



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TASHILING SECRETARIAT, GANGTOK - 737101

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No. GOS/PDD/SI-WBP/64/TSA-DET/2025/51 Dated: 30th July 2025

Minutes of Pre-Proposal Conference and Clarification on Queries against Direct RFP – Hiring a Technical Support Agency (TSA) for Directorate of Eco Tourism, Forest & Environment Department under 'Sikkim: Integrated Service Provision and Innovation for Reviving Economies' (INSPIRES) Program'.

The Pre-Proposal Conference was held on 04/07/2025 at 12:30 PM, via video conferencing and inperson meeting.

The following team from Sikkim INSPIRES PMU and PMC were also present to support the proceedings of the meeting:

- 1. Mr. Swabhaw Gurung, Joint Secretary, PDD
- 2. Mr. Deo Kumar Tamang, Joint Director, PDD
- 3. Ms. Yangchen Bhutia, DFO, Forest and Environment Department
- 4. PMC Team, Sikkim INSPIRES

The following representative(s) from the prospective Agency as under attended the conference:

Sr. No.	Prospective Agency	Representative (In person)	Representative (Virtual)
1.	AFC India Limited	-	Mr. Ajit Mishra, Ms. Manisha Pant
2.	Deloitte India LLP	-	Mr. Anurag Gautam, Ms. Pallavi Royyur
3.	E&Y LLP	-	Mr. Arnav Sarkar, Mr. Patanjali Biswas, Mr. Gyan, Ms. Anindya
4.	Voyants	-	Ms. Pritha Bose, Mr. Ghanshyam
5.	Nangia Andersen Pvt. Ltd.	Mr. Balraman	Ms. Catherine Christopher
6.	Assistance II	-	Mr. Jami Manohar, Ms. Koustav Kundu
7	JPS Associates	-	Mr. Rashid Wakil
8.	KPMG	Mr. Jaydeep Chakraborty	-
9.	IPE Global	Ms. Sukham Tampha Leima	Ms. Rupali Sahu, Ms. Sakshi Godara

- 1. At the outset, the PMU briefed the purpose of the meeting and welcomed all the participants
- 2. Thereafter, the prospective consultants were requested to raise their queries related to scope, terms and conditions given in the RFP Document.
- 3. Some of the queries raised were addressed by the PMU and assured that response to all queries will be compiled and shared together in writing. The participants were also informed that they may request any further clarifications through mail latest by 11th July 2025 16:30

 IST, which may be sent on mail ID: procurement.inspires@gmail.com. The Pre-Proposal conference concluded with a vote of thanks.
- **4.** The responses to the queries are summarized in the table appended in the Annexure.



Annexure-I

Clarifications to queries/suggestions received for Direct RFP – Hiring a Technical Support Agency to support Directorate of Ecotourism, Forest & Environment Department, Government of Sikkim under 'Sikkim INSPIRES (Integrated Service Provision and Innovation for Reviving Economies) Program (RFP Ref no. IN-PMU-250627-QCBS-LS-RFP-DET-TSA)

Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
1.	We kindly request to provided extension of at least 21 days post releasing response/clarification to the queries	Invitation of Bids, Point 7	Pg. no. 2	The Proposals must be uploaded on the e-procurement portal no later than: Date: 31/07/2025, Time: 03:00 PM	Please refer to Amendment 1
2.	We kindly request an extension of 21 days from the date of issuance of pre-bid responses to allow adequate time for the preparation of a comprehensive and compliant proposal.	Invitation of Bids, Point 7	Pg. no. 2	Last date for submitting proposals 31 July 2025, 15:00 hrs	Please refer to Amendment 1
3.	We kindly request to revise the clause as below: Earnest Money Deposit: INR 5,00,000.00 (Five lakh rupees) only Earnest Money Deposit should be in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque/Bank Guarantee drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of: Additional Secretary cum Program Director, Sikkim INSPIRES, Planning & Development Department, Government of Sikkim Tashiling Secretariat, Gangtok, Sikkim 737101.	Invitation of Bids, Point 10	Pg. no. 2	Earnest Money Deposit: INR 5,00,000.00 (Five lakh rupees) only Earnest Money Deposit should be in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of: Additional Secretary cum Program Director, Sikkim INSPIRES, Planning & Development Department, Government of Sikkim Tashiling Secretariat, Gangtok, Sikkim 737101.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
4.	We request confirmation on the applicable and final Tender Fee amount to be submitted.	Invitation of Bids, Point 11, Tender Fee (Non- Refundable)	Pg. no. 2	INR 20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand rupees) only. The Tender Fee must be submitted in the form of a demand draft in favour of: Additional Secretary cum Program Director, Sikkim INSPIRES Planning & Development Department, Government of Sikkim Tashiling Secretariat, Gangtok, Sikkim 73710.	As the RFP, the tender fee is INR 20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand rupees) only Therefore, The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
5.	We request the authority to please allow provision of online submission of EMD and Tender (RFP) fee. Also, provide online details to make the payment.	Section 2 Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet (A): Clause 4	Pg No 6	The original EMD and Tender (RFP) Fee should be handed over in person to the Tender Issuing Authority, within the bid submission due date & time for the tender.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
6.	Requesting the Authority to accept the hard copies of EMD and Tender (RFP) Fee over courier or speed post.	Section 2 Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet (A): Clause 4	Pg No 6	The original EMD and Tender (RFP) Fee should be handed over in person to the Tender Issuing Authority, within the bid submission due date & time for the tender.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
7.	In this regard, we would like to bring to your kind notice that as per the Public Procurement Policy for MSEs Order, 2012 notified under section 11 of MSMED Act, 2006 (https://msme.gov.in/public-procurement-policy-micro-and-small-enterprises-mses-order-2012), registered MSEs are	Section 2 Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet (A): Clause 2 and 3	Pg No 6	The ToR mentions that "A Non-Refundable RFP document fee- Rs. 20,000.00 (Twenty thousand rupees) only inclusive of all Taxes must be submitted in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	exempted from submitting the Tender Fee and EMD (refer Exemption of MSMEs to submit Bidder Fee and EMD at https://msme.gov.in/sites/default/files/Sch-vol1-151214.pdf-sri.pdf). AFC is a registered MSME, and is thus exempted from submitting the tender Fee and EMD.			Cheque drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of "Additional Secretary cum Program Director, Sikkim INSPIRES, Planning & Development Department, Government of Sikkim" payable at Gangtok and A Refundable Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Five lakh rupees) only to be submitted in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of "Additional Secretary cum Program Director, Sikkim INSPIRES, Planning & Development Department, Government of Sikkim" payable at Gangtok.	
8.	The Client is requested to modify the clause as suggested below: "A Refundable Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Five lakh rupees) only to be submitted in the form of a Demand Draft / Bank Guarantee / Pay Order / Account Payee Banker's Cheque drawn on any Nationalized / Scheduled bank in favour of "Additional Secretary cum Program Director, Sikkim INSPIRES, Planning & Development Department, Government of Sikkim" payable at Gangtok". Also, requested to share the Bank Guarantee format.	Section 2 Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet (A): Clause 2 and 3	Pg No 6	A Refundable Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Five lakh rupees) only to be submitted in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of "Additional Secretary cum Program Director, Sikkim INSPIRES, Planning & Development Department, Government of Sikkim" payable at Gangtok	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
9.	We kindly request the Client to consider - For Key & Non-key Expert remuneration 'request to change rates' after this negotiation Key / Non-Key expert change may be possibility. Hence, submittal in Clause 12 (b) at Page No. 15 and Clause 13.1 at Page No. 126 may need to be considered accordingly.	Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet. Clause 27 (C, 27.8)	Pg. No. 27	c) Financial Negotiations: In the case of a Time-Based contract, unit rates negotiations shall not take place, except when the offered Key Experts and Non-Key Experts' remuneration rates are much higher than the typically charged rates by consultants in similar contracts. In such case, the Client may ask for clarifications and, if the fees are very high, ask to change the rates after consultation with the Bank. The format for (i) providing information on remuneration rates in the case of Quality Based Selection; and (ii) clarifying remuneration rates' structure under this Clause, is provided in Appendix A to the Financial Form FIN-3: Financial Negotiations – Breakdown of Remuneration Rates.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
10.	Request all 'Replaced ITC items" removed from RfP - as multiple replacements are there in same RfP.	Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet. Clause 30.1, 30.2, 12.1	Pg. No. 28 and 42	Page 28: 30.1 The Contract shall be signed prior to the expiry date of the Proposal validity and promptly after expiry of the Standstill Period, specified in ITC 30.1 or any extension thereof, and upon satisfactorily addressing any complaint that has been filed within the Standstill Period. 30.2 The Consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
11.	, 1	RFP Section 2	Pg No 6	the Data Sheet. Page 42: The Contract shall be signed prior to the expiry date of the Proposal validity, specified in ITC 12.1 or any extension thereof. A Non-Refundable RFP document fee- Rs. 20,000.00	
	sheet and as Rs.10,000 in the second part of the data sheets in the clause numbers provided in the previous column. Requesting the authority to clarify the correct Fee amount.	Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet (A): Clause 2 and 3	& Pg 37	(Twenty thousand rupees) only inclusive of all Taxes must be submitted in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque 5. The original Tender (RFP) Fee should be handed over in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque (10,000/-) drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank	Please refer to Amendment 2
12.	Point 10.1 & 10.2 of the Data Sheet mentions that Statement of Undertaking is required to be submitted along with the Financial Proposal. However, FORM TECH-1 'Technical Proposal Submission Form' already encompasses an undertaking from the consultant. Thus, we understand that a separate 'Statement of Undertaking' is not required to be submitted with the Financial Proposal. It is requested to please clarify: (a) If our above underrating is correct (b) If NOT, then please clarify whether the 'Statement of Undertaking' will be part of both, the Technical Proposal (under Form Tech-1) and the separately with Financial Proposal	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant, Part B: Clause- 10.1and 10.2	Pg No 30	The Proposal shall comprise the following. The Technical and Financial Proposals shall be submitted online in the e-procurement system in separate folders: The Technical Proposal comprising: (1) Power of Attorney to sign the Proposal (2) TECH-1 (3) TECH-2 (4) TECH-3 (5) TECH-4 (6) TECH-5 (7) TECH-6 AND The Financial Proposal comprising: (1) FIN-1 (2) FIN-2 (3) FIN-3 (4) FIN-4 (5) Statement of Undertaking (if required under Data Sheet 10.2 below)	As per the requirements of the RFP, the required documents shall be submitted along with the proposal. Hence the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
13.	We request the authority to clarify if OPEs (Overhead Expenses) are to be included in the cost estimation. Authority is also requested to clarify on how the man-months are to be split across the engagement. This will help bidders optimize the travel cost and reduce client expenditure.	Section 2: Instruction to Consultant, Part B: Clause- 14.1.3-for time- based contracts only	Pg No 32	The Consultant's Proposal must include the minimum Key Experts' time input of 111 person-months. For the evaluation and comparison of Proposals only: if a Proposal includes less than the required minimum time-input, the missing time-input (expressed in person-month) is calculated as follows: The missing time-input is multiplied by the highest remuneration rate for a Key Expert in the Consultant's Proposal and added to the total remuneration amount.	A form has been provided for quoting the OPEs cost estimate in the financial proposal. In alignment with the deliverable requirements, experts need be mapped based on the required man-months. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
				Proposals that quoted higher than the required minimum of time-input will not be adjusted.	
14.	Request to clarify if the proposal format should FTP- Full Technical Proposal or STP- Simplified Technical Proposal as the documentation requirements are different for both	Section 2: Instruction to Consultant, Datasheet, Part B: Clause- 15.2	Pg No 33	The format of the Technical Proposal to be submitted is: < <ftp stp="">>.</ftp>	As per the requirements outlined in the RFP, the technical proposal must be submitted in the format prescribed for the Full Technical Proposal (FTP). Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
15.	We request clarity on the format of the Technical Proposal to be submitted. The RFP includes a placeholder ("FTP/STP"), while other parts of the document suggest that a Full Technical Proposal (FTP) is required. We understand that FTP is the intended format, and request confirmation to avoid disqualification on technical grounds.	Section 2: Instruction to Consultant, Datasheet ITC, Part B: Clause- 15.2	Pg No 33	The format of the Technical Proposal submitted is: < <ftp stp="">>.Submission of the Technical Proposal in a wrong format may lead to the Proposal being deemed non-responsive to the RFP requirements</ftp>	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 14.
16.	We kindly request to kindly allow price adjustments as the project duration is more than 18 months.	Section 2: Instruction to Consultant, Datasheet, Part B: Clause- 16.2	Pg No 33	A price adjustment provision applies to remuneration rates: No.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
17.	Since the work involves several interlinked tasks of various disciplines, it is essential to prepare a proper estimation of the work. We request the Authority for an extension of time for tender submission by at least 2 weeks from the date of issue of Pre-Bid replies.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant, Part C: Clause- 17.4	Pg No 35	The Proposals must be uploaded on the e-procurement portal specified in ITC 1(m) no later than: Date: 31.07.2025 Time: 03:00 PM IST	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 1 for clarification.
18.	We request you to kindly extend the Bid Submission Deadline by at least 20 working days from the date of issue of the reply to our queries, to enable the Consultants to submit a comprehensive and competitive bid.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant, Part C: Clause- 17.4	Pg No 35	The Proposals must be uploaded on the e-procurement portal specified in ITC 1(m) no later than: Date: 31.07.2025 Time: 03:00 PM IST	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 1 for clarification.
19.	Given the comprehensive nature of the RFP and the importance of preparing a detailed and accurate proposal, please provide at least 3 weeks from the date of issue of Addendum/ Corrigendum. Which would allow us to ensure the best quality of our submission.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant, Part C: Clause- 17.4	Pg No 35	The Proposals must be uploaded on the e-procurement portal specified in ITC 1(m) no later than: Date: 31.07.2025 Time: 03:00 PM IST	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 17 for clarification.
20.	We kindly request to revise the clause as below: Entity should be legally registered under appropriate authority for the last 10 years.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part	Pg No 37	Entity should be legally registered under appropriate authority for the last 5 years .	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective	Clause	Page	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as	Response/Clarifications
No.	Consultants	Reference of RFP	N0	per RFP	
		A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 1			
21.	We kindly request to revise the clause as below: In any three years, out of last five years, the entity should have a minimum annual turnover of INR 100 crores from consulting services	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 2	Pg No 37	In any three years, out of last five years, the entity should have a minimum annual turnover of INR 5 crores from consulting services	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
22.	We request the authority to consider revising the annual turnover to INR 300 crore. This revision would enable participation from larger and more experienced consulting firms with the capacity to manage complex, large-scale projects, thereby enhancing the quality and competitiveness of the bidding process.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 2	Pg No 37	In any three years out of last five years, the entity should have a minimum annual turnover of INR 5 crore from consulting services.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
23.	We understand that 'Tourism' can be considered as – related sectors and therefore, projects undertaken in tourism in providing technical/ implementation/ advisory support/ PMU can also be showcased. Please confirm. We also request the Authority to kindly modify the clause as below: Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/ international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last 10 years.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 3	Pg No 37	Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/ international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last 5 years.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
24.	We request clarity on the alignment between the mandatory and evaluation criteria. We understand that under the mandatory conditions, prior experience in ecotourism and related sectors with government or international development agencies within the last five years is required. However, under the evaluation criteria, points are being awarded for experience in skill development. We suggest that relevant experience in ecotourism and tourism, being central to the scope of work, should be considered within the scoring framework for fair and aligned evaluation. Kindly review and revise. We also request to allow international projects.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point (i) (a)	Pg No 37 & 38	Data Sheet, ITC Reference- 21.1, Part A: Mandatory Criteria — Experience in providing technical /implementation / advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/ international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last 5 years. Whereas Part B. Evaluation Criteria — Points (i) Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment: a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last five years.	Please refer to Amendment 2



