

REOI FOR SHORTLISTING OF CONSULTING FIRMS FOR ASSESSMENT OF LIVEABILITY IN SELECTED CITIES
RESPONSE TO PRE-BID QUERIES

S.NO	QUERY	RESPONSE
	REGARDING ELIGIBILITY	
	'A business entity' - Government entities, formed by cabinet decisions are not incorporated in companies Act/LLP Act. There should be a provision for such entities.	Explained in Clause 2.2 (b) page 7. As per procurement guidelines, State-owned enterprises are eligible to compete if they are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Legally and financially autonomous ii. Operate under commercial law iii. Are not under supervision by the agency contracting them In any case, such entities can participate as a consortium partner
	EMD processing fee required in EOI phase or not?	No
	REGARDING FINANCIAL QUALIFICATION CRITERIA	
	How do you define 'financial strength of the organization'? (What secures full marks?)	Information needs to be provided as per Annexure 4 of the REOI. The Procurement Committee will decide the same.
	Financial strength of the firm (Pg. no. 15, 3.1 b) Vague statement: Is there any lower limit?	
	Elucidation required for 'Financial strength evaluation'.	
	Is there any limit of turnover to apply for this bid?	No
	Valuation of consortium to be for 'lead partner' or consortium as a whole?	Technical criteria valuation will be for all consortium partners. For financial strength Lead partner shall only be evaluated.

	REGARDING SCOPE	
	You give assignment in a single company for PAN India. (Can someone apply for few cities only?)	Single selected agency has to carry out the entire assignment for 116 cities.
	There are 116 cities given in Annexure - 1, whether NIUA is going to split this assignment among many organizations or will it be given to one agency?	
	Would single or multiple agencies be deployed to conduct the research? If multiple, what would be min/max size of deliverables(state wise/zone wise)?	
	Please clarify if this is a single project or how would the cities be packaged if multiple projects.	
	Will you select one agency for 116 cities or there will be multiple agencies?	
	Will the complete assignment be taken by a single firm?	
	In case the number of firms are to be engaged, how would the lot be divided?	
	How many bidders will be considered for contract award for all 130 cities/towns.	
	How many firms are to be selected?	
	Can a consultant bid for few states or it has to bid for all the 116 cities?	
	In the background, 114 cities is mentioned whereas Annexure A has names of 116 cities in the list. So what is the exact number?	116 cities

	Standard of Liveability is defined or it has to be redefined by the consultant?	Please refer to the "Liveability Standards in Cities" along with "Methodology for Collection and Computation of Liveability Standards in Cities " which may be downloaded at http://smartcities.gov.in/content/innerpage/otherstoolkit.php
	Is the methodology and related indices confirmed or are under development?	
	Do you expect us to contribute to development of indices and calculations?	No
	Once the data is submitted, does the research agency gets a role in policy defining?	No
	What all does city inspection report contains?	In case this refers to 'Inception Reports': Refer 1.2.1.b for details on City wise Inception Report
	What is the definition of a city - Municipality area or UA?	Municipal area
	Will there be separate reports for each city?	Yes
REGARDING TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION CRITERIA		
	What is the type of expertise required for the assignment?	Refer Clause 3.1 of REOI
	Why is accreditation with B.V. or UV SUD or equivalent necessary?	To ensure quality
	Can 'equivalent' in the above query be elucidated?	Please follow the terms of reference.
	Why specific certification required when we have more experiences of Market Research/Field surveys urban slums surveys/socio- economic surveys?	
	Teams consisting of data collectors accredited with or belonging to inspection bodies such as Bureau Vertitas (india) pvt. Ltd., UV SUD South Asia pvt. or of equivalent status and	

	repute (Pg. no. 15, 3.1b) Which all bodies do include under this head? However, it is very difficult to get investigators/team for such a huge assignment	
	Section 3.1(e): Will ISO certifications quality? If yes, please specify how many projects or people to get 30 marks. If no, please specify the kind of accreditation.	
	Consideration of 30 marks in evaluation criteria for accreditation with Bureau veritas / UV SUD is too high. This criterion needs to be dropped to allow wider participation by industry in the project.	No change
	With respect to section 3 (b) of REOI on evaluation parameters, We have significant experience in undertaking field surveys and research and analysis in urban areas including household surveys, property survey and mapping etc. We have well laid out processes for data collection and quality assurance and are ISO 9001-2015 certified. As we mostly use in house survey designers, supervisors and data collectors, we have not worked with external terms specifically accredited by the specific organizations listed in REOI. The specific reference to inspection bodies may be removed in favour of generic quality assurance processes or certification or process demonstration.	
	From 3.1 Evaluation: Within each evaluation parameter, how will the marking be done? Is there any breakup of marks based on no. of assignments?	This will be decided by the Procurement Committee
	From 3.1 - Experience of staff- 25 marks: For how many similar	

