RFP No.: 64/12/2023/PPIC/2023-ISA

Country: India Issued on: 01/12/2023

Request For Proposal

For Development of Standard Methodology and Guidelines for Solar Batteries
Recycling in ISA Member Countries



International Solar Alliance (ISA) Secretariat, Surya Bhawan, NISE Campus, Gwal Pahari, Gurugram, Haryana – 122003, India Website: www.isolaralliance.org

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Section 1. Letter of Invitation

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) hereby invites you to submit a Proposal to this Request for Proposal (RFP) for the above-referenced subject.

This RFP includes the following documents and the General Terms and Conditions of Contract which is inserted in the Bid Data Sheet (BDS):

- Section 1: This Letter of Invitation
- Section 2: Instruction to Bidders
- Section 3: Bid Data Sheet (BDS)
- Section 4: Evaluation Criteria
- Section 5: Terms of Reference
- Section 6: Returnable Bidding Forms
- Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
- Form B: Bidder Information Form
- Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information Form (Not Applicable)
- Form D: Qualification Form
- Form E: Format of Technical Proposal
- Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form
- Form G: Financial Proposal Form

If you are interested in submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, please prepare your Proposal in accordance with the requirements and procedure as set out in this RFP and submit it by the Deadline for Submission of Proposals set out in Bid Data Sheet.

Please acknowledge receipt of this RFP by sending an email to procurement@isolaralliance.org, indicating whether you intend to submit a Proposal or otherwise. You may send the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files separately. The financial proposal shall be encrypted with password and clearly labelled. Any Amendments to the RFP will be notified on ISA Website. Should you require further clarifications, kindly communicate with the contact person/s identified in the attached Bid Data Sheet as the focal point for queries on this RFP.

ISA looks forward to receiving your Proposal and thank you in advance for your interest in ISA procurement opportunities.

Issued by: Vishal Pratap

Name:

Title: Procurement Unit Date: December 1, 2023

Section 2. Instruction to Bidders

GENERAL PROVISIONS		
1. Introduction	1.1	Bidders shall adhere to all the requirements of this RFP, including any amendments in Writing by ISA.
	1.2	Any Proposal submitted will be regarded as an offer by the Bidder and does not constitute or imply the acceptance of the Proposal by ISA. ISA is under no obligation to award a contract to any Bidder as a result of this RFP.
2. Fraud & Corruption, Gifts and Hospitality	2.1	ISA strictly enforces a policy of zero tolerance on proscribed practices, including fraud, corruption, collusion, unethical or unprofessional practices, and obstruction of ISA vendors and requires all bidders/vendors observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement process and contract implementation.
	2.2	Bidders/vendors shall not offer gifts or hospitality of any kind to ISA staff members including recreational trips to sporting or cultural events, theme parks or offers of holidays, transportation, or invitations to extravagant lunches or dinners.
	2.3	 In pursuance of this policy, ISA (a) Shall reject a proposal if it determines that the selected bidder has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question; (b) Shall declare a vendor ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract if at any time it determines that the vendor has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for, or in executing a ISA contract.
	2.4	All Bidders must adhere to the ISA Supplier Code of Conduct, which may be found at <u>https://isolaralliance.org/images/ISA%20Supplier%20Code%20of%20Con</u> <u>duct_14.4.2023.final%20version.pdf</u>
3. Eligibility	3.1	A vendor should not be suspended, debarred, or otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization. Vendors are therefore required to disclose to ISA whether they are subject to any sanction or temporary suspension imposed by these organizations.
	3.2	It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure that its employees, joint venture members, sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/or their employees meet the eligibility requirements as established by ISA.
4. Conflict of Interests	4.1	Bidders must strictly avoid conflicts with other assignments or their own interests, and act without consideration for future work. Bidders found to have a conflict of interest shall be disqualified. Without limitation on the generality of the above, Bidders, and any of their affiliates, shall be considered to have a conflict of interest with one or more parties in this

		solicitation process, if they:
	4.2	 a) Are or have been associated in the past, with a firm or any of its affiliates which have been engaged by ISA to provide services for the preparation of the design, specifications, Terms of Reference, cost analysis/estimation, and other documents to be used for the procurement of the goods and services in this selection process; b) Were involved in the preparation and/or design of the programme/project related to the services requested under this RFP; or c) Are found to be in conflict for any other reason, as may be established by, or at the discretion of ISA. In the event of any uncertainty in the interpretation of a potential conflict of interest, Bidders must disclose to ISA, and seek ISA' s confirmation on whether or not such a conflict exists. The ISA shall have the discretion to disqualify or proceed with a bidder where there is a probable conflict of interest subject to further evaluation and review of various factors such as access to sensitive information which may confer unfair advantage as against other bidders. The decision on a probable conflict of interest shall be made in the best interest of the work of the ISA.
	4.3	Similarly, the Bidders must disclose in their proposal their knowledge of the following:
		 a) If the owners, part-owners, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, of the bidding entity or key personnel are family members of ISA staff involved in the procurement functions and/or the Government of the country or any Implementing Partner receiving services under this RFP; and b) All other circumstances that could potentially lead to actual or perceived conflict of interest, collusion or unfair competition practices.
		Failure to disclose such an information may result in the rejection of the proposal or proposals affected by the non-disclosure.
	4.4	The eligibility of Bidders that are wholly or partly owned by the Government shall be subject to ISA's further evaluation and review of various factors such as being registered, operated and managed as an independent business entity, the extent of Government ownership/share, receipt of subsidies, mandate and access to information in relation to this RFP, among others. Conditions that may lead to undue advantage against other Bidders may result in the eventual rejection of the Proposal.
PREPARATION OF PROPO	SALS	
5. General Considerations	5.1	In preparing the Proposal, the Bidder is expected to examine the RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested in the RFP may result in rejection of the Proposal.
	5.2	The Bidder will not be permitted to take advantage of any errors or omissions in the RFP. Should such errors or omissions be discovered, the Bidder must notify the ISA

6. Cost of Preparation of Proposal	The Bidder shall bear any and all costs relat submission of the Proposal, regardless of whe or not. ISA shall not be responsible or liable the conduct or outcome of the procurement	ether its Proposal was selected for those costs, regardless of
7. Language	The Proposal, as well as any and all related on the Bidder and ISA, shall be Written in the land	
8. Documents Comprising the Proposal	 The Proposal shall comprise of the following c) Documents Establishing the Eligibility and d) Technical Proposal; e) Financial Proposal; f) Proposal Security, if required by BDS; g) Any attachments and/or appendices to t 	d Qualifications of the Bidder;
9. Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder	The Bidder shall furnish documentary evider and qualified vendor, using the Forms providing documents required in those forms to a Bidder, its qualifications must be docum	ovided under Section 6 and s. In order to award a contract
10.Technical Proposal Format and Content	I The Bidder is required to submit a Technica Forms and templates provided in Section 6 o	
	2 The Technical Proposal shall not include any A Technical Proposal containing material f declared non-responsive.	-
	3 Samples of items, when required as per Sect the time specified and unless otherwise speci to ISA	-
	⁴ When applicable and required as per Sectio the necessary training programme availab operation of the services and/or equipment the ISA. Unless otherwise specified, such materials shall be provided in the language BDS.	le for the maintenance and offered as well as the cost to training as well as training
11. Financial Proposals	I The Financial Proposal shall be prepared usin in Section 6 of the RFP. It shall list all major with the services, and the detailed breakdow	r cost components associated
	2 Any output and activities described in the Tec in the Financial Proposal, shall be assumed t other activities or items, as well as in the fina	to be included in the prices of
	Prices and other financial information must place except in the financial proposal.	not be disclosed in any other