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
25.	The key scope of services relates to development of tourism. In view of the above key objectives of the Projects, we request to kindly amend the requirement as follows. a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in tourism development as a single entity in last five years	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point (i) (a)	Pg No 38	(i) Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment: a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last five years	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 24 for clarification.
26.	The Client is requested to modify the requirements as suggested as under: "Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in ecotourism / tourism development and related sectors (Ongoing / Completed) with government / international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last 5-7 years."	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 3	Pg No 37	Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/ international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last 5 years.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
27.	We kindly request clarification regarding the requirement for a Work Order, Contract Document, or Experience Certificate as the same can also be verified from annual turnover certificate issued by auditors	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point (2)	Pg No 37	Eligibility Criterion: The entity should have positive net worth and should be a profit-making company in the last three years. Documents / Evidence to be Provided: For the same Copies of Work Order/ Contract Document/ Experience Certificate from Client's	Please refer to Amendment 2
28.	We understand that this involves larger tourism and other related project domain as well. Please suggest if our understanding is correct.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 3	Pg No 37	Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/ internation development agencies as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last 5 years.	The RFP has clearly specified the requirements of experience in ecotourism development and related sectors. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
29.	We understand this pertain to financial criteria & hence certificate issued by the CA and sealed by the authorized representative may be treated as required document.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 4	Pg No 37	Eligibility Criterion: The entity should have positive net worth and should be a profit-making company in the last three years Documents / Evidence to be Provided: Copies of Work Order/ Contract Document/ Experience Certificate from Client's	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 27 for clarification.
30.	We kindly request to revise the clause as below: The entity should have positive net worth and should be a profit-making company in the last three years Documents / Evidence to be Provided	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 4	Pg No 37	The entity should have positive net worth and should be a profit-making company in the last three years	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 27 for clarification.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
31.	We request to kindly clarify if the Tender Document Fees is INR 10,000 or INR 20,000 as the amount mentioned for Tender Document Fees on Page 2 and Page 37 is different.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 5	Pg No 38	Tender document Fee The original Tender (RFP) Fee should be handed over in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque (10,000/-) drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favor of "Additional Secretary cum Program Director (Sikkim INSPIRES)", payable at Gangtok in person to the Tender Issuing Authority, within the bid submission due date & time for the tender. Scanned copy of the instrument should be uploaded in https://sikkimtender.gov.in/ as part of the offer	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 11 for clarification.
32.	The tender fee mentioned here is Rs 10,000. However, the Tender fee mentioned in the summary sheet is INR 20,000. Request you to confirm that tender fees as Rs 20,000/-	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 5	Pg No 38	ITC Reference: 21.1 (Part A. Mandatory criteria), point no 5: Eligibility Criterion: Tender document Fee Documents / Evidence to be Provided: The original Tender (RFP) Fee should be handed over in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque (10,000/-) drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of "Additional Secretary cum Program Director (Sikkim INSPIRES)", payable at Gangtok in person to the Tender Issuing Authority, within the bid submission due date & time for the tender. Scanned copy of the instrument should be uploaded in https://sikkimtender.gov.in/ as part of the offer	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 11 for clarification.
33.	There's inconsistency with clause on page 3 which mentions Rs. 20,000/ However, page 37 of the RFP mentions ₹10,000 as Tender Fee. We request the authority to kindly clarify the correct amount and whether it is inclusive of taxes.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 5	Pg No 38	The original Tender (RFP) Fee should be handed over in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque (10,000/-) drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favor of "Additional Secretary cum Program Director (Sikkim INSPIRES)", payable at Gangtok in person to the Tender Issuing Authority, within the bid submission due date & time for the tender. Scanned copy of the instrument should be uploaded in https://sikkimtender.gov.in/ as part of the offer	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 11 for clarification.
34.	As the RFP fee is mentioned as Rs. 20,000 first part of the data sheet and as Rs.10,000 in the second part of the data sheets in the clause numbers provided in the previous column. Requesting the authority to clarify the correct Fee amount.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part A: Mandatory Criteria: Point 5	Pg No 38	The original Tender (RFP) Fee should be handed over in the form of a Demand Draft/Pay Order/ Account Payee Banker's Cheque (10,000/-) drawn on any Nationalized/Scheduled bank	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 11 for clarification.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
35.	Part B: Evaluation Criteria: (ii) Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last 10 years. [5 – 1 mark for each project]	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point 1 (a)	Pg No 38	Part B: Evaluation Criteria: (i) Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last five years. [5 – 1 mark for each project]	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 24 for clarification.
36.	We request the authority to allow us to showcase projects undertaken in last 10 years to be able to showcase a wide range of experience in skill development. Therefore, we request the authority to modify the clause as follows: a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last ten years [5 – 1 mark for each project]	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point 1 (a)	Pg No 38	(i) Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment: [5] a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last five years. [5 – 1 mark for each project]	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 24 for clarification.
37.	We request you to kindly consider to amend the eligibility to Experience in providing technical/implementation/advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of a joint venture in the last 10 years [5 – 1 mark for each project]".	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point 1 (a)	Pg No 38	Experience in providing technical/implementation/advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of a joint venture in the last 5 years [5 – 1 mark for each project]"	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 24 for clarification.
38.	We request the authority to kindly consider relevant experience in ecotourism development and related sectors undertaken during the last 15 years instead of restricting to 5 years. This will allow a broader pool of qualified consultants with deeper experience to participate and enhance competition.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point 1 (a)	Pg No 38	 (i) Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment: a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last five years. 	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 24 for clarification.
39.	As the scope is comprehensive with Capacity Building and Skill Development as one part of the project, we request the Authority to consider the eco-tourism and over all tourism experiences of the consultant as follows: a) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in Eco-tourism/Heritage/Community based tourism/ skill development/ Other related tourism	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point 1 (a)	Pg No 38	 (ii) Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment: b) Experience in providing technical / implementation / advisory support in skill development as a single entity or as a member of joint venture in last five years. 	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 24 for clarification.



Sl. No.		ry / Suggestions fr ultants					Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications				
	sectors as a single entity or as a member of joint venture					enture								
40.	in last ten years. Change to: Experience in providing technical/implementation/advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of a joint venture in the last 10 years [5 – 1 mark for each project]".					Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point 1 (a)	Pg No 38	Experience in providing technical/implementation/advisory support in ecotourism development and related sectors with government/international development agencies as a single entity or as a member of a joint venture in the last 5 years [5 – 1 mark for each project]"	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 24 for clarification.					
41.	modify (iii) Ke Assign {Notes	fy the clause as follows: Ley Experts' qualifications and competence for the consultant: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation for the Key Experts in Form TECH-6 to be prepared by the clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation Criteria: Point (iii)	Pg No 39		Please refer to Amendment 2									
	1.	Team Leader / Ecotourism Expert	1	18	Points 8							po	Note: Position 8: [Program Associates] (2 no's): (10 points, 05 points for each Specialist) Total points for criterion (iii): [60]	
	2.	Environmental and Social Specialist	1	3	5									
	3.	Tourism Infrastructure development expert	1	18	7									
	4.	SWM Expert	1	3	5									
	5.	Policy Expert	1	3	5									
	6.	Software Developer/ MIS Expert	1	12	5									
	7.	Marketing & Branding Expert	1	6	5									
	8.	Program Associate	2	48	10									
		Position 8: [Program Associ for each Specialist). Total p												



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
42.	Considering the scope of services, we request to kindly add the following positions. 1. Financial Expert 2. Architect/Planner	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Clause-21.1 Part B: Evaluation	Pg No 39	ITC Reference: 21.1 (Part B: Evaluation Criteria:): (iii) Key Experts' qualifications and competence for the Assignment: SI No Role Qty 1 Team Leader/ Eco Tourism Expert 1	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
		Criteria: Point (iii)		2 Environment & Social Specialist 1 3 Tourism Infrastructure Development Expert 1 4 SWM Expert 1 5 Policy Expert 1 6 Software Developer/ MIS Expert 1 7 Marketing & Branding Expert 1 8 Program Associate 2	
43.	Please clarify "Financial proposal - will exclude indirect taxes" however during negotiations," such taxes will be discussed, finalized (using the itemized list as a guidance but not limiting to it) and added to the Contract amount as a separate line" these indirect taxes shall be only for local identifiable indirect taxes within Sikkim	Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants (Data Sheet): clause 25.1	Pg No 41	For the purpose of the evaluation, the Client will exclude: all local identifiable indirect taxes such as GST or similar taxes levied on the contract's invoices.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
44.	Requesting the time-period to be adjusted to 8 weeks.	Section 2: Instruction of Consultant: Part D- Negotiations and Award, Clause 30.2	Pg No 43	Expected date for the commencement of the Services: Date: no later than 01 (one) month from issuance of client's notice instructing the consultant to begin carrying out the services at: Gangtok, Sikkim	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
45.	Thus, we understand that it is not required to attach the 'Power of Attorney' separately with the Financial Proposal. It is requested to please clarify whether our above understanding is correct.	Section 3: Technical Proposal – Standard Forms Tech-1 at Page No. 45-46 Format of Form FIN-1'Financial Proposal Submission Form' at 58-59 Section 2. Instructions to Consultants; E. Data Sheet; Data Sheet; Point 17.2 at Page No. 34	Pg No 43,	The Section 3. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms, format of Form TECH-1 'Technical Proposal Submission Form' and Form FIN-1 'Financial Proposal Submission Form'; all mention attaching a 'Power of Attorney'. Further, Point 17.2 of the Data Sheet also mentions 'The authorization shall be in the form of a written power of attorney to be scanned and uploaded together with the Technical Proposal'. In above regard, it is submitted that in procurement of consulting services in similar World Bank supported assignments; the 'Power of Attorney' is only required to be attached with the Technical Proposal.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
46.	FORM TECH-6 (Team Composition, Key Experts Inputs, and attached Curriculum Vitae (CV)) needs a detailed description of the adequacy of the expert for the Assignment Therefore, limiting the pages for TECH-6 to 5 pages as suggested would be inadequate. Hence, we request to allow the Consultants to use additional 2 page for each expert's CV, if required. We understand that the certification of the key expert as per format is not included in the page limit.	Section 3. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms	Pg. No. 44	Checklist of Required Forms TECH-6: Team Composition, Key Experts Inputs, and attached Curriculum Vitae (CV): Maximum 5 pages for each expert CV.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
47.	We request confirmation of the applicable time frame to be considered while listing relevant assignments under this form.	Section 3: Technical Proposal – Standard Forms Tech-2: B (1)	Pg No 47	List only previous similar assignments successfully completed in the last [] years.	As per Section 2 of the RFP – Instructions to Consultants, Clause 21.1, Part A: Mandatory Criteria, point 3 clearly specifies the experience requirements. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
48.	We understand that the RFP requires submission of a Full Technical Proposal (FTP). Accordingly, we assume that Form TECH-4 (FTP) — "Description of Approach, Methodology, and Work Plan in Responding to the Terms of Reference" — is applicable. Please confirm that the alternative Form TECH-4 for Simplified Technical Proposal (STP) provided on page 51 is not to be used.	Section 3: Technical Proposal – Standard Forms Tech-4:	Pg No 50	DESCRIPTION OF APPROACH, METHODOLOGY, AND WORK PLAN IN RESPONDING TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
49.	We understand that for National Consultant, "Home" means work from their office location and "Field" means work carried out from Client's office location- i.e. Sikkim. Request for your kind clarification.	Section 3. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms	Pg, No 51	FORM TECH-6 (FOR FTP): TEAM COMPOSITION, ASSIGNMENT, AND KEY EXPERTS' INPUTS "Home" means work in the office in the expert's country of residence. "Field" work means work carried out in the Client's country or any other country outside the expert's country of residence.	Yes, as the RFP clearly specifies the requirement for expert inputs, hence the existing provisions shall remain unchanged
50.	In view of the above, it is requested that: (a) The consultants may please be allowed to use e-signatures of the proposed experts on their CVs, countersigned by the authorized representative (or) (b) CVs of experts with only the counter sign of the authorized representative of the consultant may please be considered for evaluation The originally signed CVs by the experts and the authorized representative of the consultant will be made available at the	Format of Form TECH-6 (Continued) Curriculum Vitae (CV)	Pg No. 55-56	As per the format of Form Tech-6 (continued), all proposed experts need to sign the certification section of their respective CVs. Further, all the CVs also need to be signed by the authorized representative of the consultant who signs the proposal. In this regard, it is submitted that there are possibilities that at the time of proposal preparation, the experts are travelling and are not available to sign the CV. Besides, some of the experts may not be on rolls of the consultants and may be working as empanelled experts deployed on assignments from time-to-time.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



