

	Short version question	Bidders' questions	Proposed answer
1	Can the same expert be proposed in multiple proposals?	Can the same individual expert be proposed as a Key Expert in more than one proposal submitted by different Consultants/JVCAs, provided that the expert is not part of a JVCA member firm participating in more than one proposal?	According to Clause 2.7 of the RfP, an individual may be proposed as a Key Expert in more than one proposal, regardless of whether the proposal is submitted by a sole consultant or by a JVCA member. (Section 2.7 – Instructions to Consultants)
2	Must Key Experts be based in Ukraine, or is remote/hybrid work allowed?	Could please clarify whether Key Experts are expected to be physically based in Ukraine during the Framework Agreement, or whether a combination of remote inputs and in-country missions is acceptable, with the exact working arrangements to be defined under each call-off order?	Key Experts are not required to be permanently based in Ukraine. A combination of remote work and in-country missions is acceptable, with detailed arrangements to be defined at call-off level.
3	Is there a page limit for Key Expert CVs?	Could NEFCO please confirm whether there is a maximum page limit for each Key Expert CV? If no maximum page limit applies, could you kindly confirm that CVs of up to five pages per Key Expert are acceptable?	An addendum to the RfP will be issued to clarify that CVs of up to five (5) pages per Key Expert are acceptable.
4	What are the page limits for TECH 2A, TECH 2B, and the technical proposal?	Section 2. Instruction to Consultants, Table at Page 9, pt 2.8. Please confirm the maximum number of pages stipulated in the table at page 9 for TECH 2A, TECH 2B and the technical proposal excluding CVs.	The maximum number of pages is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TECH 2A – Consultant's Organisation: 2 pages • TECH 2B – Consultant's Experience: 5 pages Technical Proposal (excluding CVs): 8 pages These limits shall be strictly observed. CVs are not included in this page limit.
5	How many Technical Expert CVs can be submitted and evaluated?	Section 2. Instruction to Consultants, Page 12, pt 3.2.3. How many CVs of the Technical Expert's category will be considered for a combined evaluation?	Consultants shall nominate one candidate per Key Expert position. For the Technical Experts category, one or several CVs may be submitted and will be evaluated collectively, with the final score calculated as the average of individual evaluations (Section 2, p. 12, pt. 3.2.3).

6	How many CVs are required for the Works Supervision Expert?	Section 2. Instruction to Consultants, Page 12, pt 3.2.4. Should the bidder present one or several CVs of the Technical Expert on Works Supervision?	The Consultant shall provide one CV for the Technical Expert on Works Supervision, as this constitutes a single Key Expert position (Section 2, p. 12, pt. 3.2.4).
7	Who must sign the Covenant of Integrity?	FORM TECH-9 COVENANT OF INTEGRITY -should this be signed and included for each consortium partner separately. Should all individual experts also sign this document?	<p>The Covenant of Integrity shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed by the Consultant submitting the proposal, and • In the case of a JVCA, signed by all members or duly authorised representative explicitly empowered to sign on behalf of all members of the JVCA. <p>Individual experts are not required to sign the Covenant of Integrity.</p>
8	What documents are required for JVCA members and sub-consultants?	<p>What formal administrative documents shall be included in the tender for:</p> <p>a) JVCA members- Joint Venture lead and member/members</p> <p>b) sub-consultants, including companies and individuals having their own company?</p>	<p>(a) JVCA members must be clearly identified in the proposal and submit a signed Letter of Intent confirming the intention to form a JVCA and joint and several liability.</p> <p>(b) Sub-consultants must be clearly identified and distinguished from JVCA members; no full administrative documentation is required unless specifically requested, but their role and inputs must be clearly described and CVs provided where relevant.</p> <p>(Section 2, Instructions to Consultants)</p>
9	Can group company experience be used to meet requirements?	Are we allowed to rely on the capacity of other companies within the same group as ours to fulfil the technical criteria (all companies are legal entities within the same group)?	Consultants may rely on the experience of other entities within the same corporate group only where such entities are included in the proposal as JVCA members or sub-consultants. In such cases, the entity's role shall be clearly defined and a written commitment confirming the availability of its resources shall be provided. (Section 2 of the RfP)

10	What documents are required from other group companies to include their project references?	If yes, which administrative documents shall be included in the tender for the other companies within the same group of ourselves to allow us to present project references of these?	<p>Where reliance on group companies is proposed, such entities shall be included in the proposal as JVCA members or sub-consultants.</p> <p>In such cases, the Consultant shall provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear description of the relationship between the entities; and • A written commitment confirming that the entity's resources and experience will be made available for the assignment. <p>Relevant reference assignments of such entities may be included where duly justified.</p>
11	Which countries count as Eastern Europe?	Which countries are classified as Eastern Europe by Nefco for the presentation of relevant reference assignments?	Consultants are expected to apply a generally accepted interpretation, considering geographic and market context. Nefco will assess the relevance of reference assignments based on their geographical relevance, similarity of operating conditions, and applicability to the assignment as it is requested by the ToR and the RfP.
12	Which countries are considered "Eastern Europe" for this tender?	Which countries are considered to fall within the definition of "Eastern European countries" for the purposes of this competition?	See Answer 11 above

13	What is considered a “related field” for the Team Leader?	In the Team Leader / Project Manager qualification requirements, what disciplines or areas of expertise are considered a "related field"?	<p>The RfP requires that the Team Leader / Project Manager has relevant experience in engineering, municipal infrastructure, economics, or a related field.</p> <p>“Related field” shall be interpreted broadly to include disciplines relevant to municipal infrastructure and technical assistance assignments, such as environmental engineering, energy, urban planning, public infrastructure project management, and economics.</p> <p>The adequacy of the proposed expertise will be assessed based on its relevance to the assignment requirements.</p> <p>(Section 3.2 – Key Expert requirements)</p>
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<p>15</p>	<p>Has Nefco identified projects with environmental pollution needs where XXX expertise may be relevant, and who should be contacted for such opportunities?</p>	<p>We have been following NEFCO's Green Recovery work in Ukraine with interest.</p> <p>In particular, we noted that the Local Green Recovery Plan work has included pollution hot spots, war-damage impacts and industrial areas as part of the screening scope.</p> <p>XXX is currently trying to understand whether there are any concrete Ukraine cases where our environmental recovery capabilities could be relevant.</p> <p>To be very clear, we are not positioning XXX for conventional municipal sewage treatment, municipal sludge treatment, or landfill leachate treatment.</p> <p>The areas where XXX could be relevant are more specific:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • oil-contaminated soil and groundwater • oily water and industrial contaminated water • fuel depots, tank farms, refineries and oil logistics areas • fire-water or contaminated run-off from damaged industrial sites • harbour, river or port oil-spill protection • post-UXO environmental readiness after demining • containerized emergency or potable water treatment, where a compact modular package is suitable <p>Would you know whether any of the Local Green Recovery Plans, current NEFCO-supported projects, or upcoming municipal recovery cases have identified this type of pollution hot spot or environmental recovery need?</p> <p>If this is not directly within your area, could you kindly advise who would be the right person or consultant team to contact?</p> <p>We are not asking for confidential project information at this stage. We would simply like to understand whether there is a realistic fit before spending more time on detailed proposals</p>	<p>This question goes beyond the scope of the present RfP and the clarification process, which is limited to matters related to the preparation and submission of proposals.</p> <p>While environmental pollution and remediation needs may arise in specific projects, they are not a primary focus of this procurement. Potential opportunities related to such expertise are identified on a case-by-case basis at project level.</p> <p>Access to such opportunities is exclusively through Nefco's formal procurement processes, in line with its procurement policy and principles of transparency and equal treatment. Accordingly, no separate contact points or direct engagement channels can be provided in this context.</p>
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16	Can a sole proprietorship participate (alone or in JV)?	<p>Specifically, we kindly request your guidance on whether a registered Consultant (FOP registered under the laws of Ukraine as Sole Proprietorship with corporate/project team capacity) is eligible to participate in this tender under the following scenarios:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As a Standalone Applicant: Can a FOP (Sole Proprietorship), with the capacity to mobilize a full team of professional experts (as listed under Section 3.2) apply directly as a "qualified consultancy firm" under Clause 1.2 of the Letter of Invitation? 2. As a Member of a JVCA: Can a registered FOP participate in this tender as an official member/partner of a Joint Venture, Consortium, or Association (JVCA) under Clause 2.3 and 2.5 of Section 2 , provided that all joint liability, financial, and qualification requirements are met? 	<p>A registered Sole Proprietorship (FOP) may participate in this tender either as a standalone applicant or as a member of a Joint Venture, Consortium, or Association (JVCA), if it is a legally established entity and meets the requirements of the RfP. Eligibility is not determined by the legal form of the entity, but by its ability to satisfy the qualification, capacity, and contractual requirements set out in the RfP. Accordingly, all applicants, whether standalone or as part of a JVCA, will be evaluated against the same criteria.</p> <p>(Section 2.1 and 2.5, Instructions to Consultants)</p>
17	Which countries are considered "Eastern Europe" for eligible experience under this assignment?	<p>The consultants shall have extensive experience in the areas outlined in the TOR, in Ukraine and other Eastern European countries. For this purpose, the consultant shall provide at least five relevant reference assignments relating to municipal projects of which at least three shall be in Eastern Europe". Could you specify please list of Eastern European countries in which working experience be eligible for this assignment?</p>	<p>See answer #11 above</p>
18	Is Ukraine experience mandatory for Technical Experts?	<p>"3.2.3. The Technical Experts, as described in the ToR, is expected to have a minimum of 7 years of relevant professional experience in engineering, municipal infra-structure, or a related field, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – at least 3 years of experience working with international financial institutions (IFIs); – at least 3 years of experience in Ukraine in one or more of the following areas...." Does " at least 3 years of experience in Ukraine " is a necessary and mandatory requirement or is considered an advantage? 	<p>The requirement of at least three (3) years of experience in Ukraine forms part of the minimum requirements for the Technical Experts and is therefore mandatory.</p> <p>As set out in Section 3.2.3, all listed criteria constitute baseline requirements that proposed Key Experts are expected to meet.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.3, Instructions to Consultants)</p>

