



LEBANON REFORESTATION INITIATIVE (LRI)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Initial Environmental Examination – IEE for reforestation sites
(RFP20200015)

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|---|----------------------------|
| RFP Release Date: | July 21, 2020 |
| Performance Period: | August 2020 – October 2020 |
| Proposal Submission Deadline: | August 19, 2020 |
| Question/ Inquiry Submission Deadline: | August 11, 2020 |

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND

The Lebanon Reforestation Initiative (LRI) is a Lebanese NGO registered at the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities under no. 1186 on 18 June 2014 and had started as a project launched in 2010 by the United States Forest Service (USFS) Office of International Programs (IP) through the support and funding of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

With administrative offices in Beirut, LRI technical experts manage a multi-year work program of activities throughout Lebanon in collaboration with grassroots organizations and local communities.

In the framework of the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) supported by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), LRI is implementing a project that aims to extend the forest cover and fire protection through reforestation and forest management activities while improving the livelihoods of Lebanese and Syrian men and women in vulnerable communities in the North through building local capacity and developing best reforestation, forest management and eco-tourism practices. The project is implementing community-based forest activities in Dunnieh (Mrah El Srej, BqaaSafrine, Aasoun, Bqarsouna, Nemrine and Bakhoun) Akkar (Fnaideq, Mechmech, Bqarzala, Saysouk, Akkar Al Attika and Qobaiyat) and Horsh Ehden Nature Reserve.

II. PURPOSE

LRI is seeking a qualified firm approved by the Ministry of Environment to conduct an Initial Environmental Examination for the proposed reforestation sites under the WFP funded project for LRI, AFDC and SHIELD sites in the North, Beqaa and South.

A. SCOPE OF WORK

- Conduct an IEE for each reforestation site
- Develop and submit an IEE report to the Ministry of Environment

B. TASKS AND DELIVERABLES

IEE report for all the reforestation sites by August 31, 2020.

Below a summary of the villages and number of sites / village.

| LRI sites | | AFDC sites | | SHIELD sites | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Village | Number of plots/village | Village | Number of plots/village | Village | Number of plots/village |
| Bqarsouna | 1 | Baalbek | 2 | Hasbayya | 1 |
| Nemrine | 1 | Deir El Ahmar | 1 | Qana | 1 |
| Bakhoun | 3 | Marj (public gardens) | 4 | Aita Shaab | 1 |
| BqaaSafrine | 3 | Ghazze | 1 | Baasir | 1 |
| Aasoun | 1 | Majdel Anjar | 2 | Wardaniyye | 1 |
| Akkar El Attika | 1 | Qaraoun | 1 | Kaakayet El Jesr | 3 |
| Qobaiyat | 2 | Yammouneh Reserve | 1 | | |
| Saysouk | 2 | | | | |
| Bqarzala | 1 | | | | |
| Fnaideq | 2 | | | | |
| Horsh Ehden Narure Reserve- HENR | 2 | | | | |

III. CONTRACT MECHANISM & TERMS OF PAYMENT

LRI anticipates issuing a service agreement to the selected candidate. The duration of the agreement will be from July 2020 – August 2020.

IV. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A. INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION

- B. The selection committee will evaluate the Offerors based on their written proposals. Each section will be evaluated according to the criteria for evaluations in Section V. Offerors are expected to examine the specifications and all instructions in the RFP. Failure to do so is at the Offeror's risk. Shortlisted offerors will be invited for a meeting to further discuss their proposal and how it fits the project objectives. **Offerors need to submit Annex A filled.** Interested Offerors must provide the following:

1. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

Demonstrate capabilities and technical experience by providing the following:

- Documentation to verify licensure (MOF registration certificate, etc.) and approval by the Ministry of Environment to conduct IEEs and EIAs. Applications missing mentioned documents will not be considered
- Portfolio of previous similar projects
- Technical proposal of the general IEE approach and tools, including an estimated timeline

2. COST PROPOSAL

Offerors will submit a proposed budget with their proposals in a separate file via email labeled "Budget Proposal." The proposed budget will have sufficient details to allow evaluation of elements of costs proposed, transportation / accommodation will be at the service provider's expense. Budgets should be submitted in US Dollars; please label your budget with the name of the currency. LRI reserves the right to request any additional information to support detailed cost and price.

3. REFERENCES

Please include three client references and contact information. References should have worked with you / your organization within the past two years in connection with the countries or regions (and if possible, subject matter) applicable to this RFP.

C. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

- The technical and price proposals shall be separately identified as such and sent via email. Each volume shall be clearly identified with the RFP number and the Offeror's name.

All responses to this RFP must be received no later than the submission deadline on the cover page of this RFP to:

| Lebanon Reforestation Initiative | |
|---|------------------------|
| Jdeideh, Pierre Amine Gemayel Street, Abi Habib Shaaya & Azar Building, 2nd floor | |
| Attention: | Procurement Office |
| Email: | procurement@lri-lb.org |

Faxed offers are not acceptable.