12. Proposal Security	12.1 A Proposal Security, if required by BDS, shall be provided in the amount and form indicated in the BDS. The Proposal Security shall be valid up to thirty (30) days after the final date of validity of the Proposal.
	12.2 The Proposal Security shall be included along with the Technical Proposal. If Proposal Security is required by the RFP but is not found along with the Technical Proposal, the Proposal shall be rejected.
	12.3 If the Proposal Security amount or its validity period is found to be less than what is required by ISA, ISA shall reject the Proposal.
	12.4 In the event an electronic submission is allowed in the BDS, Bidders shall include a copy of the Bid Security in their proposal and the original of the Proposal Security must be sent via courier or hand delivery as per the instructions in BDS.
	12.5 The Proposal Security may be forfeited by ISA, and the Proposal rejected, in the event of any one or combination, of the following conditions:
	 a) If the Bidder withdraws its offer during the period of the Proposal Validity specified in the BDS, or; b) In the event that the successful Bidder fails: i. to sign the Contract after ISA has issued an award; or ii. to furnish the Performance Security, insurances, or other documents that ISA may require as a condition precedent to the effectivity of the contract that may be awarded to the Bidder.
13. Currencies	13.1 All prices shall be quoted in the currency or currencies indicated in the BDS.Where Proposals are quoted in different currencies, for the purposes of comparison of all Proposals:
	 a) ISA will convert the currency quoted in the Proposal into the ISA preferred currency, in accordance with the prevailing UN operational rate of exchange on the last day of submission of Proposals; and
	b) In the event that ISA selects a proposal for award that is quoted in a currency different from the preferred currency in the BDS, ISA shall reserve the right to award the contract in the currency of ISA's preference, using the conversion method specified above.
14. Joint Venture, Consortium or Association	14.1 If the Bidder is a group of legal entities that will form or have formed a Joint Venture (JV), Consortium or Association for the Proposal, they shall confirm in their Proposal that : (i) they have designated one party to act as a lead entity, duly vested with authority to legally bind the members of the JV, Consortium or Association jointly and severally, which shall be
	evidenced by a duly notarized Agreement among the legal entities, and submitted with the Proposal; and (ii) if they are awarded the contract, the contract shall be entered into, by and between ISA and the designated lead entity, who shall be acting for and on behalf of all the member entities comprising the joint venture.

	represent the JV, Consortium or Association shall not be altered without the prior written consent of ISA.
	14.3 The lead entity and the member entities of the JV, Consortium or Association shall abide by the provisions of Clause 15 herein in respect of submitting only one proposal.
	14.4 The description of the organization of the JV, Consortium or Association must clearly define the expected role of each of the entity in the joint venture in delivering the requirements of the RFP, both in the Proposal and the JV, Consortium or Association Agreement. All entities that comprise the JV, Consortium or Association shall be subject to the eligibility and qualification assessment by ISA.
	14.5 A JV, Consortium or Association in presenting its track record and experience should clearly differentiate between:
	 a) Those that were undertaken together by the JV, Consortium or Association; and
	 b) Those that were undertaken by the individual entities of the JV, Consortium or Association.
	14.6 Previous contracts completed by individual experts working privately but who are permanently or were temporarily associated with any of the member firms cannot be claimed as the experience of the JV, Consortium or Association or those of its members, but should only be claimed by the individual experts themselves in their presentation of their individual credentials.
	JV, Consortium or Associations are encouraged for high value, multi-sectoral requirements when the spectrum of expertise and resources required may not be available within one firm.
15.Only One Proposal	15.1 The Bidder (including the individual members of any Joint Venture) shall submit only one Proposal, either in its own name or as part of a Joint Venture.
	 15.2 Proposals submitted by two (2) or more Bidders shall all be rejected if they are found to have any of the following: h) they have at least one controlling partner, director or shareholder in common; or i) any one of them receive or have received any direct or indirect subsidy from the other/s; or j) they have the same legal representative for purposes of this RFP; or k) they have a relationship with each other, directly or through common third parties, that puts them in a position to have access to information about, or influence on the Proposal of, another Bidder regarding this RFP process;

	 I) they are subcontractors to each other's Proposal, or a subcontractor to one Proposal also submits another Proposal under its name as lead Bidder; or m) some key personnel proposed to be in the team of one Bidder participates in more than one Proposal received for this RFP process. This condition relating to the personnel, does not apply to subcontractors being included in more than one Proposal.
16.Proposal Validity Period	16.1 Proposals shall remain valid for the period specified in the BDS, commencing on the Deadline for Submission of Proposals. A Proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by ISA and rendered non-responsive.
	16.2 During the Proposal validity period, the Bidder shall maintain its original Proposal without any change, including the availability of the Key Personnel, the proposed rates and the total price.
17.Extension of Proposal Validity Period	17.1 In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the proposal validity period, ISA may request Bidders to extend the period of validity of their Proposals. The request and the responses shall be made in writing, and shall be considered integral to the Proposal.
	17.2 If the Bidder agrees to extend the validity of its Proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original Proposal.
	17.3 The Bidder has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its Proposal, and in which case, such Proposal will not be further evaluated.
18.Clarification of Proposal	18.1 Bidders may request clarifications on any of the RFP documents no later than the date indicated in the BDS. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing in the manner indicated in the BDS. If inquiries are sent other than specified channel, even if they are sent to an ISA staff member, ISA shall have no obligation to respond or confirm that the query was officially received.
	18.2 ISA will provide the responses to clarifications through the method specified in the BDS.
	18.3 ISA shall endeavor to provide responses to clarifications in an expeditious manner, but any delay in such response shall not cause an obligation on the part of ISA to extend the submission date of the Proposals, unless ISA deems that such an extension is justified and necessary.
19. Amendment of Proposals	19.1 At any time prior to the deadline of Proposal submission, ISA may for any reason, such as in response to a clarification requested by a Bidder, modify the RFP in the form of an amendment to the RFP. Amendments will be made available to all prospective bidders.
	19.2 If the amendment is substantial, ISA may extend the Deadline for submission of proposal to give the Bidders reasonable time to incorporate the amendment into their Proposals.

20. Alternative Proposals		Unless otherwise specified in the BDS, alternative proposals shall not be considered. If submission of alternative proposal is allowed by BDS, a Bidder may submit an alternative proposal, but only if it also submits a proposal conforming to the RFP requirements. ISA shall only consider the alternative proposal offered by the Bidder whose conforming proposal ranked the highest as per the specified evaluation method. Where the conditions for its acceptance are met, or justifications are clearly established, ISA reserves the right to award a contract based on an alternative proposal. If multiple/alternative proposals are being submitted, they must be clearly
	20.2	marked as "Main Proposal" and "Alternative Proposal"
21.Pre-Bid Conference	21.1	When appropriate, a Bidder's conference will be conducted at the date, time and location specified in the BDS. All Bidders are encouraged to attend. Non-attendance, however, shall not result in disqualification of an interested Bidder. Minutes of the Bidder's conference will be sent to all the participants of the pre-bid conference. No verbal statement made during the conference shall modify the terms and conditions of the RFP, unless specifically incorporated in the Minutes of the Bidder's Conference or issued/posted as an amendment to RFP.
SUBMISSION AND OPEN	ING OF	PROPOSALS
22.Submission	22.1	The Bidder shall submit a duly signed and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with the requirements in the BDS. The submission shall be in the manner specified in the BDS.
	22.2	The Proposal shall be signed by the Bidder or person(s) duly authorized to commit the Bidder. The authorization shall be communicated through a document evidencing such authorization issued by the legal representative of the bidding entity, or a Power of Attorney, accompanying the Proposal.
	22.3	Bidders must be aware that the mere act of submission of a Proposal, in and of itself, implies that the Bidder fully accepts the ISA General Contract Terms and Conditions. <u>https://www.isolaralliance.org/images/ISA_GTB.pdf</u>
Email Submission	22.4	Email submission, if allowed or specified in the BDS, shall be governed as follows:
		 a) Electronic files that form part of the proposal must be in accordance with the format and requirements indicated in BDS;
		b) The Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files MUST BE COMPLETELY SEPARATE. The financial proposal shall be encrypted with password and clearly labelled. The files must be sent to the dedicated email address specified in the BDS.
		c) The password for opening the Financial Proposal should be provided only upon request of ISA. ISA will request password only from bidders whose Technical Proposal has been found to be technically responsive.

