

Request for Quote/Proposal (RFQ/RFP)

Commodity/Service Required:	Consulting Firm for the Comprehensive Assessment of the Philippine Hydrogen Regime in the Energy Sector and Roadmap Development for Hydrogen and its Derivatives
Type of Procurement:	Payment Milestones
Type of Contract:	Fixed Price
Term of Contract:	Twelve (12) months
Contract Funding:	USAID
This Procurement supports:	USAID – Energy Secure Philippines Activity
Submit Proposal to:	Jan Ranizen F. Vitan Grants and Procurement Analyst, ESP RTI International jvitan@energysecure.ph
Date of Issue of RFP:	June 27, 2024
Date Questions from Supplier Due:	July 4, 2024 Send your questions to: jvitan@energysecure.ph
Date Proposal Due:	July 11, 2024 not later than 5:00 PM Manila time
Approximate Date Purchase Order Issued to Successful Bidder(s):	July 15-19, 2024

Method of Submittal:	
Email to: jvitan@energysecure.ph	
Respond via e-mail with attached document in MS Word / pdf format. The Bidder/Seller agrees to hold the prices in its offer firm for 90 days from the date specified for the receipt of offers, unless another time is specified in the addendum of the RFP/RFQ.	
Solicitation Number:	ESP-RFP-2024-169

Attachments to RFP:

1. Attachment “A” – Commodity Specifications
2. Attachment “B” – Instructions to Bidders/Sellers
3. All PO Terms and Conditions are listed on our website at forth 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 (hereinafter the “Terms”).
 Supplier’s delivery of products, performance of services, or issuance of invoices in connection



3040 Cornwallis Road ■ PO Box 12194 ■ Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194 ■ USA
Telephone 919.541.6000 ■ Fax 919.541.5985 ■ www.rti.org

with this purchase order establishes Supplier's agreement to the Terms. The Terms may only be modified in writing signed by both parties.

All bidders/sellers are responsible to carefully review each attachment and follow any instructions that may be relevant to this procurement.

Attachment A

Commodity Specifications or Statement of Work

Statement of Work

Indicate a description of the activity/service that is expected from the supplier. Provide product specifications or service expectations (both if applicable). Include deliverables, timelines, and any special terms and conditions.

Description of Activity/Service:

The Department of Energy (DOE) published the latest Philippine Energy Plan (PEP) 2023-2050, outlining key strategies and objectives to guide the country's energy development. To achieve a more sustainable, low-carbon energy future, the PEP 2023-2050 considers hydrogen as a viable alternative and clean energy source. Hydrogen offers diverse energy applications, including distributed power, backup power, portable power, and auxiliary power for passenger and freight vehicles. With a focus on integrating low-carbon fuels and advanced technologies, the DOE recognizes the pivotal role of hydrogen and its derivatives in the energy transition. Utilizing hydrogen and its derivatives has significant implications for the country's energy landscape, economic development, and environmental sustainability.

Considering the role of hydrogen in the energy transition, the DOE, through its Energy Utilization Management Bureau (EUMB), issued a Department Circular and made effective on February 13, 2024, known as the "Hydrogen Energy Guidelines." This circular provides a national policy, framework, roadmap, and guidelines for hydrogen in the energy sector. The policy framework includes four core principles: Energy Security, Environmental Sustainability, Research and Technological Development, and Access to Funding and Investment.

The Department Circular covers a wide range of hydrogen-related activities, including the establishment, construction, operation, maintenance, decommissioning, and disposal of hydrogen facilities. Key provisions address various facets of the hydrogen energy value chain, including production, transportation, distribution, storage, utilization, import, and export.

Other countries are researching and developing the use of hydrogen due to its potential and emission-free characteristics. The DOE aims to explore hydrogen's role in the Philippines' energy framework, particularly in the power generation, transport, and industrial sectors, to achieve energy security in the clean energy scenario.

Moreover, a proposed bill, the "Philippine Hydrogen Act of 2024," includes the preparation of a strategic roadmap for hydrogen. This roadmap will define the overall vision and strategy, industry milestone targets, and necessary support systems and resources.

To lay the groundwork for making informed strategic decisions, attracting investments, and fostering collaborations essential for the successful integration of hydrogen into the Philippines'

energy landscape, a comprehensive assessment of technological capabilities, current infrastructure, technology readiness, financing and regulatory frameworks, and market potential is imperative.

This concept note outlines the key aspects required for the comprehensive assessment of the Philippines' readiness for hydrogen in the energy sector and the development of a roadmap for hydrogen and its derivatives. Effective strategies and processes on hydrogen production, utilization, and disposal are necessary for managing this alternative energy in the energy sector.

