

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TITLE:	Appointment of Consultants Appointment of Agencies for Development of Water Balance Plan for 4 cities i.e ,Allahabad, Nasik, Jaipur, Shahjahanpur
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO.:	CURE-USAID_WASH-2020 (RFP)_04_28.5.2020

QUERIES AND CLARIFICATIONS

#	Page No.	Section of the RFP referred to		Queries	CURE Response
1	1	Point number 5	The final contract shall include penal clause which may include deduction of 10% from each bill amount due to reasons of delay in submission of deliverables.	Certain delays are beyond any organization's reasonable control. RTI would like to clarify that the said penal clause shall be applicable only in the event, the delay in submission of deliverables is directly and solely due to the fault of RTI.	We understand that certain delays are beyond Agency's control. Any delay in meeting any milestone/ submission due to the Agency's fault directly or due to communication gap/ no stakeholder consultation on timely manner, shall only be passed on to the Agency. Agency have to make sure timely flagging of all the issues to the concerned authority incl. City Managers and CURE.
2	2	Point number 6	The financial proposal should be valid for acceptance for at least two months from the date of submission of the Proposal.	Under instructions on submitting the Commercial Proposal on page number 5, point 5.2 states that all quoted prices should remain valid for a period of at least one month from the date of the submission of the bid. This does not match with the information on page no. 2	Please read it as two months. The financial proposal should be valid for acceptance for at least two months from the date of submission of the Proposal.

3	5	Point number 4.v	Previous experience of the firm/company in similar types of assignments completed at the National/State level in Urban or public policy during last 3 years	Will international projects, recent or old, which show relevant experience have any weightage while demonstrating previous experience of the firm?	CURE is looking forward for on-boarding agency for the development of City Water Balance Plan in Indian Cities. Thus, it would be more relevant to showcase your work experience in Indian cities. However, you can add your international experience for scoring more marks.
4	5	Point number 5.4.i	Section number 1 of commercial proposal should include confirmation of acceptance of CURE's Conditions of Contract	The RFP does not contain any specific section/annexure on Conditions of Contract Can you please share the T&C of the contract. This will help us to confirm its acceptance in section 1 of the Commercial Proposal	Under this, you are requested to just give confirmation that all the terms and conditions of this RFP are accepted.
5	5	Point no. 4	Instructions for submitting the Technical Proposal	There is no limit specified on number of pages for the technical proposal. However we would like to know the approximate length of technical proposal that CURE expects.	Please refer Point No. 6.2: Part B - Technical Evaluation We are expecting a comprehensive Technical Proposal which should cover detailed Approach & Methodology, Work Plan, Your understanding of the Scope, Your past experience and its linkage with the TOR, your technical capacity, Work Plan and the Man-Month Planning of your experts.

