



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

HYBRID POWER GENERATION OPERATION (SOLAR PV PLUS THERMAL), ELECTRICITY METERING CUSTOMER SERVICE CONNECTIONS IN SIERRA LEONE FOR SEVEN DISTRICTS HEADQUARTERS TOWNS ON A DESIGN, BUILD, OPERATE AND TRANSFER (DBOT) BASIS UNDER PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT

Ref #: SL/REOI/7DISTS/2022-001

Date of Issue: Wednesday, 29th June, 2022

1. Introduction

The Government of Sierra Leone through its Agent, the Ministry of Energy has developed a strategy for active participation and involvement of the private sector in the Design, Build, Operation and Maintenance of a hybrid power generation operation using solar PV and thermal power plants, Electricity Metering and Customer Service Connections through Public-Private Partnership arrangements. In this regard, the Government of Sierra Leone represented by Ministry of Energy now invites Expressions of Interest from qualified and reputable Solar PV Thermal Operators and Electricity Metering and Customer Service Connections for the design, build, operate and transfer of generation infrastructure (existing network and new generating assets and Electricity Metering and Customers Service Connections) via a Public-Private Partnership Model.

2. Background

The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) to improve access to electricity in the rural areas, has embarked on the procurement, construction and installation of 11k V lines power supply systems in all seven districts to create the enabler for Private Developers to supply generation within these townships. Private developers are invited to express their interest in the long-term technical and commercial operation of any or all of the district headquarters town using both PV solar systems and thermal plants (providing relevant services such as technical O&M, management, customer connection, electricity sales, revenue collection, component replacement, system extension, monitoring, evaluation and reporting), and in the supply of metering technology adequate to their applied business models.

The GoSL will fund and install electricity distribution networks including all electrical equipment needed for the delivery of power at the defined supply point, including transformers, switchgear, and protection equipment, for the seven districts which are expected to be completed by the end of December 2022. Private sector operators are expected to finance, construct, install and commission power generation assets with a renewable fraction of at least 50%. According to

preliminary estimates, each of these systems will require varying kW of installed power generation capacity. The private sector company will be in charge of long-term technical and commercial operation of all power generation and distribution assets to generate revenues from electricity sales to the districts.

Analysis of energy needs is the first input necessary for sizing generating facilities connected to a grid and/or load. Data about peak load, daily consumption and even hour by hour consumption are essential for right-sizing, this is to know the demand and load profile of the local grid. Based on the estimated load (kW) stated, the cursory study agreed to a revised generation capacity for the following townships as follows:

Locations	Diesel Genset Capacity (MW)	Solar Capacity (MW)	Total Capacity (MW)
Kailahun	2	2	4
Pujehun	1	1	2
Bonthe	1	1	2
Matru-Jong	1.5	1.5	3
Moyamba	1.5	1.5	3
Kabala	2	2	4
Kambia	2	2	4
TOTAL (MW)	11	11	22

The hybrid power plant, Electricity Metering and Customer Service Connections required is on Design, Build, Operate and Transfer basis, for a longer concession period to begin no later than 1st January 2023, with options thereafter for the continued use of the units. Due to the emergency nature of this procurement, bidders will be required to justify their ability to deliver in a constrained timeline.

In parallel, MoE in collaboration with the Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission (EWRC) has set up regulations that protect the private operators from commercial losses resulting from the connection of the national grid. The regulation shall also set the rules for grid tariff definition.

3. **Proposed Scope of Development**

The preferred solution should give a better and sustainable renewable energy grid operating system. The choice of solar PV technology and thermal for the districts should be based on the long-term outlook for the sake of the environment and the future budgetary impacts.

The winning solution will be comprehensive in its approach to initially delivering the required assets, if any, operating them for consistent and quality service, and maintaining them through to their full life (i.e. a Maximum Asset & Service Lifecycle approach). Consequently, this is expected to at least include the following:

- a) Operating, maintaining, financing and installing/refurbishing the required assets by the private partner.
- b) Operation and maintenance by the private partner, with the possibility of generating complementary revenue streams to support operations and maintenance activities.
- c) Hybrid power plants to serve as the substantive or sole power source.
- d) Electricity Metering and Service Connections.

The GoSL will concession the right to the private operator to manage the distribution system, build a hybrid generating units, operate and maintain them and eventually transfer them after the concession period.

