comprise the JV, Consortium or Association shall be subject to the eligibility and qualification assessment by ISA.
	14.5 A JV, Consortium or Association in presenting its track record and experience should clearly differentiate between:
	 a) Those that were undertaken together by the JV, Consortium or Association; and
	 b) Those that were undertaken by the individual entities of the JV, Consortium or Association.
	14.6 Previous contracts completed by individual experts working privately but who are permanently or were temporarily associated with any of the member firms cannot be claimed as the experience of the JV, Consortium or Association or those of its members, but should only be claimed by the individual experts themselves in their presentation of their individual credentials.
	JV, Consortium or Associations are encouraged for high value, multi-sectoral requirements when the spectrum of expertise and resources required may not be available within one firm.
15.Only One Proposal	15.1 The Bidder (including the individual members of any Joint Venture) shall submit only one Proposal, either in its own name or as part of a Joint Venture.
	 15.2 Proposals submitted by two (2) or more Bidders shall all be rejected if they are found to have any of the following: h) they have at least one controlling partner, director or shareholder in common; or i) any one of them receive or have received any direct or indirect subsidy from the other/s; or j) they have the same legal representative for purposes of this RFP; or k) they have a relationship with each other, directly or through common third parties, that puts them in a position to have access to information about, or influence on the Proposal of, another Bidder regarding this RFP process; l) they are subcontractors to each other's Proposal, or a subcontractor to one Proposal also submits another Proposal under its name as lead Bidder; or m) some key personnel proposed to be in the team of one Bidder participates in more than one Proposal received for this RFP process.

	This condition relating to the personnel, does not apply to subcontractors being included in more than one Proposal.
16.Proposal Validity Period	16.1 Proposals shall remain valid for the period specified in the BDS, commencing on the Deadline for Submission of Proposals. A Proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by ISA and rendered non-responsive.
	16.2 During the Proposal validity period, the Bidder shall maintain its original Proposal without any change, including the availability of the Key Personnel, the proposed rates and the total price.
17.Extension of Proposal Validity Period	17.1 In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the proposal validity period, ISA may request Bidders to extend the period of validity of their Proposals. The request and the responses shall be made in writing, and shall be considered integral to the Proposal.
	17.2 If the Bidder agrees to extend the validity of its Proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original Proposal.
	17.3 The Bidder has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its Proposal, and in which case, such Proposal will not be further evaluated.
18.Clarification of Proposal	18.1 Bidders may request clarifications on any of the RFP documents no later than the date indicated in the BDS. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing in the manner indicated in the BDS. If inquiries are sent other than specified channel, even if they are sent to an ISA staff member, ISA shall have no obligation to respond or confirm that the query was officially received.
	18.2 ISA will provide the responses to clarifications through the method specified in the BDS.
	18.3 ISA shall endeavor to provide responses to clarifications in an expeditious manner, but any delay in such response shall not cause an obligation on the part of ISA to extend the submission date of the Proposals, unless ISA deems that such an extension is justified and necessary.
19.Amendment of Proposals	19.1 At any time prior to the deadline of Proposal submission, ISA may for any reason, such as in response to a clarification requested by a Bidder, modify the RFP in the form of an amendment to the RFP. Amendments will be made available to all prospective bidders.
	19.2 If the amendment is substantial, ISA may extend the Deadline for submission of proposal to give the Bidders reasonable time to incorporate the amendment into their Proposals.
20.Alternative Proposals	20.1 Unless otherwise specified in the BDS, alternative proposals shall not be considered. If submission of alternative proposal is allowed by BDS, a Bidder may submit an alternative proposal, but only if it also submits a proposal conforming to the RFP requirements. ISA shall only consider the alternative proposal offered by the Bidder whose conforming proposal ranked the highest as per the specified evaluation method. Where the conditions for its acceptance are met, or justifications are clearly

		ablished, ISA reserves the right to award a contract based on an ernative proposal.
		nultiple/alternative proposals are being submitted, they must be clearly rked as "Main Proposal" and "Alternative Proposal"
21.Pre-Bid Conference	tim att into the dur unl	hen appropriate, a Bidder's conference will be conducted at the date, he and location specified in the BDS. All Bidders are encouraged to end. Non-attendance, however, shall not result in disqualification of an erested Bidder. Minutes of the Bidder's conference will be sent to all e participants of the pre-bid conference. No verbal statement made ring the conference shall modify the terms and conditions of the RFP, ess specifically incorporated in the Minutes of the Bidder's Conference issued/posted as an amendment to RFP.
SUBMISSION AND OPEN	NG OF PRO	OPOSALS
22.Submission	the	e Bidder shall submit a duly signed and complete Proposal comprising documents and forms in accordance with the requirements in the BDS. e submission shall be in the manner specified in the BDS.
	cor doc	e Proposal shall be signed by the Bidder or person(s) duly authorized to nmit the Bidder. The authorization shall be communicated through a cument evidencing such authorization issued by the legal representative the bidding entity, or a Power of Attorney, accompanying the Proposal.
	and Ter	ders must be aware that the mere act of submission of a Proposal, in d of itself, implies that the Bidder fully accepts the ISA General Contract rms and Conditions. <u>ps://www.isolaralliance.org/images/ISA_GTB.pdf</u>
Email Submission		ail submission, if allowed or specified in the BDS, shall be governed as ows:
	a)	Electronic files that form part of the proposal must be in accordance with the format and requirements indicated in BDS;
	b)	The Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files MUST BE COMPLETELY SEPARATE. The financial proposal shall be encrypted with password and clearly labelled. The files must be sent to the dedicated email address specified in the BDS.
	c)	The password for opening the Financial Proposal should be provided only upon request of ISA. ISA will request password only from bidders whose Technical Proposal has been found to be technically responsive. Failure to provide correct password may result in the proposal being rejected.
23.Deadline for Submission of Proposals and Late	tha	mplete Proposals must be received by ISA in the manner, and no later in the date and time, specified in the BDS. ISA shall only recognize the se and time that the bid was received by ISA
Proposals		shall not consider any Proposal that is submitted after the deadline for submission of Proposals.
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24.Withdrawal, Substitution, and	24.1 A Bidder may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal after it has been submitted at any time prior to the deadline for submission.
Modification of Proposals	24.2 Manual and Email submissions: A bidder may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal by sending a written notice to ISA, duly signed by an authorized representative, and shall include a copy of the authorization (or a Power of Attorney). The corresponding substitution or modification of the Proposal, if any, must accompany the respective written notice. All notices must be submitted in the same manner as specified for submission of proposals, by clearly marking them as "WITHDRAWAL" "SUBSTITUTION," or "MODIFICATION"
	24.3 Proposals requested to be withdrawn shall be returned unopened to the Bidders, only for manual submissions. For online submissions, bids will be disregarded by ISA.
25. Proposal Opening	25.1 There is no public bid opening for RFPs. ISA shall open the Proposals in the presence of an ad-hoc committee formed by ISA, consisting of at least two (2) members.
EVALUATION OF PROPOS	SALS
26.Confidentiality	26.1 Information relating to the examination, evaluation, and comparison of Proposals, and the recommendation of contract award, shall not be disclosed to Bidders or any other persons not officially concerned with such process, even after publication of the contract award.
	26.2 Any effort by a Bidder or anyone on behalf of the Bidder to influence ISA in the examination, evaluation and comparison of the Proposals or contract award decisions may, at ISA's decision, result in the rejection of its Proposal and may be subject to the application of prevailing ISA vendor sanctions procedures.
27.Evaluation of Proposals	27.1 The Bidder is not permitted to alter or modify its Proposal in any way after the proposal submission deadline except as permitted under Clause 24 of this RFP. ISA will conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.
	 27.2 Evaluation of proposals is made of the following steps: n) Preliminary Examination o) Minimum Eligibility and Qualification (if pre-qualification is not done) p) Evaluation of Technical Proposals q) Evaluation of Financial Proposals
28.Preliminary Examination	28.1 ISA shall examine the Proposals to determine whether they are complete with respect to minimum documentary requirements, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the Proposals are generally in order, among other indicators that may be used at this stage. ISA reserves the right to reject any Proposal at this stage.
29.Evaluation of Eligibility and	B. Eligibility and Qualification of the Bidder will be evaluated against the Minimum Eligibility/Qualification requirements specified in the Section 4