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	time of contract negotiation/ contracting. This is the standard procedure followed by the World Bank and other international organizations.				
51.	As mentioned in Page No.57, Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms (FIN-3), we understand that it is a QCBS procurement, Appendix A has to be submitted in case of QBS procurement. Thus, we understand that the Appendix A need not be submitted along with FIN-3.	Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms	Pg. No. 62-64	Appendix A. Financial Negotiations - Breakdown of Remuneration Rates	Yes, as per the requirements of the RFP, the Consultant is required to submit the documents as per the given formats. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
52.	Request your kind confirmation. We request the authority to please specify the number of Key / Non-Key Experts who is required to be stationed full-time in Sikkim.	Section 7: Terms of Reference,	Pg No	-	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
53.	The scope includes support in multiple workshops, training sessions etc. We interpret that the cost of carrying out all workshops and events would be borne by the Authority.	Section 7: TOR Part 2. v. (Capacity Building and Skill Development)	Pg No 73	Conduct workshops on E&S criteria and sustainable tourism practices to ensure responsible eco-tourism aligned with conservation goals.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
54.	We understand that the baseline assessment requires review of existing secondary data and surveys conducted under the INSPIRES Program by departments such as Rural Development and Tourism. We request confirmation that the DET will facilitate access to these existing datasets, survey reports, and MIS documentation at the time of the Inception Report to support timely and accurate baseline analysis.	Section 7: TOR Part 1 (i)	Pg No 74	i. Conduct a baseline assessment of eco tourism practices in the state ☐ Review of secondary data including: (a) analysis of data collected through other recent surveys under INSPIRES such as E&E survey by Rural Development Dept, Homestay survey by Tourism Dept, Baseline survey, etc.(b) data available in MIS, reports, etc., of relevant departments including Ecotourism Dept, Rural Development Dept, Tourism Dept, etc	The RFP has clearly defined the requirements deliverable, and necessary support will be provided to the constants. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
55.	We request clarity regarding the list of approximately 20 identified ecotourism sites (including trekking trails) as mentioned in the scope. Sharing this preliminary list will assist us in developing a more tailored and site-responsive approach and methodology, in line with the TOR objectives.	Section 7: TOR Part 2 (i)	Pg No 76	PART 2: Development and implementation support for the Ecotourism Strategy and Plan i. Identification and Assessment of Potential Eco Tourism Sites - The DET has identified a preliminary set of about 20 potential ecotourism sites (including sites for trekking trails).	The RFP has clearly defined the deliverable requirements, and DET will provide the necessary documents and support to the consultants. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
56.	What is the approx. extent of these 20 sites or 3 or 4 sites (as per table under Clause 10. Payment, Page 96)? The area will help in Financial proposal.	Section 7: Terms of Reference	Pg No 76-77	i) - Identification and Assessment of Potential Eco- Tourism Sites: The DET has identified a preliminary set of about 20 potential ecotourism sites (including sites for trekking trails).	The RFP has clearly defined the required deliverables. As per Activities No. 7 and 8, the consultants are expected to develop site-specific, theme-based, comprehensive Ecotourism Plans, and undertake infrastructure and facilities