19	Can a registered sole proprietorship (FOP) participate as a member of a JVCA in this tender if all requirements are met?	As a Member of a JVCA: Can a registered FOP participate in this tender as an official member/partner of a Joint Venture, Consortium, or Association (JVCA) under Clause 2.3 and 2.5 of Section 2 , provided that all joint liability, financial, and qualification requirements are met?	<p>Yes. A registered Sole Proprietorship (FOP) may participate as a member of a JVCA, provided that all members meet the requirements of the RfP, including eligibility, qualification, and joint and several liability.</p> <p>All JVCA members must comply with the requirements set out in Section 2, including submission of a Letter of Intent signed by all members.</p> <p>(Section 2.3 and 2.5, Instructions to Consultants)</p>
20	Can the submission deadline be extended?	We are also asking an extension on the deadline for proposal submission which is currently due on 29 June 2026.	At this stage, the deadline for submission of proposals remains 29 June 2026 at 12:00 hrs (noon) Helsinki time, as indicated in the RfP.
21	Is experience in both preparation and implementation required for full score?	Could you please confirm whether, in order to achieve the maximum score under the “Experience of Consulting firm” criteria, it is necessary to demonstrate relevant reference projects in both category a) “Experience in the preparation of projects” and category b) “Experience in the implementation support”? Or is it possible to obtain the full score if all reference projects relate only to one of these categories (for example, in the case where more than the minimum required number of projects is provided, most of which are IFI-funded)?	<p>As set out in the evaluation criteria, the Consultant’s experience is assessed across separate sub-criteria, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) experience in the preparation of projects; and (b) experience in implementation support. <p>Each sub-criterion is evaluated independently and carries its own maximum score. Accordingly, to achieve the maximum total score under the “Experience of Consulting firm” criterion, the Consultant is expected to demonstrate relevant experience in both categories.</p> <p>If reference assignments are provided only for one category, the Consultant may achieve a high score for that sub-criterion but will not receive points for the other and therefore cannot obtain the full score.</p> <p>(Section 4.2 – Evaluation of Proposals, and evaluation criteria table)</p>

22	Do non-category projects still count as Ukraine experience?	If a project was implemented in Ukraine but does not fall under category a) or b), will it still be scored under the “Experience in Ukraine” criterion? Or is it required that projects must match categories a) or b) to be considered for any points in the evaluation?	<p>The evaluation criteria distinguish between:</p> <p>(i) functional experience (project preparation and implementation support), and</p> <p>(ii) geographical experience, including experience in Ukraine.</p> <p>Experience in Ukraine is assessed as a separate sub-criterion under the evaluation of the Consultant’s experience.</p> <p>Accordingly, projects implemented in Ukraine may be considered under the “experience in Ukraine” criterion even if they do not fully fall within categories (a) or (b), provided they are relevant. However, such projects will not receive points under categories (a) or (b) unless they demonstrate experience in project preparation and/or implementation support as defined in the RfP.</p> <p>(Section 4.2 – Evaluation of Proposals, and evaluation criteria table)</p>
23	Which countries count as Eastern Europe?	Could you please specify which countries will be considered as “Eastern Europe” for the purpose of the evaluation criteria? Is there an official list or definition that should be followed when selecting reference projects for this region?	See answer #11 above
24	What costs should be included in daily rates vs reimbursed?	<p>request clarification regarding daily remuneration rates, per diem/daily allowances, and travel-related costs.</p> <p>Section 2.10.1 of the RfP states that the daily remuneration rates included in the Financial Proposal shall cover all costs associated with the services to be provided under the Framework Agreement. At the same time, Annex 1, Section 6.3 of the General Terms and Conditions refers to compensation, if agreed, for reasonable travel costs, accommodation costs and other expenditures required for providing the services, in addition to the Total Fee. Annex 1, Section 6.5 further states that NEFCO will not pay any daily allowances to the Consultant</p> <p>Could NEFCO please clarify the following:</p>	<p>1. Per diem, subsistence or daily allowances</p> <p>Per diem or daily allowances are not applicable and will not be paid under the Framework Agreement, in accordance with the General Terms and Conditions (Annex 1, Section 6.5).</p> <p>2. Daily remuneration rates (FORM FIN-3)</p> <p>The daily remuneration rates shall cover the experts’ fees, overheads and profit associated with the provision of the services.</p> <p>They shall not include travel, accommodation or other mission-related expenses, which are treated separately.</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should any per diem, subsistence allowance, or daily allowance for experts be included in the daily remuneration rates submitted in FORM FIN-3, or are such allowances not applicable and not payable under the Framework Agreement? 2. For international experts required to travel to Ukraine or to other locations for specific call-off assignments, will international travel costs, airport transfers, accommodation and other mission-related expenses be treated as reimbursable expenses at call-off stage, if agreed in the relevant Call-off Order? 3. Should travel and accommodation costs be excluded from the daily remuneration rates submitted in FORM FIN-3 and from the Total Evaluated Price, with such costs to be agreed separately under each Call-off Order where applicable? 	<p>(Section 2.10.1 and Annex 1, Sections 6.3 and 6.5)</p> <p>3. Travel, accommodation and mission-related costs</p> <p>Reasonable travel and mission-related expenses (e.g. flights, local transport, accommodation) may be reimbursed where explicitly agreed in the relevant Call-off Order, in accordance with the General Terms and Conditions (Annex 1, Section 6.3).</p> <p>Such costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shall not be included in the daily remuneration rates; and • are not included in the Total Evaluated Price for the purposes of this procurement. <p>These costs will be agreed, where applicable, at the call-off stage.</p>
25	<p>Can a project already identified by a Ukrainian beneficiary be submitted to Nefco for preliminary screening before framework consultants are selected?</p>	<p>Can a project already identified by a Ukrainian public or municipal beneficiary, such as Rivne Regional Clinical Hospital, be submitted to Nefco for preliminary screening before the framework consultants have been selected?</p>	<p>This question is outside the scope of the present RfP and its clarification process, which relates to the preparation and submission of proposals.</p> <p>The identification and screening of project concepts is part of Nefco's internal programme development and engagement with beneficiaries. The involvement of framework consultants will take place at a later stage through call-off procedures, once specific assignments are defined.</p> <p>Consultants are not required to submit project proposals under this RfP.</p> <p>(Section 1 and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

26	Can a pre-identified project be converted into a call-off assignment?	If Nefco considers the project relevant, can such a pre-identified project later be converted into a call-off assignment under the Technical Assistance Framework Agreement?	This question is outside the scope of the present RfP and its clarification process. Under the Framework Agreement, assignments will be defined by Nefco and commissioned through call-off procedures. The existence of any pre-identified project does not affect this process. (Section 1 and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)
27	Does a municipal enterprise hospital qualify as an eligible beneficiary?	Would a regional clinical hospital organised as a municipal enterprise under Ukrainian law qualify as an eligible beneficiary municipal entity, or should the relevant regional council or another public owner be the formal beneficiary for Nefco purposes?	This question goes beyond the scope of the present RfP and its clarification process. For the purposes of this procurement, consultants should focus on demonstrating relevant experience with publicly owned municipal or regional entities and projects within the scope of the assignment. (Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals)
28	Is a FEED study for hospital resilience relevant under the funding windows?	Would a FEED Study for resilient hospital infrastructure, including electrical infrastructure, protected critical loads, UPS, solar PV, battery storage, long-duration backup power, energy efficiency and implementation planning, be considered potentially relevant under the Decentralisation and Reconstruction window or Other Priority Areas window?	See response to Question #27 above
29	Can a project originator submit a concept without applying as a framework consultant?	Can XXX, as the mandated lead coordinator and project originator for the FEED Study initiative, submit a project concept note to Nefco while not applying as the independent consultant under the framework?	This question goes beyond the scope of the present RfP and its clarification process. The submission of project concepts and participation in this procurement are separate matters. Consultants are not required to originate or submit project concepts as part of their proposals. (Section 1 and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)

