

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

**Provision of Services for Construction of Hybrid
PV Mini-grid System and Rehabilitation of Grid
infrastructure in Buka, Autonomous Region of
Bougainville, Papua New Guinea**

Reference No. EAPMCO/PNG/2024/071

Request for Expression of Interest

Provision of Services for Construction of Hybrid PV Mini-grid System and Rehabilitation of Grid Infrastructure in Buka, Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea.

Reference number: EAPMCO/PNG/2024/071

Description: UNOPS invites qualified suppliers to submit Expressions of Interest (Eols) for the provision of services for the construction of a Hybrid PV Mini-grid System and rehabilitation of grid infrastructure in Buka, Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea.

UNSPSC code:

- 26000000_Power Generation & Distribution Machinery & Accessories
- 39000000_Electrical Systems & Lighting & Components & Accessories & Supplies

Deadline date for submission of EOI: Wednesday, 15th January 2025

Posting date: Tuesday, 17th December 2024

1 Objectives and Scope

The main objective of the Buka Mini-grid Project is to transition Buka Island to hybrid energy solutions and improve energy efficiency, transmission and distribution infrastructure needs. It will reduce reliance on diesel gensets, minimize carbon emissions, and improve the grid efficiency.

Currently, electricity is supplied by PNG Power Limited (PPL) to Buka through a diesel power plant. In 2023, UNOPS conducted a feasibility study to assess options of strengthening energy supply and grid infrastructure in Buka Island. The study identified refurbishing of the power supply, transmission and distribution system alongside transition towards hybrid power system to ensure a sustainable and fit for purpose solution to an increasing energy demand for power in Buka. The Buka Solar Project has a masterplan for a 10 MWp hybrid mini-grid with an energy storage system, designed to enhance the reliability of the power supply and distribution system. The project will be implemented in stages. Stage 1 will involve the installation of a 2 MWp solar photovoltaic (PV) system. Stage 2 will expand the capacity by an additional 4 MWp, integrating the total 6 MWp system into the existing electrical grid.

Expected Procurement Components

UNOPS intends to procure construction services to deliver the following for the project, adhering to national and international regulations, standards, and due diligence:

The activities under the project will include the following;

- Site development, construction of control building, installation of security fencing, construction of stormwater drainage system.
- Construction of a hybrid mini-grid with energy storage system and diesel generator, construction of the power station, including protection panels and transformers, installation of communication and generation control systems, integration of the hybrid mini-grid into the existing grid system.
- Installation, testing, and commissioning of the mini-grid in accordance with local and international standards.
- Provision of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) training to government operators, provision of warranty services.
- Rehabilitation of the power station and electrical grid, including replacement of damaged poles and transformers, extension of the electricity grid to target villages.

Construction is planned to commence in 2025.

2 Special Procurement Conditions and Additional Information

UNOPS invites suppliers capable of providing the Construction works in above category(s) to submit their expression of interest in order to be considered as a potential supplier.

Expressions of Interest should include the following information:

- Brief presentation of your company profile including company organogram, number of staff, turnover, years in business
- Reference list demonstrating your qualifications for participating in this possible upcoming bidding process
- Certification & Accreditations such as ISO Certifications for quality, safety and environmental management in compliance with International Standards
- Licensing and permits including proof of licenses, permits, registration to operate in Papua New Guinea and TIN
- Evidence of technical expertise and experience in procurement, and construction of Grid-connected PV power plant generation, and distribution.)
- Evidence of similar nature and complexity of Hybrid Mini-Grid with total installed capacity of up to 6MWp.
- Experience in procurement and installation of utility scale grid energy storage systems.
- Partnership structures with specialized subcontractors (if there is partnership or any consortium arrangements)
- Financial capability such as audited financial statements
- Resource Availability: Demonstrate current capacity and available personnel to undertake the project within the proposed timeline besides other on-going commitments.
- Contact Information (full name and address, country, telephone and e-mail address, website and contact person)

The Expression of Interest and accompanying documents must be received by UNOPS no later than **15th January 2025, 4.30pm (Papua New Guinea Time)** on the address below.

This call for Expression of Interest does not constitute a solicitation. UNOPS reserves the right to change or cancel the requirement at any time during the EOI and/or solicitation process. UNOPS also reserves the right to require compliance with additional conditions as and when issuing the final solicitation documents. Submitting a reply to a call for EOI does not automatically guarantee receipt of the solicitation documents when issued. Invitations to bid or requests for proposals and any subsequent purchase order or contract will be issued in accordance with the rules and procedures of UNOPS.

***Local Contractors in Papua New Guinea are strongly encouraged to express interest.**

3 UNOPS Contact Information

Attn: **Imran Moin** (Mr.), Procurement Specialist
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For companies not registered with the **UN Global Marketplace** it is mandatory to do so to be able to do business with UNOPS. The UN Global marketplace is a database of active and potential suppliers available to all UN and World Bank procurement personnel, and is the main supplier database of more than 20 UN organizations. To register go to www.ungm.org, click on "REGISTER NOW" or on Registration drop down and select "Register as Supplier".