6	17	<p>Point number 4.f</p>	<p>Develop a blueprint combining the acceptable & implementable potential intervention/proposal/ strategies and monitoring tools & methods that yield greater resilience for the city based on identified issues, gaps and demand;</p> <p>Localized innovative solutions & best practices, building capacity in managing urban water with understanding of the policies and regulations. Apart from this, capacity building towards strengthening of institutional framework, inter-departmental linkages as well as roles and responsibilities of every stakeholder involved. Suggestion for policy reforms and modifications in the existing rules and regulations, Develop tools/maps for data management, evaluation and monitoring, etc.</p>	<p>Can you please elaborate on the tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What will be the aim of these tools? - What will be the kind of tools? Will they be excel based? - What is the number of tools that you expect? <p>Can you please elaborate on what the evaluation & monitoring is aimed at and what is its scope of work?</p>	<p>The aim of this Work is to develop a Comprehensive Water Balance Plan for Cities (Allahabad, Nasik, Jaipur, Shahjahanpur) and shall be owned by Municipal Corporation/ City Authority:</p> <p>(i) Monitoring tool to help the City Managers with monitoring the Water Balance Plan execution/ implementation. It also aims to modify the WBP plan as per the City's requirement in future. The tool can be any Desktop based tool or Dashboard where in the City Managers can overview the progress and can access GIS Maps for asset management.</p> <p>(ii) A system is required to develop for controlling of Non-revenue (NRW)/ Unaccounted flow of water (UFW). Also for a robust CWBP, recycling of treated sewage/ effluent is necessary, for that too, a tool/ system is required to be developed and linked with common City Platform/ City Dashboard.</p> <p>(iii) Tool can be excel based may be Macro-enabled but we would suggest a Dashboard where City Managers can access all the components of CWBP incl. GIS Maps.</p> <p>(iv) There is no specific numbers but if we can develop a comprehensive and robust tool where-in City Managers (city officials) can overview each components of the CWBP on a single platform or on a linked platform it would be great. We can name the tool as "CityName_WBP".</p> <p>For a robust CWBP, Smart Solutions/ ICT are required to be implemented/ integrated for capturing real-time data. Thus, we would appreciate if the Agency can propose a Dashboard with integrated smart solutions.</p>
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7	18	Point number 5	The surveys and data collection/gathering from the field have to be organized by the consultant, the CURE Team will only facilitate the work.	While developing the scope of work, understanding CURE's role in the project will be helpful. Can you please elaborate on Cure team's support for this project?	<p style="text-align: center;">CURE shall help with:</p> <p>(a) CURE will arrange for and manage the events; the consultant/s will have to attend and make presentations and join in the ensuing discussions.</p> <p>(b) CURE shall facilitate with consultation with stakeholders/ city managers in collection of data</p> <p>(c) Agency need to keep posted/ informed the CURE for any development/ progress and also if Agency would require any assistance from CURE team, request must be sent in advance through our mutually agreed platform (WhatsApp/ Email etc.)</p>
8	19	Point number 2	Note, under Deliverables & Payment schedule table, states - Retention amount- 10% of the each bill to be released after completion of the work.	RTI India would like to request CURE for reducing the retention percentage.	<p style="text-align: center;">No change in the clause.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Retention of 10% is a acceptable across multiple works and sectors for procurement of Agency/ Consultancy Firms</p>

9	-	-	<p>Scope of work of the project</p>	<p>Understanding the limited timeframe and urgency of work, we believe the work will start very soon. As we are trying to cope up with the COVID crisis, it will be challenging to conduct primary research. We may thus have to predominantly depend on secondary research for the project.</p> <p>Can we request CURE’s views on it?</p>	<p>Comprehensive CWBP can not be developed based on secondary research only as multiple factors/ city’s assets have to be managed through primary research work and through consultation with stakeholders/ city officials/ city managers. We need to bring every stakeholders on the platform so that views/ suggestions can be incorporated while finalizing a robust CWBP.</p> <p>Thus, work has to be taken up on immediate basis on selection of CWBP Agency. However, we would abide all Central/ State guidelines pertaining to COVID-19 and in scenario which would not under CURE/ Agency control, we will have extension of time for respective submission/ time-frame.</p> <p>Most of the Secondary research have already been carried out and data so captured shall be shared with the selected Agency. The primary work can be taken up immediately considering State specific COVID guidelines.</p>
10	-	-	<p>The Bidder must have at least completed two assignments in the WASH domain.</p>	<p>Please also consider the ongoing assignment for the evaluation. Copy of work order will be attached as a supporting document.</p>	<p>Ongoing similar projects would be considered provided substantial work (more than 50%) has been completed so far. Client certificate in that case needs to be enclosed with the Proposal.</p>