	Failure to provide correct password may result in the proposal being rejected.
23.Deadline for Submission of Proposals and Late	23.1 Complete Proposals must be received by ISA in the manner, and no later than the date and time, specified in the BDS. ISA shall only recognize the date and time that the bid was received by ISA
Proposals	23.2 ISA shall not consider any Proposal that is submitted after the deadline for the submission of Proposals.
24.Withdrawal, Substitution, and	24.1 A Bidder may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal after it has been submitted at any time prior to the deadline for submission.
Modification of Proposals	24.2 Manual and Email submissions: A bidder may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal by sending a written notice to ISA, duly signed by an authorized representative, and shall include a copy of the authorization (or a Power of Attorney). The corresponding substitution or modification of the Proposal, if any, must accompany the respective written notice. All notices must be submitted in the same manner as specified for submission of proposals, by clearly marking them as "WITHDRAWAL" "SUBSTITUTION," or "MODIFICATION"
	24.3 Proposals requested to be withdrawn shall be returned unopened to the Bidders, only for manual submissions. For online submissions, bids will be disregarded by ISA.
25.Proposal Opening	25.1 There is no public bid opening for RFPs. ISA shall open the Proposals in the presence of an ad-hoc committee formed by ISA, consisting of at least two (2) members.
EVALUATION OF PROPOS	SALS
26.Confidentiality	26.1 Information relating to the examination, evaluation, and comparison of Proposals, and the recommendation of contract award, shall not be disclosed to Bidders or any other persons not officially concerned with such process, even after publication of the contract award.
	26.2 Any effort by a Bidder or anyone on behalf of the Bidder to influence ISA in the examination, evaluation and comparison of the Proposals or contract award decisions may, at ISA's decision, result in the rejection of its Proposal and may be subject to the application of prevailing ISA vendor sanctions procedures.
27.Evaluation of Proposals	27.1 The Bidder is not permitted to alter or modify its Proposal in any way after the proposal submission deadline except as permitted under Clause 24 of this RFP. ISA will conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.
	 27.2 Evaluation of proposals is made of the following steps: n) Preliminary Examination o) Minimum Eligibility and Qualification (if pre-qualification is not done) p) Evaluation of Technical Proposals

	q) Evaluation of Financial Proposals
28.Preliminary Examination	28.1 ISA shall examine the Proposals to determine whether they are complete with respect to minimum documentary requirements, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the Proposals are generally in order, among other indicators that may be used at this stage. ISA reserves the right to reject any Proposal at this stage.
29.Evaluation of Eligibility and Qualification	B. Eligibility and Qualification of the Bidder will be evaluated against the Minimum Eligibility/Qualification requirements specified in the Section 4 (Evaluation Criteria).
	 C. In general terms, vendors that meet the following criteria may be considered qualified: i. They are not included in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 Committee's list of terrorists and terrorist financiers. ii. They have a good financial standing and have access to adequate financial resources to perform the contract and all existing commercial commitments, iii. They have the necessary similar experience, technical expertise, production capacity where applicable, quality certifications, quality assurance procedures and other resources applicable to the provision of the services required; iv. They are able to comply fully with ISA General Terms and Conditions of Contract; v. They do not have a consistent history of court/arbitral award decisions against the Bidder; and vi. They have a record of timely and satisfactory performance with their clients. vii. The consulting firm should provide credentials, through adequate references or documentation, their current local presence in the ISA focus regions. Past experience of working with ISA and/or with
30.Evaluation of Technical and Financial Proposals	 multilateral/international organizations will be an added advantage. 30.1 The evaluation team shall review and evaluate the Technical Proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and other RFP documents, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system specified in the Section 4 (Evaluation Criteria). A Proposal shall be rendered non-responsive at the technical evaluation stage if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the BDS. When necessary and if stated in the BDS, ISA may invite technically responsive bidders for a presentation related to their technical proposals. The conditions for the presentation shall be provided in the bid document where required. 30.2 In the second stage, only the Financial Proposals of those Bidders who achieve the minimum technical score will be opened for evaluation. The Financial Proposals corresponding to Technical Proposals that were rendered non-responsive shall remain unopened, and, in the case of manual submission, be returned to the Bidder unopened. For emailed

	Proposals submissions, ISA will not request for the password of the Financial Proposals of bidders whose Technical Proposal were found not responsive.
	30.3 The evaluation method that applies for this RFP shall be as indicated in the BDS, which may be either of two (2) possible methods, as follows: (a) the lowest priced method which selects the lowest evaluated financial proposal of the technically responsive Bidders; or (b) the combined scoring method which will be based on a combination of the technical and financial score.
	30.4 When the BDS specifies a combined scoring method, the formula for the rating of the Proposals will be as follows:
	Rating the Technical Proposal (TP):
	TP Rating = (Total Score Obtained by the Offer / Max. Obtainable Score for TP) x 100
	Rating the Financial Proposal (FP):
	FP Rating = (Lowest Priced Offer / Price of the Offer Being Reviewed) x 100
	Total Combined Score:
	Combined Score = (TP Rating) x (Weight of TP, e.g. 70%/100) + (FP Rating) x
	(Weight of FP, e.g., 30%/100)
31. Due Diligence	31.1 ISA reserves the right to undertake a due diligence exercise, also called post qualification, aimed at determining to its satisfaction, the validity of the information provided by the Bidder. Such exercise shall be fully documented and may include, but need not be limited to, all or any combination of the following:
	a) Verification of accuracy, correctness and authenticity of information provided by the Bidder;b) Validation of extent of compliance to the RFP requirements and evaluation criteria based on what has so far been found by the evaluation team;
	c) Inquiry and reference checking with Government entities with jurisdiction on the Bidder, or with previous clients, or any other entity that may have done business with the Bidder;
	 Inquiry and reference checking with previous clients on the performance on on-going or contracts completed, including physical
	inspections of previous works, as necessary;

		where business transpires, with or without notice to the Bidder;f) Other means that ISA may deem appropriate, at any stage within the selection process, prior to awarding the contract.
32.Clarification of Proposals	32.1	To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of Proposals, ISA may, at its discretion, ask any Bidder for a clarification of its Proposal.
	32.2	ISA's request for clarification and the response shall be in writing and no change in the prices or substance of the Proposal shall be sought, offered, or permitted, except to provide clarification, and confirm the correction of any arithmetic errors discovered by ISA in the evaluation of the Proposals, in accordance with RFP.
	32.3	Any unsolicited clarification submitted by a Bidder in respect to its Proposal, which is not a response to a request by ISA, shall not be considered during the review and evaluation of the Proposals.
33.Responsiveness of Proposal	33.1	ISA's determination of a Proposal's responsiveness will be based on the contents of the Proposal itself. A substantially responsive Proposal is one that conforms to all the terms, conditions, TOR and other requirements of the RFP without material deviation, reservation, or omission.
	33.2	If a Proposal is not substantially responsive, it shall be rejected by ISA and may not subsequently be made responsive by the Bidder by correction of the material deviation, reservation, or omission.
34. Nonconformities, Reparable Errors and Omissions	34.1	Provided that a Proposal is substantially responsive, ISA may waive any non-conformities or omissions in the Proposal that, in the opinion of ISA, do not constitute a material deviation.
	34.2	ISA may request the Bidder to submit the necessary information or documentation, within a reasonable period of time, to rectify nonmaterial nonconformities or omissions in the Proposal related to documentation requirements. Such omission shall not be related to any aspect of the price of the Proposal. Failure of the Bidder to comply with the request may result in the rejection of its Proposal.
	34.3	For Financial Proposal that has been opened, ISA shall check and correct arithmetical errors as follows:
		 a) if there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the line item total that is obtained by multiplying the unit price by the quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the line item total shall be corrected, unless in the opinion of ISA there is an obvious misplacement of the decimal point in the unit price; in which case the line item total as quoted shall govern and the unit price shall be corrected;
		b) if there is an error in a total corresponding to the addition or subtraction of subtotals, the subtotals shall prevail, and the total shall be corrected; and
		c) if there is a discrepancy between words and figures, the amount in words shall prevail, unless the amount expressed in words is related

