

Subject: Request for Information (RFI) No. TNS 01

Subcontract Name: Engineering Assessment, Design, and Construction Oversight Services

Date of Issuance: August 15, 2021

Responses Due: August 23, 2021 5:00 PM Khartoum time

To email: procurement@tnsudan.org

This is a Request for Information. This is not a Request for Proposals or Request for Applications and is not to be construed as a commitment by Chemonics or USAID to issue a solicitation or award a subcontract or grant on the basis of this Request for Information (RFI), or to pay for any information voluntarily submitted in response to this request.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Chemonics International Inc. (hereinafter referred to as “Chemonics”), is a legal entity incorporated under the laws of the United States of America and acting in Sudan to implement the Transition to New Sudan (TNS) program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

TNS is a three year program that aims to support the consolidation of Sudan’s democratic transition by:

1. Enabling the government to demonstrate progress on key transition processes;
2. Strengthening civic engagement; and
3. Expanding independent media.

TNS provides small, short term, high impact grants to initiatives that feed into the above three main objectives. The program started in September 2020 and continues to creatively explore areas of support that will help achieve TNS’ program goal. Over the life of the program, TNS plans to support a number of small to medium-scale construction projects, such as rehabilitation, repair, and restoration of existing facilities, installation of modular structures, and construction of structures. TNS requires a subcontractor for engineering services, including assessment, design, procurement support and construction oversight.

Chemonics is issuing an RFI to offer the opportunity for interested organizations to provide information, opinions, and recommendations on approaches for the implementation of an Indefinite Quantity Subcontract (IQS) for the provision of engineering and design and construction and design (implementation) oversight services under TNS.

Responses should not exceed five (5) pages and should include the following:

1. Please elaborate on the resources and capabilities to address the objectives and illustrative results in the below scope of work– **2 pages in length;**
2. Suggest approaches to pricing methodology in accordance with the accepted industry standards and practices in Sudan; and should note whether a “fixed daily rate” (FDR) could be used as described in Section 4– **2 pages in length;** and
3. Describe any experience working with USAID and/or any other donor organization/s – **1 page in length.**

Additional information limited to the potential offerors’ corporate or organizational capability statement to carry out their approach may be included as an annex. **Please do not submit applications, proposals, resumes, or promotional materials, as they will be discarded.** The submission shall be written in

English and submitted electronically via email to procurement@tnsudan.org by **5:00pm Khartoum local time on August 23, 2021.**

Engineering and Design Services and Construction and Design (Implementation) Oversight

1. Introduction

Chemonics is contemplating soliciting offers from architect and engineering (A/E) firms to provide architecture, engineering, technical and oversight assistance to TNS. TNS activities are anticipated to include small and medium-scale construction activities focused on the rehabilitation and renovation of community and governmental infrastructure, including construction, renovation, and/or rehabilitation of community cultural centers, parks, governmental offices, other facilities that service the public, and other works.

Under TNS, in order to conduct the rehabilitation activities, it is anticipated that assessment, design and construction oversight services will be required. These services may include initial site assessments, environmental assessments, the design of construction projects, technical assistance in the tendering of construction and renovation activities, and the oversight of construction activities.

Chemonics currently anticipates issuing an award to one or more A/E companies or organizations. The anticipated award is an Indefinite Quantity Subcontract (IQS) in accordance with the statement of work (SOW) presented in Section 3 below. Chemonics envisions to subsequently solicit individual task orders for the scope of services requested under “Subcontract Task Orders” (STO). While the IQS will contain the main terms and conditions and the pricing methodology to be used in negotiating STOs, each STO will contain specific information regarding the services being requested by TNS, the period of performance, deliverables, and other details on the specific work ordered. The selected A/E company or organization will be expected to develop a budget (i.e. cost proposal) for each STO using the pricing methodology set forth in the IQS.

2. General Requirements

Chemonics anticipates issuing the IQS to an international or Sudanese firm(s), provided it is legally registered and recognized under the laws of the country where it is headquartered and is in compliance with all applicable local and international civil, fiscal, and any other applicable regulations. Companies and organizations must meet the following requirements in order to be considered:

- (i) Companies or organizations, whether for-profit or non-profit, must be legally registered under the laws of the country where it is headquartered upon award of the subcontract.
- (ii) Companies or organizations must have a local presence in Sudan at the time the subcontract is signed.
- (iii) Firms operated as commercial companies or other organizations or enterprises (including nonprofit organizations) in which foreign governments or their agents or agencies have a controlling interest are not eligible as suppliers of commodities and services.