Qualification	(Evaluation Criteria).
	 C. In general terms, vendors that meet the following criteria may be considered qualified: i. They are not included in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 Committee's list of terrorists and terrorist financiers. ii. They have a good financial standing and have access to adequate financial resources to perform the contract and all existing commercial commitments, iii. They have the necessary similar experience, technical expertise, production capacity where applicable, quality certifications, quality assurance procedures and other resources applicable to the provision of the services required; iv. They are able to comply fully with ISA General Terms and Conditions of Contract; v. They do not have a consistent history of court/arbitral award decisions against the Bidder; and vi. The consulting firm should provide credentials, through adequate references or documentation, their current local presence in the ISA focus regions. Past experience of working with ISA and/or with multilateral/international organizations will be an added advantage.
30.Evaluation of Technical and Financial Proposals	30.1 The evaluation team shall review and evaluate the Technical Proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and other RFP documents, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system specified in the Section 4 (Evaluation Criteria). A Proposal shall be rendered non-responsive at the technical evaluation stage if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the BDS. When necessary and if stated in the BDS, ISA may invite technically responsive bidders for a presentation related to their technical proposals. The conditions for the presentation shall be provided in the bid document where required.
	30.2 In the second stage, only the Financial Proposals of those Bidders who achieve the minimum technical score will be opened for evaluation. The Financial Proposals corresponding to Technical Proposals that were rendered non-responsive shall remain unopened, and, in the case of manual submission, be returned to the Bidder unopened. For emailed Proposals submissions, ISA will not request for the password of the Financial Proposals of bidders whose Technical Proposal were found not responsive.
	30.3 The evaluation method that applies for this RFP shall be as indicated in the BDS, which may be either of two (2) possible methods, as follows: (a) the lowest priced method which selects the lowest evaluated financial proposal of the technically responsive Bidders; or (b) the combined scoring method which will be based on a combination of the technical and financial score.
	30.4 When the BDS specifies a combined scoring method, the formula for the
	12

	rating of the Proposals will be as follows:	
	Rating the Technical Proposal (TP):	
	TP Rating = (Total Score Obtained by the Offer / Max. Obtainable Score for TP) x 100	
	Rating the Financial Proposal (FP):	
	FP Rating = (Lowest Priced Offer / Price of the Offer Being Reviewed) x 100	
	Total Combined Score:	
	Combined Score = (TP Rating) x (Weight of TP, e.g. 70%/100) + (FP Rating) x (Weight of FP, e.g., 30%/100)	
31. Due Diligence	31.1 ISA reserves the right to undertake a due diligence exercise, also called post qualification, aimed at determining to its satisfaction, the validity of the information provided by the Bidder. Such exercise shall be fully documented and may include, but need not be limited to, all or any combination of the following:	
	 a) Verification of accuracy, correctness and authenticity of information provided by the Bidder; b) Validation of extent of compliance to the RFP requirements and evaluation criteria based on what has so far been found by the evaluation team; c) Inquiry and reference checking with Government entities with jurisdiction on the Bidder, or with previous clients, or any other entity that may have done business with the Bidder; d) Inquiry and reference checking with previous clients on the performance on on-going or contracts completed, including physical inspections of previous works, as necessary; e) Physical inspection of the Bidder's offices, branches or other places where business transpires, with or without notice to the Bidder; f) Other means that ISA may deem appropriate, at any stage within the selection process, prior to awarding the contract. 	
32.Clarification of Proposals	32.1 To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of Proposals, ISA may, at its discretion, ask any Bidder for a clarification of its Proposal.	
	32.2 ISA's request for clarification and the response shall be in writing and no change in the prices or substance of the Proposal shall be sought, offered, or permitted, except to provide clarification, and confirm the correction of any arithmetic errors discovered by ISA in the evaluation of the Proposals, in accordance with RFP.	
	32.3 Any unsolicited clarification submitted by a Bidder in respect to its	

		Proposal, which is not a response to a request by ISA, shall not be considered during the review and evaluation of the Proposals.
33.Responsiveness of Proposal	33.1	ISA's determination of a Proposal's responsiveness will be based on the contents of the Proposal itself. A substantially responsive Proposal is one that conforms to all the terms, conditions, TOR and other requirements of the RFP without material deviation, reservation, or omission.
	33.2	If a Proposal is not substantially responsive, it shall be rejected by ISA and may not subsequently be made responsive by the Bidder by correction of the material deviation, reservation, or omission.
34. Nonconformities, Reparable Errors and Omissions	34.1	Provided that a Proposal is substantially responsive, ISA may waive any non-conformities or omissions in the Proposal that, in the opinion of ISA, do not constitute a material deviation.
	34.2	ISA may request the Bidder to submit the necessary information or documentation, within a reasonable period of time, to rectify nonmaterial nonconformities or omissions in the Proposal related to documentation requirements. Such omission shall not be related to any aspect of the price of the Proposal. Failure of the Bidder to comply with the request may result in the rejection of its Proposal.
	34.3	For Financial Proposal that has been opened, ISA shall check and correct arithmetical errors as follows:
		 a) if there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the line item total that is obtained by multiplying the unit price by the quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the line item total shall be corrected, unless in the opinion of ISA there is an obvious misplacement of the decimal point in the unit price; in which case the line item total as quoted shall govern and the unit price shall be corrected;
		 b) if there is an error in a total corresponding to the addition or subtraction of subtotals, the subtotals shall prevail, and the total shall be corrected; and
		c) if there is a discrepancy between words and figures, the amount in words shall prevail, unless the amount expressed in words is related to an arithmetic error, in which case the amount in figures shall prevail.
	34.4	If the Bidder does not accept the correction of errors made by ISA, its Proposal shall be rejected.
D. AWARD OF CONT	RACT	
35.Right to Accept, Reject, Any or All Proposals	35.1	ISA reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, to render any or all of the Proposals as non-responsive, and to reject all Proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without incurring any liability, or obligation to inform the affected Bidder(s) of the grounds for ISA's action. ISA shall not be obliged to award the contract to the lowest priced offer.
36.Award Criteria	36.1	Prior to expiration of the proposal validity, ISA shall award the contract to
		1.6

