

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Supply, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of Photovoltaic Water Pumping Units to the USAID Climate Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (CR WASH) Activity

Ref No.: RTI/CR-WASH/EOI/001/2025

Closing Date for Submissions:
January 31, 2025, at 5:30PM local time (EAT)

Background

CR WASH is a five-year USAID funded Activity being implemented by the RTI International (www.rti.org) to expand access to improved water supply and sanitation services and promote adoption of safe hygiene practices in 36 lowland woredas of Afar, Oromia, Somali and South Ethiopia Regions through catalytic investments, piloting and scaling innovative and successful service and business models and strategic partnerships, and stakeholder collaborations. The Activity has four Intermediate Results: (1) professionalize and expand quality climate resilient water services; (2) increase sustainable access to and use of sanitation and hygiene products and services, including Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH); (3) improve gender power dynamics; and (4) strengthen the enabling environment for climate resilient water and sanitation services.

CR WASH to this effect is inviting interested, eligible, competent, licensed, and legally registered Ethiopian companies/suppliers via this Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) to prequalify shortlist of Companies/Suppliers for supply, delivery, installation, and commissioning of photovoltaic water pump (PVWP) units in Afar, Oromia, Somali and South Ethiopia Regions. Major services under this EOI include the following.

1. Supply, delivery, assembly, disassembly, and installations of DC/AC solar powered submersible deep borehole pumps (diameter 100mm to 200mm; and 7.5 KW to 30 KW) complete with appropriate control panel, solar panels, connections, and all accessories.
2. Supply and delivery of appropriate spare parts and tool kits for O&M PVWP units.
3. Train local government staff and local operators and technicians on operation, troubleshooting and maintenance of PVWP systems.
4. Provide after sale support for a minimum of three years on troubleshooting and maintenance of PVWP systems (including preventive maintenance).
5. Supply and delivery of Galvanized Steel raising Pipes (medium and heavy-duty classes, and nominal diameter 1" to 4") as per the design.

Geographic Location

CR WASH targets and operating in 36 woredas across 12 zones in the four lowland regions.

Table I: CR WASH Target Zones

Region	Zone
Afar	Zone 1 and Zone 3
Oromia	Borena, East Hararghe and West Hararghe
Somali	Fafen, siti, liben, Dawa, Degehabur, and Shabelle
South Ethiopia	South Omo

Eligibility/Criteria for Selection

Interested, qualified and eligible companies/suppliers must provide all necessary documentation to demonstrate that they hold a valid and renewed trade license for the current 2017 EC. This includes their TIN number, VAT Registration Certificate, Taxpayer Registration Certificate, and a tax clearance certificate. The tax clearance certificate should confirm that the company has paid its taxes for the 2016 EC and is eligible to bid for the 2017 EC, as issued by the authorized government office, the required capacity, qualification, and relevant experience to successfully complete the services listed above. Applicant that has been debarred from participating in public procurement in Ethiopia at the date of the deadline for Application submission or thereafter, shall be disqualified.

Major criteria for prequalification of a company/supplier include the following:

- **Capacity** - available capacity of the company/supplier to deliver the service to the required quality and time.
 - The company/supplier should provide and demonstrate it has the required capacity (in stock supply and inhouse capacity) to: 1) supply, delivery, assembly, disassembly and installations of AC solar powered submersible deep borehole pumps (diameter 100mm to 200mm; and 7.5 KW to 30 KW) complete with appropriate control panel, solar panel, connections and all accessories with-in short delivery time (suppliers to specify and offer); 2) supply and installation of Class B GI Pipe for Rising main inside borehole and top of borehole 3) supply and delivery of appropriate spare parts and tool kits for O&M PVWP units;
 - The company/supplier should provide and demonstrate it has the required capacity (inhouse) to: 1) plan, organize and deliver training to local government staff and local operators and technicians on operation, troubleshooting and maintenance of PVWP systems; and 2) to provide after sale support for a minimum of three years on troubleshooting and maintenance of PVWP systems (including preventive maintenance).
- **Specification and Quality** - companies/suppliers should provide detail specification including brands, model, country of origin of PVWP units (including appropriate control panel, connections, and all accessories), Class B GI Pipe for Rising main inside borehole and top of borehole, and spare parts and tools offered.
- **Past Performance** – companies/suppliers should submit summary of similar services successfully completed, including client name; duration, cost, brief description of the service; and contact details of person knowledgeable of works performed in the last five years. Additionally, please attach a certificate of satisfactory work completion from the client for each project with the required details listed in the summary.
- **Presence and experience in the pastoralists and lowland regions** - relevant experience with similar services in the lowland areas of Ethiopia in the last five years.
- **Warranty:** The company/supplier shall commit to provide warranty for the components / equipment (PVWP) supplied for at least three years from the date of installation and handover to user community. Any equipment / component of PVWP units/sets found to have manufacture defect or poor workmanship within the warranty period, the company/supplier shall replace the same with free of cost within two weeks of intimation from user community. In the event of any instrument / component getting broken or damaged during installation and trial run at the site before handing over the of PVWP system, the supplier shall replace the same free of cost.
- **After sale and Preventive Maintenance Service:** The company/supplier of PVWP system shall provide after sales support for minimum of three years, and regular preventive maintenance services and on job training to local technicians and operators free of cost for a period of at least one year from the date of handling over the PVWP system.

Submission Guidelines

Applicant Expressions of Interest (EOIs) should be submitted in English and must not exceed five pages. However, the cover page, executive summary, and annexes are not included in this page limit. Bidders are encouraged to attach any relevant certificates of accomplishment or other supporting documents in the annexes.

Submit a complete EOI in PDF format via email to procurement@cr-wash.org. Include the reference number RTI/CR-WASH/EOI/009/2025 in the subject line of the submission. The application should be addressed to: *Attention: Procurement Unit, USAID CR WASH Activity*. Any EOI received after the deadline for submission shall be declared late and will be rejected.

Successful preselected applicants will be notified and provided with additional information for further procurement actions associated with this EOI. This is not an RFP, do not submit information on pricing.

Questions Due:

Any questions regarding this EOI may be sent to procurement@cr-wash.org by **January 23, 2025**.

Responses will be sent to the interested applicants by **January 27, 2025**.

Other Terms and Conditions

Successful applicants will be required to comply with all applicable USAID and RTI International regulations and policies, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)** - A UEI is a unique number assigned to all entities (public and private companies, individuals, institutions, or organizations) who register to do business with the US federal government. For any firm to be awarded a contract resulting from this solicitation, applicants will be required to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number at the time of the award. If the applicant already has a UEI number, it should be included in their proposal. **While the UEI number is not a mandatory requirement at the point of submitting the proposal, however, it will be required before an award can be made.** Due to delays in issuance of UEI numbers, applicants are encouraged to begin the registration process early so as not to delay receiving a contract.
To obtain a UEI number, please visit www.sam.gov to begin the registration process. Watch a video on how you can obtain a UEI. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C87wSCYKTcE>
- b. **Representations and Certifications and other RTI internal certifications.**
- c. **Anti- Kick Back Act of 1986.**
- d. **Conflict of Interests Prohibition (including familial or financial)**
- e. **The John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019 - Section 889.**
- f. **Contract Terms:** Purchase Order Terms and Conditions are listed on our website at: <https://www.rti.org/sites/default/files/rti-purchase-order-terms-and-conditions-v1.16.pdf>, http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses.pdf or for commercial items: http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses_Commercial_Items.pdf.

Disclaimer: This publication and Request for Expressions of Interest does not constitute an award commitment on the part of CR WASH nor commit the project to pay costs incurred in the preparation of and submission of an EOI. Further, CR WASH reserves the right to reject any or all EOIs received. Similarly, an invitation for further negotiations or to submit a full application is not a commitment to fund that application.