	to an arithmetic error, in which case the amount in figures s prevail.	hall
	34.4 If the Bidder does not accept the correction of errors made by ISA, Proposal shall be rejected.	its
D. AWARD OF CONT	ACT	
35.Right to Accept, Reject, Any or All Proposals	35.1 ISA reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, to render any of of the Proposals as non-responsive, and to reject all Proposals at any ti prior to award of contract, without incurring any liability, or obligation inform the affected Bidder(s) of the grounds for ISA's action. ISA shall be obliged to award the contract to the lowest priced offer.	ime n to
36.Award Criteria	36.1 Prior to expiration of the proposal validity, ISA shall award the contrac the qualified Bidder based on the award criteria indicated in the BDS.	t to
37.Right to Vary Requirements at the Time of Award	37.1 At the time of award of Contract, ISA reserves the right to vary the quan of services and/or goods, by up to a maximum twenty-five per cent (2) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms a conditions.	5%)
38.Contract Signature	38.1 Within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the Contract, successful Bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to Failure to do so may constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of award, and forfeiture of the Proposal Security, if any, and on which even ISA may award the Contract to the Second Ranked Bidder or call for r Proposals.	SA. the ent,
39.Performance Security	39.1 A performance security, if required in BDS, shall be provided in the amo specified in BDS. Within fifteen (15) days of the contract signature by b parties. Where a performance security is required, the receipt of performance security by ISA shall be a condition for rendering the contra effective.	oth the
40.Bank Guarantee for Advanced Payment	40.1 Except when the interests of ISA so require, it is ISA's preference to m no advance payment(s) (i.e., payments without having received outputs). If an advance payment is allowed as per BDS, and exceeds 209 the total contract price, or USD 30,000, whichever is less, the Bidder s submit a Bank Guarantee in the full amount of the advance payment.	any 6 of
41. Liquidated Damages	1.1 If specified in BDS, ISA shall apply Liquidated Damages resulting from th Contractor's delays or breach of its obligations as per the Contract.	ne
42.Payment Provisions	42.1 Payment will be made only upon ISA's acceptance of the work perform The terms of payment shall be within thirty (30) days, after receipt of invoice and certification of acceptance of work issued by the proper authority in ISA with direct supervision of the Contractor. Payment will affected by bank transfer in the currency of contract.	

43.Other Provisions	 43.1 ISA may withdraw the RFP at any time by providing written notice to the bidder in any case in which the mandate of ISA applicable to the performance of the Contract or the funding of ISA applicable to the RFP is curtailed or terminated, whether in whole or in part. 43.2. The ISA is striving to achieve gender parity in all its activities. In this regard, female-owned organizations and/or teams with significant gender diversity are 	
	strongly encouraged to submit a proposal.43.3. The ISA recognizes the importance of valuing diversity and promoting	
	inclusion in all our work programs and partnerships. The ISA strives to engage with organizations and/or teams that reflect its geographical representation and diversity.	

Section 3. Bid Data Sheet

The following data for the services to be procured shall complement, supplement, or amend the provisions in the Request for Proposals. In the case of a conflict between the Instructions to Bidders, the Data Sheet, and other annexes or references attached to the Data Sheet, the provisions in the Data Sheet shall prevail.

BDS No.	Ref. to Section.2	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements	
1	7	Language of the Proposal	English	
2		Submitting Proposals for Parts or sub-parts of the TOR (partial bids)	Not Allowed	
3	20	Alternative Proposals	Shall not be considered	
4	21	Pre-proposal conference	May be scheduled on demand	
5	10	Proposal Validity Period	90 days	
6	14	Bid Security	NIL	
7	41	Advanced Payment upon signing of contract	Not Allowed	
8	42	Liquidated Damages	 Will be imposed as follows: Provide details below if "Will be Imposed" is selected, otherwise delete the below 0.1% of contract price per day of delay Max. number of days of delay 15, (1.5% of contract amount) after which ISA may terminate the contract. 	
9	40	Performance Security	Not Required	
10	18	Currency of Proposal	USD	
11	31	Deadline for submitting requests for clarifications/ questions	5 days before the submission deadline	

12	31	Contact Details for submitting clarifications/questions	Focal Person in ISA: Procurement Unit E-mail: <u>procurement@isolaralliance.org</u> and CC to Mr. Nar Bahadur Khatiwora <u>nkhatiwora@isolaralliance.org</u> Address: International Solar Alliance, 3rd Floor, Surya Bhawan, NISE Campus, Gwal Pahari, Gurugram, Haryana - 122003, India
13	18, 19 and 21	Manner of Disseminating Supplemental Information to the RFP and responses/clarifications to queries	Direct communication to prospective Proposers by email <u>E-mail: procurement@isolaralliance.org</u> and CC to Mr. Nar Bahadur Khatiwora <u>nkhatiwora@isolaralliance.org</u>
14	23	Deadline for Submission	December 22, 2023 - 7.00 PM (Indian Standard Time)
14	22	Allowable Manner of Submitting Proposals	□ Submission by email
15	22	Proposal Submission Address	E-mail: procurement@isolaralliance.org
16	22	Electronic submission (email) requirements	 Format: PDF files only File names must be maximum 60 characters long and must not contain any letter or special character other than from Latin alphabet/keyboard. All files must be free of viruses and not corrupted. Password for financial proposal <u>must</u> not be provided to ISA until requested by ISA Max. File Size per transmission: 5 MB
17	27 36	Evaluation Method for the Award of Contract	Combined Scoring Method, using the 70%-30% distribution for technical and financial proposals respectively The minimum technical score required to pass is 60%.
18		Expected date for commencement of Contract	January, 2024
19		Maximum expected duration of contract	The Project deliverables are expected to be completed within 26 weeks, from the commencement of the contract.

20	35	ISA will award the contract to:	One Proposer only
21	39	Type of Contract	Services contract
22		Other Information Related to the RFP	[All other instructions and information not yet mentioned so far in this Data Sheet but are relevant to the RFP must be cited here, and any further entries that may be added below this table row]

Section 4. Evaluation Criteria

Preliminary Examination Criteria

Proposals will be examined to determine whether they are complete and submitted in accordance with RFP requirements as per below criteria on a Yes/No basis:

- Appropriate signatures
- Power of Attorney
- Minimum documents provided
- Technical and Financial Proposals submitted separately
- Bid Validity
- Bid Security submitted as per RFP requirements with compliant validity period

Minimum Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

Eligibility and Qualification will be evaluated on Pass/Fail basis.