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
				Clause II.TSA will assist the DET in creating detailed site-specific action plans for the sustainable development of each of the identified eco-tourism sitesThe ecotourism plan for each site will be developed in partnership with the JFMCs or ECDs of the site, as applicable.	upgradation and management for seven designated sites. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
57.	Request to share the details of identified preliminary set of about 20 potential ecotourism sites. Please let us know what is the minimum number of additional sites to be identified for addition to the preliminary set We understand that GIS/Topographical survey has been completed for the identified preliminary set of about 20 potential ecotourism sites and the same will provided to the Consultant. Request your kind confirmation. GIS/Topographical survey, if & as required for the additional sites will be carried out by Department and the Consultant role will be limited to identification & assessment of the potential eco-tourism sites. Request your kind confirmation.	Section 7 – Terms of Reference	Pg No. 76-77	i. Identification and Assessment of Potential Eco-Tourism Sites The DET has identified a preliminary set of about 20 potential ecotourism sites (including sites for trekking trails). The TSA will undertake two key tasks: (a) identification of any additional sites to add to the preliminary set (b) detailed assessment of each site in the preliminary set to identify required interventions.	The RFP has clearly defined the deliverables requirements, and DET will provide the necessary documents and support to the consultants. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
58.	DPR preparation requires topographical surveys, geotechnical investigations. Since the size of sites is unknown and this cost varies as per size, we suggest the costs of topographical surveys, geotechnical investigations be reimbursed. Additionally, DPR require 3 rd party vetting, this cost should also be reimbursed. Also clarify whether scope of the DPR work is limited up to preparation of cost estimate only? Do we need to prepare tender drawings as well?	Section 7: Terms of Reference	Pg No 78	iii. Support DET in undertaking infrastructure and facilities upgradation and management. Based on the site-specific eco-tourism plans, the TSA will prepare Detailed Project Reports for infrastructure upgradation at each ecotourism site including technical specifications of the infrastructure and facilities to be upgraded, implementation plan, phasing of the components, timelines and deliverables, and cost.	The RFP has clearly defined the requirements deliverable, and necessary support will be provided to the constants. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
59.	We understand that a total of 7 site-specific, theme based, comprehensive Ecotourism Plans to be prepared as per Activity 7 & 8, from the list of sites as identified, as above. Please confirm the same. Activity 7: Development of site-specific, theme based, comprehensive Ecotourism Plans and Infrastructure and facilities upgradation and management. (for 3 sites)	Section 7 – Terms of Reference	Pg- 77,78 & 79	 ii. Development of site-specific, theme based, comprehensive Ecotourism Plans iii. Support DET in undertaking infrastructure and facilities upgradation and management. TSA will assist the DET in creating detailed site-specific action plans for the sustainable development of each of the identified eco-tourism sites based on the findings of the detailed assessment of the ecotourism sites. 	Yes, as per Activities No. 7 and 8, the consultants are expected to develop site-specific, themebased, comprehensive Ecotourism Plans and undertake infrastructure and facilities upgradation and management for seven designated sites. Moreover, the preparation of the DPR are clearly outlined in the RFP.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	Activity 8: Development of site-specific, theme based, comprehensive Ecotourism Plans and Infrastructure and facilities upgradation and management. (for 4 sites) Kindly confirm the detailing required for DPRs.			Based on the site-specific eco-tourism plans, the TSA will prepare Detailed Project Reports for infrastructure upgradation at each ecotourism site including technical specifications of the infrastructure and facilities to be upgraded, implementation plan, phasing of	Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
60.	We understand that the consultant shall provide solution architecture, estimate budget requirements, and implementation plan only. The development of any IT portal shall be undertaken with a separate budget and through a third-party vendor. The consultant can support in selecting and onboarding such third-party vendor, following due process as per the state procurement guidelines for similar services. The cost related to development, testing and implementation support is not considered under the consultant's scope. Kindly confirm.	Section 7: Terms of Reference, PART 2 (vi)	Pg No 79	Development of an ecotourism portal for Sikkim	The RFP has clearly defined the requirement for the consultants to develop an Ecotourism Portal. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
61.	Kindly confirm that the scope of the Consultants shall be limited to assist Department in development of functional & technical requirement of the software and assist Department to select agency for development of the software. In the event scope required the development of the portal kindly consider the following request. (Sl no 11 & 12)	Section 7 – Terms of Reference	Pg. No. 79, 80 & 81	vi. Development of an ecotourism portal for Sikkim viii. Management Information System (MIS) Development and Implementation:	The RFP has clearly defined the requirement for the consultants to develop an Ecotourism Portal and MIS. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
62.	We request the Client to freeze and confirm the number of workshops/training sessions to be conducted under this activity, as it will impact on costing and resource planning. We understand that the workshop arrangement cost like venue and refreshments will be borne by the Department. Additionally, we request confirmation regarding the likely locations where these workshops are to be held. The consultant shall bear cost of their experts associated to the workshop.	Section 7: Terms of Reference, PART 2 (v)	Pg No 79	PART 2: Development and implementation support for the Ecotourism Strategy and Plan v. Capacity Building and Skill Development • Conduct workshops on E&S criteria and sustainable tourism practices to ensure responsible eco-tourism aligned with conservation goals.	The RFP has clearly defined the requirements deliverable. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
63.	Can this be considered for within the 36 month assignment period?	Section 7: Terms of Reference: Development of an Integrated Online Portal	Pg No 80	The TSA will monitor and periodically report on the performance of the portal via key performance indicators (KPIs) such as website traffic, successful bookings, permit applications, permits issued, social media engagement, etc.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
64.	We understand that while the consultant is responsible for designing awareness campaigns and developing communication materials on responsible tourism behaviour, the cost of implementation of awareness campaign and media dissemination will be borne by the Directorate of Ecotourism (DET) in coordination with the Communication Agency for INSPIRES. We request confirmation of this understanding.	Section 7: Terms of Reference: Part:2 (vii)	Pg No 80	PART 2: Development and implementation support for the Ecotourism Strategy and Plan vii. Branding and Marketing Develop and implement awareness campaigns, including development of supporting materials, on responsible tourism behavior in coordination with the communication agency for INSPIRES	The RFP has clearly defined the requirements deliverable. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
65.	We understand that the assignment is for a period of 36 months, with a potential extension of 12 months based on performance and programmatic need. We request confirmation that in case of extension due to addition in scope will be a cost based extension.	Section 7: Terms of Reference: Point 6	Pg No 80	Duration of the Assignment: The assignment will commence not later than 1 month from issuance of client's notice instructing the consultant to begin carrying out the services. The Consultant will be appointed for providing support to the client for a total period of 36 months with an option to extend the contract for further 12 months based on the performance of the firm and the need of the Program on the same rates as proposed by the firm in their proposal.	The duration of the assignment is clearly stated in the RFP. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
66.	We understand that the Department will assist Consultant in identification of key stakeholder, organizing meeting, training session & workshops. The cost of organizing the same will be borne by the Department.	Section 7 – Terms of Reference	Pg. No. 79, 80 & 81	 Focus group discussions with the local community. Focus group discussions with JFMCs, EDCs, other community organizations such as SHGs Stakeholder Consultation & Key informant interviews with key stakeholders including homestay owners, tour agents and operators, NGOs, officials of the forest department, tourism department, etc. Expert consultation meetings with policy think tanks, research institutions, conservation organizations, etc Stakeholder consultation meetings with associations of service providers relevant to ecotourism (for example, SHG federations, tour operator associations, etc.). Organize training sessions in collaboration with reputed conservation agencies (e.g., BNHS, WWF-India, WII, CEE) to enhance local skills in ecotourism guiding, environmental interpretation, and site management as per the approved training plan. Conduct workshops on E&S criteria and sustainable tourism practices to ensure responsible eco-tourism aligned with conservation goals. 	Yes, the DET (Head Office and Field Offices) will assist the consultants as per the requirements of the deliverables. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
67.	The current criteria seem restrictive. To enable bidders to provide the best suited candidates and ensure maximum participation, we request Authority to modify the requirement as follows: Position	Section 7: TOR 7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts	Pg No 85	Team Leader / person Months Months m Expert Master's degree in Tourism/Ecotourism/Sustainable Tourism/NRM and allied field, also has sound knowledge and experience of global ecotourism best practices and trends for 10 years and above. • Experience in development of sustainable ecotourism plan, planning and development of trekking trails, community mobilization, TNA, report writing, IEC and promotional and marketing. • Experience in trekking and allied activities in the Himalayan region. • Proven experience in community engagement, including conducting consultations and focus group discussions. • Familiarity with local flora, fauna, and cultural heritage can be advantageous. • Experience in working with diverse teams, including local communities, government agencies, and environmental Consultants. • Strong written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to prepare reports and promotional materials.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
68.	We would request to please include more options under qualifications criteria. This would help in getting dynamic profiles with relevant experience. Team Leader/ Eco Tourism Expert Qualification and Experience: Master's degree in Tourism/ Ecotourism/ Sustainable Tourism/NRM/ Architecture/ Planning/ Environment and Ecology/ Forestry and allied field, also has sound knowledge and experience of global ecotourism best practices and trends for 10 years and above.	Section 7: TOR 7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts	Pg No 85	7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts • Team Leader/ Eco Tourism Expert Qualification and Experience: Master's degree in Tourism/ Ecotourism/ Sustainable Tourism/NRM and allied field, also has sound knowledge and experience of global ecotourism best practices and trends for 10 years and above.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
69.	As the scope is comprehensive and involves strategic planning, we request the Authority to consider the following Qualification and Experience of the team leader:	Section 7: TOR 7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and	Pg No 85	Team Leader / Ecotourism Expert : Qualification and Experience: Master's degree in Tourism/ Ecotourism/ Sustainable Tourism/NRM and allied field, also has sound knowledge and experience of	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	Master's degree in Tourism/ Ecotourism/ Sustainable Tourism/ Architecture/ Planning / Urban Design/ NRM and allied field, also has sound knowledge and experience of global ecotourism best practices and trends for 10 years and above.	role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts		global ecotourism best practices and trends for 10 years and above.	
70.	We request that Master's in Environment Planning also be considered as an eligible qualification for the position of Team Leader / Ecotourism Expert. Environment Planning as a discipline includes integrated knowledge of natural resource management, sustainable land use, conservation-oriented planning, and ecosystem-based tourism development—all of which are core to ecotourism projects. Professionals with such academic backgrounds, combined with relevant experience, are well-positioned to deliver on the TOR requirements.	Section 7: TOR 7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts	Pg No 85	Team Leader / Ecotourism Expert: Qualification and Experience: Master's degree in Tourism/ Ecotourism/ Sustainable Tourism/NRM and allied field, also has sound knowledge and experience of global ecotourism best practices and trends for 10 years and above.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
71.	We request the department to kindly reduce the total experience required for the said expert from 10 years to 5 years	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No 86	Environment and Social Specialist Professional Experience: Qualification and Experience master's degree in environmental and social development with sound knowledge and experience on development related baseline assessments and policy analysis for at least 10 years. Work experience in the conservation and tourism sectors will be an added advantage.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
72.	We would request to kindly include more options under qualifications criteria. This would help in getting dynamic profiles with relevant experience. • Environmental and Social Specialist Qualification and Experience: Master's degree in environmental and social development/ Environment Science/ Social Work/ Forestry and allied fields with sound knowledge and experience on development related	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No 86	7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts • Environmental and Social Specialist Qualification and Experience: Master's degree in environmental and social development with sound knowledge and experience on development related baseline assessments and policy analysis for at least 10 years.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Consultant	****	ns from the Prospective	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
73.	Environm ental and Social Specialist	1 No. (3 months)	Qualification and Experience Master's degree or equivalent in environmental science/ social development and allied fields with sound knowledge and experience on development related baseline assessments and policy analysis for at least 10 years. Work experience in the conservation and tourism sectors will be an added advantage.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No 86	Environment and Social Specialist Professional Experience: Qualification and Experience master's degree in environmental and social development with sound knowledge and experience on development related baseline assessments and policy analysis for at least 10 years. Work experience in the conservation and tourism sectors will be an added advantage.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