Product or Service Expectations (both if applicable):

The objectives for determining the readiness of the Philippines for integrating hydrogen energy are as follows:

1. **Feedstock and Energy Resource Assessment:** To determine the potential sources of hydrogen in the Philippines, including production and importation.
2. **Technological Capabilities Evaluation:** To evaluate the country's technological capabilities for adopting hydrogen technologies.
3. **Analysis of Existing Infrastructure:** To analyze the current infrastructure to support hydrogen production, storage, and transport.
4. **Potential Applications and Market/Economic Analysis:** To determine and recommend the primary sector for hydrogen application/penetration in the Philippines, such as power generation, transportation, industry, etc.
5. **Roadmap Development:** To develop a comprehensive roadmap for hydrogen and its derivatives, incorporating strategies and processes from exploration and production to storage, transport, utilization, and disposal.

Scope of Work:

The study will research and review existing hydrogen-related studies, materials, policies, and regulations internationally to derive lessons, experiences, and applicability for initiating hydrogen development and use in the Philippines. It will primarily determine the possible sources of hydrogen in the Philippines, including the process/system for hydrogen production and importation. Additionally, it will investigate the energy mix and power generation mix of the country to determine the potential of hydrogen pathways in each sector and identify the sector where hydrogen can best apply or penetrate. The data gathered will be utilized in developing a roadmap for hydrogen and its derivatives, focusing on scenario setting/building towards the transition to a hydrogen economy and preparation of reports and outputs covering the project objectives.

The activities will cover the following outline but not limited to:

Literature Review and Data Collection:

1. Review studies and international best practices related to hydrogen energy value chain technologies and applications.
2. Identify relevant countries with similar economic conditions to scope the inclusion of cost-effective hydrogen energy experiences applicable to the Philippines. Gather and analyze data on their projects and strategies, assess their applicability, and develop tailored recommendations based on best practices and successful implementations. Provide

recommendations for feedstock, energy resource, technology pathway, and feasible application for hydrogen energy.

3. Collect data on potential feedstocks, energy resources, existing energy infrastructure, and sectors applicable for hydrogen energy.
4. Utilize applicable tools to map feedstocks, energy resources, and existing energy infrastructure.
5. Conduct a scoping study to understand the current state of hydrogen technology, market potential, and the financing and regulatory environment in the Philippines. Evaluate existing hydrogen infrastructure, technology readiness, and market conditions.

Stakeholder Engagement

1. Consult with policymakers, regulatory bodies, industry experts, researchers, and technology developers to gather insights into the state of hydrogen technology in the Philippines.
2. Conduct sector analysis to identify stakeholders, and existing industrial infrastructure to prioritize and select sectors with greater potential for the application of hydrogen and its derivatives.

Analysis and Recommendations

1. Analyze the feasibility of different feedstocks and energy resources considering factors such as resource availability, intermittency, and scalability.
2. Evaluate the technological readiness level (TRL) of various hydrogen technologies, considering factors such as maturity, scalability, and cost effectiveness.
3. Conduct a cost-benefit analysis on the needed infrastructure to accommodate hydrogen integration considering economic feasibility and environmental impact.
4. Identify key sectors and applications with potential for hydrogen utilization in the Philippines, including transportation, power generation, industrial processes, and energy storage, and conduct market analysis.
5. Provide recommendations for feedstock, energy resource, and technology pathway, and feasible application for hydrogen energy.

Deliverables, Timelines, Special Terms and Conditions:

1. **Hydrogen Readiness Report:** A comprehensive assessment of hydrogen readiness, encompassing feedstock assessment, technological capabilities, infrastructure analysis, and market analysis.
2. **Economic, Market, and Financing Analysis:** A series of reports presenting cost-benefit analysis and economic feasibility assessments for hydrogen adoption in various sectors.
3. **Stakeholder Engagement Reports:** Compiled reports documenting stakeholder engagement activities, ensuring inclusive participation in hydrogen initiatives.
4. **Capability Assessment of Implementing Entities:** An assessment report evaluating the expertise and capability of implementing entities to ensure the effective deployment of hydrogen technologies.
5. **Baseline Scenarios for Transitioning to a Hydrogen Economy:** A set of developed scenarios and strategies to facilitate the transition to a hydrogen-based economy.
6. **Comprehensive Roadmap for Hydrogen and Its Derivatives:** A detailed roadmap outlining the stages of exploration, production, storage, transport, utilization, and disposal of hydrogen and its derivatives.