Subject	Criteria	Document Submission requirement
ELIGIBILITY		
Legal Status	A bidder is a legally registered entity/firm with not less than 12 years in service. JV/Consortium is allowed under this contract, but sub-contracting is not allowed.	Form B: Bidder Information Form
Eligibility	Bidder is not suspended, nor debarred, nor otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization, ADB or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization in accordance with ITB clause 3.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
Conflict of Interest	No conflicts of interest in accordance with clause 4.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
Bankruptcy	Not declared bankruptcy, not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against the Bidder that could impair its operations in the foreseeable future.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
QUALIFICATION		
History of Non- Performing Contracts ¹	Non-performance of a contract did not occur as a result of contractor default for the last 3 years.	Form D: Qualification Form

¹ Non-performance, as decided by ISA, shall include all contracts where (a) non-performance was not challenged by the contractor, including through referral to the dispute resolution mechanism under the respective contract, and (b) contracts that were so challenged but fully settled against the contractor. Non-performance shall not include contracts where Employers decision was

Litigation History		sistent history of court/arbitral award d for the last 3 years.	ecisions against the	Form D: Qualification Form
Previous Experience	SI. No.	Criteria	Documents required	Form D: Qualification
	1.	Minimum 12 years' experience in e- waste and battery waste management or handling hazardous waste material	Provide Copies of work orders and a summary of the work.	Form (Previous Relevant Experience)
	2.	At least 10 projects completed in waste management, with a focus on policy and regulatory study of developing and least developed countries, out of which at least three (3) projects completed in the battery waste assessment, environmental regulations or recycling and value chain analysis of solar batteries.	(Work order or details of the assignment)	
	3.	At least three (3) assignments completed on the preparation of battery waste management guidelines and standards or comparatively similar assignment for solar batteries	(Work order or details of the assignment)	
Financial Standing	Minimu 3 years	um average annual turnover of US\$ Fifty	Thousand for the last	Form D: Qualification Form
		must demonstrate the current soundne og and indicate its prospective long-term		Form D: Qualification Form

Technical Proposals of Bidders who pass the minimum eligibility criteria will be evaluated.

overruled by the dispute resolution mechanism. Non-performance must be based on all information on fully settled disputes or litigation, i.e. dispute or litigation that has been resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution mechanism under the respective contract and where all appeal instances available to the Bidder have been exhausted.

Technical and Financial Evaluation Criteria

Summ	ary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms	Points Obtainable
1.	Bidder's qualification, capacity and experienceAt least 10 projects completed in waste management, with a focus on	200
	 Policy and regulatory study of developing and least developed countries, out of which at least three (3) projects completed in the battery waste assessment, environmental regulations or recycling and value chain analysis of solar batteries (100) Experience in conducting battery waste recycling, development of 	
	 standards and guidelines for battery waste management and evidence of at least three (3) assignments completed on similar assignments (50) Experience working with a range of solar batteries and chemistry (50) 	
2.	Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan	500
3.	Management Structure and Qualification of Key Personnel*	300
	 The team leader Minimum Master's degree, PhD preferred on chemistry with focus on batteries A minimum of 12 years of experience in battery characterisation, battery waste analysis, climate change policies, regulations, and sustainable management, managing cross-functional teams with diverse skill sets and backgrounds 	
	 Chemical Engineer & Battery Expert Minimum graduate in chemical science or related streams. Minimum 7 years of work experience in the relevant field 	
	 Environmental Economist and Finance Expert Minimum Graduate in Engineering/Commerce/Economics/Finance/ Business o Master's in Economics or Finance, . Minimum 7 years of work experience in business development/ marketing 	
	 The Material Expert Bachelor's degree in Mechanical/Material engineering or related stream Minimum of 7 years of work experience in the field of material and mineral 	
	science.* The bidder can propose more personnel in addition to the above listed roles.	
	Total	1000

Sectio	n 1. Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience	Points obtainable
1.1	1 References of similar projects undertaken by the organisation over the last twelve years	
1.2	General Organizational Capability which is likely to affect implementation: management structure, financial stability and project financing capacity, project management controls, the extent to which any work would be subcontracted	50
1.3	Experience in similar engagements with UN agencies, Government agencies or Bilateral organisations.	50
	Total Section 1	200
Sectio	n 2. Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan	Points obtainable
2.1	Understanding of the requirement: Have the important aspects of the task been addressed in sufficient detail? Feedback and suggestions on the TOR	100
2.2	Description of the bidder's approach and methodology for meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Terms of Reference?	150
2.3	Virtual presentation ² to ISA on firms' experiences, team capability and the details on how the information from the countries shall be collected, controlled, consolidated, presented and delivered in user-friendly ways (invited at a suitable time)	150
2.4	Does the methodology substantially address the context of activities, interventions, capacity building and knowledge sharing for a better battery recycling ecosystem in a country?	50
2.5	Assessment of the implementation plan proposed, including whether the activities are properly sequenced and if these are logical and realistic.	50
	Total Section 2	500

Sectio	Section 3. Management Structure and Key Personnel			
3.1	.1 Composition and structure of the team proposed. Are the proposed roles of the management and the team of key personnel suitable for the provision of the necessary services?			
3.2	Qualifications of key personnel proposed	200		
3.2 a	3.2 a Team Leader			
	- General Experience			

 2 The selected bidders for the technical evaluation shall make a comprehensive presentation on a scheduled time, which will be communicated by the procurement team.

	- Specific Experience relevant to the assignment		
	- Regional/International experience		
	- Educational Qualification		
3.2 b	Team members		120
	- General Experience		
	- Specific Experience relevant to the assignment		
	- Regional/International experience		
	- Educational Qualification		
	Tota	al Section 3	300

Kindly provide against each point the reference page number where narration/proof of the response to the point is provided in the bid.

Section 5. Terms of Reference

1. Brief Background about the International Solar Alliance

International Solar Alliance is a global platform of 114 countries working towards increased deployment of solar energy technologies to improve energy access and energy security and facilitate the energy transition. To assist the alliance in their collective work, a Secretariat has been established in India, which supports Member Countries in developing low-carbon growth trajectories. ISA works on three strategic priority areas: 1) Policy & Capacity Building, 2) Programmatic Support, and 3) Analytics & Advocacy. It has established partnerships with multilateral development banks, development financial institutions, private and public sector organisations, civil society, and other international institutions to achieve its objectives.

2. Belief Context

Solar energy has been rapidly adopted worldwide and is being deployed at a scale due to a combination of factors, including conducive government policies and decreasing per-unit costs. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), the global installed capacity of solar photovoltaic (PV) is expected to exceed 1,600 Gigawatts (GW) by 2030. As solar energy is intermittent, the integration of battery storage is crucial for reliable power generation and supply globally. The Asia & Pacific Region, with the largest population, where still more than 900 million people, lack a reliable and modern electricity supply. However, the global shift towards renewable energy has also created a new challenge - the disposal of end-of-life solar waste. This includes not only end-of-life solar panels but also discarded solar batteries, including lithium-ion batteries, which are expected to contribute significantly to waste generation in the coming years.

Moreover, undercharging or overcharging lithium batteries used in solar energy systems can also lead to their malfunction and failure of parts or as a whole. If one part fails, the whole battery is usually thrown away — often with a lot of its potential life still left unused. In this regard, three main issues require addressing:

- i. Solar batteries, with most of their charging capacity remaining or without reaching end-of-year life, are being discarded rather than reused
- ii. The valuable materials that are used to make these batteries are being lost from the economy; and
- iii. When malfunctioning or end-of-life solar batteries are dumped in landfills or incinerated, these materials can leach into the soil and groundwater or release toxic fumes into the air, resulting in environmental damage as it contains hazardous materials

To address these three key issues, it is essential to handle and dispose of solar batteries, including lithium ion, used in solar energy systems properly through established guidelines and standard methodology for recycling and waste management. This will entertain minimal environmental impact and ensure the sustainable use of resources while promoting a clean energy transition that addresses climate change interventions at the same time.