30	Can the project originator remain involved while the study is done by a framework consultant?	Can XXX remain disclosed as project originator, development coordinator and possible future implementation or technology partner, while the FEED Study itself is performed by an independent framework consultant appointed by Nefco?	<p>This question goes beyond the scope of the present RfP and its clarification process.</p> <p>The roles of project originator, coordinator, and consultant are addressed outside the procurement process. Under this RfP, consultants are selected to provide technical assistance through call-off procedures and must comply with the applicable requirements, including independence.</p>
31	Can a framework consultant support a pre-identified project if roles and conflicts are disclosed?	Can a Swedish engineering firm participating in the framework, potentially together with Ukrainian subcontractors or local experts, support or propose a specific Rivne call-off assignment, provided all roles, relationships and possible conflicts of interest are fully disclosed?	<p>Not applicable at this stage.</p> <p>Assignments will be issued by Nefco through call-off procedures (direct selection or mini-competition).</p> <p>Consultants must ensure that all roles and any prior involvement are clearly disclosed and that they comply with requirements on independence and avoidance of conflicts of interest.</p> <p>(Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, and Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals)</p>
32	What is the preferred way to submit a pre-developed project concept?	If the project has already been originated and structured by the beneficiary and XXX before the framework consultants are appointed, what is Nefco's preferred route for submitting the concept for consideration?	<p>This question goes beyond the scope of the present RfP and its clarification process.</p> <p>The submission and assessment of project concepts are part of Nefco's programme development activities and are independent of this procurement. Consultants are not required to submit project concepts as part of their proposals.</p> <p>(Section 1 and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

33	Which channel should be used to submit a project concept?	Should the project concept note be submitted to the procurement contact for RfP #SE01-1, to Nefco's Ukraine programme team, or through another channel?	<p>This question goes beyond the scope of the present RfP and its clarification process.</p> <p>The submission of project concepts is independent of this procurement and is not addressed under the RfP. Consultants are not required to submit project concepts as part of their proposals.</p> <p>(Section 1 and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
34	Should only a concept note be submitted, or also supporting agreements?	Would Nefco prefer to receive only a short project concept note at this stage, or also the signed XXX framework agreement confirming XXX mandate?	See response to Question #33.
35	Are there minimum qualification or experience requirements for Senior and Junior Non-Key Experts?	<p>The RfP refers to two categories of Non-Key Experts: Senior Non-Key Expert and Junior Non-Key Expert. However, we could not identify a definition of these categories in terms of minimum years of professional experience or qualification requirements.</p> <p>Could NEFCO please clarify whether any minimum qualification or years-of-experience requirements apply to the Senior Non-Key Expert and Junior Non-Key Expert categories?</p> <p>If such requirements apply, could NEFCO kindly indicate the minimum expected years of experience and qualification level for each category?</p>	<p>No minimum qualification or years-of-experience requirements are specified in the RfP for Senior or Junior Non-Key Experts.</p> <p>Non-Key Experts are not subject to individual technical evaluation at the tender stage, and CVs are not required. These categories are included primarily for financial evaluation purposes, where consultants are requested to provide indicative daily remuneration rates.</p> <p>Consultants should therefore apply professional judgment and standard industry practice in defining Senior and Junior Non-Key Expert categories. The specific profiles and qualifications of Non-Key Experts will be determined at the call-off stage, based on the requirements of each assignment.</p> <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and evaluation approach under Section 4)</p>

36	<p>Is only one Works Supervision Key Expert required, or can multiple experts be proposed?</p>	<p>Could you please confirm whether only one Key Expert position for “Technical Expert on Works Supervision” is required under the RfP, or whether Consultants may propose several experts under this category depending on the scope and multidisciplinary nature of the Framework Agreement assignments?</p>	<p>The RfP defines “Technical Expert on Works Supervision” as a single Key Expert position under the evaluation criteria.</p> <p>Accordingly, Consultants shall nominate one individual for this Key Expert position in their proposal.</p> <p>Where additional expertise or capacity in works supervision is required, this may be addressed through Non-Key Experts or additional personnel mobilised at the call-off stage, depending on the scope and complexity of the assignment.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.4 – Instructions to Consultants, and Q&A clarifications)</p>
37	<p>Do the “Technical Experts” correspond to the disciplines listed in Annex 2 (Section 5.1)?</p>	<p>Could you please confirm whether the required Key Experts referred to as “Technical Experts” are the experts listed in Annex 2 – Terms of Reference, Sub-Clause 5.1, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Engineer (public buildings, reconstruction); • District Heating Expert (including biomass); • Water and Wastewater Expert; • Municipal Solid Waste Expert; and • Renewable Energy Expert? 	<p>Yes. The “Technical Experts” category refers to the technical disciplines outlined in Annex 2 – Terms of Reference, Section 5.1 (e.g. construction, district heating, water and wastewater, municipal solid waste, and renewable energy).</p> <p>These disciplines represent the core areas of expertise relevant to the Framework Agreement.</p> <p>Consultants may propose one or several experts within the “Technical Experts” category to cover the relevant disciplines, and the evaluation will consider the combined qualifications and relevance of the proposed experts. There is no requirement to cover all listed disciplines.</p> <p>(Annex 2 – Terms of Reference, Section 5.1, and Section 3.2.3 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

38	Are any additional Technical Experts required?	Furthermore, please confirm that no additional Key Experts under the category “Technical Experts” are required.	<p>Yes, that is correct.</p> <p>Consultants shall propose Key Experts only within the categories defined in the RfP, including the “Technical Experts” category, which corresponds to the disciplines outlined in Annex 2 (Terms of Reference). No additional Key Expert categories are required.</p> <p>Consultants should ensure that the proposed Technical Experts collectively provide adequate coverage of the relevant technical areas. Additional or specialised expertise may be provided, where needed, through multiple experts within the category or through Non-Key Experts.</p> <p>(Annex 2 – Terms of Reference, and Section 3.2.3 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
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<p>39</p>	<p>Can a firm focused on procurement submit alone, or must it cover all required expertise in its proposal?</p>	<p>Clarification Request: The RfP indicates that consultants shall have extensive experience across the areas outlined in the ToR, including technical, engineering, financial, environmental, and institutional domains. IPSM's core expertise is concentrated in procurement and contract management. We kindly request clarification on whether a firm with deep specialisation in procurement — without full in-house technical engineering or environmental capacity — may submit as a standalone entity, or whether Nefco requires that a single applicant demonstrate competency across all key expert positions listed in Section 3.2.</p>	<p>The RfP does not require a single firm to possess in-house capabilities across all technical disciplines listed under the Key Expert positions.</p> <p>Consultants may submit proposals either as a single firm or in cooperation with other entities (e.g. JVCA members or sub-consultants) to provide the full range of expertise required.</p> <p>Accordingly, a firm with strong specialisation (e.g. procurement and contract management) may submit as a standalone applicant, provided it demonstrates the ability to mobilise all required Key Experts. Where the firm does not possess all expertise internally, it may rely on JVCA partners or sub-consultants to cover the remaining disciplines.</p> <p>The key requirement is that the proposed team meets the qualification requirements for all Key Expert positions and demonstrates sufficient capacity to deliver the assignment.</p> <p>All proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set out in the RfP.</p> <p>(Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, and evaluation approach under Section 4)</p>
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40	<p>What criteria does Nefco use to decide between direct selection and mini-competition for call-offs?</p>	<p>1. Could Nefco please clarify the criteria that will be used to decide whether individual call-offs under the Framework Agreement will be awarded through direct selection or through a mini-competition among the framework consultants?</p>	<p>The RfP specifies that assignments under the Framework Agreement will be commissioned through call-off procedures; however, it does not prescribe detailed criteria for choosing between direct selection and mini-competition.</p> <p>The choice of approach will therefore be made by Nefco on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the Framework Agreement and applicable procurement principles.</p> <p>In general, this decision may consider factors such as the complexity and scope of the assignment, the availability of relevant expertise within the framework pool, urgency, and considerations of value for money and competition.</p> <p>For each call-off, Nefco will define the specific scope, requirements, and selection approach.</p> <p>(Section 1 and Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals; call-off structure described in the RfP)</p>
41	<p>Will the proposed daily rates remain fixed for the full 72-month framework period?</p>	<p>Could Nefco please confirm whether the daily remuneration rates submitted in the Financial Proposal will remain fixed for the full 72-month duration of the Framework Agreement, with no indexation or adjustment for inflation, exchange rate fluctuations, salary market changes, or other cost variations?</p>	<p>Yes, that is correct.</p> <p>The daily remuneration rates included in the Financial Proposal shall remain fixed for the duration of the Framework Agreement, and no adjustments will be permitted (e.g. due to inflation, exchange rate fluctuations, or other cost variations).</p> <p>Consultants are therefore expected to factor in any anticipated cost developments and risks over the full duration when preparing their Financial Proposals.</p> <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal)</p>

