



Call Title: LABORATORY TESTING SERVICES FOR SOIL, WATER AND TISSUE ANALYSIS
Call Reference: SADDER-PR2024-PM017
Call Posting Date: APRIL 25, 2024
Closure Date: Friday, May 17, 2024, COB
Country: LEBANON
Duty Station: LEBANON
Call Type: REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)
Duration:

Tender Submission Guidelines

Bidders should send their Technical and Financial offers to procurement@rmf.org.lb and procure.du@rmf.org.lb and mention in the email subject the Call Title:

“LABORATORY TESTING SERVICES FOR SOIL, WATER AND TISSUE ANALYSIS”.

Bidders should provide both soft copies filled and generated hardcopies stamped, signed and dated. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

Tender Submission Deadline / Timetable

The final deadline for submission of proposals/tenders is Friday, May 17, 2024 @4:00pm (Beirut Time).

About Rene Moawad Foundation (RMF)

The Rene Moawad Foundation (RMF) was established in 1991 with the Mission of Promoting social, economic and rural development in Lebanon and the MENA region and contributing in building a responsible civil society that promotes democratic values, justice, pluralism and moderation. RMF works in 5 core areas including Livelihood and Economic Growth, Decentralization and Governance, Health and Social Safety Net, Education and Protection and Agriculture.

About “SADDER”

SADDER - Sustainable Agricultural Development to Diversify and Export Regionally (2023-2027) is a project funded by the Kingdom of the Netherlands and implemented by the Rene Moawad Foundation (RMF).

"SADDER" will incorporate enhanced methodologies and best practices. It will aim to support Lebanon's economy through the agriculture sector by assisting stakeholders within the selected value chains, Table Grapes, Avocados, Cherries, and Apples, in meeting both local and export market requirements, ultimately leading to increased income, self-sustainability of various agricultural sectors, as well as job creation and retention.

Purpose of the Tender

The purpose of this Tender is to solicit competitive proposals from qualified and/or certified laboratories for Soil, Water and Tissue Analysis as a prerequisite to generate fertilization programs per farmer, which ensures that farmers are applying fertilizers based on scientific methodologies, and not based on traders' marketing strategies. This will ultimately result in minimizing the overuse of fertilizers, and decrease pollution of soils and water. The tests will also serve to ensure that the final produce meets the international export and consumption standards and requirements.

The services required by RMF are described in the **Annex**:

BOQ_ FINANCIAL PROPOSAL_ SADRPM017_ Laboratory Testing Services for Soil, Water and Tissue Analysis

RMF reserves the right to negotiate, accept or reject any or all proposals and quotations at its sole discretion and to pursue or act further on any responses it considers advantageous. RMF does not bind itself to accept the lowest prices or any proposal. All proposals will be irrevocable after the tender's closing date.





Eligibility, Participation, and subcontracting

Participation in tendering is open on equal terms to any natural and legal persons or company provided the bidder is registered as a Corporation in Lebanon or with Legal Representation in Lebanon.

Language

Offers, all correspondence and documents related to the tender exchanged by the bidder and the RMF must be written in English.

Supporting documents and printed literature that the bidder provides may be in another language, provided they are accompanied by an accurate translation into English.

For the purposes of interpretation of the tender, the version in English will prevail.

Offer Validity

Bidders are bound by their tenders for a period of a minimum of **Twelve (12) months** after the deadline for submitting tenders. In exceptional cases, before the period of validity expires, RMF may ask bidders to extend the period for a specific number of days, which may not exceed **Sixty (60) days**.

Scope of Works

SADDER invites quotations from qualified laboratories being Private laboratories, Universities, Chambers of Commerce or Research centers to conduct comprehensive soil, water, and tissue analysis as stated in the purpose. Analysis report will include both quantitative and qualitative results for at least the following:

- Soil Analysis:
 - o Chemical / Nutrient levels: Macro & Micro, N, P, K, Fe, Total and active CaCO₃, MgO, Na.
 - o Physical: pH, EC, soil texture and % of soil texture and OM
- Water Analysis: to determine suitability for irrigation and nutrient requirement calculations:
 - o Microbiological
 - o Chemical
- Tissue analysis of crops: to assess nutrient uptake and overall plant health, N, P, K, Ca, Mg, Zn, Bo, Mn.

Testing Standards

The laboratory must adhere to international standards for agricultural analysis, ensuring that results are in line with export and consumption requirements.

Analytical testing, using state of the art equipment to achieve low levels of detection, is expected. The laboratory shall use only approved, certified methods. Substitution of alternate certified testing methods during the contract period must be approved by SADDER.

Sample Number & Frequency:

The number of samples is approximate and could increase or decrease dependent on regulatory modifications and operational needs. The price of testing will be based on the unit costs provided regardless of the number of samples actually taken during the year.