Moreover, to tackle the bottleneck faced in battery waste management, ISA intends to create a standard

methodology and guidelines for solar battery recycling within its Program 8: PV Battery and Waste Management, which can be used by the member countries. This will involve conducting a comprehensive evaluation of Solar batteries, their usage and disposal system, first in the ISA member countries as part of its programmatic support and expanding to other regions in the future.

3. Objective

One of the current challenges in Solar batteries recycling is the lack of a standardised recycling process. The recycling process can vary depending on the type of battery, its size, and the materials used. This can make it difficult to ensure consistent quality and safety in the recycling process. Additionally, the cost of recycling Solar batteries can be high, which can make it less attractive for attracting private sector investments. There are also concerns about the safety of the recycling process, as lithium batteries can be flammable and potentially explosive if not handled properly.

The objective of this study is to develop a standard methodology and guidelines to improve and standardise the lithium-ion solar battery recycling process in the ISA member countries. Innovation, efficiency and effectiveness of the proposed recycling methodologies including economic and financial viability assessment, should be described in detail, which could help to address the lithium-ion battery waste management and increase the sustainability of the solar energy industry through a circular economic perspective.

The specific objectives are to:

- Conduct a detailed analysis of the current policies and regulatory framework related to Solar battery recycling being practised around the world and identify gaps as well as opportunities for improvement. This will help ensure that the standard methodology and guidelines developed for recycling solar batteries will align with the ISA member country's existing policies and regulatory frameworks.
- Develop a comprehensive and standardised methodology for solar battery recycling that considers the unique characteristics of solar batteries used in solar energy systems. This can help explore studying the technical aspects of solar battery recycling and identify best practices that can be implemented in the ISA member countries.
- Identify economic incentives and business models that could make solar battery recycling more
 economically feasible and attractive for businesses operating in the solar energy industry. This will
 involve exploring innovative financing models to encourage investment in Solar batteries recycling
 infrastructure and support the growth of a circular economy for solar batteries.
- Develop guidelines for the safe and environmentally responsible disposal of solar battery waste in the ISA member countries. This entails the Solar batteries waste management process by aligning with international best practices and minimising potential environmental and health hazards associated with Solar batteries waste.

4. Detail Scope of Work

A detailed scope of work is outlined below. However, during the kick-start/inception meeting with selected consultants/consultancy firms, a detailed discussion will be held. The final timeline and deliverable schedules will be agreed upon during the inception meeting, where the selected consultants/consultancy firm will develop and submit an inception report (Deliverable D0) on initial findings and a detailed methodology and timeline to execute the work as per the scope of work presented below and an outcome of the inception meeting.

4.1 Analysis of current policies and regulatory framework

To develop a standardised Solar battery recycling process, it is imperative to conduct a detailed analysis of the current policies and regulatory frameworks related to Solar battery recycling in the ISA member countries. This will involve reviewing existing policies and regulations related to battery recycling, waste management, and environmental protection in the region, as well as identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement.

Specific Tasks:

- Review global policies, regulations and standards related to solar battery recycling relevant in the context of the ISA member countries.
- Analyse policy & regulatory frameworks to identify gaps, challenges and opportunities for the development of Solar batteries recycling guidelines and methodology.
- Develop recommendations for standards and methodology for solar battery recycling to comply with policy and regulatory framework in the member countries of the ISA member countries.
- Recommendations for policy and regulatory frameworks that promote sustainable consumption and production and that support the circular economy principles.

Deliverables (D4.1):

- A Summary of policies and regulations along with analysis explaining their purpose, success and failures, followed around the world for solar battery recycling process
- Policy and regulatory framework recommendations to support the standardisation of Solar batteries recycling process methodology and guidelines.

4.2 Development of a standardised methodology for solar battery recycling

This section focuses on the development of a comprehensive and standardised methodology for Solar battery recycling that considers the unique characteristics of solar batteries used in solar energy systems. This will involve exploring the technical aspects of Solar battery recycling and identifying best practices that can be implemented in the ISA member countries.

Specific Tasks:

• Conduct a literature review to identify international best practices for Solar batteries recycling.

- Analyse the supply chain of Li-ion batteries to identify key stakeholders, their roles, and responsibilities in the recycling process
- Identify opportunities for collaboration and integration of the supply chain to optimise the recycling process
- Develop methods for the development and characterisation of value-added materials from spent solar batteries, including Li-ion batteries, analyse characteristics and properties to identify potential applications
- Accordingly, evaluate the technical aspects of Solar battery recycling and identify international best practices for standardisation in the ISA member countries for recycling of Solar batteries & recovery of value-added materials.
- Develop a comprehensive and standardised methodology for solar battery recycling that considers the unique characteristics of solar batteries used in solar energy systems.
- Validate the methodology with relevant stakeholders.

Deliverables (D 4.2):

• Comprehensive and standardised methodology for Solar battery recycling & recovery for implementation in the ISA member countries.

4.3 Identification of economic incentives and business models

Investigate economic incentives and business models that could make solar battery recycling more economically feasible and attractive for businesses operating in the solar energy industry. This will involve exploring innovative financing models to encourage investment in Solar battery recycling infrastructure and support the growth of a circular economy for solar batteries. Moreover, exploring innovative solutions and technologies for a circular economy of solar batteries is essential to analysing the feasibility and scalability of the solutions and technologies in the region. Accordingly, develop recommendations on how to incorporate innovative solutions and technologies in the recycling process.

Specific Tasks:

- Identify factors such as the drivers, enablers and barriers influencing the adoption of a circular economy for lithium-ion batteries (solar batteries)
- Conduct a techno-economic analysis for the feasibility and scalability of the solutions and technologies considering the efficiency & effectiveness of the end-of-life cycle for solar batteries recycling and waste management
- Identify innovative solutions, economic drivers and business models that could make Solar battery recycling more economically viable and attractive for businesses operating in the solar energy industry
- Develop and analyse economic models and financial incentives to encourage innovative investment and finance in Solar batteries recycling infrastructure and support the growth of a circular economy for solar batteries.
- Identify investment risks and develop mitigation measures for encouraging private sector investment
- Develop a design aspect of a generalised battery recycling infrastructure, systems and facility

Deliverables (D4.3):

• Develop innovative business models with recommendations on suitable financial instruments for risk mitigation to encourage investment in Solar batteries recycling infrastructure and support the growth of a circular economy for solar batteries in the ISA member countries.

4.4 **Development of guidelines for safe and environment friendly disposal**

The safe disposal of solar battery wastes is essential. In this regard, conduct an assessment of various technologies used and develop guidelines for the safe and environmentally responsible disposal of Solar battery waste in the ISA member countries. This will involve aligning with international best practices and minimising potential environmental and health hazards associated with Solar battery waste. Moreover, a report summarising the results of the research, including key drivers and barriers to behavioural change and recommendations for interventions aimed at promoting sustainable behaviours, can be taken into consideration.

Specific Tasks:

- Review existing guidelines if any, for the safe and environmentally responsible disposal of Solar batteries waste.
- Identify international best practices and develop suitable guidelines for the safe and environmentally friendly disposal of Solar battery waste.
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of the behaviour change interventions promoting decision-making of consumers and other stakeholders in relation to solar battery recycling in general and lithium-ion battery recycling and reuse in particular.
- Validate the standards and guidelines with relevant stakeholders.

Deliverables (D4.4):

• Develop standards and guidelines for the safe and environmentally friendly disposal of Solar battery waste for the ISA member countries. Develop communication strategies that resonate with different segments of the population, including social media campaigns, public awareness initiatives, and targeted information booklets for specific stakeholder groups.