	the qualified Bidder based on the award criteria indicated in the BDS.
37.Right to Vary Requirements at the Time of Award	37.1 At the time of award of Contract, ISA reserves the right to vary the quantity of services and/or goods, by up to a maximum twenty-five per cent (25%) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms and conditions.
38.Contract Signature	38.1 Within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the Contract, the successful Bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to ISA. Failure to do so may constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of the award, and forfeiture of the Proposal Security, if any, and on which event, ISA may award the Contract to the Second Ranked Bidder or call for new Proposals.
39.Performance Security	39.1 A performance security, if required in BDS, shall be provided in the amount specified in BDS. Within fifteen (15) days of the contract signature by both parties. Where a performance security is required, the receipt of the performance security by ISA shall be a condition for rendering the contract effective.
40.Bank Guarantee for Advanced Payment	40.1 Except when the interests of ISA so require, it is ISA's preference to make no advance payment(s) (i.e., payments without having received any outputs). If an advance payment is allowed as per BDS, and exceeds 20% of the total contract price, or USD 30,000, whichever is less, the Bidder shall submit a Bank Guarantee in the full amount of the advance payment.
41.Liquidated Damages	41.1 If specified in BDS, ISA shall apply Liquidated Damages resulting from the Contractor's delays or breach of its obligations as per the Contract.
42.Payment Provisions	42.1 Payment will be made only upon ISA's acceptance of the work performed. The terms of payment shall be within thirty (30) days, after receipt of invoice and certification of acceptance of work issued by the proper authority in ISA with direct supervision of the Contractor. Payment will be affected by bank transfer in the currency of contract.
43.Other Provisions	 43.1 ISA may withdraw the RFP at any time by providing written notice to the bidder in any case in which the mandate of ISA applicable to the performance of the Contract or the funding of ISA applicable to the RFP is curtailed or terminated, whether in whole or in part. 43.2. The ISA is striving to achieve gender parity in all its activities. In this regard, female-owned organizations and/or teams with significant gender diversity are strongly encouraged to submit a proposal. 43.3. The ISA recognizes the importance of valuing diversity and promoting inclusion in all our work programs and partnerships. The ISA strives to engage with organizations and/or teams that reflect its geographical representation and diversity.

Section 3. Bid Data Sheet

The following data for the services to be procured shall complement, supplement, or amend the provisions in the Request for Proposals. In the case of a conflict between the Instructions to Bidders, the Data Sheet, and other annexes or references attached to the Data Sheet, the provisions in the Data Sheet shall prevail.

BDS No.	Ref. to Section.2	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements
1	7	Language of the Proposal	English
2		Submitting Proposals for Parts or sub-parts of the TOR (partial bids)	Not Allowed
3	20	Alternative Proposals	Shall not be considered
4	21	Pre-proposal conference	April 10, 2024, 03 PM – 4 PM (IST) Pre-Bid Meeting Link: <mark>Join the meeting now</mark>
5	10	Proposal Validity Period	90 days
6	14	Bid Security	NIL
7	41	Advanced Payment upon signing of contract	Not Allowed
8	42	Liquidated Damages	 Will be imposed as follows: Provide details below if "Will be Imposed" is selected, otherwise delete the below 0.1% of contract price per day of delay Max. number of days of delay 15, (1.5% of contract amount) after which ISA may terminate the contract.
9	40	Performance Security	Not Required
10	18	Currency of Proposal	USD/INR
11	31	Deadline for submitting requests for clarifications/ questions	5 days before the submission deadline

12	31	Contact Details for submitting clarifications/questions	Focal Person in ISA: Procurement Unit E-mail: <u>procurement@isolaralliance.org</u> CC to Mr. Jaymin Gajjar jgajjar@isolaralliance.org Address: International Solar Alliance, 3rd Floor, Surya Bhawan, NISE Campus, Gwal Pahari, Gurugram, Haryana - 122003, India
13	18, 19 and 21	Manner of Disseminating Supplemental Information to the RFP and responses/clarifications to queries	Direct communication to prospective Proposers by email <u>E-mail: procurement@isolaralliance.org</u> CC to Mr. Jaymin Gajjar jgajjar@isolaralliance.org
14	23	Deadline for Submission	April 24 , 2024 - 11.00 PM (Indian Standard Time)
14	22	Allowable Manner of Submitting Proposals	□ Submission by email
15	22	Proposal Submission Address	E-mail: procurement@isolaralliance.org
16	22	Electronic submission (email) requirements	 Format: PDF files only File names must be maximum 60 characters long and must not contain any letter o/r special character other than from Latin alphabet/keyboard. All files must be free of viruses and not corrupted. Password for financial proposal <u>must</u> not be provided to ISA until requested by ISA Max. File Size per transmission: 5 MB
17	27 36	Evaluation Method for the Award of Contract	Combined Scoring Method, using the 70%-30% distribution for technical and financial proposals respectively The minimum technical score required to pass is 70%.
18		Expected date for commencement of Contract	May 15, 2024
19		Maximum expected duration of contract	The Project deliverables are expected to be completed 24 weeks from the commencement of the contract.
20	35	ISA will award the contract to:	One Proposer only

21	39	Type of Contract	Services contract
22		Other Information Related to the RFP	[All other instructions and information not yet mentioned so far in this Data Sheet but are relevant to the RFP must be cited here, and any further entries that may be added below this table row]

Section 4. Evaluation Criteria

Preliminary Examination Criteria

Proposals will be examined to determine whether they are complete and submitted in accordance with RFP requirements as per below criteria on a Yes/No basis:

- Appropriate signatures
- Power of Attorney
- Minimum documents provided
- Technical and Financial Proposals submitted separately
- Bid Validity
- Bid Security submitted as per RFP requirements with compliant validity period

Minimum Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

Eligibility and Qualification will be evaluated on Pass/Fail basis.

Subject	Criteria	Document Submission requirement
ELIGIBILITY		
Legal Status	Vendor is a legally registered entity. JV/Consortium/Sub-contract is allowed under this contract	Form B: Bidder Information Form
Eligibility	Vendor is not suspended, nor debarred, nor otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization in accordance with ITB clause 3.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
Conflict of Interest	No conflicts of interest in accordance with clause 4.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
Bankruptcy	Not declared bankruptcy, not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against the vendor that could impair its operations in the foreseeable future.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
QUALIFICATION		
History of Non- Performing Contracts ¹	Non-performance of a contract did not occur as a result of contractor default for the last 3 years.	Form D: Qualification Form

¹ Non-performance, as decided by ISA, shall include all contracts where (a) non-performance was not challenged by the contractor, including through referral to the dispute resolution mechanism under the respective contract, and (b) contracts that were so challenged but fully settled against the contractor. Non-performance shall not include contracts where Employers decision was overruled by the dispute resolution mechanism. Non-performance must be based on all information on fully settled disputes or litigation, i.e. dispute or litigation that has been resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution mechanism under the respective contract and where all appeal instances available to the Bidder have been $\frac{20}{20}$