Pricing

Item #	Quantity to be Purchased	Description of Preferred Commodity or Services Specifications	Unit of Measure	Unit Fixed Price (Each)	Total Fixed Price (Each)	Lead Time Availability (Number of days for delivery after the contract is signed)
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
		VAT Tax				
Total Value						

Additional Information for Delivery Schedule:

By signing this attachment, the bidder confirms he has a complete understanding of the specifications and fully intends to deliver items that comply with the above listed specifications.

Signature:

Title:

Date:

Attachment “B” Instructions to Bidders/Sellers

1. **Procurement Narrative Description:** The Buyer (RTI) intends to purchase commodities and/or services identified in Attachment A. The Buyer intends to purchase the quantities (for commodities) and/or services (based on deliverables identified in a Statement of Work). The term of the Ordering Agreement shall be from Award Date to the Delivery date of the Offeror unless extended by mutual agreement of the parties. The Buyer intends to award to a single “approved” supplier based on conformance to the listed specifications, the ability to service this contract, and selling price. We reserve the right to award to more than one bidder. If an Ordering Agreement is established as a result of this RFQ/RFP, supplier understands that quantities indicated in the specifications (Attachment A) are an estimate only and RTI does not guarantee the purchase quantity of any item listed.
2. **Procuring Activity:** This procurement will be made by **Research Triangle Institute (RTI International)**, located at

RTI International c/o USAID Energy Secure Philippines Activity
Unit 1409&1410, One Park Drive, 9th Ave. cor 11th Drive, BGC, Taguig City

(insert full address of the office)

who has a purchase requirement in support of a project funded by

USAID Philippines

(insert client’s name)

RTI shall award the initial quantities and/or services and any option quantities (if exercised by RTI) to Seller by a properly executed Purchase Order as set forth within the terms of this properly executed agreement.

3. **Proposal Requirements.** All Sellers will submit a quote/proposal which contains offers for all items and options included in this RFQ/RFP. All information presented in the Sellers quote/proposal will be considered during RTI’s evaluation. Failure to submit the information required in this RFQ/RFP may result in Seller’s offer being deemed non-responsive. Sellers are responsible for submitting offers, and any modifications, revisions, or withdrawals, so as to reach RTI’s office designated in the RFQ/RFP by the time and date specified in the RFQ/RFP. Any offer, modification, revision, or withdrawal of an offer received at the RTI office designated in the RFQ/RFP after the exact time specified for receipt of offers is “late” and may not be considered at the discretion of the RTI Procurement Officer. The Seller’s proposal shall include the following:
 - (a) The solicitation number:
 - (b) The date and time submitted:
 - (c) The name, address, and telephone number of the seller (bidder) and authorized signature of same:
 - (d) Validity period of Quote:

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- (e) A technical description of the items being offered in sufficient detail to evaluate compliance with the requirements in the solicitation. This may include product literature, or other documents, if necessary.
 - (f) If RTI informs Seller that the Commodity is intended for export and the Commodity is not classified for export under Export Classification Control Number (ECCN) “EAR99” of the U.S. Department of Commerce Export Administration Regulations (EAR), then Seller must provide RTI the correct ECCN and the name of Seller’s representative responsible for Trade Compliance who can confirm the export classification.
 - (g) Lead Time Availability of the Commodity/Service.
 - (h) Terms of warranty describing what and how the warranties will be serviced.
 - (i) Special pricing instructions: Price and any discount terms or special requirements or terms (special note: pricing must include guaranteed firm fixed prices for items requested).
 - (j) Payment address or instructions (if different from mailing address)
 - (k) Acknowledgment of solicitation amendments (if any)
 - (l) Past performance information, when included as an evaluation factor, to include recent and relevant contracts for the same or similar items and other references (including points of contact with telephone numbers, and other relevant information)
 - (m) **Special Note:** *The Seller, by his response to this RFQ/RFP and accompanying signatures, confirms that the terms and conditions associated with this RFQ/RFP document have been agreed to and all of its attachments have been carefully read and understood and all related questions answered.*
4. **Forms:** Sellers (potential bidders or suppliers) must record their pricing utilizing the format found on Attachment “A”. Sellers must sign the single hardcopy submitted and send to address listed on the cover page of this RFQ/RFP.
5. **Questions Concerning the Procurement.** All questions in regards to this RFQ/RFP to be directed to

Jan Ranizen F. Vitan, Grants and Procurement Analyst

(insert name of procurement officer)

at this email address:

jvitan@energysecure.ph

(insert email address of the procurement officer).

