

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Country:	Ukraine
Sector:	Municipal and environmental infrastructure – Wastewater Treatment Facility
Project title:	Project Implementation Support to Lviv Vodokanal, Emergency Rehabilitation Project and development of a Sludge Management Program
Contract type:	Consulting services
Issue date:	5 October 2021
Closing Date:	15 November 2021

Project/Assignment Description:

Nefco, EBRD and other Stakeholders have for years, together with Lviv City and its utility company Lviv Vodokanal (LVK) worked to increase the overall operational efficiency of the wastewater treatment facility in the city. As a part of these efforts significant funds – investment and technical assistance funds – are allocated to LVK. Currently a biogas unit is under construction at LVK and some rehabilitation work is ongoing.

During 2020, and in parallel to the above, a Concept Note/Due Diligence Report was prepared outlining several emergency rehabilitation measures to be implemented, which essentially would increase the operational efficiency, leading to a reduced overall pollution load to the Baltic Sea Catchment area. For the same reasons this project is a high Nordic priority activity.

The total investment project is around MEUR 26.5, which is to be financed via contributions from the City Council, and loans from Nefco and EBRD. Danida Sustainable Infrastructure Financing (DSIF) has furthermore approved a significant investment grant amount to the project.

The investment project will be implemented starting from 2022, or as soon as all financial documents are effective.

Nefco is therefore expecting to contract a qualified Consultant to carry out an extended PIU support function to work together with the PIU already established within LVK. The Consultant will work alongside EBRD and Nefco, applying both IFIs procurement procedures and report to both organizations.

The scope of work will include, but will not be limited to, the below main assignments and responsibilities:

- Support in capacity building of PIU and project implementation;
- Guidance in design and preparation of technical specifications / tender documents;
- Various and extensive procurement support in accordance with Nefco's and EBRD's Procurement Policy and Procedures and practices;
- Support in ensuring compliance with Finance Documents and other agreements;
- Support in contract administration and works supervision;
- Arrangement of timely disbursement under the contracts

In addition to the more traditional PIU assignments above the consultant is furthermore expected to analyse the current sludge management situation and prepare a Sludge Management Plan, which eventually shall be acceptable to DSIF, Nefco and EBRD and approved by the City Council of Lviv.

The contracted consultant will fulfil the role as focal point of communication between all major Stakeholders, specifically between Nefco, EBRD, DSIF and LVK and will furthermore play a liaison role between LVK and the twinning consultant, expected to be contracted alongside project implementation.

The fully developed Terms of Reference (ToR) for the assignment will be circulated among the shortlisted consultants.

Assignment Start Date and Duration: The Request for Proposal (RfP) is expected to be issued by the end of November 2021 and the Assignment is expected to start immediately upon signing of the Loan and Grant Agreements between NEFCO and LVK. The project has an estimated overall duration of 36 months.

Cost Estimate for the Assignment: A total maximum budget of approximate EUR 650,000 (exclusive of VAT) is expected to be allocated for the assignment.

Funding: The consultant's selection and contracting will be subject to availability of funding and signing of Financing Agreements. Funds may be allocated from DSIF via a Trust Fund administered by Nefco.

Eligibility: There are no eligibility restrictions.

Consultant Profile: The consultant will be a firm or consortium of firms with extensive local experience in Project Implementation Unit Support within wastewater treatment sector

It is envisaged that the following expertise will be needed for the purposes of this assignment:

- Prior experience in similar assignments i.e. in project implementation support, procurement and works supervision within the wastewater treatment sector;
- Experience with preparing and overseeing implementation of sludge management plans;
- Technical specialists and engineers in energy efficiency, wastewater treatment and sludge management;
- Financial analysts with experience in cash flow and disbursement management;
- Procurement and contract management specialists;
- Environmental management practices.

Based on the fields of expertise and the tasks mentioned above, it is envisioned that the team of the Consultant should consist of at least the following expatriate and local experts:

- Team Leader with PIU Support Experience;
- Local Project Manager with PIU Support Experience within wastewater sector;
- Procurement / Contract management Specialist;
- Financial and disbursement specialist;
- Specialist in Energy Efficiency and wastewater treatment;
- Specialist in sludge management plans and a team to support the development and implementation of such.

All key experts should have at least 7 years of experience in energy efficiency and wastewater treatment sector, as well as prior experience with implementation support of infrastructure projects funded by IFIs. It is further expected that all proposed experts have excellent written and communication skills in English, fluency in Ukrainian will be considered advantageous.

Submission Requirements: Interested consultants are invited to submit their Expression of Interest (EoI). In order to determine the capability and experience of Consultants seeking to be selected for this Assignment, the information submitted should include the following:

1. Company/group of firms' profile, organisation and staffing, including the presentation of the proposed expert team for the assignment.
2. Details of previous project experience or similar assignments particularly undertaken in the previous five years, including information on contract value, contracting entity/client, project location/country, duration (months and years), expert months provided (if different from duration), main activities and objectives.
3. CVs of key experts who could carry out the Assignment detailing education, language skills, qualifications, experience in similar assignments, particularly assignments undertaken in the previous five years, including information on contracting entity/client, project location/country, duration (months and years, from - to), expert months provided, assignment budget, main activities and accomplishments.

The above information should **not exceed 30 pages including** CVs and any supplementary information.

The complete Expression of Interest (including CVs) should be submitted in English electronically through email (procurement@nefco.int with copy to bo.nyhus@nefco.int), to reach Nefco not later than the closing date. The Expression of Interest shall be one (1) file (pdf) not exceeding 5MB in size. Nefco reserves the right to reject applications of firms submitting more than one file.

The short list (expected 3 to 6) of qualified and experienced firms will be prepared from responses to this notification. The short-listed Consultants will be asked to submit technical and financial proposals through a Request for Proposals (RfP), from which the highest-ranked Consultant will be selected.

It is expected that the shortlisted consultants will be given no less than 3 weeks to prepare the proposals.

Nefco Contact Person:

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Nefco is an international financial institution that finances the initial scale-up of Nordic green solutions on global markets. Founded in 1990 by the five Nordic countries, Nefco is the Nordic Green Bank – the sole financial institution in the region to provide only green financing. To date, NEFCO has a number of municipal infrastructure energy-efficiency projects in Russia and Ukraine. Projects in public buildings are prioritised as their implementation often results in significant energy efficiency and environmental improvements, as well as they bring social benefits. Read more about us on www.nefco.int.