4. Requirement from Interested Parties

To be pre-qualified, prospective private partners/consortia must possess the requisite capabilities and relevant experience in the provision of the required services. They are expected to submit comprehensive information that contains:

- a. Full name and Nationality (country of registration) of the Company and contact person, postal address, telephone, e-mail address and website URL (if any);
- b. Brief description of the history and business of the respondent;
- c. Ownership structure including name(s) of shareholders, percentage shareholdings, intermediate and ultimate holding company or beneficial owner
- d. Company registration including Certificate of Incorporation, certified true copies of Memorandum and Articles of Association;
- e. Most recent 3-Years Audited Financial Statements and latest Management Accounts if available;
- f. Evidence of financial capacity to deliver the project as contemplated;
- g. Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate or equivalent in bidder's country
- h. Evidence of previous experience and expertise in providing the required services locally and/or internationally including experience in PPP Initiatives where applicable. This should include the following details:
 - i. Name of Project, Brief Description and Client(s);
 - ii. Scope of work, Role, Contract Value, Nature of Contract (PPP, Lump Sum etc) and Contractual Period;
 - iii. Name and address of related client's referee;
 - iv. Experience with delivery, operation and maintenance of hybrid solar based infrastructure (streetlight or otherwise).

For those systems which are subject to private sector investments into the generation assets, any type of generation technology that incorporates at least 50% of the renewable fraction is eligible. Any of the following resources are considered renewable: Solar, hydro, wind, biomass, geothermal, wave, and waste plus thermal plant

In addition to the details above, each submission must be accompanied by:

- a. Transmittal Letter,
- b. Cover/Title Page,
- c. Table of Contents; and
- d. Executive Summary

5. Tentative Timeline of the selection process

SN	Activities	Dates
1	Publication of Call for EoI	29 th June, 2022
2	Deadline for Questions about EoI	5 th July, 2022
3	Deadline for reception of EoIs by GoSL	13 th July, 2022
4	Notification of unsuccessful applicants	22 nd July, 2022
5	Pre-bid Conference: bidders conference with matchmaking event (giving bidders the opportunity to create consortia) in Freetown	28 th July, 2022
6	Deadline for Questions about the (RFP)	5 th August, 2022
7	Deadline for reception of Proposal	8 th September, 2022
8	Notification of successful and unsuccessful bids and start of collaboration between GOSL and the successful bidders	7 th October, 2022

5.0 Selection Criteria

The Ministry of Energy now invites eligible private partners/consortia to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested private partners/consortia should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services (signed curriculum vitae, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, general qualifications with copies of academic and professional qualifications etc.)

The criteria for short listing are as follows:

- I. Experience relevant to the service (40 points)
- II. Evidence of sound financial resources to pre-finance the project (30 points)
- III. Competence/Qualification of the proposed personnel relevant to the service (30 points)
- IV. Please note that the minimum qualifying score for shortlisting is 80 points**

6.0 The private partners/consortia will be selected in accordance with the **Selection Based on Qualification and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)** method set out in the Public Procurement Framework of Sierra Leone. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 0800 to 1700 hours Sierra Leone time

7.0 Submission of Expressions of Interest

All EoI (in English) submission should be in accordance with the following instruction:

One (1) Original and two copies of Expression of interest to be delivered in a sealed envelope marked **'EOI- Hybrid Generation for Seven Districts Headquarters Towns'** and delivered to the address below. Electronic submission in PDF format not exceeding 5 MB should be sent to the Procurement Manager at: email <mailto:ghoh.bids@unops.org>. **The EOI must be submitted no later than 13th July, 2022 between the hours of 9am to 12 noon.**

The Address for submission of EOI referred to above is:

**The Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Energy, 6th Floor
Electricity House
36 Siaka Stevens Street
Freetown**

**Attn: Ag. Assistant Director
Ministry of Energy, 6th Floor
Electricity House
36 Siaka Stevens Street
Freetown
garneto2000@gmail.com
+23279-685-499**

1. Contact for request for clarifications

All requests for clarifications in relation to this REOI shall be sent to:
garneto2000@gmail.com

The REOI will also be available on the following website:

www.moe.gov.sl
www.nppa.gov.sl
www.edsa.sl
www.egtc.sl
www.ppp.gov.sl