74.	Environment include Mass Development ensure a wide especially the	ntal and Social ster's degrees ent / or other r der pool of tecl hose with intere	ication criteria for the Specialist may be broadened to in Environment / Social elevant disciplines. This will hnically competent professionals, disciplinary qualifications that ature of environmental and social	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No 86	Environment and Social Specialist Professional Experience: Qualification and Experience master's degree in environmental and social development with sound knowledge and experience on development related baseline assessments and policy analysis for at least 10 years. Work experience in the conservation and tourism sectors will be an added advantage.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
75.	broader Archite these fi Detaile develop Additio than 10 or relat requirer overall trail su trekkin This wi	ned to include ecture /Plant ields are directed Project Forment in ecotomally, we rected outdoor the ment may be professional arveying, design to be contill allow part	he required qualification may be a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering/hing, or equivalent disciplines, as city relevant to the preparation of Reports (DPRs) for infrastructure purism contexts. Quest that instead of stating "more perience in trail surveying, design, work or conducting trekking", the revised to "minimum 10 years of I experience," with experience in sign, or related outdoor work or sidered as an added advantage". icipation of qualified professionals want experience.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No 86	 7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts Tourism Infrastructure development expert Qualification Bachelor/ B. Tech Civil Engineering Experience: More than 10 years of experience in trail surveying, design, or related outdoor work or conducting trekking. Additional certifications or training in Solid Waste Management, Sustainable Development, Ecotourism, or Environmental Conservation are highly desirable 	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
76.	Experience: More than 10 years of experience in infrastructure development trail surveying, design, or related outdoor work or conducting trekking. Proven experience in using GPS and GIS technology for mapping and surveying. Familiarity with local flora, fauna, and terrain can be advantageous. Experience in working with diverse teams, including local communities, environmental Consultants, and government agencies including knowledge on waste management processes. Additional certifications or training in Solid Waste Management, Ecotourism, or	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No 86	Tourism Infrastruc person months) developme nt expert More than 10 years of experience in trail surveying, design, or related outdoor work or conducting trekking. Proven experience in using GPS and GIS technology for mapping and surveying. Familiarity with local flora, fauna, and terrain can be advantageous. Experience in working with diverse teams, including local communities, environmental Consultants, and government agencies including knowledge on waste management processes. Additional certifications or training in Solid Waste Management, Sustainable Development, Ecotourism, or Environmental Conservation are highly desirable. Strong physical fitness to handle the demands of outdoor work in various weather conditions.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
77.	As the scope is comprehensive and involves strategic planning, we request the Authority to consider the following Qualification and Experience of the Tourism Infrastructure development expert: Graduate in Civil Engineering/Architecture with Post Graduate Degree in Planning/ Engineering or equivalent with more than 10 years of experience.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No 86	Tourism Infrastructure development expert Qualification and Experience: Bachelor/ B. Tech Civil Engineering	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
78.	We kindly request to revise the clause as below: Tourism Infrastructure development expert Qualification and Experience: Bachelor/ B. Tech Civil Engineering/ Architecture with Master in Engineering/ Planning/ Architecture/ Tourism or equivalent	Section 7: TOR 7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts	Pg No 80	Tourism Infrastructure development expert Qualification and Experience: Bachelor/ B. Tech Civil Engineering	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
79.	We request the Authority to kindly clarify whether the TSA will be required to deploy the key experts on-site, and if so, the expected duration of deployment for each key expert. Additionally, we seek guidance on whether full-time or part-time deployment will be acceptable for specific roles, to enable appropriate planning and resource allocation.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and	Pg No. 84	It is to be noted that the deployment of staff by the firm will be strictly monitored by the client and replacement of key team members will not be allowed under any circumstances. However, the firm may, with proper justification, request the client in writing for a	The RFP has clearly outlined the deployment requirements of the experts. Therefore, the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	In that case, we understand that the consultant would be provided with necessary office space and equipment's to operate out of the Authority's office.	responsibility (A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts		replacement of a key personnel with an alternative whose credentials are either at par or more than the existing team member. It is to be further noted that the client is in no obligation to allow for replacement of the proposed team member.	
80.	We request the department to kindly reduce the total experience required for the said expert from 10 years to 5 years	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 87	SWM Expert Professional Experience: Minimum of 10 years of experience in waste management with a strong focus on eco-sensitive and rural areas, particularly trekking trails, ecotourism sites, and community-based eco-tourism initiatives.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
81.	We request the department to kindly reduce the total experience required for the said expert from 8 years to 5 years	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 89	Policy Expert Professional Experience: At least 8 years of experience in policy analysis	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
82.	Policy Expert person months) Expert person months) Experience At least 8 years of experience in policy analysis, with a focus on: Developing strategic documents such as policy frameworks and intervention plans for development programming policies and schemes in areas relevant to employment, investment, and entrepreneurship promotion. Conducting situational analyses, needs assessments, and stakeholder analyses. Facilitating multistakeholder consultations and incorporating feedback into strategic documents. Experience in the Northeastern Region of India is preferred. Experience in working with government/ government agencies in India, preferably at the state-level.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 89	Policy Expert Qualifications Master's degree in public policy, Economics, Development Studies, Business Administration, Political Science, or related fields. Experience At least 8 years of experience in policy analysis, with a focus on: Developing strategic documents such as policy frameworks and intervention plans for development programming. Designing and evaluating policies and schemes in areas relevant to employment, investment, and entrepreneurship promotion. Conducting situational analyses, needs assessments, and stakeholder analyses. Facilitating multi-stakeholder consultations and incorporating feedback into strategic documents. Experience in the Northeastern Region of India is preferred. Experience in working with government/ government agencies in India, preferably at the state-level.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
83.	We request the department to kindly reduce the total experier required for the said expert from 10 years to 5 years	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 89	Software Developer/ MIS Expert Professional Experience: Minimum of 10 years of experience in software development, with a strong focus on web-based application development.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
84.	The responsibilities to be executed by technology track has a wide spectrum of activities, including but not limited to endend design, development, deployment till maintenance of the upgraded online permit system with multi-lingual access and also mobile interface. However, the estimated effort mention	7: Qualifications, duration,	Pg No. 89	 7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts Software Developer/ MIS Expert 	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	in RFP is only 12 person-months (1 position for 12 months). Considering the scope, it would be feasible to execute the activities through an upward revision of effort to at least 36 person-months (3 positions for 12 months). So, would request to consider the same.	role and responsibility (A)		 No. of Position: 1 Duration: 12 Person-Months 	
85.	Software Developer/ person MIS Expert Months) Expert Months) Months) Expert Professional Experience: Minimum of 7 years of experience in providing IT Consultancy for State Government/ Public Sector Units Proven experience in developing and deploying secure, scalable, and user- friendly systems. Experience in MIS and database management.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 89	Software Developer/ person Months Expert Developer MIS Bachelor's degree in computer science, Software Engineering, or a related field. A master's degree is preferred.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
86.	We understand that the Master's degree in marketing, business administration will be considered related and equivalent to Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing. Both PGDM and MBA are AICTE recognised courses. Reputed institutes like IIMs provide PGDM courses which are technically equivalent to MBA. We respectfully request that Post Graduate Diploma (in Marketing) recognised by AICTE/UGC be considered as related fields.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 90	7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts Marketing and Branding Expert Bachelor's or master's degree in marketing, business administration, sustainable tourism, or related fields is preferred.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
87.	We kindly request to revise the clause as below: Program Associate Qualifications Bachelor's degree in tourism management, Marketing Management, economics, social work, humanities, planning, engineering or any graduation.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 92	Program Associate Qualifications Bachelor's degree in tourism management, Marketing Management, economics, social work, humanities or related field.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
88.	Given the scope of work related to Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation and strategic planning, we request you to kindly allow candidates holding a Bachelor's degree in Planning or Architecture to be considered eligible. These fields provide critical technical skills and interdisciplinary training relevant to spatial planning, infrastructure strategy, and sustainable tourism development—directly aligning with the needs of the assignment. Further, we understand that the total duration allocated is 48 person-months across two positions, i.e., 24 personmonths per position. Given the broad and ongoing support required under the Scope of Work, we request that the individual duration for each Program Associate position be extended from 24 person-months to 36 person-months. This will help ensure continuity, field coordination, and sustained programmatic support to the client across all phases of implementation.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 92	Program Associate Qualifications Bachelor's degree in tourism management, Marketing Management, economics, social work, humanities or related field. Duration - 48 person months for 2 positions	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
89.	We would request to please include more options under qualifications criteria. This would help in getting dynamic profiles with relevant experience. • Program Associate Qualification and Experience: Master/ Bachelor's degree in tourism management, Marketing Management, economics, social work, humanities or related field.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility (A)	Pg No. 92	7. Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility A) Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts Program Associate Qualification and Experience: Bachelor's degree in tourism management, Marketing Management, economics, social work, humanities or related field.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
90.	There is no team specified for DPR preparation – like architects, engineers, QS, junior draftsmen, etc. We would have to consider for all such experts under other project support and cost them in the proposal. Considering that this is a fixed budget lumpsum assignment, all resources are factored in financial proposals, hence providing a new resources as per client requirements during the implementation may not be factored in the proposal. We request to client to reimburse such cost of additional mobilisation beyond the quoted value in financials.	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 7: Qualifications, duration, experience, and role and responsibility	Pg No. 92	The consultant may add other project support persons (non-key) as required based on their assessment of the scope of work. During the implementation, the client may request for additional manpower which can be deployed by the firm with prior approval from the client on biodatas and work assignment. The qualification criteria for the nonkey experts would be having a bachelor degree in the relevant field, minimum of 7 years of experience in the relevant field.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
91.	Kindly specify for 3 site in Activity 7 but for Activity 8 its 4 sites?	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 10 A payment	Pg No. 94-95	Sl No. 10 Payment: Payment will be made only on acceptance of the following deliverables Activity 7 & 8: Development of site specific, theme based, comprehensive Ecotourism Plans and Infrastructure and facilities upgradation and management.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
92.	 The ToR mentions 20 potential sites on page 76, whereas the detailed payment schedule on pages 95-96 mentions 3 + 4 = 7 sites. Hence please clarify if DPR is required for 7 sites only or more. As per payment structure and deliverable schedules, we understand that there is no requirement for TSA to prepare the works bid documents, procure the works, and manage works implementation. Please confirm. 	Section 7- Term of Reference, Clause 10 A payment	Pg No. 94-95	Payment. Activity 7 & 8	Please refer to the response provided under Sl. No. 49 for clarification.
93.	The scope of online permit system will include multiple milestones to be achieved over a period of 36 months. Accordingly, we request to consider the following disbursement timelines: Current-state assessment, Gap-Analysis, Functional and System Requirement Specifications, Designing of the upgraded system – 2.5% of the total amount (T+6 Months) Development of the upgraded system – 5% of the total amount (T+12 Months) Training & Capacity Building, User Acceptance Test and deployment of the upgraded system – 2.5% of the total amount (T+18 Months) Maintenance of the upgraded system (Quarter 1) – 2.5% of the total amount (T+24 Months) Maintenance of the upgraded system (Quarter 2) – 2.5% of the total amount (T+30 Months) Maintenance of the upgraded system (Quarter 3) – 2.5% of the total amount (T+36 Months)	Section 7 – Terms of Reference	Pg No. 96	12.1 Comprehensive MIS and monitoring and evaluation framework – 5% of the total amount (T+36 Months)	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