Besides all of the above, it is expected that the consultant/consultancy firm will develop a mid-term report and final report in textual format with the findings and recommendations of the study, including but not limited to diagrams, charts and business models in Excel format. A separate executive summary of the study findings and a PowerPoint presentation (minimum text and a graphical form) is to be submitted at the time of submission of the final report to provide an overview of the study conducted and its key findings and recommendations.

5. **Qualifications and Experiences**

The organisation should be experienced in the field of sustainable energy/renewable characterisation, battery technology & recycling, policies and regulation, understanding of battery recycling process and strategic planning. Additionally, they should have a solid understanding of the technical and chemical aspects of solar batteries, as well as the economic, regulatory, and sustainability factors that come into play

in designing a framework for programme initiation.

The general experiences desired are as follows:

- Experience in conducting technical assessments, supply chain analyses, and material characterisations of battery technology, including solar batteries in general and lithium-ion batteries in particular.
- Expertise in evaluating the impact of behaviour change interventions related to solar PV and battery waste recycling and developing effective communication strategies for promoting sustainable practices.
- Demonstrated ability to engage and collaborate effectively with relevant stakeholders, including government bodies, industry players, and multilateral organisations, to ensure the success of solar battery recycling initiatives.
- Capability to identify, assess, and recommend innovative solutions and technologies relevant to solar battery recycling, with a strong emphasis on feasibility and scalability in the solar energy context.
- Expertise in identifying investment risks associated with solar battery recycling and developing robust mitigation measures to encourage private sector investment in recycling infrastructure.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to work collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders
- Strong problem-solving skills and ability to think creatively to find innovative solutions

5.1 Organisational Qualification

The specific experiences designed are as follows:

- At least 12 years of experience in e-waste and battery waste management or disposal of hazardous material
- At least five (5) projects completed in the battery waste assessment, policy, regulatory, and environmental impact or recycling and value chain analysis of solar batteries
- In-depth understanding of circular economy principles and the ability to design economic incentives and innovative business models to promote economically viable solar battery recycling.
- Strong background in developing guidelines for the safe and environmentally responsible disposal of solar battery waste, aligning with international best practices to minimise environmental and health hazards.

5.2 Team Composition

Team Leader

The team leader (climate change scientist) with a master's degree in climate change, preferably with climate change policies, regulatory frameworks, waste management and circular economy expertise (preferred PhD) with experience in project management, team coordination, and strategic planning. Additionally, they should have a solid understanding of the technical aspects of solar batteries, including lithium-ion battery recycling, as well as the economic, regulatory, and sustainability factors that come into play in developing circular economy solutions.

Key specific experiences desired for the team leader include:

- At least a minimum of 12 years of experience in climate change policies, regulations, and sustainable management, managing cross-functional teams with diverse skill sets and backgrounds
- Knowledge of the global market trends and end-to-end lithium-ion battery life cycle, from production to end-of-life management, including supply chain and demand drivers.
- Familiarity with industry standards and regulations for battery recycling and waste management
- Understanding of the economic and financial aspects of circular economy solutions, including costbenefit analysis, investment appraisal, and market analysis
- Familiarity with sustainability frameworks and standards, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals and ISO 14001.

Ultimately, the team leader should be able to bring together the expertise of the team members and guide the project towards the development of a comprehensive, feasible, and impactful standard methodology for lithium-ion solar battery recycling in the context of the circular economy.

Chemical Engineer & Battery Expert

The Chemical Engineer/Environmental Expert in battery material synthesis and characterisation for the assessment and development of standard methodology for recycling of solar batteries and circular economy, including environmental impact assessment. A few of the desired experiences are as follows:

- a minimum of bachelor degree in chemistry with a minimum of 7 years of work experience in the field of battery manufacturing/development/management
- Strong knowledge of battery chemistry and electrochemistry, including the principles of lithiumion batteries and their materials.
- Experience in battery material synthesis, including the development of new materials and the modification of existing ones.
- Understanding of the effects of battery performance on material properties and vice versa, including degradation mechanisms and failure modes.
- Familiarity with the regulatory and policy framework for battery recycling and waste management, including environmental impact assessment.
- Familiarity with sustainability frameworks and standards, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals and ISO 14001.

Environmental Economist and Financial Expert

The economic modelling and financial expert will be responsible for developing an economic and financial model that assesses the economic feasibility and financial viability of the proposed lithium-ion solar battery recycling investment solutions.

The ideal experiences desired are

- At least a master's degree (MBA) or an advanced university degree with at least a minimum of 5 years of work experience in economic and financial analysis, including cost-benefit analysis, investment appraisal, and financial modelling
- Familiarity with circular economy principles, including sustainable production and consumption, product design for circularity, and waste management

- Understanding of the regulatory and policy framework for battery recycling and waste management, including the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) principle.
- Knowledge of the global battery market and trends, including pricing, supply chain, and demand drivers
- Familiarity with sustainability frameworks and standards, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals and ISO 14001

Material/Mineral Expert

The Expert will be responsible for designing the standards and methodology for and implementing the recycling process for solar batteries in general and lithium-ion batteries in particular, taking into consideration the chemical and physical properties of the materials, the efficiency and effectiveness of the recycling process, and the economic feasibility of the process. They will need to have a deep understanding of the principles of materials processing, separation, and recycling and how these principles apply to solar batteries in general and lithium-ion batteries in particular. By leveraging their expertise in materials engineering and minerals, the Expert will help the team to optimise the recycling process and ensure that the process is optimised for circular economy principles.

A few of the key experiences envisaged are:

- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical/Material engineering or related stream with at least 7 years of work experience
- Strong knowledge of mechanical and materials engineering principles, including the principles of materials processing, separation, and recycling.
- Experience in designing and implementing recycling processes for complex materials, such as metals, plastics, and electronic waste.
- Familiarity with the principles of circular economy and sustainable materials management.
- Understanding of the regulatory and policy framework for battery recycling and waste management.
- Familiarity with the principles of automation, robotics, and process control.

6. Bid Proposal inclusions

A detailed proposal is required for submission, which shall include a comprehensive approach and methodology on how it will be executed, but not limited to the scope and deliverables outlined in section 4. The evaluation of the successful consultant will be based on the quality and standard of the proposal submitted, along with meeting the qualifications and experiences for carrying out similar assignments. The proposal should include two sections as follows:

Section I: Compliance Statement Including a Detailed Methodology and Approach

It is required to submit a compliance statement, including a detailed methodology on how the task will be carried out. It should provide a brief introduction and a general understanding of the terms of reference. This can include a brief introduction of the assignment along with a brief history of similar assignments completed and how it can be aligned with the objective of the assignment.

The methodology requires elaboration detailing the approach that will be taken to complete the project. This could include the steps involved, tools and resources that will be required, and any unique aspects of the proposed approach. It's essential to be clear and concise in this section to give the evaluators a thorough understanding of the proposed methodology and a consultant's approach in terms of bringing out a comprehensive Standard Methodology and Guidelines for Solar battery recycling in general and Lithium-ion Battery in particular.

The detailed methodology and approach should consist of but not limited to the following:

- A brief introduction and compliance with the basic qualification requirements
- Must provide details of experience in conducting similar assessments and developing similar reports
- Bidder's understanding on the scope of work
- Detailed approach and methodology you propose to adopt
- Timeline and deliverables

Section II: Highlights of Experiences Carrying out Similar Assignments

The second section should focus on the qualifications and experiences of working on similar assignments. This includes their education, experience, and skills, as well as any relevant certifications or accomplishments. It's important to highlight how these qualifications specifically relate to the assignment's scope and the best fit for the job.