Litigation History		sistent history of court/arbitral award d for the last 3 years.	ecisions against the	Form D: Qualification Form
Previous Experience	SI. No.	Criteria	Documents required	Form D: Qualification
	1.	Execution of minimum 3 projects in the last 5 years related to developing technical guidelines, standards, or frameworks for floating solar or renewable energy projects for multilateral institutions, government agencies, or private organizations, with a contract value of more than USD 50,000.	Provide Copies of work orders	Form (Previous Relevant Experience)
	2	The Service Provider should have a minimum of ten years of experience and technical expertise in the field of solar energy. Preferably, it should be in the areas of project development, implementation, and management of floating solar or renewable energy projects.	Provide details of stakeholder engagement activities undertaken, including the project context, stakeholders involved, and the nature of the consultations.	
	3	The agency should have developed reports (related to frameworks and guidelines) or studies or assessments related to floating solar or renewable energy technologies, covering more than one country or region.	Provide a list of relevant projects undertaken, including project titles, client names, start and completion dates.	
	4	Experience in conducting stakeholder consultations, forming expert advisory groups, and engaging with diverse stakeholders (e.g., technology providers, government agencies, financing institutions, research organizations)	Provide details of stakeholder engagement activities undertaken, including the project context,	

		in the context of renewable energy projects/ solar projects.	stakeholders involved, and the nature of the consultations.	
	5	Experience in assessing and addressing financial, legal, regulatory, and policy aspects related to renewable energy project development, including environmental and social safeguards.	Provide details of projects where legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks were developed or assessed, including the specific aspects covered and the outcomes achieved.	
Financial Standing	Minimu	m average annual turnover of USD 50,0	000 for the last 3 years	Form D: Qualification Form
		must demonstrate the current soundne g and indicate its prospective long-term		Form D: Qualification Form

Technical Proposal of Bidders who passes the minimum eligibility criteria will be evaluated.

Technical and Financial Evaluation Criteria

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		
1.	 Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience Three completed projects related to developing technical guidelines, standards, or frameworks for floating solar or renewable energy projects for multilateral institutions, government agencies, or private organizations in the renewable energy sector - 100 Marks For each additional similar project, the bidder will get 20 marks, maximum up to 150 marks. 	150
2.	Proposed Methodology, Approach, and Implementation Plan	600
3.	3. Management Structure and Key Personnel	
	Total	1000

Definition	Similar work/assignment:	
	"Experience in the areas outlined in Section 4	

	Section 1. Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience	Points obtainable
1.1	References of completed projects related to developing technical guidelines, standards, or frameworks for floating solar or renewable energy projects for multilateral institutions, government agencies, or private organizations in the last 5 years. Each project should be with a contract value of more than USD 50,000.	60
1.2	Relevance of specialized knowledge and experience in developing similar frameworks or guidelines for floating solar/renewable energy projects across multiple regions/continents in the last 5 years	60
1.3	Quality assurance procedures and risk mitigation measures for complex, multi-disciplinary projects	15
1.4	 Organizational Commitment to Sustainability (mandatory weight) Organization is compliant with relevant sustainability standards (e.g., ISO 14001, ISO 14064) Organization demonstrates significant commitment to sustainability through policies, initiatives, or memberships 	15
	Total Section 1	150

Section 2.	Points obtainable	
2.1	Understanding of the requirement: Have the important aspects of the task been addressed in sufficient detail? Are the various ways of selecting countries and casestudies convincing ?	100
2.2	Description of the Offeror's approach and methodology for meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Terms of Reference. Is the methodology for executing the project sufficient to deliver high-quality results/deliverables?	350
2.3	Assessment of the proposed implementation plan including whether the activities are properly sequenced and if these are logical and realistic.	100
2.4	Details on how the information or data will be collected, controlled, consolidated, presented and delivered in user-friendly ways.	50
	Total Section 2	600

	Section 3. Management Structure and Key Personnel	Points obtainable
3.1	 Team Lead Advanced degree (Ph.D. preferred) in renewable energy, engineering, environmental sciences, finance, economics, law or a related field from a reputed institution Minimum 12-15 years of professional experience in managing large, multi-disciplinary projects, preferably in the renewable energy sector Proven track record in leading and coordinating teams of diverse experts from technical, financial, legal, and policy domains Excellent project management, communication, and stakeholder engagement skills Experience in developing technical guidelines, standards, or frameworks for renewable energy technologies, preferably solar technologies 	100
3.2	 Technical Expert(s) Master's or Ph.D. degree in solar engineering, electrical engineering, structural engineering, environmental engineering or related technical fields Minimum 8-10 years of relevant professional experience in floating solar/renewable energy projects 	80

Total Section 3			
3.3	 Master's or Ph.D. degree in finance, economics, business administration, law, public policy or related fields Minimum 8-10 years of experience in project finance, investment analysis, regulatory frameworks and policy instruments for renewable energy Expertise in financial modeling, project economics, risk assessment and developing financing strategies Knowledge of global renewable energy investment trends, financing models (PPAs, green bonds etc.) and policy support mechanisms Experience in assessing legal, regulatory and institutional aspects related to energy project development Familiarity with environmental and social safeguards, impact assessments and mitigation strategies 	70	
	 operations & maintenance, decommissioning for solar projects Experience in developing technical guidelines, specifications, standards for solar/renewable energy installations Familiarity with relevant international standards, codes and best practices related to floating solar technology Financial/Legal/Policy Experts 		

*Resource will be expected to travel to ISA Secretariat as and when required and no travelling allowances will be provided.

Kindly provide against each point the reference page number where narration/proof of the response to the point is provided in the bid.

Section 5. Terms of Reference

Background

Floating solar systems have emerged as a promising technology that can help overcome land constraints and provide additional benefits compared to conventional ground-mounted solar projects. These benefits include higher energy generation due to the cooling effect of water, reduced water evaporation from the covered surface area, and the ability to utilize water bodies that may be unsuitable for other purposes, such as contaminated or shallow water bodies.

Despite these advantages, the global adoption of floating solar projects has been relatively slow, and a **lack of standardized global framework** can be considered as one of the contributing factors. Such framework(s) can provide comprehensive guidance on the technical, financial, policy / regulatory, and environmental aspects of project development. Each country or region has developed its own set of guidelines, best practices, and standards, (these exist at varied levels) leading to a fragmentation in the industry and hindering the growth of a unified global market for floating solar projects.

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) has been inundated with requests from its member countries, including **Bangladesh and Pacific nations**, seeking guidance on the development of floating solar projects. These countries recognize the immense potential of floating solar systems in addressing their energy needs while overcoming land constraints. However, they face significant challenges due to the absence of a standardized and comprehensive framework for floating solar project development.

The requests from member countries highlight the **pressing need for a unified approach** to facilitate the deployment of floating solar projects. In response to these demands, ISA is embarking on an initiative to develop a standardized global framework for floating solar. This initiative aims to address the diverse technical, financial, regulatory, and environmental aspects associated with floating solar projects, thereby providing member countries with the necessary guidance and support for their successful implementation.

With a focus on collaboration and knowledge-sharing, ISA seeks to leverage its platform to bring together stakeholders from across the globe to contribute to the development of this comprehensive framework. By harnessing the expertise and experiences of diverse stakeholders, including technology providers, government agencies, financing institutions, and research organizations, ISA aims to create a robust framework that meets the specific needs and challenges faced by member countries, including Bangladesh and Pacific nations.

In this context, the development of a unified and standardized framework for floating solar projects emerges as a crucial step towards advancing solar energy deployment on a global scale. Through this initiative, ISA endeavors to accelerate the adoption of floating solar technologies, drive sustainable development, and contribute to the transition towards a low-carbon future for all member countries.