42	<p>For “Technical Experts” in Form FIN-3, should one combined rate be provided or separate rates for each expert?</p>	<p>For the “Technical Experts” line in Form FIN-3, should consultants provide a single blended daily rate covering all proposed technical experts, or should a separate daily rate be provided for each proposed technical expert?</p>	<p>Consultants shall provide one daily remuneration rate per Key Expert category, including the “Technical Experts” category. This shall be a single blended rate, not separate rates per individual expert.</p> <p>For the purposes of financial evaluation, the Total Evaluated Price is calculated on a category basis, irrespective of the number of individual experts proposed within that category.</p> <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and FORM FIN-3)</p>
43	<p>How many Technical Experts should be proposed, and how will they be evaluated?</p>	<p>Could Nefco please clarify how many Technical Experts consultants are expected to propose at Framework Agreement tender stage, and how the proposed Technical Experts will be evaluated, particularly given that the RfP states that their final score will be calculated as the average of the individual scores?</p>	<p>There is no fixed number of Technical Experts that consultants are required to propose. Consultants may propose one or several experts under this category.</p> <p>The proposed Technical Experts are evaluated collectively, with their final score calculated as the average of the individual evaluations, based on their qualifications and relevance to the assignment.</p> <p>Consultants should therefore propose an appropriate number of experts to ensure adequate coverage of the required technical disciplines.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.3 – Instructions to Consultants, and Q&A clarifications)</p>

44	<p>Will Key Experts proposed at framework stage be used for all call-offs, or can different experts be proposed for each assignment?</p>	<p>Could Nefco please confirm whether the Key Experts proposed at Framework Agreement tender stage will be expected to participate in all future call-offs, or whether consultants will be allowed to propose assignment-specific teams for each call-off, provided that the experts meet the agreed profile requirements and rates/ceilings?</p>	<p>Key Experts proposed at the Framework Agreement tender stage are indicative and form the basis for technical evaluation and agreed rates.</p> <p>For individual call-offs, consultants may propose assignment-specific teams, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed experts meet the required profiles and qualification requirements; and • The applicable daily rates remain within the agreed framework rates/ceilings. <p>(Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals, and Q&A clarifications)</p>
45	<p>What level of in-country presence in Ukraine is required, and how are security risks managed?</p>	<p>Could Nefco please clarify the expected level of physical presence in Ukraine for assignments under the Framework Agreement, including for field visits, works supervision, verification of implementation progress, and coordination with municipalities and PIUs? In addition, could Nefco clarify how security risks related to travel and work in Ukraine will be managed and allocated between Nefco, the beneficiary entities, and the consultant?</p>	<p>Assignments may be delivered through remote, hybrid, or in-country modalities, depending on the scope and conditions.</p> <p>The level of physical presence (e.g. site visits, works supervision, coordination) will be defined on a case-by-case basis at the call-off stage.</p> <p>Consultants are expected to ensure sufficient flexibility and capacity for in-country deployment where required. Security-related considerations, including any associated arrangements and costs, will be addressed for each assignment in accordance with the applicable contractual terms.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, including call-off arrangements)</p>

46	<p>Which costs can be reimbursed under individual call-offs?</p>	<p>Could Nefco please clarify which costs may be treated as reimbursable expenses under individual call-offs, including international travel, local transport, accommodation, translation, interpretation, workshops, venue rental, printing, communication activities, security-related costs, and any other assignment-specific expenses?</p>	<p>Daily remuneration rates shall cover fees and overheads only.</p> <p>Reasonable travel and other assignment-related expenses may be reimbursed if agreed in advance for each call-off, in accordance with the contractual terms.</p> <p>Such costs may include, for example, travel, accommodation, and other necessary expenditures directly related to the assignment.</p> <p>All reimbursable expenses must be justified and subject to prior agreement.</p> <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions)</p>
47	<p>Where should approach and methodology be included, and do they count within the 8-page limit?</p>	<p>The RfP limits the Technical Proposal to 8 pages excluding CVs, while allocating 2 pages to the consultant’s organisation and 5 pages to experience. Could Nefco please clarify where consultants should present their understanding of the assignment, proposed approach, methodology, and comments or suggestions on the Terms of Reference, and whether such content will be included within or excluded from the 8-page limit?</p>	<p>The Technical Proposal shall not exceed eight (8) pages in total, excluding CVs (Section 2.8).</p> <p>This limit applies to all components of the Technical Proposal, including TECH-2A, TECH-2B, and any description of the understanding of the assignment, proposed approach, and methodology.</p> <p>Comments or suggestions on the Terms of Reference (Form TECH-3), if included, shall also form part of the Technical Proposal and be counted within the overall 8-page limit.</p> <p>Consultants may organise their Technical Proposal within this page limit as they consider appropriate.</p> <p>(Section 2.8 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

48	<p>How are references from JVCA members and subconsultants evaluated, and are donor-funded projects considered equivalent to IFI experience?</p>	<p>Could Nefco please clarify how references will be assessed in the case of a JVCA or the use of subconsultants? In particular, will references from JVCA members and/or subconsultants be accepted and evaluated, or will only references from the lead consultant be considered? Could Nefco also confirm whether projects funded by the EU, World Bank, EBRD, EIB, KfW, Sida, or other donor-funded programmes will be considered equivalent or comparable IFI/donor-funded experience?</p>	<p>The Consultant, whether represented as a sole entity or a JVCA, together with key staff members (based on their submitted CVs), will be subject to evaluation. The evaluation will be conducted strictly in accordance with the defined criteria, and only those elements specified therein will be evaluated.</p> <p>All references will be assessed based on their relevance to the scope of the assignment, including the nature of the services provided and the role of the entity in the assignment.</p> <p>(Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
49	<p>Which environmental and social standards should be applied under the framework?</p>	<p>Could Nefco please clarify which environmental, social, gender, human rights, non-discrimination, and climate resilience standards and guidelines should be applied under the Framework Agreement and future call-offs? In particular, should consultants apply Ukrainian legislation, EU standards, Nefco requirements, Sida requirements, other IFI standards, or a combination of these?</p>	<p>Assignments under the Framework Agreement shall be carried out in accordance with applicable requirements, including Nefco policies, relevant national legislation, and any donor or project-specific requirements.</p> <p>The specific environmental, social, and other applicable standards (e.g. related to gender, human rights, and climate resilience) will be defined at the call-off stage, depending on the funding source, sector, and project characteristics.</p> <p>Consultants will be expected to comply with the requirements specified for each assignment.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

50	Which project stages will be covered under the framework agreement?	Question 1: Could you please clarify which project stages are expected to be covered under the framework agreement for the envisaged assignments? In particular, it would be very helpful to understand the anticipated distribution of projects across stages such as feasibility/preparation, design, tender/PIU support, and construction/site supervision.	<p>The Framework Agreement is intended to cover the full project cycle, including project preparation, design, procurement support, and implementation support (including, where applicable, works supervision).</p> <p>Assignments will be defined and commissioned on a case-by-case basis through call-off procedures, depending on project needs and readiness.</p> <p>In practice, the distribution of assignments across different project stages (e.g. feasibility, design, implementation) will vary depending on the pipeline and maturity of projects, with many initial assignments expected to focus on project preparation and early-stage development.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
51	Must Key Experts be exclusive to one tenderer?	Question 2: Could you please confirm whether key experts proposed under the framework agreement are required to be exclusive to a single tenderer?	<p>See response to Question #1 above. Key Experts are not required to be exclusive to a single tenderer.</p> <p>In accordance with Section 2.7 of the RfP, individual experts may be proposed in more than one proposal, provided that they are available and able to fulfil their commitments if selected.</p> <p>(Section 2.7 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

52	<p>How many experts are needed for works supervision, and is local presence in Ukraine required?</p>	<p>Question 3: Could you please clarify how many experts are expected for work supervision? Given the importance local presence for site supervision, could you please clarify the expectations regarding project geography and whether experts must be based in specific locations within Ukraine?</p>	<p>At the tender stage, Consultants shall propose one Key Expert for the “Technical Expert on Works Supervision” position.</p> <p>At the call-off stage, additional supervision capacity may be required depending on the assignment scope. This may be addressed through Non-Key Experts or additional personnel.</p> <p>There is no requirement for permanent location at proposal stage. The level of physical presence, including any in-country deployment within Ukraine, will be defined on a case-by-case basis at the call-off stage, depending on the needs of each assignment.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.4 – Instructions to Consultants, and Section 1 – Scope of Services)</p>
53	<p>Should one CV be submitted per expert role, or can multiple Technical Expert CVs be provided?</p>	<p>Question 4: Could you please clarify whether the required experts correspond strictly to the roles listed in Section 5 (i.e. one CV per listed position), or if additional CVs may be submitted? Here is the list of technical expert we noted from the RFQ. Could you please clarify if you need one Technical Expert CV for each of the following speciality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • construction engineer (public buildings, reconstruction) • district heating expert (including biomass) • water and wastewater expert • municipal solid waste expert • renewable energy expert • works supervision expert (including Ukraine-certified supervision special-ists) • waste-to-energy expert • gas power expert (understood as Gas Engine / Gas Turbine specialist) • photovoltaics expert • battery storage expert • biogas (production) and biomass expert 	<p>The RfP defines Key Expert categories rather than requiring a fixed number of CVs per individual sub-specialisation.</p> <p>Consultants shall submit one CV per Key Expert position. For the “Technical Experts” category, which corresponds to the disciplines outlined in the Terms of Reference, consultants may propose one or several experts.</p> <p>There is no requirement to submit a separate CV for each listed sub-specialisation or discipline. The proposed Technical Experts will be evaluated collectively based on their combined qualifications and relevance.</p> <p>Additional specialised expertise may be included, where relevant, within the “Technical Experts” category or through Non-Key Experts.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.3 and 3.2.4 – Instructions to Consultants, and Annex 2 – Terms of Reference)</p>