2. All inquiries and requests for information regarding this RFP must be submitted by email to the following individuals no later than the question/inquiry submission deadline on the cover page of this RFP. Reference the RFP number in all questions/inquiries.

| | Contractual | Technical |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Name: | Procurement Office | |
| Email: | procurement@lri-lb.org | |

3. Lebanon Reforestation Initiative will not compensate Offerors for their preparation of responses to this RFP.

V. CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

LRI will evaluate proposals based on a best-value determination; Offerors should submit their most competitive price proposal. Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Proposed budget – 40 %
- Proven previous experience in IEEs for reforestation sites is preferable – 40%
- CVs of staff to be involved – 10 %
- References – 10%

The evaluation committee will review the proposal based upon the criteria listed above. The cost proposals will be reviewed to ensure they are complete and free of computational errors. The committee will also assess the reasonableness of costs and the cost-effectiveness of the budget and will determine whether the costs reflect a clear understanding of project requirements. A contract will be offered to the responsible Service Provider whose proposal follows the RFP instructions and is judged to be the most advantageous to LRI.

VI. SOLICITATION PROCESS

Once the RFP is released, the Offerors must prepare a formal proposal to be sent to the contact person at LRI as indicated in Section IV (b) (1). The submitted proposals will be reviewed against the criteria for evaluation defined in Section V above and rated on their ability to satisfy the requirements stated in this RFP document. Shortlisted Offerors will be invited for a meeting to further discuss their proposals. A preferred service provider will be chosen and formally notified. A formal contract will be negotiated with the selected service provider and, if endorsed, the Offeror will begin work on the project.

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. LATE SUBMISSIONS

Proposals received after the submission deadline stated in the cover page of this RFP may not be considered. Offerors will be held responsible for ensuring their quotations are received according to the instructions stated herein. A late offer will be considered if the cause was attributable to LRI or its employees/agents, or if it is in the best interest of LRI.

B. MODIFICATION OF RFP REQUIREMENTS

LRI retains the right to terminate the RFP or modify the requirements upon notification to Offerors.

C. WITHDRAWALS OF PROPOSALS

Proposals may be withdrawn by written notice via email at any time before award. Proposals may be withdrawn in person by an Offeror or authorized representative, if the representative's identity is made known and the representative signs a receipt for the proposal before award.

D. RIGHT OF NEGOTIATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL

This RFP represents a definition of requirements and is an invitation for submission of proposals. LRI reserves the right to fund/award any or none of the submitted proposals. No commitment is made, either expressed or implied, to compensate Offerors for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of their proposal.

LRI may reject any proposal that is nonresponsive. A responsive proposal is one that complies with all terms and conditions of the RFP. A proposal must be complete, signed by an authorized signatory, and delivered no later than the submission time and date indicated on the cover sheet of this RFP. LRI may reserve the right to waive any minor discrepancies in a proposal.

LRI reserves the right to issue an award based on the initial evaluation of proposals without discussion. LRI also reserves the right to enter into best and final negotiations with any responsive Offerors for all or part of the proposed scope.

E. PAYMENT TERMS:

- Non Registered suppliers will be subject to taxes deduction on payment settlement 7.5% for services and %2.25 for goods and supplies as per Lebanese MOF regulations.
- Payments will be issued within 15 to 30 days from date of invoice and deliverables acceptance
- Payments are processed by Check or Wire transfer
- Checks will be issued to the order of the beneficiary as stated in the invoice ONLY and stamped 1st Beneficiary
- Lost or misplaced checks by suppliers will not be replaced

F. VALIDITY OF PROPOSAL

Proposals submitted shall remain open for acceptance for *60 days* from the last date specified for receipt of proposals. This includes, but is not limited to, pricing, terms and conditions, service levels, and all other information. If your organization is awarded the contract, all information in the RFP and negotiation process is contractually binding.

G. MINIMUM OFFEROR QUALIFICATIONS

Offerors submitting proposals must (1) be officially licensed to do such business in *Lebanon*, (2) be able to receive USAID funds and (3) not have been identified as a terrorist. In addition, Offeror may be required to provide the following information:

- Documentation to verify licensure (e.g., tax id, registration certificate, etc.)
- Demonstration of adequate management to perform the contract
- Satisfactory records of performance history, integrity and business ethics

H. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

All tangible or intangible property created or acquired under this contract shall be the exclusive property of LRI and the donor. The term “property” includes all data and reports associated with this engagement. Reference is made to Sections 12 and 13 in the business terms and conditions attached in Appendix A.

VIII. ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: Technical Proposal Submission Sheet



APPENDIX A. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION SHEET

(Complete this form with all the requested details and submit it as the first page of your technical proposal, with the documents requested above attached. Ensure that your proposal is authorized in the signature block below. A signature and authorization on this form will confirm that the terms and conditions of this RFP prevail over any attachments. If your proposal is not authorized, it may be rejected.)

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Date of Technical Proposal: | |
| RFP Number: | |
| RFP Title: | |
| Service Provider | |
| Service Provider Phone | |
| Service Provider Email | |

We offer to provide the goods/services described in the Scope of Work, in accordance with the terms and conditions stated in Request for Proposal referenced above. We confirm that we are eligible to participate in public procurement and meet the eligibility criteria specified.

The validity period of our proposal is ____ days/weeks/months from the time and date of the submission deadline.