3. Scope of Work

As the need arises for construction, rehabilitation and/or infrastructure repair services, TNS shall engage the selected A/E company(ies) or organization(s) on individually issued STO/s for either or each of the sequential phases: an initial engineering site assessment, engineering design services, participation on a Chemonics technical evaluation committee to evaluate construction subcontractors proposals, and oversight services of construction by other subcontractors. The selected A/E company or organization

shall serve as TNS' A/E or an Engineer of Record (EOR). More specifically, TNS will request, under each separately issued Sub-Task Order (STO), that the selected A/E company or organization produce the detailed design and technical specifications required for the tendering and implementation of construction design, rehabilitation, and/or infrastructure repair works, and the eventual oversight of the construction, rehabilitation, and/or infrastructure repair efforts conducted by construction subcontractors. TNS will work closely, collaboratively, and in constant communication with the selected A/E company or organization as a partner in achieving delivery of the resulting IQS and scope of work of each issued STO. These services shall be provided in four following phases (each corresponding to an individual STO or part of the STO):

1. Initial Engineering Assessment of Proposed Projects
2. Architect and Engineering Design Services
3. Participation in the Technical Review Committee of construction or rehabilitation subcontractor proposals
4. Construction and Design (Implementation) Oversight of Works by Rehabilitation Subcontractors

Deliverables and Deliverable Schedules shall be specified and communicated in each STO issued through a governing IQS subcontract. Each STO will have associated budget based on the agree-upon pricing methodology and rates and in accordance with the IQS.

4. Pricing Methodology

The IQS will have specific positions with defined roles and qualifications (labor categories) and corresponding compensation rates that will be used to price individual STOs. TNS anticipates the following labor categories:

1. Initial Site Assessment, Design Team, Technical Review Committee
 - Director
 - Deputy Director
 - Senior Engineer
 - Senior Architect
 - Engineer
 - Architect
 - Junior Engineer
 - Junior Architect
 - Construction Site Assessor - Engineer/Architect
 - Drafter/AutoCAD Specialist
 - Construction Cost Estimator
 - Construction Planner/Scheduler
 - Environmental Specialist/Environmental Health Specialist
2. Implementation Supervision Team (Construction oversight, QA, and design oversight)
 - Project Manager
 - Civil Engineer, field inspector
 - Electro/Mechanical Engineer, field inspector
 - Quantity Surveyor
 - Health & Safety Engineer
 - Construction Surveyor

- Construction Surveyor Rodman
- Field Architect

Each labor category would have an agreed-upon role description, qualifications and compensation. STOs that would include deliverables would be priced on a fixed price basis based on the deliverable and the deliverable schedule.

The selected A/E company or organization is expected to propose a detailed pricing methodology for invoicing for each of the proposed labor category and other direct costs that could be utilized on an as-needed basis through STOs in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the IQS.

If the selected A/E company or organization has commercial rates, they must provide:

- A commercial rate sheet;
- Proof of using these rates on 3 other contracts; and
- Offer a discount to those commercial rates.

Fixed Daily Rate and IQS Pricing

TNS envisions the selected A/E company or organization to propose a Fixed Daily Rates (FDR) for each labor categories and levels noted above. Each proposed FDR must be "burdened" and must only include the following:

- Salary cost or consulting fee of the individual providing the services.
- Payroll costs (e.g. fringe benefits, social insurance, bank fees).
- Indirect costs applicable to labor (e.g. corporate overhead or management/administrative fee).
- Indirect costs applicable to non-labor costs (e.g. corporate overhead or management/administrative fee applied to other direct costs/materials).
- Reasonable profit or fee, if any.

Each STO released under the IQS will be evaluated and awarded independently. Throughout the duration of the IQS, TNS will provide draft scopes of work (SOWs) to the selected A/E company or organization to propose a cost proposal that aligns with the requested SOW. The STO cost proposals submitted to Chemonics for evaluation must use the FDRs incorporated in the IQS. STOs shall be priced as follows:

Labor: must match the experience and qualifications of candidates proposed under each STO with the appropriate labor category set forth in the IQS. The Offeror shall propose the level of effort they anticipate is required for each candidate to accomplish the SOW and deliverables set forth by Chemonics. The Offeror shall then use the FDRs (incorporated in the IQS) applicable to each labor category and level to develop the Labor budget of the cost proposal.

Materials: other direct costs necessary for the performance of the work under STOs, such as travel and transportation, per diem, rental of office space or training venues, etc. Under this IQS' pricing methodology, offerors are not allowed to apply an indirect or fee rate on materials.

Deliverables: for deliverable-based fixed price STOs, after reaching a total price (*labor + materials*) for the delivery of the services requested under each STO, the selected A/E company or organization shall use the total price to develop and propose a Deliverables Schedule in the following format:

Installment Number and Amount	Corresponding Deliverable Number(s) and Name(s)*	Deliverable Due Date
USD/SDG xxx	Deliverable No.1	MM,DD,YYYY

*The Offeror shall develop a detailed deliverables schedule based on the deliverables set forth in each STO.

5. Other Information

The place of performance for this award will be Sudan and the envisioned length of the resulting subcontract is three (3) years from the time of award.

Considering the unique security challenges and sometimes impermissible environment, as well as an instable political climate in the areas of Sudan where TNS operates, the selected A/E company or organization is expected to be prepared to sustain operations and provide uninterrupted construction management oversight everywhere TNS operates in Sudan.

The selected A/E company or organization will be precluded from bidding on any potential construction work under TNS, as that would present a conflict of interest.

END OF THE RFI