54	How will the funding windows translate into the project pipeline and types of assignments?	Question 5: Can NEFCO clarify how the funding windows described in Section 2 are expected to translate into the actual pipeline of assignments under the framework agreement? Given that the funding windows cover very different types of projects, we would appreciate guidance on which types of projects are expected to dominate in terms of volume, and how this relates to the thematic areas and required expertise outlined in Sections 4 and 5	<p>The funding windows reflect the overall programme structure and thematic scope, but do not correspond to predefined volumes or quotas of assignments under the Framework Agreement.</p> <p>Assignments will be defined and commissioned through call-off procedures based on project needs, readiness, and priorities.</p> <p>The types and distribution of projects across different sectors and stages may therefore vary over time. Consultants should be prepared to provide services across the range of thematic areas and project stages outlined in the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
55	Can one expert cover more than one role?	Question 6: Is it acceptable for one expert to cover more than one position/role within the framework agreement?	<p>In principle, one individual may be proposed to cover more than one Key Expert position, provided that the expert meets the qualification requirements for each role.</p> <p>Consultants must ensure that the proposed arrangement is realistic in terms of workload, availability, and the ability to deliver the assignment.</p> <p>(Section 3.2 – Instructions to Consultants, and Section 2.9.2 – Team composition and availability)</p>
56	Can subconsultant references be considered in the evaluation?	Question 7: Please clarify if subconsultants ' references could be considered during the consultant's experience evaluation	<p>The Consultant, whether represented as a sole entity or a JVCA, together with key staff members (based on their submitted CVs), will be subject to evaluation. The evaluation will be conducted strictly in accordance with the defined criteria, and only those elements specified therein will be evaluated.</p> <p>(Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

57	Can the submission deadline be extended?	Question 8: Is there a possibility of extending the submission deadline?	See response to Question #20
58	Has Nefco already identified a project pipeline?	Has NEFCO already identified a pipeline of projects for this PPF, whether independently or via the Ukrainian government's Single Project Pipeline (SPP)?	<p>Nefco is continuously developing a pipeline of projects in cooperation with Ukrainian authorities, municipalities, and partners.</p> <p>The RfP does not rely on a fixed or predefined list of projects, and the pipeline is dynamic and evolving. Assignments under the Framework Agreement will be defined and commissioned on a case-by-case basis through call-off procedures.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
59	Is there any sector focus in the project pipeline?	Related to the above, are there any sector focus of the pipeline of projects?	<p>The pipeline reflects the overall programme scope and thematic areas outlined in the RfP; however, no specific sector prioritisation, quotas, or distribution of assignments is predefined.</p> <p>Assignments will be defined and commissioned on a case-by-case basis through call-off procedures, depending on project needs, readiness, and available funding.</p> <p>Consultants should therefore be prepared to support assignments across the full range of sectors within the Programme scope.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

60	Is there an indicative list of locations or sectors for early call-offs, including higher-risk regions?	In addition to the question already raised on the project pipeline, it would be useful to clarify whether Nefco already has an indicative list of municipalities, regions or priority sectors for the first call-offs, and whether assignments may include frontline or higher-risk regions.	<p>No indicative list of municipalities, regions, or specific project locations is provided at this stage.</p> <p>Assignments under the Framework Agreement will be defined and commissioned on a case-by-case basis through call-off procedures, depending on project needs, readiness, and applicable conditions.</p> <p>Consultants should be prepared to operate across different locations within the Programme scope, as required by individual assignments.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
61	Should Technical Expert CVs demonstrate experience based on ToR Sections 4 or 5?	Can you clarify if CVs submitted for the Technical Expert role need to demonstrate experience in the thematic areas under section 4.6 of the ToR or the expertise listed under sections 5.1 and 5.2?	<p>CVs should demonstrate experience aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minimum qualification requirements set out in Section 3.2 of the RfP; and • Relevant technical disciplines and areas described in the Terms of Reference (Annex 2). <p>The required qualifications for Technical Experts are defined in Section 3.2, while the Terms of Reference (including Sections 4 and 5) provide the context for the thematic areas and technical scope of the assignments.</p> <p>(Section 3.2 – Instructions to Consultants, and Annex 2 – Terms of Reference)</p>
62	Can references from other network firms be used only if those firms are included in the proposal?	XXX operates through a global network. For this framework contract, we will have XXX and XXX Ukraine participating. Can references from the wider XXX network firms be included only where the relevant XXX entity is part of the proposal structure?	<p>Yes. Experience from affiliated entities (e.g. firms within a global network) may be included only where such entities are formally included in the proposal as JVCA members.</p> <p>In such cases, the Consultant shall demonstrate that the relevant entity’s resources will be available for the assignment.</p> <p>(Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, and Q&A clarifications)</p>

63	How is company-level experience in Ukraine assessed, and what types of experience are considered relevant?	Can Nefco clarify how Ukraine experience will be assessed at company level? For example, will local implementation support, advisory work with Ukrainian public sector stakeholders, donor-funded assignments in Ukraine, and municipal-level engagement all be considered relevant?	<p>Experience in Ukraine will be assessed based on its relevance to the scope of the assignment and the role of the Consultant.</p> <p>In particular, Nefco will consider how the Consultant's experience demonstrates familiarity with the Ukrainian context and its applicability to the requirements of the Framework Agreement.</p> <p>(Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals, and Section 3.1 – Consultant Experience)</p>
64	Must language requirements be met by each Key Expert individually, or at team level?	The ToR states that consultants must ensure fluency in English and Ukrainian. Could Nefco clarify whether this requirement applies to all Key Experts individually, or whether it can be met at team level through Ukrainian-speaking experts and local coordination capacity?	<p>Fluency in English and Ukrainian is required at team level, not necessarily for each individual Key Expert.</p> <p>The proposed team should collectively ensure sufficient capacity to communicate effectively with stakeholders and operate in the Ukrainian institutional context.</p>
65	Can reference projects from subconsultants be included, and what criteria apply?	Can the reference assignments described under Section 2, 3.1 include assignments delivered by subconsultants within the bidding consortium? Are there any qualifying criteria for these reference assignments?	See response to Question #56
66	Are there any requirements for local registration, taxes, or invoicing when delivering services in Ukraine?	If XXX is the lead consultant and XXX Ukraine acts as subconsultant, are there any specific expectations from Nefco regarding local registration, invoicing, VAT, withholding tax or other Ukrainian tax arrangements for services delivered in Ukraine?	<p>The RfP does not prescribe specific arrangements regarding local registration, invoicing, taxation, or related matters.</p> <p>Consultants are responsible for complying with all applicable legal and tax requirements in Ukraine and for ensuring appropriate arrangements for service delivery.</p> <p>Such matters will be addressed at the contract implementation and call-off stage, as applicable.</p> <p>(Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, and Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions)</p>

67	<p>How will call-offs be allocated among consultants, and is any minimum workload guaranteed?</p>	<p>The RfP notes that Nefco intends to award framework agreements to three consultants and that call-offs may be awarded either directly or competitively. Could Nefco clarify the expected approach to allocating call-offs among framework consultants, and whether any minimum volume of assignments is expected for selected consultants?</p>	<p>Nefco intends to select a limited number of framework consultants.</p> <p>Call-offs will be awarded through direct selection or mini-competition, depending on the specific requirements of each assignment. No minimum volume of assignments is guaranteed.</p> <p>The allocation of call-offs will depend on assignment-specific needs, including required expertise, availability, and relevance to the scope of the assignment.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
68	<p>What are the expectations for site presence and security, and is remote or hybrid delivery allowed?</p>	<p>Given the current security situation in Ukraine, could Nefco clarify expectations regarding site visits, field presence, duty of care, security arrangements and whether remote or hybrid delivery will be acceptable where security risks are elevated?</p>	<p>Assignments may be delivered through remote, hybrid, or in-country modalities, depending on the scope and conditions of each assignment.</p> <p>The level of physical presence, including site visits and field activities, will be defined on a case-by-case basis at the call-off stage.</p> <p>Consultants are expected to ensure appropriate capacity for in-country deployment where required and to implement suitable duty-of-care and risk management measures in accordance with the applicable contractual arrangements.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

69	Does involvement in project preparation limit participation in later assignments for the same project?	Can Nefco clarify whether participation in project preparation or feasibility studies under the framework would restrict the consultant or its subconsultants from participating in later implementation support, supervision or related assignments for the same projects?	<p>Participation in project preparation or feasibility work does not automatically preclude participation in subsequent assignments.</p> <p>However, consultants must remain independent and free from conflicts of interest. Any potential conflict-of-interest situations will be assessed by Nefco on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation measures may be required where necessary.</p> <p>(Section 4.7 – Conflict of Interest)</p>
70	Will exactly three framework agreements be awarded, or can more be awarded?	Can Nefco confirm whether exactly three framework agreements will be awarded, or whether Nefco reserves the right to conclude framework agreements with more than three consultants if several proposals achieve comparable scores?	<p>Nefco intends to conclude framework agreements with a limited number of consultants (indicatively three), as stated in the RfP.</p> <p>However, Nefco reserves the right to adjust this number based on the outcome of the evaluation and considerations such as ensuring sufficient competition and coverage of the required expertise.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Letter of Invitation, and Q&A clarifications)</p>
71	Will each framework agreement cover all sectors, or will there be separate agreements by sector	Is NEFCO looking to enter in a framework agreement per sector, or will each framework agreement cover all sectors of municipal infrastructure?	<p>Each framework agreement will cover the full scope of services and thematic areas described in the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Nefco does not intend to establish separate framework agreements per sector.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Annex 2 – Terms of Reference)</p>