11	-	-	<p>Proposals are responsible for establishing the status of the Services for the purpose of any government tax applicable in India. Any applicable taxes should be included in PROFORMA 2: COMMERCIAL PROPOSAL separately.</p>	<p>We assume that GST will be excluded from the evaluation and paid in addition to consultancy fee.</p>	<p>GST shall be paid extra, however, Agency is required to submit the proposal with all the applicable taxes and should be included in:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PROFORMA 2: COMMERCIAL PROPOSAL</p>
12	-	-	<p>The objective of this assignment is to hire technical consultants (companies/ organizations/ partnership firms) to prepare Water Balance Plans including the desired deliverables for each four Cities i.e Allahabad, Nasik, Jaipur, Shahjahanpur separately under the PASS project.</p>	<p>Please give the details on following that are estimated for the assignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Positions and number of key staff (experts) - Qualification criteria for the experts - Staff months 	<p>Agency is required to propose following to develop a Comprehensive City Water Balance Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Experts/ Key Staffs - teaming shall be proposed by the Agency (b) Qualification Criteria - Experts should have prior experience in developing CWBP and have good National/ State/ City level understanding. Considering the SOW defined, please propose a team who can deliver the project in given timeframe and ensure quality of work. (c) Staff Months - Please propose as per SOW requirement <p>If Agency is planning to submit the Proposal for all 4 cities (Allahabad, Nashik, Jaipur and Shahjahanpur towns), separate team (Key Experts) are required to be submitted as work of all the cities will start simultaneously. Agency is required to keep the Scope of Work as per TOR in mind and shall propose the Approach & Methodology which may include other activities to make the CWBP more robust and comprehensive in nature.</p>

13	-	-	Presentation at workshops and roundtables (between 2 –3 events, to be confirmed by CURE)	The logistics for the workshops like venue hiring, refreshment, transportation of government official and/or CURE staff (as applicable), refreshment, PA system etc will be arranged by the Client. Please confirm.	Yes, the logistics expenses for workshop shall be borne and arranged by CURE.
14	-	-	-	Can a social enterprise apply for the same.	Yes They can.
15	-	-	-	There is no budget mentioned in the document.	Organization can Submit Their proposal according to the Value which lies in preparing this whole project. Cure will not provide any number about it.
16	-	-	6.2.3 Evaluation Criteria: The Evaluation Criteria based on which evaluation of technical proposals of the bidders shall be carried out are detailed in the table below: Technical Evaluation (B)70% Commercial Evaluation (C)30%	We request you to consider Technical Evaluation (80%) and Commercial Evaluation (20%) as per industry practice.	the criteria will be 70:30 no changes will be done, as the management has decided to have it as to 70:30 only

17	-	-	<p>12.5 Anybody wishes to send proposals for more than one city, then they should give separate technical and separate commercial proposal for each City/Cities in one email only Organization and Team Capacity and Past Performance 30% weightage for Technical evaluation.</p>	<p>For submitting proposal for more than one city, please confirm whether separate team CVs to be submitted for each city or for submission of proposal for more than two cities, two team CVs can be considered for bid proposal submission.</p>	<p>There should be separate team c.v's for separate cities.</p>
18	-	-	<p>12.6 Proposal must be received by June 10th, 2020 (6 P.M) to the Procurement Officer, CURE at procurement@cureindia.org. Late proposals will not be accepted in any circumstance. No special pleadings will be accepted.</p>	<p>We request you to extend the bid submission date by 4/6/8 weeks so enable to submit competitive proposals for project cities and considering present Covid-19 pandemic situation.</p>	<p>The proposal submitting date has been already extended till 17th June 2020 , an addendum has already passed on different Devnet portal and on cure website too. No other extensions will be made on any grounds.</p>
19	-	-	-	<p>We want to understand as to how this plan will be used and by whom. As water balance mapping is dynamic rather than onetime exercise, and has limited real time shelf life, is participation of Municipal Corporations (city authorities) has been bought before hand? This is important for us to</p>	<p>This plan shall be made for Municipal Corporation and they will be on on-board for finalizing City Water Balance Plan. City Authority/ Managers shall support with all data available with them.</p>

				<p>understand as it will also effect the kind of support from authorities while collection of data.</p>	
20	-	-	-	<p>We understand that GIS based multilayer map is required as deliverables. However, this kind of mapping will be possible in given timeframe only if Municipal corporation and other authorities have the data/ maps ready. What will be implication on the assignment in case if the relevant updated data is not available or not shared by authorities (apart from research data available from different sources)</p>	<p>Existing water, sewerage and storm water drainage blueprints would be shared based on availability with Municipal Corporation. However, if any city has no existing network layout, in that case agency will be given extension for producing good quality GIS Map.</p>

21	-	-	-	<p>What kind of dashboard is expected (how much detailed? dynamic or static dashboard)? Who will run/own this dashboard?</p>	<p>"The aim of this Work is to develop a Comprehensive Water Balance Plan for Cities (Allahabad, Nasik, Jaipur, Shahjahanpur) and shall be owned by Municipal Corporation/ City Authority:</p> <p>(i) Monitoring tool to help the City Managers with monitoring the Water Balance Plan execution/ implementation. It also aims to modify the WBP plan as per the City's requirement in future. The tool can be any Desktop based tool or Dashboard where in the City Managers can overview the progress and can access GIS Maps for asset management.</p> <p>(ii) A system is required to develop for controlling of Non-revenue (NRW)/ Unaccounted flow of water (UFW). Also for a robust CWBP, recycling of treated sewage/ effluent is necessary, for that too, a tool/ system is required to be developed and linked with common City Platform/ City Dashboard.</p> <p>(iii) Tool can be excel based may be Macro-enabled but we would suggest a Dashboard where City Managers can access all the components of CWBP incl. GIS Maps.</p> <p>(iv) There is no specific numbers but if we can develop a comprehensive and robust tool where-in City Managers (city officials) can overview each components of the CWBP on a single platform or on a linked platform it would be great. We can name the tool as ""City Name_WBP"".</p> <p>For a robust CWBP, Smart Solutions/ ICT are required to be implemented/ integrated for capturing real-time data. Thus, we would appreciate if the Agency can propose a Dashboard with integrated smart solutions."</p>
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22				<p>What exactly is meant by and expected from QR based Portal?</p>	<p>"The WTP/ STPs/ Water Bodies and other man-made and natural assets have to be geo-tagged so that city managers can access for asset management under Water Balance Plan.</p> <p>Tagging of things may be achieved through such technologies as near field communication, barcodes, QR codes and digital watermarking."</p>
23	-	-	-	<p>In current situation of Covid-19, if the restriction on travel or meeting is reimposed, will it be considered for extension of contract?</p>	<p>Yes, it will depend on the central/ state government guidelines pertaining to COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
24	-	-	-	<p>Our Organization was formed in Feb 2018 so it is just over 2 years old. So, we do not meet the pre-qualification criteria 1</p>	<p>No, The organization cannot apply unless and until have completed 3 financial year in the market</p>
25	-	-	-	<p>Our Organziation has not handled WASH projects in these 2 years. So, we do not meet the pre-qualification criteria 2. However, employees/researchers of Modulus have past experience of handling WASH projects so can we can be considered or not ?</p>	<p>No , an organization must have handled WASH projects in their entire work history for the eligibility.</p>

26	-	-	-	Can there be some common team members if an organisation is bidding for 2 or more cities?	yes but in case selected for 2 or more cities, separate team of equal professional qualification shall be required.
27	-	-	-	Will CURE assist the consultants in establishing links with the relevant stakeholders for the study i.e. ULB, Jal Board, City Development Authority, Private Operators working in the PPP mode in the city.	The work is to be done independently, CURE will provide the support to the best of its efforts only
28	-	-	-	Could the commercial offer be made more competitive by 'Economies of Scale' i.e. offering a discount for 2 cities/3 cities etc. if the assignment is given for more than one city.	You may mention the same in your quote although individual quote for the city is must for evaluation purpose
29	-	-	-	Sharing of the available reports/documents such as CSP, CDP, DPR on SWM, Master Plan and other relevant information.	CURE can provide the support to the extent of information available with it only
30	-	-	-	When is the project envisaged to be commenced ?	June End/July beginning

