



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Construction of Boreholes with Handpumps and Piped Water Supply Systems, for USAID Expanding WASH Project

EOI Number	0218447.001.003-Zambia WASH Construction
Date of Release of EOI	May 22, 2024
Due Date	June 4, 2024
Due Date of Questions	May 24, 2024
Date Responses Published	June 4, 2024
Original Closing Date for Submissions:	June 4, 2024, at 17:00 hours Zambian time
Extended Closing Date for Submission of EOI	June 11, 2024, at 17:00 hours Zambian Time
Proposal Submission Email	Construction@expandingwash.org

The USAID Expanding Water and Sanitation (WASH) Project is a 5-year contract between the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Research Triangle Institute International, LLC (RTII), a non-profit research and international development institute. USAID Expanding WASH supports the professionalization of WASH services, increasing private sector engagement in service delivery and improving accountability between citizens, service providers, and policymakers to sustain reliable, high-quality WASH services.

The overall objective of the EOI is to preselect borehole drilling construction contractors or firms that will provide construction services of drinking water supply and sanitation facilities in 12 selected districts covering specified locations in Western, Southern, Northern and Muchinga provinces. The construction contractors will be responsible for rehabilitation and drilling of boreholes with hand pumps and construction of related civil works and installation of hand pumps, pipes, solar water pumping units for development into fully completed water services for drinking water supply in the target districts.

USAID Expanding WASH is inviting construction contractors to a competitive vendor selection and vetting process. Vendors interested must provide all necessary information and documentation demonstrating they have the required eligibility, competence, licenses and are legally registered, NCC registration Category C- grade 2, have financial liquidity and capable management, recent and verified client references, past development partner collaboration and, as appropriate, linkages with international partners. Work at any site by any construction contractor is not expected to exceed costs of \$250,000. Vendors who qualify will be preselected for the next stage of procurement to provide the specific construction services.

Geographic Location and LOTs: USAID Expanding WASH is operating four (4) provinces as outlined in Table I. The proposed services will be divided into four lots by province and based on geographical terrain.

Table I: Lots

LOT	Province
Lot – 1	Western (Up to 90 new borehole drillings to be equipped with handpumps and rehabilitation of 55 boreholes equipped with handpumps , and construction of 8 piped water supply systems**)
Lot – 2a	Muchinga (91 new borehole drillings to be equipped with handpumps, rehabilitation of 46 boreholes equipped with handpumps and construction of 8 piped water supply systems**)
Lot – 2b	Northern (72 new borehole drillings to be equipped with handpumps, rehabilitation of 38 boreholes equipped with handpumps and construction of 5 piped water supply systems**)
Lot - 3	Southern 72 new borehole drillings to be equipped with handpumps and rehabilitation of 36 boreholes with handpumps and construction of 4 piped water supply systems**)

*** Piped water supply systems include extension of pipe network, and drilling of new boreholes to be equipped with solar pumping unit and construction of pressure and distribution networks*

Note that the number of water supply infrastructures under each Lot are indicative and USAID Expanding WASH might reduce or increase this number. In addition, USAID Expanding WASH might decide to break down each Lot into multiple Lots and might engage one or more than one Construction Contractor per region depending on final list of water supply infrastructure types, speed of anticipated construction implementation, convenience and operational consideration for construction oversight, cost advantage, capacity of Construction Contractors and other considerations.

Eligibility: The Construction Contractor (applicant) must have and should share copies of a certificate of competency from WARMA, Valid NCC Certificate Grade 2, Category Construction (C) and Valid EIZ Certificate. In addition, the Construction Contractor should share copies of other appropriate documentary evidence demonstrating the applicant’s compliance.

The documentation required to provide evidence of eligibility shall be: -

1. Certificate of Incorporation
2. Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
3. Valid Workers Compensation Certificate
4. Valid NAPSA Certificate
5. Valid NCC Certificate (Grade 2 category C)
6. Valid EIZ Certificate
7. Written Power of Attorney
8. Litigation Status
9. Documentary evidence establishing the bidders' qualifications to perform the contract
10. A registered Power of Attorney from each member or partner if drawn and signed in Zambia

Applicants can apply for a Lot or multiple Lots. Applicants should prepare and submit separate applications for each Lot. This invitation for prequalification is open to all local eligible applicants, including a joint venture.

Criteria for Selection: Interested and eligible construction contractors should provide all necessary information demonstrating that they have all necessary equipment (e.g., drilling and service rigs with respective crews), relevant experience and required professional and financial capacity to successfully complete the construction of rural water supply and sanitation infrastructures within required budget, quality, and timeline. Applicants whose applications have met the eligibility requirements ("passed") and met or exceeded selection criteria below will be prequalified and notified invited for the next stage of procurement.

	Criteria	Points
1.	Technical and Professional Expertise and Qualifications	30
2.	Organization's Capacity – Machinery & Equipment	25
3.	Past Performance	20
4.	Financial Capacity	15
5.	Presence in the Regions	5
6.	Registration with Zambia Public Procurement Authority (ZPPA)	5
	TOTALS	100

1. **Technical and professional expertise and qualifications of Key Personnel:** The construction contractor must demonstrate they will deploy at least the key positions that meet the following requirements for each construction site. The construction contractor must provide resumes for these positions as Annexes in their submissions. Applicants may also recommend additional positions as appropriate.

Table 1: Minimum Qualifications and Experience of Key Personnel proposed for deployment.