72	<p>How are call-offs allocated between direct selection and mini-competition, and what criteria determine the approach?</p>	<p>Could Nefco clarify the expected allocation between direct call-offs and competitive mini-competitions, and the criteria that will be used to determine which procedure applies for a specific assignment?</p>	<p>The RfP specifies that assignments under the Framework Agreement will be commissioned through call-off procedures; however, it does not prescribe detailed criteria for choosing between direct selection and mini-competition.</p> <p>The choice of approach will therefore be made by Nefco on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>In general, this decision may consider factors such as the complexity and scope of the assignment, the availability of relevant expertise, urgency, and considerations of value for money and competition.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
73	<p>Can Nefco provide an indicative project pipeline for the first 12–24 months?</p>	<p>Could Nefco provide an indicative pipeline of municipalities, sectors, and project types expected during the first 12–24 months of framework implementation?</p>	<p>At this stage, no indicative or binding pipeline of municipalities, sectors, or project types can be provided.</p> <p>Assignments under the Framework Agreement will be defined and commissioned on a case-by-case basis through call-off procedures, based on project needs, readiness, and available funding.</p> <p>Consultants should be prepared to support assignments across the full scope of services and thematic areas outlined in the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>

74	<p>Under what conditions can Key Experts be replaced for future call-offs?</p>	<p>Given the six-year duration of the framework agreement, could Nefco clarify the conditions under which Key Experts proposed at framework stage may be replaced for future call-offs?</p>	<p>Key Experts proposed at the framework stage are indicative and form the basis for technical evaluation and agreed rates.</p> <p>For individual call-offs, consultants may propose replacement or assignment-specific experts, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed experts meet or exceed the required qualification and experience requirements; and • Any changes are justified and subject to Nefco's approval. <p>(Section 3.2 – Key Expert requirements, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
75	<p>Should one Technical Expert be proposed per discipline, or a smaller representative team?</p>	<p>Is Nefco expecting one Technical Expert per discipline listed in the Terms of Reference, or should consultants nominate a limited number of representative Technical Experts (for example for the various sectors mentioned in the TOR) for evaluation purposes?</p>	<p>Nefco does not require one Technical Expert per discipline listed in the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Consultants shall propose enough Technical Experts to demonstrate adequate coverage of the relevant technical areas. The evaluation will focus on the overall adequacy, relevance, and quality of the proposed team, rather than completeness across all listed disciplines.</p> <p>Technical Experts may therefore be proposed as a limited number of representative experts covering multiple relevant disciplines.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.3 – Instructions to Consultants, and Annex 2 – Terms of Reference)</p>
76	<p>Is the involvement of Ukrainian local experts expected or preferred?</p>	<p>Does NEFCO expect or favour the involvement of Ukrainian local consultants or engineering firms during assignment implementation?</p>	<p>The RfP does not establish a formal requirement for the involvement of local Ukrainian consultants or firms.</p> <p>However, consultants are expected to demonstrate an appropriate team composition and capacity to deliver the assignment effectively, including relevant local knowledge and understanding of the Ukrainian context where necessary.</p> <p>(Section 3.1 and Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals; Annex 2 – Terms of Reference)</p>

77	<p>What is the expected balance between technical, financial, procurement, and implementation services?</p>	<p>Can NEFCO clarify the expected balance between engineering services and project preparation, financial, procurement and implementation advisory services within typical assignments?</p>	<p>Assignments under the Framework Agreement may include a range of services, such as technical/engineering inputs, project preparation, procurement support, and implementation advisory.</p> <p>The specific balance between these elements will vary depending on the nature, scope, and stage of each assignment.</p> <p>Consultants are therefore expected to demonstrate an appropriate understanding of how to integrate these components in a coherent and effective delivery approach.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Annex 2 – Terms of Reference)</p>
78	<p>Can additional experts be proposed at call-off stage, or are framework-stage experts fixed?</p>	<p>Will key experts be committed at framework stage, or can additional specialists be proposed at the call-off stage depending on assignment requirements?</p>	<p>Key Experts are proposed at the framework stage for evaluation purposes.</p> <p>For individual call-offs, consultants may propose assignment-specific teams, including additional or replacement specialists where required, provided that the proposed experts meet the applicable qualification requirements and are in line with the agreed framework roles and rates.</p> <p>(Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, Section 3.2 – Key Expert requirements)</p>

79	How are Technical Experts evaluated, and is there a limit to how many can be proposed?	Could Nefco clarify the methodology for evaluating the Technical Experts category, including the maximum number of experts that may be proposed and whether additional experts beyond the minimum requirements will be considered?	<p>Technical Experts are evaluated collectively, with the final score calculated as the average of the individual evaluations.</p> <p>No fixed maximum number of Technical Experts is prescribed. Consultants may propose one or several experts, as appropriate to demonstrate adequate coverage of the required expertise.</p> <p>While additional experts may be included, the evaluation focuses on the overall relevance, quality, and adequacy of the proposed team rather than the number of experts.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.3 – Instructions to Consultants,</p>
80	How should expert availability and workload be demonstrated, and is specific documentation required?	How should consultants demonstrate availability and workload of proposed experts, and will any specific evidence or allocation percentages be required?	<p>Consultants are required to provide information on their current workload at firm level and to ensure that proposed Key Experts are realistically available for the assignment.</p> <p>The availability and workload of Key Experts will be assessed as part of the technical evaluation, based on the information provided in the proposal.</p> <p>(Section 2.9.1 – Instructions to Consultants, and Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals)</p>
81	How can additional reference projects be presented within the page limit?	Given the five-page limit for consultant experience, how does Nefco recommend presenting additional relevant reference assignments beyond the five detailed examples?	<p>Consultants should prioritise the most relevant reference assignments within the applicable page limit.</p> <p>Additional references may be included in a concise or summary format; however, detailed descriptions should focus on key assignments that best demonstrate compliance with the evaluation requirements.</p> <p>(Section 2.8 – Technical Proposal page limits, and Section 3 – Technical Proposal Forms, including TECH-2B)</p>
82	Will daily rates remain fixed for the full 72-month period?	Can Nefco confirm whether the daily rates submitted at framework stage will remain fixed for the full 72-month framework period, or whether any indexation or rate adjustment mechanism may apply?	Please see response to Question #41

83	Will travel, accommodation, and related costs be reimbursed separately?	Will travel, accommodation, security-related costs, and interpretation services required for assignments in Ukraine be reimbursed separately under call-offs?	<p>Travel, accommodation, interpretation, and similar assignment-related costs may be reimbursed separately, provided that such costs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed in advance; • Reasonable and necessary; and • Defined for each call-off in accordance with the applicable contractual terms. <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions, including Section 6.3)</p>
84	How are security costs and duty of care handled for staff in Ukraine?	How will security-related costs and duty-of-care measures for personnel travelling within Ukraine be treated under individual call-offs?	<p>Security-related costs and associated duty-of-care measures may be addressed on a case-by-case basis for each assignment and, where applicable, treated as reimbursable expenses subject to prior agreement.</p> <p>Consultants are responsible for implementing appropriate duty-of-care and risk management measures in accordance with applicable contractual terms.</p> <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions, including Section 6.3)</p>
85	Do liability exclusions imply unlimited liability, and can this be negotiated?	Could Nefco clarify whether the exclusions from the liability cap in Sections 8 and 9 of the General Conditions are intended to create unlimited liability, and whether this position is negotiable during framework agreement negotiations?	<p>The treatment of liability, including any exclusions from the liability cap, is governed by the General Terms and Conditions included in the RfP.</p> <p>The interpretation and application of such provisions will be determined in accordance with the contractual terms.</p> <p>The contractual conditions provided in the RfP are considered standard and are generally not subject to negotiation, except where explicitly provided.</p> <p>(Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions, including Sections 8 and 9)</p>

86	<p>Are any exceptions to the insurance requirements allowed due to the current war conditions?</p>	<p>In section 10.3. the following is mentioned: “The Consultant shall be responsible for insuring its Assigned Personnel, and for ensuring that any subcontractor(s) is similarly insured, against death, injury, loss of property and illness. The Consultant shall also be responsible for ensuring that adequate travel insurance is in place.”</p> <p>We recognize that during the current wartime conditions, it might not be possible to comply with all the mentioned insurance requirements. Are any deviations from this allowed?</p>	<p>The insurance requirements set out in the General Terms and Conditions remain applicable and reflect the Consultant’s responsibility to ensure appropriate coverage for its personnel.</p> <p>At the same time, the practical application of these requirements will be considered in the context of the operating environment. Consultants are expected to take all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure appropriate insurance and risk coverage to the extent available.</p> <p>Any constraints or limitations should be clearly described and will be addressed, where relevant, in the context of contract implementation and specific call-off assignments.</p> <p>(Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions, including Section 10.3)</p>
87	<p>Can the requirement for fixed prices over 6 years be made more flexible?</p>	<p>In section 2.10.1 the following is mentioned: “The daily remuneration rates included in the Financial Proposal shall cover all costs associated with the services to be provided under the Framework Agree-ment. The rates and prices shall remain fixed for the duration of the term of the Framework Agreement and no adjustments due to currency fluctuations or other factors shall be permitted.”</p> <p>We recognize that providing fixed prices for a period of 6 years will result in high risk margins in the price estimations. Can you see this done in any different way?</p>	<p>Please see response to Question #41</p>