Objective

The main objective of this ToR is to develop a standardized and comprehensive **global framework** that provides guidance on all aspects of floating solar project development, including technical, financial, regulatory, and environmental standards and best practices. This framework will serve as a **unified resource** for ISA member countries to implement floating solar projects, ensuring consistency and quality across projects. The sub-objectives are:

- To establish uniform guidelines and specifications for all stages of floating solar project development, including site selection, system design, construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning. These guidelines will provide detailed criteria, methodologies, and procedures to be followed, ensuring that projects adhere to international best practices and industry standards
- 2. To outline standardized financing models, project economics, risk mitigation strategies, and investment opportunities for floating solar projects. This will involve defining uniform methods for calculating project costs, revenue streams, and financial metrics, as well as providing guidance on various financing options and strategies for creating a favorable investment environment. By establishing standardized financial guidelines, the framework will make it easier for financial institutions and investors to assess and finance floating solar projects globally
- 3. To create a consistent **regulatory and policy framework** that addresses the legal, regulatory, and institutional aspects of floating solar project development, including environmental and social safeguards. This framework will provide guidelines for establishing clear and consistent legal and regulatory structures, as well as recommendations for establishing institutional structures and governance mechanisms to support project development. It will also outline guidelines for ensuring compliance with environmental and social standards, including impact assessments, mitigation measures, and monitoring and reporting requirements. By creating a coherent regulatory and policy framework, the initiative will promote a consistent and predictable legal environment for project developers across ISA member countries
- 4. To identify and establish uniform **best practices** and **guidelines** for addressing key challenges and barriers in the deployment of floating solar projects, such as site accessibility, grid integration, environmental impact considerations, and water quality management. These best practices will provide comprehensive guidance on mitigating and overcoming various obstacles faced by project developers, serving as a valuable resource for stakeholders
- 5. To determine a **broad Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Framework** (including an approval/permitting format)

Scope of Work

To achieve these objectives, the selected consultant(s) or organization(s) will be responsible for the following tasks.

1. Conduct a **comprehensive review** of the current status, trends, and challenges in the development of floating solar projects globally. This review should include an analysis of the existing frameworks, guidelines, standards, and best practices used in different countries and regions, covering both

mature and emerging markets for floating solar projects. The review should provide insights into the strengths and weaknesses of existing approaches, as well as identify gaps and areas for improvement that can be addressed through the development of a standardized global framework.

In particular, this review should:

- Analyze floating solar market data from at least 10 to 15 major countries across Asia, North America, Europe, South America, Africa and Pacific. Assess installed floating solar capacity, key policies, project costs and performance data
- Seek, review and document experience wrought by other agencies and donors who have implemented a floating solar project (e.g., UNDP/ADB)
- Review existing floating solar design standards and guidelines in countries like China, India, Japan, South Korea and across Europe. Compare on electrical system needs, mechanical stability requirements, durability benchmarks
- Identify key technical challenges for floating PV through comparative assessment across mature and emerging markets
- Engage with industry participants through stakeholder interviews to gather qualitative insights on market barriers, policy and regulatory issues, technology risks, and investor perceptions
- 2. Develop a unified and standardized technical framework that provides detailed guidelines and specifications for all aspects of floating solar project development, including:
 - a. <u>Site selection</u>: Establish comprehensive criteria for evaluating and selecting suitable water bodies for floating solar projects. This should include guidelines for assessing various types of water bodies (e.g., lakes, reservoirs, ponds, dams, mining pits, coastal areas), considering factors such as water quality, depth, wave action, and accessibility, as well as guidelines for conducting environmental and social impact assessments. Also, outline relevant parameters for evaluation like solar insolation, temperature & humidity profiles, water depth, reservoir size, existing grid infrastructure, load centers, protected areas in vicinity etc.
 - b. **System design:** Provide detailed guidelines for the design of floating solar systems, covering all aspects of system configuration.
 - This will include developing stable and durable floating structures capable of withstanding site-specific conditions such as fluctuating water levels, marine environments, and other environmental factors. Additionally, establish design qualification protocols aligned with international industry standards, outlining accelerated lifecycle tests to validate structural reliability over a 20+ year period across diverse use cases.
 - For solar module selection and configuration, specify criteria for selecting suitable modules tailored to the specific requirements of floating solar installations. Recommendations will encompass module technologies (e.g., Crystalline Silicon, Bifacial, HIT, TOPCON, etc.), orientation (portrait vs. landscape), and other factors optimized for typical atmospheric conditions.

- Also recommend acceptable ranges for key parameters such as module inclination, row spacing, and clearance between the floating platform and water surface, derived from optimization case studies to ensure optimal performance and efficiency.
- Additionally, provide guidelines for electrical system design, encompassing aspects such as cable routing, grounding, and inverter selection. These guidelines will ensure the safe and efficient operation of the electrical components within the floating solar system.
- Lastly, integrate safety considerations throughout the design process to mitigate potential hazards and risks associated with floating solar installations. This includes adhering to relevant safety standards and protocols to safeguard both personnel and equipment, ensuring overall project integrity and longevity
- c. <u>Construction</u>: Establish best practices for the installation, transportation, and assembly of floating solar systems. This should cover guidelines for proper handling and storage of materials, efficient installation processes, quality control measures during construction, and adherence to relevant safety protocols and regulations. Also, outline step-by-step installation manual with diagrams, equipment requirements, manpower and time estimates tailored to floating solar capacity segments like <100kW, 100kW to 1MW, 1MW to 100 MW, 100 MW to 500 MW, > 500 MW etc. The solar capacity segments and level of details can be decided by the contractor(s) as we have just given an example for better clarity.
- d. <u>Operation and maintenance</u>: Provide comprehensive guidelines for the regular operation and maintenance of floating solar systems, including schedules and procedures for routine inspections, cleaning, repairs, and monitoring. This should also cover strategies for mitigating potential risks and issues, such as algae growth, corrosion, and structural integrity concerns, as well as guidelines for emergency response, incident reporting, and corrective action plans. Outline preventive maintenance schedules on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis along with checklist of inspection items related to floaters corrosion, cable wear/tear, inverter performance etc. Also, define key performance indicators for continuous monitoring like PR (Performance Ratio), CUF (Capacity Utilization Factor), soiling losses etc. tailored to floating PV plants. Also, outline protocols for corrective maintenance in events like cable damage during storms, algae fouling of panels etc. along with risk mitigation strategies.
- e. <u>Decommissioning</u>: Outline procedures and guidelines for the safe and environmentally responsible decommissioning and disposal of floating solar systems at the end of their lifespan. This should include protocols for the safe dismantling and removal of structures, proper handling and disposal of materials and equipment, adherence to relevant environmental regulations, and guidelines for restoring water bodies to their original condition
- f. <u>Quality Standards:</u> Guidelines for quality shall be developed to ensure the adherence to rigorous standards throughout the lifecycle of floating solar projects. This will include the quality assurance and quality control measures for various components involved in floating solar systems, including but not limited to floating structures, solar modules, electrical components, and ancillary equipment. This quality framework will be based on an in-depth analysis of current practices followed by various countries and industry standards. It will establish criteria for assessing the quality of components, testing procedures, certification requirements, and protocols for quality

assurance during manufacturing, installation, operation, and maintenance phases of floating solar projects.

- 3. Develop a standardized financial framework that outlines uniform financing models, project economics, risk mitigation strategies, and investment opportunities for floating solar projects. This framework should include:
 - a. <u>Financing models</u>: Provide guidance on various financing options, such as project finance, corporate finance, green bonds, and power purchase agreements (PPAs), and their applicability to floating solar projects. It should be noted that while these options are commonly used, the financing possibilities should not be limited to these. Outline the advantages and disadvantages of each financing model, as well as best practices for structuring and negotiating financing agreements
 - b. <u>Project economics</u>: Establish standardized methods for calculating project costs, revenue streams, and financial metrics such as levelized cost of energy (LCOE), net present value (NPV), and internal rate of return (IRR). Provide guidelines for conducting financial analyses and projections to assess the economic viability of floating solar projects. If possible, also provide a comparative assessment model that outlines the financial viability indicators for both floating and ground-mounted solar projects
 - c. <u>Risk mitigation strategies</u>: Develop guidelines for identifying and mitigating risks associated with floating solar projects, such as technology risks, construction risks, operational risks, and regulatory risks. Provide recommendations for conducting risk assessments, implementing risk management plans, and leveraging strategies such as insurance and performance guarantees to minimize risks. Outline insurance mechanisms for covering damages to floating platforms, cabling etc. along with precedent examples and case studies
 - d. <u>Investment opportunities:</u> Assess global floating solar investment trends and growth opportunities across developed and emerging markets. Provide recommendations for creating a favorable investment environment for floating solar projects, including guidance on incentives, tax credits, and policy support mechanisms that can attract investors and financial institutions. Outline strategies for promoting investment in floating solar projects through public-private partnerships, green financing initiatives, and other innovative financing models
- 4. Develop a standardized regulatory and policy framework that addresses the legal, regulatory, and institutional aspects of floating solar project development. This framework should cover:
 - a. <u>Legal and regulatory considerations</u>: Establish guidelines for creating a clear and consistent legal, environmental and regulatory framework for floating solar projects. This should include guidance (preferably in a template form) on permitting and licensing norms & requirements, grid interconnection regulations (along with associated charges), environmental regulations, and other relevant legal and regulatory considerations
 - b. <u>Institutional framework:</u> Provide recommendations for establishing institutional structures and governance mechanisms to support the development of floating solar projects. This may include guidance on establishing dedicated agencies, task forces, or working groups to oversee project

development, coordinate stakeholder engagement, and facilitate knowledge-sharing and capacity-building efforts

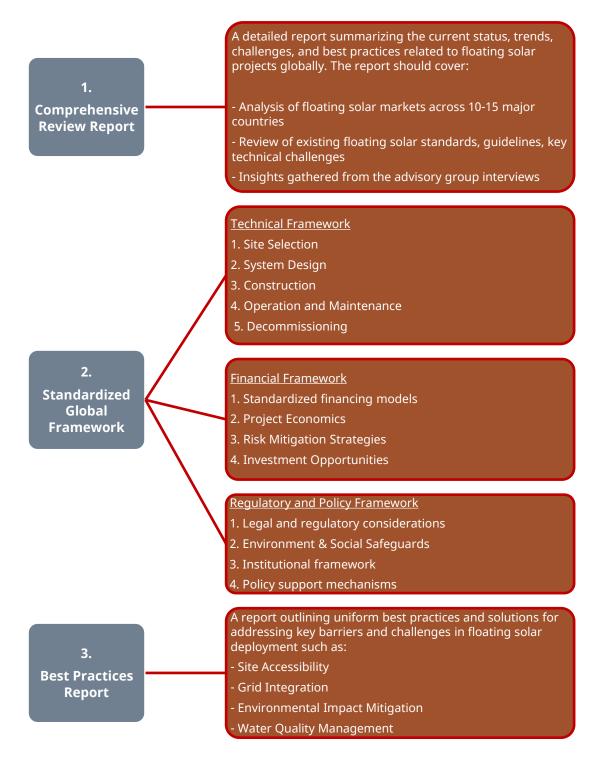
- c. <u>Environmental and social safeguards</u>: Develop guidelines for ensuring that floating solar projects comply with environmental and social standards.
 - This process includes conducting comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) to identify potential environmental and social impacts associated with the projects. These assessments involve assessing factors such as water quality, biodiversity, and social well-being to understand the project's overall impact.
 - Following the assessments, mitigation measures are developed and implemented based on the findings to minimize adverse environmental and social impacts. These measures may include habitat restoration, noise reduction measures, and community development initiatives, among others.
 - Additionally, establishing monitoring and reporting requirements is crucial. This involves
 defining protocols and procedures for ongoing monitoring of environmental and social
 parameters to track project impacts over time. Overall, comprehensive guidelines
 encompassing ESIA, mitigation measures, and monitoring and reporting requirements
 ensure that floating solar projects are developed and operated in a socially and
 environmentally responsible manner, contributing to sustainable development practices
- d. <u>Policy support mechanisms</u>: Provide guidance on policy instruments that can promote the adoption of floating solar projects, such as feed-in tariffs, renewable energy certificates, viability gap funding, financial assistance, and tax incentives. However, it should be noted that the range of policy instruments available should not be limited to these examples; there may be additional options to consider. Outline best practices for designing and implementing these policy support mechanisms to create a favorable regulatory environment for floating solar projects
- 5. Establish uniform best practices and guidelines for addressing key challenges and barriers in the deployment of floating solar projects, such as:
 - a. <u>Site accessibility</u>: Develop strategies for addressing site access challenges, including guidelines for assessing transportation and logistical considerations for materials and equipment, as well as recommendations for constructing access roads or waterways to facilitate project development. Also, provide guides on assessing site accessibility constraints related to water depth limitations and water body surface area coverage limitations (for floating solar installations)
 - b. <u>Grid integration</u>: Establish best practices for integrating floating solar projects into existing grid infrastructure. This should include guidelines for conducting grid interconnection studies, addressing power quality considerations, and exploring energy storage solutions to enhance grid integration
 - c. <u>Environmental impact considerations</u>: Provide guidelines for assessing and mitigating potential environmental impacts of floating solar projects, such as impacts on water quality, biodiversity, and visual aesthetics. Outline strategies for managing issues like algae growth and interference from local fishermen, as well as recommendations for conducting comprehensive environmental

impact assessments. Also, provide guidelines on assessing ecosystem services impacts linked to altered evaporation rates, water conservation potential etc.

- Engage with relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, developers, financial institutions, and research organizations, to gather input and feedback on the proposed standardized framework. With such stakeholders, the consultant(s) will form an advisory group as follows:
 - Establish a 8 to 10 member advisory group with representation from various sectors: technology providers (3 members), government agencies (3 members), financing firms (2 members), and research organizations (2 members)
 - The primary role of the advisory group will be to review the prepared unified framework for floating solar
 - The advisory group may include representatives from:
 - Technology Providers: Ciel & Terre, Tata Power Solar, Sungrow, Trina Solar
 - Government Authorities: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), World Bank
 - Financing Institutions: L&T Infrastructure Finance, Tata Cleantech Capital, IREDA HSBC
 - Research Organizations: National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Fraunhofer Institute, Arizona State University (ASU), Deutsche Gesellschaft f
 ür Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GiZ)
 - Please note that this list is illustrative, and the International Solar Alliance (ISA) would support in identifying relevant external stakeholders and establishing the expert advisory group.

Deliverables:

1. A comprehensive report detailing the proposed standardized global framework for floating solar projects, including the following details.



- 2. Regular progress reports and stakeholder engagement summaries throughout the project duration, including:
 - a. Monthly progress reports detailing the work completed, challenges encountered, and next steps
 - b. Short reports summarizing the feedback and insights gathered from stakeholder consultations and expert advisory group meetings

Work Execution

The project is expected to be completed within 6 Months from the date of contract signing. Work Execution and Payment Schedule are mentioned in the following table.

Month	Week	Description	Payment
April 2024	1-2	Project Kick-off and Planning: Finalize team, develop project plan, set up communication channels	15% of the total contract value
April 2024	3-4	Conduct Initial Research: Review current status, trends, and challenges. Identify stakeholders	
May 2024	1-2	Continued Research: Gather data on existing frameworks, guidelines, and best practices	15% of the total contract value
May 2024	3-4	Initial Drafting: Develop technical framework for site selection, system design, etc.	
June 2024	1-2	Refinement: Review and refine technical framework based on feedback	15% of the total contract value
June 2024	3-4	Financial Framework: Develop standardized financing models, project economics	
July 2024	1-2	Finalize Financial Framework	15% of the total contract value
July 2024	3-4	Draft Regulatory Framework: Develop legal, regulatory, and institutional guidelines	
August 2024	1-2 Refinement of Regulatory Framework	15% of the total	
August 2024	3-4	Best Practices: Outline uniform guidelines for addressing key challenges	contract value
September	1-2	fuene en contra de	15% of the total
2024	3-4Stakeholder Engagement: Present framework for feedback. Prepare and submit final reportscont	contract value	

10% of the total contract value

Section 6: Returnable Bidding Forms / Checklist

This form serves as a checklist for preparation of your Proposal. Please complete the Returnable Bidding Forms in accordance with the instructions in the forms and return them as part of your Proposal submission. No alteration to format of forms shall be permitted and no substitution shall be accepted. Before submitting your Proposal, please ensure compliance with the Proposal Submission instructions of the BDS 22.

Technical Proposal Envelope:

Have you duly completed all the Returnable Bidding Forms?	
Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form	
Form B: Bidder Information Form	
Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/ Association Information Form	
 Form D: Qualification Form 	
Form E: Format of Technical Proposal	
Form H: Proposal Security Form	
[Add other forms as necessary]	
Have you provided the required documents to establish compliance with the evaluation criteria in Section 4?	

Financial Proposal Envelope:

(Must be submitted in a separate sealed envelope/password protected email)

Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form	
 Form G: Financial Proposal Form 	

FORM A: TECHNICAL SUBMISSION FORM

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for [Insert Title of services] in accordance with your Request for Proposal No. [Insert RFP Reference Number] and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and our Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

We hereby declare that our firm, its affiliates or subsidiaries or employees, including any JV/Consortium /Association members or subcontractors or suppliers for any part of the contract:

- a) is not under procurement prohibition by the United Nations, including but not limited to prohibitions derived from the Compendium of United Nations Security Council Sanctions Lists;
- b) have not been suspended, debarred, sanctioned or otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization;
- c) have no conflict of interest in accordance with Instruction to Bidders Clause 4;
- d) do not employ, or anticipate employing, any person(s) who is, or has been an ISA staff member within the last year, if said ISA staff member has or had prior professional dealings with our firm in his/her capacity as ISA staff member within the last three years of service with the ISA;
- e) have not declared bankruptcy, are not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against them that could impair their operations in the foreseeable future;
- f) undertake not to engage in proscribed practices, including but not limited to corruption, fraud, coercion, collusion, obstruction, or any other unethical practice, with the ISA or any other party, and to conduct business in a manner that averts any financial, operational, reputational or other undue risk to the ISA and we *embrace the principles of the ISA Supplier Code of Conduct* <u>https://isolaralliance.org/images/ISA%20Supplier%20Code%20of%20Conduct 14.4.2023.final%20version.pdf</u>

We declare that all the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and we accept that any misinterpretation or misrepresentation contained in this Proposal may lead to our disqualification and/or sanctioning by the ISA.

We offer to provide services in conformity with the Bidding documents, including the ISA General Conditions of Contract and in accordance with the Terms of Reference https://www.isolaralliance.org/images/ISA GTB.pdf

Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Bid Data Sheet.

We understand and recognize that you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

I, the undersigned, certify that I am duly authorized by [Insert Name of Bidder] *to sign this Proposal and bind it should ISA accept this Proposal.*

Name:	
Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	

[Stamp with official stamp of the Bidder]

Form B: Bidder Information Form

Legal name of Bidder	[Complete]
Legal address	[Complete]
Year of registration	[Complete]
Bidder's Authorized Representative Information	Name and Title: [Complete] Telephone numbers: [Complete] Email: [Complete]
Are you a UNGM registered vendor?	□ Yes □ No If yes, [insert UGNM vendor number]
Are you an ISA vendor?	□ Yes □ No
Countries of operation	[Complete]
No. of full-time employees	[Complete]
Quality Assurance Certification (e.g. ISO 9000 or Equivalent) (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	[Complete]
Does your Company hold any accreditation such as ISO 14001 related to the environment? (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	[Complete]
Does your Company have a Written Statement of its Environmental Policy? (If yes, provide a Copy)	[Complete]
Contact person ISA may contact for requests for clarification during Proposal evaluation	Name and Title: [Complete] Telephone numbers: [Complete] Email: [Complete]
Please attach the following documents:	 Company Profile, which should <u>not</u> exceed fifteen (15) pages, including printed brochures and product catalogues relevant to the goods/services being procured Certificate of Incorporation/ Business Registration Tax Registration/Payment Certificate issued by the Internal Revenue Authority evidencing that the Bidder is updated with its tax payment obligations, or Certificate of Tax exemption, if any such privilege is enjoyed by the Bidder Trade name registration papers, if applicable Local Government permit to locate and operate in assignment location, if applicable

 Official Letter of Appointment as local representative, if Bidder is submitting a Bid in behalf of an entity located
outside the country
 Power of Attorney

Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

To be completed and returned with your Proposal if the Proposal is submitted as a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association.

No	Name of Partner and contact information (address, telephone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail address)	Proposed proportion of responsibilities (in %) and type of services to be performed
1	[Complete]	[Complete]
2	[Complete]	[Complete]
3	[Complete]	[Complete]

We have attached a copy of the below document signed by every partner, which details the likely legal structure of and the confirmation of joint and severable liability of the members of the said joint venture:

Letter of intent to form a joint venture	OR	□ JV/Consortium/Association agreement
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We hereby confirm that if the contract is awarded, all parties of the Joint Venture/Consortium/Association shall be jointly and severally liable to ISA `for the fulfillment of the provisions of the Contract. Name of partner: Name of partner:

Signature: Date:	Signature:
Name of partner:	Date: Name of partner:
Signature: Date:	Signature: Date:

Form D: Qualification Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

If JV/Consortium/Association, to be completed by each partner.