No. Required per lot	Position	Minimum Qualification
1	Project/Contract Manager	BSc Engineering or equivalent, must be a registered Engineer, general work experience 15 years and similar works 10 years' experience

2	Site Engineer (Civil)*, one per each team	BSc Engineering / (Diploma in Water Engineering) general work experience 10(12) years and similar works 7(10) years' experience
1	Hydrogeologist, one per each drilling crew	Degree in Mineral Sciences or related field general work experience 7 years and similar works 3 years' experience
1	Quantity surveyor*	BSc Quantity Surveying general work experience 7 years and similar works 3 years' experience
2	General Site Foremen*, one for each construction team	Craft Certificate / Civil Engineering general work experience 5 years and similar works 5 years' experience
2	Drillers for each Drilling Team	Craft Certificate / Civil Engineering general work experience 5 years and similar works 4 years' experience
2	Pump Test Operator, one for each drilling team	Craft Certificate / Civil Engineering general work experience 5 years and similar works 4 years' experience
2	Environmental Health & safety officer*	Environmental Engineering general work experience 5 years and similar works 4 years' experience
1	Social Development Officer	BA Sociology or equivalent general work experience 4 years and similar works 2 years' experience

2. **Organization's Capacity – Machinery & Equipment** – the construction contractor must demonstrate that it possesses and will deploy the following machinery and equipment for the implementation of the contract if awarded. Provide details in the Annexes.

Type of Equipment and Specifics	Minimum Number Required
<u>Borehole Drilling Crew</u>	
DTH Drilling rig 4 x 4 (can be combination drilling rig)	2
DTH Drilling rig 6 x 6 (can be combination drilling rig)	2
Min 6 ton Support truck which must be 4 x 4	3
Equipment for Drilling Hole Diameter (203mm and 254mm) per rig	To drill up to 80m
Air Percussion and Mud rotary (tricone) drilling bits diameter 10 and 12" max per rig	3 each
Temporary casing available, ideally flush threaded at diameter 10" and 8" per rig	≥ 30 m each
Mud pump – max flow >1000 lpm, max pressure > 15 kg/cm ²	2
Air compressor – (Min 17 bars)	2
Geophysical equipment	2 resistivity meters (No sticks, coconut or similar!)
Pumping test equipment including accessories	2
Rods, minimum 70m, per rig	70
Water bowsers	3
Light vehicles	4
Generator sets and welding equipment	2
<u>Borehole Rehabilitation Crew</u>	
Air compressor – (Min 17 bars)	2
Development equipment including accessories	2
Pumping test equipment including accessories	2
Fishing tool with accessories	2
Water bowsers	2

Type of Equipment and Specifics	Minimum Number Required
Vehicles with 4x4 or 6x6 capability for deep sand	3
Generator sets and welding equipment	2

3. **Past Performance** – the construction contractor should submit a summary of similar construction contracts 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. Experience providing similar services in the sandy terrain areas in parts of Southern and Western provinces of Zambia in the last five years. Provide copies of contracts or purchase orders to demonstrate past performance. Provide details in the Annexes.
4. **Financial Capacity:** Applicants must demonstrate access to, or availability of, financial resources such as liquid assets, unencumbered real assets, lines of credit, and other financial means, other than any contractual advance payments to meet the necessary cash-flow requirement. The applicant should submit audited financial statements for at least the last three years demonstrating soundness of applicant’s financial position and its prospective long-term profitability. Provide details in the Annexes.
5. **Presence in the Region** - Local construction contractor from the four Provinces or a construction contractor having established office in the region they are applying will get priority. Provide details in the Annexes.
6. **Registration with Zambia Public Procurement Authority:** Construction contractors registered with ZPPA have added an advantage and will receive a higher rating. Provide details in the Annexes.

Submission Guidelines

Applicant EOIs should be in English and may not exceed **5 pages**; however, an applicant cover page, executive summary, and annexes are not included in this page limitation requirement. Additional pages over the maximum allowed will be removed and not evaluated.

Submit a complete EOI in PDF format via email to **Construction@expandingwash.org**. Include reference number **0218447.001.003-Zambia WASH Construction** in the subject line of the submission. The application should be addressed to: **Attention: USAID Expanding WASH**. Any EOI received after the deadline for submission shall be declared late and will be rejected.

Successful prequalified applicants will be notified and will be 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 **Construction@expandingwash.org** by May 24, 2024, at 17:00hours Zambian Time. Responses will be circulated via email and will also be uploaded on the RTII website.

Other Terms and Conditions

Successful applicants will be required to comply with all applicable USAID and Research Triangle Institute, LLC (RTI) 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 A&E 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. **New USG regulation of Solar Panels**- The regulation prohibits the purchase of solar panels or components for USAID-funded programs from specific firms that have been found to have used child labor or forced labor. Federal statute 19 U.S.C. 1307 prohibits the importation of merchandise produced, wholly or in part, by convict labor, forced labor, and/or indentured labor under penal sanctions, including forced or indentured child labor. The list of prohibited PRC energy companies is listed below.
 - a. Hoshine Silicon Industry.
 - b. Xinjiang Daqo New Energy.
 - c. Xinjioang East Hope Nonferrous Metals.
 - d. Xinjiang GCL-New Energy Material.
 - e. Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps.
- c. **Representations and Certifications and other RTI internal certifications.**
- d. **Anti- Kick Back Act of 1986.**
- e. **Conflict of Interests Prohibition (including familial or financial)**
- f. **The John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019 - Section 889.**
- g. **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 USAID Expanding WASH nor commit the project to pay costs incurred in the preparation of and submission of an EOI. Further, USAID Expanding 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.