88	<p>Which Technical Expert CVs are required for evaluation, including Technical Experts and Works Supervision?</p>	<p>Based on what is mentioned in section 3.2.3 and section 5, are the CVs required for the technical experts evaluation (for both “technical experts” and “technical experts for works supervision” separately) the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - construction engineer (public buildings, reconstruction) - district heating expert (including biomass) - water and wastewater expert - municipal solid waste expert - renewable energy expert - works supervision expert (including Ukraine-certified supervision special-ists) - waste-to-energy - gas power - photovoltaics - battery storage - district heating - biogas and biomass 	<p>No, the listed disciplines do not represent a required set of individual CVs.</p> <p>Consultants may propose one or several experts within the “Technical Experts” category, while one CV shall be submitted for the Technical Expert on Works Supervision.</p> <p>There is no requirement to submit one CV per discipline listed in the Terms of Reference, which describe the range of possible expertise rather than a checklist.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.3 and 3.2.4 – Instructions to Consultants; Annex 2 – Terms of Reference)</p>
89	<p>Is experience with state-owned enterprises considered equivalent to municipal experience?</p>	<p>When evaluating firm experience under Section 3.1, would assignments for state-owned energy or infrastructure enterprises — such as district heating operators, water utilities, or waste management companies — be considered experience with municipal beneficiaries where those enterprises provide services to municipal consumers? This question refers specifically to cases where the contracting entity is a national or state-owned enterprise rather than a municipality.</p>	<p>Reference assignments will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set out in the RfP.</p> <p>Consultants are advised to include those assignments that best demonstrate their relevant experience in relation to the scope of the assignment.</p> <p>(Section 3.1 – Consultant Experience, and Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals)</p>

90	What should be included on the remaining page of the Technical Proposal, and does it count within the 8-page limit?	Section 2.8 states that the Technical Proposal shall not exceed 8 pages, excluding CVs. The same section indicates a maximum of 2 pages for TECH-2A – Consultant’s Organisation and a maximum of 5 pages for TECH-2B – Consultant’s Experience. In Section 3, the form “Comments and Suggestions on the Terms of Reference” appears to be marked as not applicable. Could NEFCO please clarify what content is expected in the remaining page within the 8-page limit? In particular, should Consultants use it to provide a brief understanding of the ToR / assignment approach, or should the Technical Proposal be limited only to TECH-2A and TECH-2B?	The Technical Proposal shall not exceed eight (8) pages in total, excluding CVs, including a maximum of 2 pages for TECH-2A and 5 pages for TECH-2B, as specified in Section 2.8. Any remaining space within the overall page limit may be used at the Consultant’s discretion. The RfP does not prescribe additional mandatory content beyond the required forms. (Section 2.8 – Instructions to Consultants, and Section 3 – Technical Proposal Forms)
91	Which countries are included in the term “Eastern Europe,” and does it include the South Caucasus?	Question 1 - The call documents reference “Eastern Europe”. Could you please clarify the specific list of countries intended by this term? Specifically, does this classification include the South Caucasus countries (Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan)?	Please refer to answer to Question #11 above.
92	Is it correct that comments on the Terms of Reference are not required?	Question 2 - RfP page 24 (of 32) reads: “not applicable 3 COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE”. In the list of Forms to be submitted as a part of the Technical Proposal (page 9/32), the aforementioned section is not mentioned. We understand that the Comments and Suggestions on the ToR will not be evaluated and thus the bidder is not required to provide any comments or suggestions on the ToR. Please clarify.	Yes, your understanding is correct. The section “Comments and Suggestions on the Terms of Reference” is marked as not applicable and is not required to be submitted as part of the Technical Proposal. (Section 2.8 – Instructions to Consultants, and Section 3 – Technical Proposal Forms)
93	What types of assignments are expected in the first call-offs?	Initial Assignments Could Nefco provide more detail on the expected first call-off assignments, including likely sectors, municipalities, and whether they will focus mainly on feasibility studies, PIU support, procurement, or works supervision?	This question is addressed in previous responses. At this stage, no indicative pipeline of assignments, municipalities, sectors, or project types is provided. Assignments under the Framework Agreement will be defined and commissioned on a case-by-case basis through call-off procedures, depending on project needs and readiness. (Section 1 – Scope of Services, and Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)

94	How is the Total Evaluated Price calculated if multiple Technical Experts are proposed?	Price Calculation How will the Total Evaluated Price be calculated if a Consultant proposes more than one Technical Expert under the “Technical Experts” category?	The Total Evaluated Price is calculated in accordance with the methodology set out in the RfP, based on the daily remuneration rates provided per Key Expert category in FORM FIN-3. (Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and FORM FIN-3)
95	Can references from JVCA members and subconsultants count toward the minimum requirements?	3. Reference Eligibility Can references from JVCA members and subconsultants be fully counted toward the minimum requirement of five relevant municipal project references, including at least three in Eastern Europe?	See answer to Question #48
96	Can Key Experts come from JVCA members or subconsultants, or must they be employed by the lead consultant?	Key Expert Source Can Key Experts be proposed by JVCA members or subconsultants, or must some or all Key Experts be employed directly by the Lead Consultant?	Yes. Key Experts may be proposed by the Lead Consultant, JVCA members, or sub-consultants. There is no requirement that Key Experts be employed directly by the Lead Consultant. The Consultant remains responsible for ensuring the availability and performance of the proposed experts. (Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants, and Q&A clarifications)
97	Must the Works Supervision Expert hold the required certificate at submission, or can it be provided later?	Certificate Timing Must the Technical Expert on Works Supervision hold the valid Ukrainian qualification certificate at the time of proposal submission, or can this certificate be provided before the relevant call-off assignment starts?	The certification requirement for the Technical Expert on Works Supervision forms part of the minimum qualification requirements and is expected to be met at the time of proposal submission. Compliance will be reconfirmed at the call-off stage, as applicable to the specific assignment. (Section 3.2.4 – Instructions to Consultants)

98	What level of presence in Ukraine is required, and what tasks can be done remotely?	Presence in Ukraine What level of physical presence in Ukraine is expected for Key Experts during call-off assignments, and which tasks may be performed remotely?	Please refer to answer to Question #45
99	How should security risks and related costs be handled?	Security Costs How should Consultants price or handle security related costs, travel restrictions, evacuation costs, force majeure events, and delays caused by the security situation in Ukraine?	<p>This question has been addressed in previous responses.</p> <p>Costs such as travel, accommodation, and security-related measures may be treated as reimbursable expenses, subject to prior agreement and defined on a case-by-case basis under each call-off.</p> <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions)</p>
100	How are call-offs awarded, and what criteria are used?	Call-off Awarding Will call-off assignments be awarded mainly through direct selection or through mini-competitions among the framework consultants, and what criteria will be used at call-off stage?	<p>Call-offs may be awarded through direct selection or mini-competition, depending on the assignment.</p> <p>The choice of approach will be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into account factors such as the complexity and scope of the assignment, availability of relevant expertise, urgency, and considerations of value for money.</p> <p>(Section 6 – Call-off Procedure)</p>
101	Which standards apply under call-offs (e.g. Nefco, Ukrainian, EU, IFI)?	Applicable Standards Which procurement and environmental/social standards will apply under individual call-offs: Nefco requirements only, Ukrainian legislation, EU standards, IFI standards, or a combination of these? RfP #SE01-1 “Technical Assistance Framework Agreement – Green Recovery for Ukraine” for the EU- aligned reconstruction Ukraine”	<p>Assignments may require compliance with a combination of applicable standards, including Nefco requirements, relevant Ukrainian legislation, and, where applicable, EU and IFI standards.</p> <p>The specific standards to be applied will be defined for each assignment at the call-off stage.</p> <p>(Section 1 – Scope of Services, and call-off arrangements under Section 6)</p>

102	Who must sign the JVCA Letter of Intent?	Letter of Intent With reference to Clause 2.5(b), could you please clarify whether the Letter of Intent must be signed only by all JVCA members, or whether proposed subcontractors are also required to sign it?	Yes. The Letter of Intent must be signed by all JVCA members. Sub-consultants are not required to sign it. (Section 2.5 – Instructions to Consultants)
103	Are there requirements for the total number of staff to be proposed?	Total Staffing Apart from the 10 Key Experts, is there any requirement or expectation regarding the total number of personnel to be proposed for the assignment?	There is no fixed requirement for total staffing beyond the Key Experts. Consultants may propose additional personnel (e.g. Non-Key Experts) as needed. The final team composition will be defined at the call-off stage based on the requirements of each assignment. (Section 3.3 – Non-Key Experts, and Section 6 – Call-off Procedure)
104	What is the expected scope and volume of procurement, contract management, and supervision tasks?	<p>1. Section 1 “Letter of Invitation”, point 1.3</p> <p>Could you please provide additional details regarding the expected scope and indicative volume of activities related to the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procurement and contracting of goods, works, and services, ensuring full compliance with NEFCO Procurement Policy and Procedures; - Contract administration, construction supervision, and arrangement of timely disbursements under the contracts. <p>In particular, any indication regarding the anticipated scale, frequency, or level of effort associated with these activities would be highly appreciated.</p>	<p>The activities listed in Section 1.3 describe the potential scope of services under the Framework Agreement.</p> <p>The scale, frequency, and level of effort for these activities will vary depending on the specific assignment and will be defined at the call-off stage.</p> <p>(Section 1.3 – Scope of Services, and Section 6 – Call-off Procedure)</p>

