

## Modern Cooking Facility for Africa (MCFA)

### Invitation of Expression of Interest: Independent Verification of the Clean Cooking Services and Selected Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of the Modern Cooking Facility for Africa (MCFA)

Questions & Answers, 3 April 2024

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q1: How many CSPs do you have in total for each country that will be included in the verification?**

A1: Currently, MCFA portfolio includes 1 project in DRC, 1 in Kenya, 1 in Mozambique, 2 in Tanzania, 3 in Zambia, and 1 in Zimbabwe. Once all the contracts have been signed, including those selected through the second call for proposals (MCFA2) as well as four MCFA1 projects that are still in due diligence stage, Nefco expects a total of up to 25 projects in the portfolio. The number might finally be higher or lower.

**Q2: How many CSPs do you think need fuel availability assessment?**

A2: Fuel availability assessment concerns CSPs selling CCS based on solid or liquid biofuels to their customers. Among the current pipeline of contracted projects and those in due diligence stage, this applies to four CSPs but additional CSPs are likely to be contracted through the MCFA2.

**Q3: It is useful to know CSPs distribution in each country as this will help us to understand the scope and feasibility of different methods of verification.**

A3: See Answer 1. The Terms of Reference in the full proposal phase will include more detailed information on the project portfolio.

**Q4: You also mentioned about the household survey, please can you give us an estimated number of households (under the customer experience and satisfaction, and impact on the quality of life in the end-user surveys) you think should be sufficient for each CSP**

A4: We leave it up to the tenderer to propose a minimum number of households per company, based on their prior experience and good practice in statistical methods.

**Q5: Please can you confirm the frequency of verification exercises and aggregated figures expected – annually per country?**

A5: Each project will undergo a verification once per year in the context of the Yearly Implementation Review process. One project is subject to 2-4 Yearly Implementation Reviews during its contract with MCFA. The timing of the Yearly Implementation Review varies between companies. Further, many of the project contracts have not been signed yet. Therefore, it is difficult to estimate at this point the frequency of the verification exercises and aggregated figures expected annually per country. The Terms of Reference in the full proposal phase will include more detailed information on the project portfolio. During the inception phase, the Consultant will develop a verification plan.

**Q6: Please confirm that there is no template from you for the expression of interest**

A6: No, there is no template.

**Q7: • A minimum of 2 contracts of similar annual value (EUR 1 million), nature and complexity implemented in the last five years;• A minimum average annual turnover of EUR 750,000 for the last three years.**

Given that the assignment is spread over a period of 4 years, and the total budget is EUR 1,500,000, the total annual budget to be managed is EUR 375,000. How does that relate to the above mentioned criteria? NEFCO is herewith excluding a large number of young, active and committed African and Southern European countries (incl. us), for no logical reason. Many of these organisations can easily prove that they are able to manage EUR 375,000 per year and carry out large household surveys. But 1 million?

May I ask you to confer with your colleagues to see whether these two criteria could be dropped, so that there is a more level playing field? This would also be in the interest of NEFCO, so that you may actually receive EOIs from organisations other than the usual suspects.

A7: Thank you for your comments and suggestions. Unfortunately, Nefco will not change the minimum criteria this time. Please note however that EUR 1 million refers to the total contract value (not annual contract value).

**Q8: The Consultant may be a consortium of organisation. Could you please advise whether the Consortium as a whole (and not only lead consultant's) references can be used to demonstrate the fulfilment of the minimum criteria?**

A8: No, only the references of the lead consultant in case of consortia can be used to demonstrate the fulfilment of the minimum criteria.

**Q9: The minimum criteria states two contracts of similar annual value (EUR 1 million), nature and complexity implemented in the last five years. As the contract in question amounts to EUR 1.5 million over a span of four years, could you please clarify whether the required value of EUR 1 million pertains to a total contract value rather than an annual one?**

A9: It pertains to the total contract value (not annual contract value).

**Q10: The reference contracts should be from the last five years. Could you please clarify how the five years is calculated? Does it mean, for example (if counted from the EOI submission DL) that the reference project has been ongoing in any period (but possibly started earlier / will be completed later) between 22 April 2019 and 22 April 2024?**

A10: Correct, the reference project should have been in progress at any point between April 22, 2019, and April 22, 2024, with the possibility of having commenced earlier or being completed later.

**Q11: Please also confirm if ongoing references qualify.**

A11: Tenderers can include ongoing references, but please note that only the implemented portion between 22 April 2019 and 22 April 2024 will be considered in the evaluation process.

**Q12: At least 5 household surveys have been conducted in developing country context, including a minimum sample size of 500 interviews in the last 5 years:**

- a. Could you please clarify whether these can be from the surveys conducted in different subprojects under a same contract?
- b. Could you kindly clarify if a project reference with several surveys (totalling the sample size of 500 interviews in the last 5 years) will qualify?

A12a: Yes, these can be from surveys conducted in different sub-projects under a same contract.

A12b: Yes, a project reference with several surveys (totalling the sample size of 500 interviews in the last 5 years) will qualify.