	assignments, maximum 25 marks will be awarded?	
	<p>Point 3: Criteria for evaluation</p> <p>3.1: Evaluation of applications</p> <p>a. What is the min number of experience for general experience?</p> <p>b. What is the minimum of staff having experience for similar assignment</p> <p>c. What is the minimum number of assignments related to market research and field survey in urban areas?</p> <p>d. What is the minimum number of assignments for experience of the firm in implementing assignments for analysis and assessment of data related to governance, transportation etc.</p>	
	What is the score given to each assignment	
	<p>The query is for the 'criteria for evaluation' marked at section 3. Under section 3.1 sub-point b, 4 parameters are grouped in 2 and marked as (3) and (4). The parameters include experience of the firm and the related assignments.</p> <p>The collective staff experience defines the firm's experience thus in that view the pointers are same except the expectations raised for the data collectors to be accredited with inspection bodies.</p> <p>Suggestion: In order to get more reliable data, one pointer should be added or weightage should be given to the consultants who are conducting the field work digitally. Geotag information gives you more accuracy in terms of</p>	

	relying on data collected from that city itself.	
	On evaluation criteria what would be treated as Gold standard for each parameter i.e. what credential will make one eligible for full marks under each? What financial strength criteria will ensure 15 marks? How many projects as reference/experience?	
	Is the surveys held as large scale urban planning assignments will be counted or not?	Eligibility based on project details to be evaluated by the Procurement Committee
	Can we obtain global experience?	Yes
	Can study conducted in domain like governance, transportation, environment, conducted globally be shown in the experience?	Yes
	Is our global experience in similar studies relevant here?	Yes
	Reference Appendix 6 - Pg 28 ; Specific experience of the firm in implementing.....lead firm. Please clarify why pvt. Companies are mentioned and what kind of affiliation/equivalent status needed.	Self-Explanatory
	Reference Appendix 5,7 - Pg 26 and 30; A copy of the work order/agreement.....as per clause 2.19 Work order may not mention the survey work in most of the cases. But projects like PMAY are totally based on ground level survey as per the SOW mentioned by MOHUPA. Please consider these projects as under survey related work.	Project details to be submitted as per REOI
REGARDING METHODOLOGY		

	Is primary data collection expected or the data needs to be collected from the ULB officials?	Both
	From 1.2 Brief TOR: What should be the methodology for data collection? Is this fixed or we have flexibility to opt for digital or other solutions?	This will be part of the detailed Terms of Reference as part of the Request for Proposal
	Research mode : physical surveys, government data, online research about the city. These need to be defined (for accuracy) and how to submit data (pre defined formats)	
	Please elaborate on secondary data availability from different line departments and primary data collection requirements in the project.	
	Data collection and field survey- What would be the universe/TG selection process?	
	REOI refers to a detailed methodology already developed for this experience. Will the selected consultant be allowed to improvise it?	
	Will usage of 'lateral' or 'proxy' data sources such as satellite imagery to access traffic patterns, built density, green cover, water bodies, open spaces etc, telephone data on mobility patterns etc be supported or encouraged?	
	What does identification of data resources and submission of resources of data mean?	This will be part of the detailed Terms of Reference as part of the Request for Proposal
	Has there been a baseline study conducted on the availability of administrative data across all the indicators mentioned in	No.

	REOI? If so, will that be made available to the consultants at RFP stage?	
	Will data collected previously under other mission and programs viz. Swachh Survekshan etc. be made available for Liveability Index? (Can be very useful and avoid duplication of efforts)	This will be part of the detailed Terms of Reference as part of the Request for Proposal
	Will the government agencies provide support? To what extent? How?	
	Can data collection be a 'computer assisted personal interview' using CAPI devices (hand handled). REOI does mention that 'maintain and submit raw data and data collection forms to NIUA'.	
	Are you okay with digital form of data collection as you mentioned to submit raw data and data collection forms?	
	How is data to be submitted? Digitally or manually?	
	REGARDING DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT	
	What is the duration of this assignment?	This will be part of the detailed Terms of Reference as part of the Request for Proposal
	What would be the expected duration of the project(s)?	
	Once the purpose is defined then the research will make more sense. Also regarding the research - What is the time frame?	
	How much time is available for the actual execution of the project?	
	OTHER QUERIES	

	Define the purpose of research.	Please refer to the "Liveability Standards in Cities" and the "Methodology for Collection and Computation of Liveability Standards in Cities " documents, which can be downloaded from http://smartcities.gov.in/content/innerpage/otherstoolkit.php
	Assuming [that] in data collection for the government, [it is necessary] to identify the core areas which need to be addressed in the city, then the research need to be divided into three main parts - a. Physical structure - infrastructure b. social structure - occupation/education c. governance structure - how are things managed for a common man's life	
	Existing city infrastructure is required? Mapping the existing infrastructure in terms of connectivity, utilities, garbage management, education, employment opportunities and air quality.	
	Social structure : Liveability? What is the basic parameter which needs to be defined?	
	Governance structure : How is a common man's basic life and need governed? Who is accountable and answerable? Does the existing structure meets a common man's need?	
	Please provide the link for accessing liveability standards. Current link redirects to a page where it asks for EOI for Kakinada KMPs.	