



RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AGENCY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION FUND GRANT

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

The Federal Government of Nigeria through the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) has embarked on a rural electrification programme which will partly be funded by capital grants provided through the Rural Electrification Fund (REF). In line with Section 88(11) of the Electric Power Sector Reform Act (EPSRA) 2005, the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) hereby invites reputable and interested renewable energy developers to submit Expression of Interest (EoI) for the Rural Electrification Fund (REF) Grant, to support the deployment of Hybrid Mini-grids and Solar Home Systems towards accelerating access to electricity to rural and underserved areas across Nigeria.

2.0 SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work under this maiden grant call for expression of interest includes, but not limited to:

- Category A:** Design, Construction, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of Isolated or Interconnected Mini-grids up to 1MW across the six (6) geopolitical zones of Nigeria
- Category B:** Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Standalone/Solar Home Systems across the six (6) geopolitical zones of Nigeria
The aforementioned projects are to be operated on a commercial Public-Private-Partnership arrangement, based on a sustainable business models in remote rural and underserved communities in Nigeria, where such project(s) would have been economically unviable without this intervention.
- Category C:** Grid Extension Projects

3.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All Prospective bidders are to submit genuine copies of the following documents:

- i. Certificate of Incorporation with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) with copies of Forms C02 and C07 attached.
- ii. Three (3) years Tax Clearance Certificate (2014, 2015 and 2016) expiring 31st December, 2017.
- iii. Copy of a valid License to operate as Electrical Contractor issued by the Nigerian Electricity management Services Agency (NEMSA).
- iv. Current Certificate of compliance with the Pension Reform Act 2004 & 2014 (as amended) issued by the National Pensions Commission (PENCOM).
- v. Current Certificate of Compliance with the Industrial Training Fund Amendment Act, 2011.
- vi. Evidence of registration on the BPP National Data Base of Federal contractors, Consultants and Service Providers.
- vii. Certificate of Compliance with Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF).
- viii. Technical qualities of SHS products such as solar panels, inverters, charge controllers etc. and accompanying manufacturer certifications e.g. (ISO 9000 for Quality Management)
- ix. Verifiable evidence of projects of similar nature executed in the last 3 years. (Please attach Letters of Award together with Interim, completion or payment certificates, etc).
- x. Evidence of financial capability to execute the contract. (The following to be attached:
 - (a) Last 3 years Audited Account signed and stamped by a certified Auditor Provide
 - (b) In the case of a new subsidiary company, provide the financials statements of the parent company.
 - (c) In the case of a new venture provide pro-forma accounts and recent bank statement.
 - (d) Bank reference; and
 - (e) Bank Statement of Accounts for immediate past Six (6) Months
- xi. Evidence of ownership or assured access to relevant equipment for execution of rural electrification project - (Please attach proof of ownership or lease as applicable).
- xii. Authorization: evidence that the firm has authorised the signatory of the Letter of Expression of Interest to sign documents and commit the applicant to any contract with REA- (Properly executed Power of Attorney or Board Resolution with a passport-size photograph of the authorized person firmly gummed or stapled to the document is required).
- xiii. Evidence that one of the key personnel of the company is a COREN registered Engineer.
- xiv. A sworn Affidavit attesting to the following:
 - (a) That all submitted documents are true and genuine
 - (b) That no officer of the Rural Electrification Agency or Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) is a former or present director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the company
 - (c) That the company is presently NOT in receivership, or subject of any form of insolvency or bankruptcy or winding up petition or proceedings;
 - (d) That No Director of the company has ever been convicted in any country of any criminal offence relating to fraud or financial impropriety.
- xv. All submissions are to be covered with a forwarding letter on the company's letterhead, duly signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the firm.

4.0 SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTERESTS

- 4.1 All submissions are to be covered with a forwarding letter on the company's letterhead, duly signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the firm.

- 4.2 Interested applicants shall submit 3 (three) spirally bound hard copies i.e. one Original and two duplicate copies in A4 size papers, together with one soft copy in a CD or Flash Drive of expression of interest, all of which should be enclosed in a sealed large envelope. The envelope shall be marked at the top left corner with: "**Expression of Interest for REF Grant**" with the preferred Category (A, B or C).

- 4.3 The outer envelope should be addressed to:

**Managing Director/CEO
Rural Electrification Agency,
Corporate Headquarters,
22 Freetown Street,
Wuse 2, Abuja.**

- 4.4 The reverse side of all envelopes used must bear the Applicant Company's name and address, and authorized contact person's phone numbers (all written out in capital letters).

- 4.5 Additionally, interested applicants are also to submit soft copies of their EoI with accompanying scanned documents via email to ref.submissions@rea.gov.ng as PDF files not exceeding a total of 20 MB in size. Please enter "**Your Company Name - EOI - REF GRANT**" in the subject line. Please attach all documents in a single email.

- 4.6 Submission deadline for Expression of Interest documents for Categories A, B or C is 12 noon on **Monday, 8th January, 2018**. Documents received after the above deadline shall be rejected and returned unopened to the bidders who submitted them.

- 4.7 Application documents should be arranged and numbered or paged in the order they are listed in paragraph 3.0 and the authorized representative of the Firm should sign every page of the submission.

5.0 IMPORTANT NOTICES

- Failure to provide any of the documents listed in 3.0 (i-xiv) above shall lead to disqualification

- 5.1 Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in the next stage of the grant award

- 5.2 Applicants for Grant under Category A: Construction of solar Mini-grids must include the following additional evidence: (a) that they are an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) or accredited agent of an OEM of solar products (b) that they have built or deployed at least 2 completed and functional solar mini-grids in the last 5 years.

- 5.3 Applicants for Grant under Category B: Supply of Solar Home Systems must provide evidence of previous experience in supply and installation of Solar Home Systems in at least two communities in Nigeria which are currently working.

- 5.4 Documents should be arranged and numbered or paged in the order they are listed in paragraph 3.0, and the authorized representative of the company should sign every page of the submission.

- 5.5 Submissions for the EoI should be summarized as much as possible using the template provided on the REA website www.rea.gov.ng and the REF operational guidelines as a guide.

- 5.6 Developers with history of default on agreements, abandonment/non-completion of rural electrification projects or who lack capacity need not apply for this Grant.

- 5.7 Submission of fake documents may lead to prosecution as all documents submitted shall be referred to the issuing authorities or Security Agencies for verification.

- 5.8 Firms producing or assembling solar products in Nigeria shall receive preference

6.0 DISCLAIMER AND CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This advertisement is published for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer, commitment or obligation by REA to transact with any party, nor entitle any Applicant to make any claims whatsoever/or seek any indemnity from the REA.

- 6.2 The REA shall not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by any interested party in connection with the preparation of documents or submissions made in response to this invitation or in response to any inquiry or clarification arising from this exercise.

- 6.3 The Rural Electrification Agency pledges fair and equal treatment of all applicants but is not bound to shortlist any applicant and reserves the right to annul this Call process at any time without incurring liabilities to itself or under obligation to explain to any applicant the reasons for the cancellation.

7.0 ENQUIRIES:

- All enquiries and requests for clarification regarding this invitation may be directed to:

**Executive Director, Rural Electrification Fund
Rural Electrification Agency,
Corporate Headquarters,
22 Freetown Street, Wuse 2, Abuja.
ref.info@rea.gov.ng**

**Signed:
Management**