94.	We request you to kindly add the consideration in SCC for clause no 19.1.3: "Consultant may terminate this agreement, or any particular services, immediately upon written notice to Client if Consultant reasonably determine that it can no longer provide the services in accordance with applicable law or professional obligations."	II. General Conditions of Contract	Pg. No. 109	II. General Conditions of Contract B. COMMENCEMENT, COMPLETION, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT 19 Termination	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	(c) If the Client fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration pursuant to Clause GCC 54.1. (d) If the Client is in material breach of its obligations pursuant to this Contract and has not remedied the same within forty-five (45) days (or such longer period as the Consultant may have subsequently approved in writing) following the receipt by the Client of the Consultant's notice specifying such breach.			19.1 The Contract may be terminated by either Party as per provisions set up below: b. By the Consultant: 19.1.3 The Consultant may terminate this Contract, by not less than thirty (30) calendar days' written notice to the Client, in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this Clause. (a) If the Client fails to pay any money due to the Consultant pursuant to this Contract and not subject to dispute pursuant to Clauses GCC 54.1 within forty-five (45) calendar days after receiving written notice from the Consultant that such payment is overdue. (b) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) calendar days.	
95.	We would request you to kindly add the consideration in SCC for clause no 22.1: "Except as otherwise permitted by this agreement, neither of the parties may disclose to third parties the contents of this agreement or any information provided by or on behalf of the other that ought reasonably to be treated as confidential and/or proprietary. Parties may, however, disclose such confidential information to the extent that it: (a) is or becomes public other than through a breach of this agreement, (b) is subsequently received by the receiving party from a third party who, to the receiving party's knowledge, owes no obligation of confidentiality to the disclosing party with respect to that information, (c) was known to the receiving party at the time of disclosure or is thereafter created independently, (d) is disclosed as necessary to enforce the receiving party's rights under this agreement, or (e) must be disclosed under applicable law, legal process or professional regulations. These obligations shall be valid for a period of 3 years from the date of termination of this agreement"	II. General Conditions of Contract	Pg. No. 112	II General Condition of Contracts C. Obligations of the Consultant 22 Confidentiality 22.1 Except with the prior written consent of the Client, the Consultant and the Experts shall not at any time communicate to any person or entity any confidential information acquired in the course of the Services, nor shall the Consultant and the Experts make public the recommendations formulated in the course of, or as a result of the Services.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
96.	We request to kindly consider the following. To be deleted and replaced with the following clause: "Except as otherwise permitted by this Agreement, neither of the parties may disclose to third parties the contents of this Agreement or any information provided by or on behalf of the other that ought reasonably to be treated as confidential and/or proprietary. Parties may, however, disclose such confidential information to	GCC- 22. Confidentiality	Pg. No. 112	"22. Confidentiality 22.1 Except with the prior written consent of the Client, the Consultant and the Experts shall not at any time communicate to any person or entity any confidential information acquired in the course of the Services, nor shall the Consultant and the	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	the extent that it: (a) is or becomes public other than through a breach of this Agreement, (b) is subsequently received by the receiving party from a third party who, to the receiving party's knowledge, owes no obligation of confidentiality to the disclosing party with respect to that information, (c) was known to the receiving party at the time of disclosure or is thereafter created independently, (d) is disclosed as necessary to enforce the receiving party's rights under this Agreement, or (e) must be disclosed under applicable law, legal process or professional regulations. These obligations shall be valid for a period of 3 years from the date of termination of this Agreement."			Experts make public the recommendations formulated in the course of, or as a result of, the Services. "	
97.	We request you to kindly add the consideration in SCC for clause no 25: "Notwithstanding the above any audit conducted shall be restricted to the physical files in relation to this agreement only and shall be subject to Client agreeing to maintain confidentiality of these documents. No access to the Consultant's systems or hands on or intrusive testing will be permitted. Any third parties employed by Client to conduct such audit shall not be a competitor of the Consultant and shall agree to confidential obligations with the Consultant"	GCC. 25. Accounting, Inspection and Auditing	Pg. No. 112	II General Condition of Contracts C. Obligations of the Consultant 25 Accounting, inspection and auditing 25.1 The Consultant shall keep and shall make all reasonable efforts to cause its Sub-consultants to keep, accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the Services and in such form and detail as will clearly identify relevant time changes and costs. 25.2 Pursuant to paragraph 2.2 e. of Attachment 1 to the General Conditions, the Consultant shall permit and shall cause its agents (where declared or not), subcontractors, subconsultants, service providers, suppliers, and personnel, to permit, the Bank and/or persons appointed by the Bank to inspect the site and/or the accounts, records and other documents relating to the procurement process, selection and/or contract execution, and to have such accounts, records and other documents audited by auditors appointed by the Bank. The Consultant's and its Subcontractors' and subconsultants' attention is drawn to Clause GCC 10.1 (Fraud and Corruption) which provides, inter alia, that acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the Bank's inspection and audit rights constitute a prohibited practice subject to contract termination (as well as to a determination of ineligibility pursuant to the Bank's prevailing sanctions procedures).	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
98.	We request to kindly replace Clause 27 with the following clause:	GCC Clause No. 27. Proprietary Rights of the	Pg. No. 113	GCC Clause No. 27. Proprietary Rights of the Client in Reports and Records (pg-113)	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	"The Consultant may use data, software, designs, utilities, tools, models, systems and other methodologies and know-how ("Materials") that it owns in performing the Services. Notwithstanding the delivery of any Reports, the Consultant retains all intellectual property rights in the Materials (including any improvements or knowledge developed while performing the Services), and in any working papers that the Consultant compiles and retains in connection with the Services (but not information provided by Client reflected in them). Any information, advice, recommendations or other content of any reports, presentations or other communications the Consultant provides under this Agreement ("Reports"), other than information provided by the Client, are for Client's internal use only (consistent with the purpose of the particular Services) including Client's board of directors, its audit committee, or its statutory auditors and not for disclosure externally outside Client's organization."	Client in Reports and Records		27.1 Unless otherwise indicated in the SCC, all reports and relevant data and information such as maps, diagrams, plans, databases, other documents and software, supporting records or material compiled or prepared by the Consultant for the Client in the course of the Services shall be confidential and become and remain the absolute property of the Client. The Consultant shall, not later than upon termination or expiration of this Contract, deliver all such documents to the Client, together with a detailed inventory thereof. The Consultant may retain a copy of such documents, data and/or software but shall not use the same for purposes unrelated to this Contract without prior written approval of the Client. 27.2 If license agreements are necessary or appropriate between the Consultant and third parties for purposes of development of the plans, drawings, specifications, designs, databases, other documents and software, the Consultant shall obtain the Client's prior written approval to such agreements, and the Client shall be entitled at its discretion to require recovering the expenses related to the development of the program(s) concerned. Other restrictions about the future use of these documents and software, if any, shall be specified in the SCC.	
99.	The Client is requested to modify the clause as suggested below: "The Lump-Sum Instalment Payments. The Client shall pay the Consultant within sixty (60) thirty (30) days after the receipt by the Client of the deliverable(s) and the cover invoice for the related lump-sum instalment payment. The payment can be withheld if the Client does not approve the submitted deliverable(s) as satisfactory in which case the Client shall provide comments to the Consultant within the same sixty (60) thirty (30) days period. The Consultant shall thereupon promptly make any necessary corrections, and thereafter the foregoing process shall be repeated."	Special Conditions of Contract: Clause No. 46.2.2 of GCC	Pg No. 119	Mode of Billing and Payment: 60 days Period of Payment	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
100.	"Limitation of the Consultant's Liability towards the Client: (a) Except in the case of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Consultant or on the part of any person or a firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services, the Consultant, with respect to damage caused by the Consultant to the Client's property, shall not be liable to the Client: (i) for any indirect or consequential loss or damage; and (ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds [insert a multiplier, e.g.: one, two, three] times the total value of the Contract; Team to limit any direct loss or damage to one time the total value of the contract. (b) This limitation of liability shall not (i) affect the Consultant's liability, if any, for damage to Third Parties caused by the Consultant or any person or firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services;	Special Conditions of Contract: Clause 23.1	Pg No. 126	"Limitation of the Consultant's Liability towards the Client: (a) Except in the case of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Consultant or on the part of any person or a firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services, the Consultant, with respect to damage caused by the Consultant to the Client's property, shall not be liable to the Client: (i) for any indirect or consequential loss or damage; and (ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds [insert a multiplier, e.g.: one, two, three] times the total value of the Contract. (b) This limitation of liability shall not (i) affect the Consultant's liability, if any, for damage to Third Parties caused by the Consultant or any person or firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
	(ii) be construed as providing the Consultant with any limitation or exclusion from liability which is prohibited by the Applicable Law in India".			the Services. (ii) be construed as providing the Consultant with any limitation or exclusion from liability which is prohibited by the Applicable Law in India".	
101.	The Client is requested to modify the clause as suggested below: (ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds [insert a multiplier, e.g.: one, two, three] times the total value of the Contract.	Special Conditions of Contract: Clause No. 23.1 of SCC	Pg No. 126	Limitation of the Consultant's Liability towards the Client: (ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds [insert a multiplier, e.g.: one, two, three] times the total value of the Contract.	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
102.	We request to kindly consider the following. "Limitation of the Consultant's Liability towards the Client: (a) Except in the case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct on the part of the Consultant or on the part of any person or a firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services, the Consultant, with respect to damage caused by the Consultant to the Client's property, shall not be liable to the Client: (i) for any indirect or consequential loss or damage; and (ii) except in the case of fraud or wilful misconduct on the part of the Consultant for any direct loss or damage that exceeds finsert a multiplier, e.g.: one, two, three] times the total value of the Contract. (b) This limitation of liability shall not (i) affect the Consultant's liability, if any, for damage to Third Parties caused by the Consultant or any person or firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services. (ii) be construed as providing the Consultant with any limitation or exclusion from liability which is prohibited by the Applicable Law in India".	SCC Clause 23.1	Pg No. 126	""Limitation of the Consultant's Liability towards the Client: (a) Except in the case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct on the part of the Consultant or on the part of any person or a firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services, the Consultant, with respect to damage caused by the Consultant to the Client's property, shall not be liable to the Client: (i) for any indirect or consequential loss or damage. and (ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds [insert a multiplier, e.g.: one, two, three] times the total value of the Contract. (b) This limitation of liability shall not (i) affect the Consultant's liability, if any, for damage to Third Parties caused by the Consultant or any person or firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services. (ii) be construed as providing the Consultant with any limitation or exclusion from liability which is prohibited by the Applicable Law in India"."	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged
103.	We would like to inform you that EY maintains professional indemnity insurance only and we inform our clients about the same. Our professional indemnity insurance covers our professional liability up to an appropriate level sufficient for the purposes of this engagement. Thus, we would like you to kindly consider the first point related to personal liability insurance or personal indemnity insurance for the project. The insurance coverage against the risks shall be as follows: (a) Professional liability indemnity insurance, with a minimum coverage of total ceiling among of the Contract. (b) Third Party motor vehicle liability insurance in respect of motor vehicles operated in the Client's country by the Consultant or its Experts or Sub-consultants, with a minimum coverage as per the latest Amended Motor Vehicles Act, India. (c) Third Party liability insurance, with a minimum coverage in accordance with the applicable law in India. (d) employer's liability and workers' compensation insurance in respect of the experts and Sub-consultants in accordance with the relevant provisions of the applicable law in the Client's country, as well as, with respect to such Experts, any such life, health, accident, travel or other insurance as may be appropriate;	SCC-24.1	Pg No. 127	III – SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT 24.1 The insurance coverage against the risks shall be as follows: (a) Professional liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of total ceiling among of the Contract. (b) Third Party motor vehicle liability insurance in respect of motor vehicles operated in the Client's country by the Consultant or its Experts or Sub-consultants, with a minimum coverage as per the latest Amended Motor Vehicles Act, India; (c) Third Party liability insurance, with a minimum coverage "in accordance with the applicable law in India; (d) employer's liability and workers' compensation insurance in respect of the experts and Sub-consultants in accordance with the relevant provisions of the applicable law in the Client's country, as well as, with respect to such Experts, any such life, health, accident, travel or other insurance as may be appropriate; and	The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged



Sl. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	and (e) insurance against loss of or damage to (i) equipment purchased in whole or in part with funds provided under this Contract, (ii) the Consultant's property used in the performance of the Services, and (iii) any documents prepared by the Consultant in the performance of the Services.			(e) insurance against loss of or damage to (i) equipment purchased in whole or in part with funds provided under this Contract,(ii) the Consultant's property used in the performance of the Services, and (iii) any documents prepared by the Consultant in the performance of the Services.	
104.	Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, kindly note that we do not provide any legal services directly or indirectly since we are not permitted to provide the same. Our scope is limited to technical/commercial aspect and our services will not include provision of any legal services or legal advice. No work performed by our employees shall be construed as legal service/legal advice.	General	NA		The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
105.	There is only mention of a Joint Venture in the RFP. Would a Consortium be possible for multiple entities coming together for this bid?	General	NA		According to Section 2 of the Instructions to Consultants and the Data Sheet, under General Provision 1(n), if a bidder meets the conditions mentioned for a Joint Venture, then a consortium is allowed.
106.	Terms of Reference - "Comprehensive MIS and monitoring and evaluation framework" - are we allowed to onboard subcontractor to build this?	General	NA		The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
107.	Are we allowed to onboard survey agencies as sub contractor?	General	NA		The provision for subcontracting will not be allowed. Therefore the existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
108.	As we are a large professional services firm, we reserve the right to terminate the engagement, in case of breach of applicable law or regulation or professional norms.	General Disclaimer	NA		The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
109.	For a fair financial competition, we request to kindly provide maximum/ estimated budget for the consultancy fees.	General Disclaimer	NA		
110.	We would request to kindly add the following position. • Financial Expert • No. of Position: 1 • Duration: 12 Person-Months	New Position	NA		The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
	Qualification and Experience:				



SI. No.	Query / Suggestions from the Prospective Consultants	Clause Reference of RFP	Page N0	Content of Para / Clause under Reference as per RFP	Response/Clarifications
	Master's degree in economics / finance or CA with at least 10 years of relevant professional experience. Relevant experience of Financial Analysis/ financial structuring/ appraisal of similar development project. Experience of working on market analysis and product mix and conducting surveys. Experience of infrastructure projects/ program of similar nature in the field of infrastructure finance and PPP projects would be added advantage. Work experience in the tourism sectors will be an added advantage.				
111.	We would request to add the following position. Architect/Planner No. of Position: 1 Duration: 12 Person-Months Qualification and Experience: Master's degree in architecture / planning with at least 10 years of relevant professional experience. Experience in master planning projects and experience in working on greenfield/brown-field development projects preferably with tourism/cultural/ecological elements. Experience in developing tourism related ecosystem on a sustainable basis would be preferred. Work experience in the tourism sectors will be an added advantage.	New Position			The existing provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.