105	What forms of joint participation are allowed (e.g. JV, consortium, sub consultancy)?	<p>2. Section 2 “Instructions to Consultants”, point 2.3 Could you please clarify the acceptable forms of cooperation for parties submitting a proposal on a joint basis? Do we understand correctly that such cooperation does not necessarily need to take the form of a Joint Venture and may also include arrangements such as a subconsultancy or consortium structure?</p>	<p>The RfP allows for different forms of cooperation, provided these are clearly defined in the proposal.</p> <p>Consultants may submit either as a JVCA (joint submission with joint liability) or as a single Consultant with sub-consultants, in accordance with the requirements set out in the RfP.</p> <p>(Section 2.3 and 2.5 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
106	Can consultant workload be presented in anonymized form?	<p>3. Section 2 “Instructions to Consultants”, point 2.9.1 Point 2.9.1 requires the submission of “information on the current workload of the consultant in the relevant areas of this assignment.” Taking into account confidentiality considerations, would it be acceptable to present such information on an anonymized basis? The same clarification would also be appreciated for other references to workload in the RfP (e.g., point 4.2(b)).</p>	<p>Yes, information on current workload may be presented on an anonymized basis, provided that it remains sufficiently clear for evaluation purposes.</p> <p>(Section 2.9.1 – Instructions to Consultants, and Section 4 – Evaluation of Proposals)</p>
107	Can IFI experience outside the assignment scope still be considered?	<p>4. Section 2 “Instructions to Consultants”, point 3.1 Point 3.1 states that “a higher number of relevant reference assignments will be considered an advantage in the evaluation, as will reference assignments and experience from working with IFIs.” Could you please clarify whether experience of working with IFIs in areas beyond the direct scope of the potential assignment may also be presented and considered relevant for evaluation purposes?</p>	<p>Yes. Consultants may present experience of working with IFIs, including in areas beyond the immediate technical scope, as set out in the RfP.</p> <p>(Section 3.1 – Consultant Experience)</p>
108	Does the scope of work vary depending on the funding window?	<p><i>Questions to Annex 2</i> 5. Section 2 “Background”, point 2.1 “Funding windows” Do we understand correctly that the scope of work described in Section 4 may vary depending on the funding window applicable to a specific engagement (e.g., “Municipal Waste Management”, “Decentralization and Reconstruction”, “Other Priority Areas”)? If so, could you please clarify the extent to which the scope and required expertise may differ between such funding windows?</p>	<p>Yes, this understanding is correct. The scope of work may vary depending on the applicable funding window and the specific assignment.</p> <p>The exact scope, deliverables, and required expertise will be defined on a case-by-case basis at the call-off stage.</p> <p>(Annex 2 – Terms of Reference, and Section 6 – Call-off Procedure)</p>

109	Are the thematic areas used to assess experience and qualifications?	<p><i>Questions to Annex 2</i></p> <p>6. Section 4 “Scope of Work”, point 4.6 “Thematic areas”</p> <p>Do we understand correctly that the thematic areas listed in Section 4.6 constitute the areas of experience that will be assessed under the evaluation and qualification requirements set out in Section 2 “Instructions to Consultants”, points 3.1–3.2 of the RfP?</p>	<p>No. The thematic areas listed in Section 4.6 are indicative and describe the potential scope of assignments.</p> <p>Evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the criteria set out in Section 2.</p> <p>(Annex 2 – Terms of Reference, Section 4.6; Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
110	Does the rule on participation in multiple proposals apply to Key Experts as well as firms?	<p>1. Section 2.7 of the RfP states that a consultant participating in more than one proposal will be disqualified. Could you please confirm whether this restriction applies only to consulting firms or also to individual Key Experts? The wording appears to exempt Key Experts, but we would appreciate your confirmation.</p>	<p>See response to Question #1 above.</p> <p>The restriction applies to the Consultant (including JVCA members) and not to individual Key Experts, as specified in the RfP.</p> <p>(Section 2.7 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
111	Can a non-Ukrainian expert with an equivalent recognized qualification meet the certification requirement?	<p>2. Section 3.2.4 of the RfP requires a valid qualification certificate under Ukrainian legislation authorizing technical supervision of construction works. Could this requirement be fulfilled by a non-Ukrainian national holding an equivalent qualification that is recognized under Ukrainian law, or is Ukrainian citizenship and/or residency required?</p>	<p>The requirement applies to possession of a valid qualification certificate in accordance with Ukrainian legislation and is not linked to nationality or citizenship.</p> <p>(Section 3.2.4 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>
112	How are reimbursable expenses handled under call-offs, and are there any limits?	<p>3. The Financial Proposal Form appears to request information on fees only. Could Nefco please clarify how reimbursable expenses (such as travel, accommodation, and per diems) will be treated under individual call-off assignments? Specifically, will such expenses be agreed at the call-off stage, or are there standard reimbursement limits or caps defined in the General Terms and Conditions?</p>	<p>Reimbursable expenses are treated in accordance with the provisions set out in the RfP and General Terms and Conditions.</p> <p>Such costs will be agreed, where applicable, at the call-off stage.</p> <p>(Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions)</p>

113	Are references from JVCA members and subconsultants considered in experience evaluation?	Treatment of subconsultant and JVCA member experience Please confirm whether reference assignments delivered by JVCA subconsultants will be considered in the scoring of the “Experience of Consulting firm” criteria.	See answer to Question #38
114	Will call-offs be allocated based on consultant strengths, or must all consultants cover all thematic areas?	Thematic specialisms and call-off allocation The ToR refers to a broad range of thematic areas, including energy policy, renewable energy, energy efficiency, municipal utilities, water and wastewater, district heating, street lighting and solid waste. Please clarify whether call-offs will be allocated according to the specific strengths of framework consultants, or whether each framework consultant is expected to demonstrate comprehensive capability across all thematic areas.	Call-offs may be awarded based on the specific requirements of each assignment, including relevant expertise and capacity. Consultants are not required to demonstrate comprehensive coverage of all thematic areas. (Annex 2 – Terms of Reference, and call-off provisions in the RfP)
115	When must the Works Supervision certificate be provided?	Ukrainian works supervision certificate For the Technical Expert on Works Supervision, the RFP requires a valid qualification certificate in accordance with Ukrainian legislation. Please confirm whether this certificate must be held by the named expert at proposal submission stage, whether it may be demonstrated at call-off stage depending on the specific works supervision assignment or at another stage.	The Technical Expert on Works Supervision is expected to meet the certification requirement at the time of proposal submission, as specified in the RfP. Compliance will be reconfirmed at the call-off stage, where applicable. (Section 3.2.4 – Instructions to Consultants)
116	How are travel, security, insurance, and related costs treated under call-offs?	Travel, security and insurance costs in Ukraine Please clarify how travel, security, accommodation, insurance, evacuation support, and other costs associated with operating in Ukraine will be treated under call-offs. In particular, please confirm whether such costs will be reimbursable in addition to daily remuneration rates where required for safe and effective delivery.	The treatment of such costs is governed by the RfP and General Terms and Conditions. Reasonable assignment-related costs may be reimbursed in addition to daily rates, where agreed and defined at the call-off stage. (Section 2.10 – Financial Proposal, and Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions)
117	Can assignments be delivered remotely, hybrid, or in-country depending on conditions?	Remote, hybrid and in-country delivery Please confirm whether Nefco anticipates that call-offs may be delivered through a combination of remote, hybrid and in-country support, depending on the nature of the assignment, municipal location and prevailing security conditions.	See answer to Question #

118	How is liability defined, and how are delays beyond the consultant's control treated?	<p>Liability and liquidated damages Please clarify how "material breach" will be interpreted for the purpose of exceptions to the liability cap. In our experience, material delays can be caused by end beneficiary (in this case municipalities) delays. Please outline how delays beyond the consultant's control will be treated with regards to liquidated damages.</p>	<p>The interpretation and application of liability, including liquidated damages, are governed by the General Terms and Conditions. (Annex 1 – General Terms and Conditions, including Sections 8 and 9)</p>
119	Is workload information required at firm level only, or also for individual experts?	<p>Current workload information Section 2.9.1 requests information on the consultant's current workload in relevant areas. Can we assume this should be provided at firm level only, as opposed to each proposed Key Expert?</p>	<p>Yes. The requirement under Section 2.9.1 relates to workload information at the level of the Consultant. (Section 2.9.1 – Instructions to Consultants)</p>