Sample Type & Volume:

SADDER will submit samples of various types. The quantity or volume will be variable dependent upon testing needs and is negotiable with the laboratory.

Sample Schedule:

Samples will be collected throughout the fiscal year on a weekly, biweekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis to comply with regulatory and monitoring requirements. A monitoring schedule will be provided by SADDER to the laboratory for scheduling purposes. Exact day & date for some sample collection is negotiable with the laboratory. Monitoring shall begin in May 2024.





Analysis and Reporting

Data Deliverables and Invoicing: The laboratory shall submit electronically the standard analytical report including both quantitative and qualitative results and make available hardcopies for collection. An invoice detailing cost for each test performed should be provided within 10 business days of submittal of the report. The laboratory's standard analytical report shall provide at least the following information for each sample:

- Sample ID
- Sample identification information.
- Sample analytical results.
- Tracking number associated with the sample.
- Reporting limit, method of analysis, testing date.
- Laboratory comments associated with the analysis.

Budget and Payment Terms:

Prices shall be submitted per unit basis by line item in <##,###.##> <USD >. This price includes VAT. The offer should include a detailed breakdown of all prices. Anything that is optional or can be offered on top of what was requested above, shall be marked separately, and proposed as add-ons with a separate price in the "OTHER ITEM SPECIFICATION" section of the BOQ_Financial Proposal.

All costs incurred by the bidder in preparing and submitting the tender are not reimbursable. All such costs will be borne by the bidder.

RMF shall generally make payment through banking channels (Payment Order or Bank Transfer) to the selected bidder between 3 to 4 weeks upon receipt of the following documents and any other documents/reports that may be specified in the Contract, to be sent directly to RMF:

- Test report
- Invoice

Evaluation Criteria:

The proposals will be evaluated based on the specifications requested. The financial offer will be evaluated only for the accepted tenders who passed the technical evaluation.

Evaluation and Selection criteria will be divided as follows: Technical 50%, Financial 50%.

The following may be considered by SADDER:

- Completeness and quality of proposal
- Lab Qualifications/Certifications
- Total cost
- Submission of Required Documents
- Ability to perform the service required within the specific time
- Experience
- The quality of performance in previous contracts

Type of Contract

The awarded contract will be a Long Time Agreement (LTA) since the quantities mentioned in the BOQ are not final and may vary according to the needs of RMF. The quantity in the BOQ and the total quantity will be requested to be delivered by separate batches over the lifetime as mentioned in the **Offer Validity** above and per the below procedure.

Noting that the official commitment from RMF for the supply of the goods will be through and governed by the terms of the SADDER Chain of Custody (CC) sample delivery which will be provided based on the orders under this Agreement.





Force Majeure

Given the volatile situation in the region, the implementation of the Long-Term Agreement or the delivery of the services might be canceled or modified due to the event of force majeure like changes in rules and regulations of Lebanon, military operations, natural disasters, etc. In such a case, RMF has the right to cancel/ terminate the contract or suspend deliveries until it is possible.

Submission Part – Requested Documents

The Bidder must provide sufficient information in the proposal to demonstrate compliance with the requirements set out in this proposal.

The offer should include the tenderer's information (legal entity name, address, commercial registration number, financial registration number, contact person), the technical and financial offer as per guidelines below.

Appendix A – Technical Proposal

The technical proposal should include the following:

- RFQ completed and stamped (attached)
- Company / Laboratory official documents
- Datasheet of all the items listed in the BOQ, signed
- Certificate of Registration at Ministry of Finance
- Copy of the ID of the representative/owner of the company

Along with the provision of LABORATORY TESTING SERVICES FOR SOIL, WATER AND TISSUE ANALYSIS, the following services are required and should be included in the technical proposal and financial proposal where applicable:

- The selected bidder is required to provide guidelines on Samples Handling and Collections.
- The laboratory is expected to provide detailed and accurate reports for each analysis conducted.

Appendix B – Financial Proposal

- BOQ_ FINANCIAL PROPOSAL_ SADRPM017_ **Laboratory Testing Services for Soil, Water and Tissue Analysis**

All costs and charges of services mentioned in the technical proposal should be included in the financial proposal.

Failure to provide all the above may result in disqualification of the proposal.

Questions and Clarifications:

All questions or request for clarifications to be sent by email to the following address:

[procurement@rmf.org.lb] specifying the email subject as:

[SADRPM017_ Laboratory Testing Services for Soil, Water and Tissue Analysis – Request for Clarification]

The applicants shall submit any questions in writing within 4 days of the launch of the RFQ and shall receive answers 2 working days after.

All questions and answers will be shared with all applicants.