The cut-off date for questions is *(insert date)*.

July 4, 2024

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6. **Notifications and Deliveries:** Time is of the essence for this procurement. Seller shall deliver the items or services no later than the dates set forth in the contract that will be agreed by both parties as a result of this RFQ/RFP. The Seller shall immediately contact the Buyer's Procurement Officer if the specifications, availability, or the delivery schedule(s) changes. Exceptional delays will result in financial penalties being imposed of Seller.
7. **Documentation:** The following documents will be required for payment for each item:
 - (a) A detailed invoice listing Purchase Order Number, Bank information with wiring instructions (when applicable)
 - (b) Packing List
 - (c) All relevant product/service documentation (manuals, warranty doc, certificate of analysis, etc.)
8. **Payment Terms:** Refer to RTI purchase order terms and conditions found in <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 [http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses Commercial Items.pdf](http://www.rti.org/files/PO_FAR_Clauses_Commercial_Items.pdf). Payment can be made via wire transfer or other acceptable form. Sellers may propose alternative payment terms and they will be considered in the evaluation process.
9. **Alternative Proposals:** Sellers are permitted to offer "alternatives" should they not be able to meet the listed requirements. Any alternative proposals shall still satisfy the minimum requirements set forth in Attachment A Specifications.
10. **Inspection Process:** Each item shall be inspected prior to final acceptance of the item. All significant discrepancies, shortages, and/or faults must be satisfactorily corrected and satisfactorily documented prior to delivery and release of payment.
11. **Evaluation and Award Process:** The RTI Procurement Officer will award an agreement contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible Seller (bidder) whose offer conforms to the RFQ/RFP will be most advantageous to RTI, price and other factors considered. The award will be made to the Seller representing the **best value** to the project and to RTI. For the purpose of this RFQ/RFP, price, delivery, technical and past performance are of equal importance for the purposes of evaluating, and selecting the "best value" awardee. RTI intends to evaluate offers and award an Agreement without discussions with Sellers. Therefore, the Seller's initial offer should contain the Seller's best terms from a price and technical standpoint. However, RTI reserves the right to conduct discussions if later determined by the RTI Procurement Officer to be necessary.

The evaluation factors will be comprised of the following criteria:

- (a) **PRICE**. Lowest evaluated ceiling price (inclusive of option quantities).
- (b) **DELIVERY**. Seller provides the most advantageous delivery schedule.
- (c) **TECHNICAL**. Items/Services shall satisfy or exceed the specifications described in RFQ/RFP Attachment A.
- (d) **PAST PERFORMANCE** - Seller can demonstrate his/her capability and resources to provide the items/services requested in this solicitation in a timely and responsive manner.
- (e) **OTHER EVALUATION CRITERIA**.

Warranty and Payment Terms

12. **Award Notice.** A written notice of award or acceptance of an offer, mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful supplier within the time acceptance specified in the offer, shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party.
13. **Validity of Offer.** This RFP in no way obligates RTI to make an award, nor does it commit RTI to pay any costs incurred by the Seller in the preparation and submission of a proposal or amendments to a proposal. Your proposal shall be considered valid for 90 days after submission.
14. **Representations and Certifications.** Winning suppliers under a US Federal Contract are required to complete and sign as part of your offer RTI Representations and Certifications for values over \$10,000.
15. **Anti- Kick Back Act of 1986.** Anti-Kickback Act of 1986 as referenced in FAR 52.203-7 is hereby incorporated into this Request for Proposal as a condition of acceptance. If you have reasonable grounds to believe that a violation, as described in Paragraph (b) of FAR 52.203-7 may have occurred, you should report this suspected violation to the RTI's Ethics Hotline at 1-877-212-7220 or by sending an e-mail to ethics@rti.org. You may report a suspected violation anonymously.
16. **The John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019 - section 889.** RTI cannot use any equipment or services from specific companies, or their subsidiaries and affiliates, including Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, and Dahua Technology Company ("Covered Technology"). In response to this request for proposal, please do not provide a quote which includes any Covered Technology. Any quote which includes Covered Technology will be deemed non-responsive. Additionally, if the United States Government is the source of funds for this RFP, the resulting Supplier shall not provide any equipment, system, or service that uses Covered Technology as a substantial or essential component

Acceptance:

Seller agrees, as evidenced by signature below, that the seller's completed and signed solicitation, seller's proposal including all required submissions and the negotiated terms contained herein, constitute the entire agreement for the services described herein.

By: *(Seller Company Name)*

Signature: _____

Title:

Date: