

## Response to the questions received.

<b>Opportunity Number</b>	: RFP-BADGE-2024-IF-002
<b>Opportunity Title</b>	: Next-Gen Strategies for Accelerating Clean Energy Transition in Bangladesh.
<b>Issuance Date</b>	: June 30, 2024
<b>Questions Due Date and Time</b>	: July 10, 2024, 11:59 p.m. (Dhaka).
<b>Deadline (Concept note submission)</b>	: August 14, 2024, 11:59 p.m. (Dhaka)

### Questions and Responses

I. Are International Non-Governmental Organizations eligible to submit a proposal?

**Tetra Tech Response:** An International Non-Governmental Organization can submit a proposal, but it must be eligible per the Eligibility conditions as defined below.

#### Eligible entities:

Entities must fit into the following categories to be eligible for USAID financing:

Local incorporation, partnership or proprietorship firm, non-government organization, which is organized and registered under the laws of Bangladesh or in a country included in the authorized geographic source code 937.

Code 937 is defined as the United States, the cooperating/recipient country, and developing countries other than advanced developing countries, and excluding prohibited sources.

The following organizations/entities are NOT eligible for BADGE funding:

- Political parties, their subsidiaries, or affiliates.
- Any governmental organization as defined in ADS 220<sup>1</sup>;
- Any entity affiliated with Government entities and individuals.
- Organizations that appear with active restrictions on the SAM, OFAC, or U.N. 1267 lists.
- Organizations that promote or engage in illegal or anti-democratic activities.
- Activities and/or approaches that reinforce harmful gender norms.
- Faith-based organizations that are not in compliance with ADS 303.3.28, which is in accordance with Executive Order 13279, Equal Protection for the Laws of Faith-based Community Organizations; and/or whose objectives are discriminatory or religious in nature.
- Organizations that are debarred or suspended from the eligibility to receive funding from the United States Government (USG);
- Any public international organization, such as an organ of the United Nations, multilateral development bank, etc.
- Any entity affiliated with Tetra Tech, its officers, directors, or employees.

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<sup>1</sup> “An office, organization or body at any level of a public administration system (ministry, department, agency, service, district or municipality) of a bilateral foreign assistance recipient country that implements activities financed by or jointly programmed as a result of funds disbursed by USAID directly to the partner government public financial management system” (ADS 220).

- Organizations that are not legally registered in Bangladesh or do not operate as a legally registered entity (for-profit business or group within a non-profit or academic institution) in at least one of the countries as defined in [Code 937](#);

2. Are Consulting Firms eligible to submit a proposal?

**Tetra Tech Response:** Yes, Consulting Firms can submit proposals, provided they meet the eligibility criteria defined in the “Eligible entities” section. Please refer to the response to Q1 for more details.

3. Could you please elaborate on description of “companies/entrepreneurs” as stated in the RFP?

**Tetra Tech Response:** The terms "companies" and "entrepreneurs" are used in its globally recognized meaning. To determine if an entity is eligible to submit a proposal, please refer to the response provided in Q1. Is it possible to let us know your estimated minimum or maximum budget?

**Tetra Tech Response:** The estimated minimum or maximum budget for each Subcontract Agreement will be determined based on the proposed scope of work. This is subject to the limitations of available awards issued in response to this RFP and the availability of the BADGE Innovation Fund.

4. Specifically, I would like to know if international NGOs (INGOs) are eligible to submit proposals for this call. Our organization is keen to contribute to the clean energy transition in Bangladesh and would greatly appreciate any clarification you can provide regarding our eligibility to participate in this opportunity.

**Tetra Tech Response:** Yes, if your organization is eligible per the Eligibility as defined in the “Eligible entities”. Please refer to the response to the Q1 above to see the “Eligible entities” conditions.

5. Are we, as a sole proprietorship, eligible to apply for the "Next-Gen Strategies for Accelerating Clean Energy Transition in Bangladesh" initiative?

**Tetra Tech Response:** Yes, if your organization is eligible per the Eligibility as defined in the “Eligible entities”. Please refer to the response to the Q1 above to see the “Eligible entities” conditions.

6. Is it permissible for an organization to submit two concepts for consideration under this initiative?

**Tetra Tech Response:** Yes, an organization can submit more than one concept note.

7. Voltage Level and Conceptual Single Line Diagram: Could you please clarify the voltage level you are envisioning for this project? Once we have that information, we can provide a conceptual single-line diagram.

**Tetra Tech Response:** The voltage level will be dependent on the proposed area of transmission/distribution voltage level, i.e. 132kV/33kV/11kV/0.4kV.

8. Bangladesh Grid Code Compliance: Are you already in compliance with the existing grid requirements in Bangladesh? If not, we can explore how to align your project with those standards.

**Tetra Tech Response:** Yes, Grid code is in place and your proposal needs to be aligned with the grid code.

9. System Studies Scope: Would you like us to consider system studies as part of the scope? System studies can help optimize performance, reliability, and safety.

**Tetra Tech Response:** Yes, a system study can be included as part of the scope if required.

10. Micro-Grid Control Systems: Since this is a renewable energy project, would you like to explore micro-grid control systems? These can enhance grid compliance and resilience.

Tetra Tech Response: Yes

11. Size of Renewable Source: Could you specify the size or capacity of the renewable energy source you are envisioning?

**Tetra Tech Response:** We are seeking concept notes on innovative initiatives that are small in scale, allowing for manageable implementation and assessment, but with significant potential for large-scale replication.

12. RFQ and FEED Support: It appears that this RFQ requires Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) support. We can assist with sizing the system, conducting system studies, specifying SCADA systems, and defining micro-grid control system requirements. Is our understanding correct?

**Tetra Tech Response:** Yes, your understanding is correct.

13. Communication Infrastructure: What communication infrastructure are you planning to implement? This will help us integrate with Centralized RAS (Remedial action scheme) and WAMS (Wide Area Monitoring System).

**Tetra Tech Response:** The concept note should indicate the preferred communication technology /infrastructure suitable for Bangladesh. This can potentially include fiber, radio frequency, power line communication, and cellular etc. or a combination as necessary. We are working with the utilities (transmission and distribution), hence the application of RAS or WAMS in those areas could be a potential area for communication infrastructure improvement.

14. If a bidder does not have a Bangladesh business license, will they be disqualified?

**Tetra Tech Response:** Organizations that are not legally registered in Bangladesh or do not operate as a legally registered entity (for-profit business or group within a non-profit or academic

institution) in at least one of the countries as defined in the [Code 937](#). Please refer to the response to the QI above to see the “Eligible entities” conditions.

15. Can you please confirm that the Unique Entity ID (UEID) is a requirement or will any bidder that does not have a number be disqualified?

**Tetra Tech Response:** The federal government requires companies doing business with the government or receiving grants to have a Unique Entity ID (UEID) number. You may submit Concept Notes without a UEID. You may provide this later, however, BADGE will not issue any subcontract unless the selected bidder has a Unique Entity ID.