Historical Contract Non-Performance

Contract non-performance did not occur for the last 3 years				
Contrac	t(s) not performed fo	or the last 3 years		
Year	Non- performed portion of contract	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount (current value in US\$)	
		Name of Client: Address of Client: Reason(s) for non-performance:		

Litigation History (including pending litigation)

🗆 No litiga	tion history for the l	ast 3 years	
🗆 Litigatio	n History as indicate	d below	
Year of	Amount in	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount
dispute	dispute (in US\$)		(current value in US\$)
		Name of Client:	
		Address of Client:	
		Matter in dispute:	
		Party who initiated the dispute:	
		Status of dispute:	
		Party awarded if resolved:	

Previous Relevant Experience

Please list only previous similar assignments successfully completed in the last 7 years.

List only those assignments for which the Bidder was legally contracted or sub-contracted by the Client as a company or was one of the Consortium/JV partners. Assignments completed by the Bidder's individual experts working privately or through other firms cannot be claimed as the relevant experience of the Bidder, or that of the Bidder's partners or sub-consultants, but can be claimed by the Experts themselves in their CVs. The Bidder should be prepared to substantiate the claimed experience by presenting copies of relevant documents and references.

Project name & Country of Assignment	Client & Reference Contact Details	Contract Value	Period of activity and status	Types of activities undertaken

Bidders may also attach their own Project Data Sheets with more details for assignments above.

□ Attached are the Statements of Satisfactory Performance from the Top 3 (three) Clients or more.

Financial Standing

Annual Turnover for the last 3 years	Year Year Year	INR/USD INR/USD INR/USD
Latest Credit Rating (if any), indicate the source		

Financial information (in US\$ equivalent)	Historic information for the last 3 years		
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	Infe	ormation from Balance She	et
Total Assets (TA)			
Total Liabilities (TL)			
Current Assets (CA)			
Current Liabilities (CL)			
	Infor	mation from Income Stater	nent
Total / Gross Revenue (TR)			
Profits Before Taxes (PBT)			
Net Profit			
Current Ratio			

□ Attached are copies of the audited financial statements (balance sheets, including all related notes, and income statements) for the years required above complying with the following condition:

- a) Must reflect the financial situation of the Bidder or party to a JV, and not sister or parent companies;
- b) Historic financial statements must be audited by a certified public accountant;
- c) Historic financial statements must correspond to accounting periods already completed and audited. No statements for partial periods shall be accepted.

Form E: Format of Technical Proposal

Please ensure that the information below is adapted in accordance with the technical evaluation criteria included in Section 4. The below sections correspond to the sample criteria included in this template RFP in Section 4]

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

The Bidder's proposal should be organized to follow this format of Technical Proposal. Where the bidder is presented with a requirement or asked to use a specific approach, the bidder must not only state its acceptance, but also describe how it intends to comply with the requirements. Where a descriptive response is requested, failure to provide the same will be viewed as non-responsive.

Bidders are requested to adopt the following sections as per the requirement of the evaluation criteria mentioned in section 4 and terms of references explained in section 5.

SECTION 1: Bidder's qualification, capacity and expertise

- 1.1 Brief description of the organization, including the year and country of incorporation, and types of activities undertaken.
- 1.2 Specific organizational capability which is likely to affect implementation: management structure, financial stability and project financing capacity, project management controls.
- 1.3 Relevance of specialized knowledge and experience on similar engagements for fund-raising done in the region/country.
- 1.4 Quality assurance procedures and risk mitigation measures.
- 1.5 Organization's commitment to sustainability.

SECTION 2: Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan

This section should demonstrate the bidder's responsiveness to the TOR by identifying the specific components proposed, addressing the requirements, providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics proposed and demonstrating how the proposed approach and methodology meets or exceeds the requirements. All important aspects should be addressed in sufficient detail and different components of the project should be adequately weighted relative to one another.

- 2.1 A detailed description of the approach and methodology for how the Bidder will achieve the Terms of Reference of the project, keeping in mind the appropriateness to local conditions and project environment. Details how the different service elements shall be organized, controlled and delivered.
- 2.2 The methodology shall also include details of the Bidder's internal technical and quality assurance review mechanisms.
- 2.3 Description of available performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and tools; how they shall be adopted and used for a specific requirement.
- 2.4 Implementation plan including a Gantt Chart or Project Schedule indicating the detailed sequence of activities that will be undertaken and their corresponding timing.
- 2.5 Demonstrate how you plan to integrate sustainability measures in the execution of the contract.

2.6 Any other comments or information regarding the project approach and methodology that will be adopted.

SECTION 2A: Bidder's Comments and Suggestions on the Terms of Reference

Provide comments and suggestions on the Terms of Reference, or additional services that will be rendered beyond the requirements of the TOR, if any.

SECTION 3: Management Structure and Key Personnel

- 3.1 Describe the overall management approach toward planning and implementing the project. Include an organization chart for the management of the project describing the relationship of key positions and designations. Provide a spreadsheet to show the activities of each personnel and the time allocated for his/her involvement.
- 3.2 Provide CVs for key personnel that will be provided to support the implementation of this project using the format below. CVs should demonstrate qualifications in areas relevant to the Scope of Services.

Format for CV of Proposed Key Personnel

NAME OF PERSONNEL	[INSERT]
POSITION FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT	[INSERT]
NATIONALITY	[INSERT]
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY	[INSERT]

	[SUMMARIZE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND OTHER SPECIALIZED EDUCATION OF PERSONNEL MEMBER, GIVING NAMES OF SCHOOLS, DATES ATTENDED, AND DEGREES/QUALIFICATIONS OBTAINED.]
EDUCATION/ QUALIFICATIONS	
	[INSERT]
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS	[PROVIDE DETAILS OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS RELEVANT TO THE SCOPE OF SERVICES]
	 NAME OF INSTITUTION: [INSERT] DATE OF CERTIFICATION: [INSERT]

EMPLOYMENT RECORD/ EXPERIENCE	[LIST ALL POSITIONS HELD BY PERSONNEL (STARTING WITH PRESENT POSITION, LIST IN REVERSE ORDER), GIVING DATES, NAMES OF EMPLOYING ORGANIZATION, TITLE OF POSITION HELD AND LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT. FOR EXPERIENCE IN LAST FIVE YEARS, DETAIL THE TYPE OF ACTIVITIES PERFORMED, DEGREE OF RESPONSIBILITIES, LOCATION OF ASSIGNMENTS AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE CONSIDERED PERTINENT FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT.]
	[INSERT] [PROVIDE NAMES, ADDRESSES, PHONE AND EMAIL CONTACT INFORMATION FOR TWO (2) REFERENCES]

	REFERENCE 1:
REFERENCES	[INSERT]
	REFERENCE 2:
	[INSERT]

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, these data correctly describe my qualifications, my experiences, and other relevant information about myself.

Signature of Personnel

Date (Day/Month/Year)

Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for [Insert Title of services] in accordance with your Request for Proposal No. [Insert RFP Reference Number] and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and our Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [Insert amount in words and figures].

Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Bid Data Sheet.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

Name:	
Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	

[Stamp with official stamp of the Bidder]

Form G: Financial Proposal Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

The Bidder is required to prepare the Financial Proposal following the below format and submit it in an envelope separate from the Technical Proposal as indicated in the Instruction to Bidders. Any Financial information provided in the Technical Proposal shall lead to Bidder's disqualification. The Financial Proposal should align with the requirements in the Terms of Reference and the Bidder's Technical Proposal.

Table 1: Summary of Overall Prices

	Amount(s)
Professional Fees	All Bidders shall quote only one price
Other Costs (If any)	
Total Amount of Financial Proposal	