31	-	-	-	<p>The RFP does not mention asset management in scope of work however the clarification provided refers to asset management. Kindly clarify.</p>	<p>Asset management of infrastructure is not required in this project. However, GIS mapping of each & every Water & Wastewater infrastructure, rivers and other water bodies have to be done by the Agency.</p>
32	-	-	-	<p>However, the RFP does state that the consultant should undertake vulnerable site assessment, land suitability analysis (page 17, point e). What is the application of these in developing water balance or water management plans for a city?</p>	<p>Vulnerable site assessment, land suitability analysis under Gap-demand assessment is required to understand the area/ pockets which are vulnerable and will have adverse impact due to climate change and depleting of groundwater. Also, some pockets will have high NRW/ UFW which needs to deal with different strategies. Land suitability analysis will help in developing the Watershed management framework by understanding the area which will be suitable for Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) for groundwater recharge. Agency may recommend system to manage and control water losses (NRW) in the city.</p>

33	-	-	-	<p>It appears that the agency is required to design and implement a SCADA system. Kindly confirm what the consultant is expected to deliver – Undertake CWB and give recommendations for a SCADA system or Design and implement a SCADA system. If the consultant is expected to design and implement a SCADA system then, it would present a serious challenge as the scope of work would be too large and complex to be completed in 3 months. Additionally, the kind of skillsets required for undertaking a City Water Balance Vs Deployment of SCADA system are quite different. Additionally, the deliverables stated in the RFP (page 18) includes data visualization dashboard.</p> <p>Kindly note, data visualization dashboards can only be prepared when actual monthly data for a year or more is collected</p>	<p>SCADA system is not required to be developed by the Agency. By the Smart solutions, we meant to have a dashboard where City Officials can visualize the overall Water Balance Plan; GIS Map, water demand, liquid waste generation, vulnerable sites and can strategise the future course of action by visualizing the CWBP Dashboard. We understand that for developing data visualization Dashboards monthly data would be required and you can avail these data from City officials/ department of past few years based on the availability. You can develop the scenario depending on the availability of data with the City.</p> <p>Agency may add more activities, as the desired outcome is a robust and comprehensive City Water Balance Plan (CWBP) and Agency should come out with short, mid and long-term recommendations.</p>
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				<p>and hence cannot be completed in three months.</p>	
33				<p>RFP states that the water balance plan should take into account all aspects of water cycle for achieving a sustainable water management. To do so, we would need to consider water cycle aspects like evaporation, precipitation, percolation into ground, return flow of water to source etc. at the level of a water shed or river basin, which is much bigger area than the city. Kindly clarify.</p>	<p>For developing the robust CWBP, it would be recommended to study the whole water cycle and the catchment area by which we can have overall data pertaining to the availability of Water from different and alternate sources.</p> <p>For river basin study, flow assessment can be done by considering the upstream and downstream points. Past rainfall data will help with study and planning of Watershed management. Also the past incidences of flood can help in developing flood management system like area which are vulnerable to floods can be highlighted/ demarcated on the GIS Map.</p> <p>Rainwater harvesting sites can also be demarcated on Maps by conducting the feasibility analysis for groundwater recharge</p>

Some more Important points which are being considered valuable.

1. There is no limit on numbers for applying for cities. However, separate technical and commercial proposals should be submitted for each city. Separate teams should be proposed for each city as well.
2. All bidders meeting the pre-qualification criteria are allowed i.e. a registered organization, company or firm.
3. Any delay in meeting any milestone/ submission due to the Agency's fault directly or due to communication gap/ no stakeholder consultation on timely manner, shall only be passed on to the Agency. Agency have to make sure timely flagging of all the issues to the concerned authority incl. City Managers and CURE.
4. All project expenses shall be based on actuals and should be supported by proper bills/receipts.
5. Bidders are required to give declaration as mentioned at sr. no. 18-disclosures of RFP ie. "If they...18.1,18.2,18.3"

Best Wishes

Mohit Raghav,

Procurement Manager

Team Cure