

Invitation For Prequalification: Federal Government Of Nigeria Through the Rural Electrification Agency invites Solar PV Mini-Grid Developers to Prequalify for the \$5.91 Million Africa Mini-grids Program Funded By The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) through the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) has invited interested Solar PV Mini-Grid developers to participate in the Africa Mini-grids Program (AMP) aimed at supporting access to clean energy by increasing financial viability and promoting scaled-up commercial investment in low-carbon mini-grids. The AMP which is active in 21 African countries is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), and the African Development Bank (AfDB).

In Nigeria, a grant of \$5.91 Million is available under the AMP to implement REA's Energising Agriculture Programme (EAP) for commercial projects that are based on sustainable business models in three agricultural activities, namely; Grain Processing Value Chains (Rice, Maize, Millet), Non-Grain Processing Value Chains (Cassava, Oil Palm, Cocoa), Cold Storage value Chains (Fruits, Vegetables, Milk). The projects will be funded by a one-off partial capital grant in rural and underserved communities with significant agricultural activities.

The submission deadline for the prequalification is Thursday, 17 August 2023 at 1 PM (WAT).

Eligibility Requirements

The documentation requirements (technical and financial) are as set out below:

- a) Covering or forwarding letter on the company's letterhead signed by the authorized representative of the company. The letterhead should bear the registration number (RC) as issued by Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, Telephone Number (preferably mobile number) and Email Address. The letterhead must also indicate the names and nationalities of the Directors of the company at the bottom.
- b) Company profile showing capacity in renewable energy, off-grid or rural electrification and agriculture value addition.
- c) Verifiable evidence of the applicant's experience on 3 projects in the past 7 years relevant to:
 - (i) design, building, operation and maintenance of Solar PV mini-grids.
 - (ii) deployment of Solar PV mini-grids in rural communities.
 - (iii) implementation of Solar powered equipment for use in agricultural value chain.
 - (iv) acquisition of grants, equity, or debt for implementation of solar PV mini-grid, or agricultural value chain projects.
- d) CVs and professional certificates of 5 key personnel of the applicant comprising of:
 - (i) 3 experts (at least 1 female and 1 being a COREN registered Electrical Engineer) with a minimum of 5 years' experience relevant to design. building, operations. and maintenance of Solar PV minigrid, and
 - (ii) 2 experts (at least 1 female) with a minimum of 3 years of experience relevant to the implementation of Solar powered equipment in agricultural value chains.

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- e) Certificate of incorporation with the Corporate Affairs Commission including copies of CAC form 1.1, CO2, and CO7 attached;
- f) Three (3) years: (i) Company Income Tax Clearance Tax Certificates (2020, 2021, and 2023) expiring 31 December 2023, and (ii) audited accounts (2020, 2021,2022) and statement of management account for Q1 2023;
- g) Sworn Affidavit:
 - (i) disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of REA or the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) is a former or present director, stakeholder or has any pecuniary interest in the applicant.
 - (ii) stating that the company is presently NOT in receivership or subject to any form of insolvency or bankruptcy or winding up petition or proceedings.
 - (iii) stating that no Director of the company has ever been convicted in any country of any criminal offense bordering on fraud or financial impropriety, and
 - (iv) confirming that all information presented in its application is true and correct.
- h) Evidence of current Pension Compliance Certificate valid until 31 December 2023.
- i) Evidence of Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid until 31 December 2023.
- j) Current Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Compliance Certificate valid until 31 December 2023
- k) Evidence of registration on the National Database of Federal project developers, consultants, and service providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31st December 2023 or valid Certificate issued by the BPP.
- l) Valid License for project developers in the Electric Power Sector issued by the National Electricity Management Services Agency (NEMSA).
- m) Evidence of financial capability to execute the project in the form of a reference letter and statement of account issued by a reputable commercial bank in Nigeria, indicating a willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project.
- n) Duly executed Power of attorney or Board Resolution signed by the Chairman and Secretary authorizing a designated officer of the company to act as a representative and to bind the company by signing all bids, contracts, and other documents with REA on behalf of the company.
- o) In case of a joint venture or consortium applicant:
 - (i) all documents listed in e-g.
 - (ii) only the lead member should submit the other documents.
 - (iii) all parties must submit a board resolution and letter authorizing the joint venture or consortium.

Each applicant is required to apply for 2 Lots and 2 sub-lots under each Lot making a total of 4 sub-lots. Only shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a detailed technical, socioeconomic, and financial bid in the Request for Grant (RfG). Details of the submission requirements are available on the REA website via https://grants.amp.gefundp.rea.gov.ng.

Our Business Advisory, Finance, Power, and Energy Transition Teams are available to provide legal support in connection to the project subject to satisfactory conflict checks.

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