Team composition must have brief CVs of the following individuals. (PhD preferred for the team leader). The experts specialising in circular economy and the end-of-life cycle of batteries in general and solar batteries in particular, including policy and regulatory analysis, will be given preference. The CVs of the following key personnel should be included:

- Team leader (Policy Expert) having solar industry experience
- Environmental Economist and Financial Expert
- Chemical Engineer & Battery Expert
- Material/Mineral Expert

7. <u>Schedule/ Timelines:</u>

The work is to be completed in the timeframe of 26 weeks.

8. Payment Schedule and Deliverables

The payment schedule shall be as follows:

	Deliverables	Timelines	Release of payment
1	Advance		10%
2	Kick-off meeting & Inception report	0 – 2 Weeks	10%
	Assessment of policy and regulatory framework	2 – 7 Weeks	
3	A comprehensive standardised methodology for Solar battery recycling & recovery	7 – 10 Weeks	20%
	Innovative business models, financing instruments and risk	10 – 14 Weeks	

	mitigation measures		
	Standards and guidelines for the safe and environmentally friendly disposal of Solar battery waste	14 – 16 Weeks	
	Draft Final Report	16 – 20 Weeks	30%
4	Stakeholder Consultation Workshop and Webinar	20 – 23 Week	
5	Incorporation of comments on the outcome of the workshop	23 – 25 Weeks	- 30%
5	Submission & Acceptance of Final Report	25 – 26 Week	

The timeframe may be modified on the basis of mutual consultation between the agency and ISA, however, all deliverables should be completed within the contract duration. All deliverables should be formatted and submitted in ready-to-use/print formats.

Section 6: Returnable Bidding Forms / Checklist

This form serves as a checklist for preparation of your Proposal. Please complete the Returnable Bidding Forms in accordance with the instructions in the forms and return them as part of your Proposal submission. No alteration to format of forms shall be permitted and no substitution shall be accepted. Before submitting your Proposal, please ensure compliance with the Proposal Submission instructions of the BDS 22.

Technical Proposal Envelope:

Have you duly completed all the Returnable Bidding Forms?	
Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form	
Form B: Bidder Information Form	
Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/ Association Information Form	
 Form D: Qualification Form 	
Form E: Format of Technical Proposal	
Form H: Proposal Security Form	
[Add other forms as necessary]	
Have you provided the required documents to establish compliance with the evaluation criteria in Section 4?	

Financial Proposal Envelope

(Must be submitted in a separate sealed envelope/password protected email)

	Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form	
-	Form G: Financial Proposal Form	

FORM A: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for [Insert Title of services] in accordance with your Request for Proposal No. [Insert RFP Reference Number] and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and our Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

We hereby declare that our firm, its affiliates or subsidiaries or employees, including any JV/Consortium /Association members or subcontractors or suppliers for any part of the contract:

- a) is not under procurement prohibition by the United Nations, including but not limited to prohibitions derived from the Compendium of United Nations Security Council Sanctions Lists;
- b) have not been suspended, debarred, sanctioned or otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization;
- c) have no conflict of interest in accordance with Instruction to Bidders Clause 4;
- d) do not employ, or anticipate employing, any person(s) who is, or has been an ISA staff member within the last year, if said ISA staff member has or had prior professional dealings with our firm in his/her capacity as ISA staff member within the last three years of service with the ISA;
- e) have not declared bankruptcy, are not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against them that could impair their operations in the foreseeable future;
- f) undertake not to engage in proscribed practices, including but not limited to corruption, fraud, coercion, collusion, obstruction, or any other unethical practice, with the ISA or any other party, and to conduct business in a manner that averts any financial, operational, reputational or other undue risk to the ISA and we *embrace the principles of the ISA Supplier Code of Conduct* <u>https://isolaralliance.org/images/ISA%20Supplier%20Code%20of%20Conduct 14.4.2023.final%20version.pdf</u>

We declare that all the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and we accept that any misinterpretation or misrepresentation contained in this Proposal may lead to our disqualification and/or sanctioning by the ISA.

We offer to provide services in conformity with the Bidding documents, including the ISA General Conditions of Contract and in accordance with the Terms of Reference https://www.isolaralliance.org/images/ISA GTB.pdf

Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Bid Data Sheet.

We understand and recognize that you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

I, the undersigned, certify that I am duly authorized by [Insert Name of Bidder] *to sign this Proposal and bind it should ISA accept this Proposal.*

Name:	
Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	

[Stamp with official stamp of the Bidder]

FORM B: BIDDER INFORMATION FORM

Legal name of Bidder	[Complete]
Legal address	[Complete]
Year of registration	[Complete]
Bidder's Authorized Representative Information	Name and Title: [Complete] Telephone numbers: [Complete] Email: [Complete]
Are you a UNGM registered vendor?	□ Yes □ No If yes, [insert UGNM vendor number]
Are you an ISA vendor?	□ Yes □ No
Countries of operation	[Complete]
No. of full-time employees	[Complete]
Quality Assurance Certification (e.g. ISO 9000 or Equivalent) (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	[Complete]
Does your Company hold any accreditation such as ISO 14001 related to the environment? (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	[Complete]
Does your Company have a Written Statement of its Environmental Policy? (If yes, provide a Copy)	[Complete]
Contact person ISA may contact for requests for clarification during Proposal evaluation	Name and Title: [Complete] Telephone numbers: [Complete] Email: [Complete]
Please attach the following documents:	 Company Profile, which should <u>not</u> exceed fifteen (15) pages, including printed brochures and product catalogues relevant to the goods/services being procured Certificate of Incorporation/ Business Registration Tax Registration/Payment Certificate issued by the Internal Revenue Authority evidencing that the Bidder is updated with its tax payment obligations, or Certificate of Tax exemption, if any such privilege is enjoyed by the Bidder Trade name registration papers, if applicable Local Government permit to locate and operate in assignment location, if applicable

 Official Letter of Appointment as local representative, if Bidder is submitting a Bid in behalf of an entity located
outside the country
 Power of Attorney

FORM C: JOINT VENTURE/CONSORTIUM/ASSOCIATION INFORMATION FORM

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

To be completed and returned with your Proposal if the Proposal is submitted as a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association.

No	Name of Partner and contact information (address, telephone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail address)	Proposed proportion of responsibilities (in %) and type of services to be performed
1	[Complete]	[Complete]
2	[Complete]	[Complete]
3	[Complete]	[Complete]

Name of leading partner	
(with authority to bind the JV,	
Consortium, Association during the	[Complete]
RFP process and, in the event a	[Complete]
Contract is awarded, during contract	
execution)	

We have attached a copy of the below document signed by every partner, which details the likely legal structure of and the confirmation of joint and severable liability of the members of the said joint venture:

Letter of intent to form a joint venture	OR	□ JV/Consortium/Association agreement
--	----	---------------------------------------

We hereby confirm that if the contract is awarded, all parties of the Joint Venture/Consortium/Association shall be jointly and severally liable to ISA `for the fulfillment of the provisions of the Contract. Name of partner: Name of partner:

Signature:	Signature:
Date:	Date:
Name of partner:	Name of partner:
Signature:	Signature:
Date:	Date:

FORM D: QUALIFICATION FORM

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

If JV/Consortium/Association, to be completed by each partner.

Historical Contract Non-Performance

Contract	t non-performance o	lid not occur for the last 3 years	
Contract	t(s) not performed fo	or the last 3 years	
Year	Non- performed portion of contract	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount (current value in US\$)
		Name of Client: Address of Client: Reason(s) for non-performance:	

Litigation History (including pending litigation)

🗆 No litiga	tion history for the l	ast 3 years	
🗆 Litigatio	n History as indicate	d below	
Year of	Amount in	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount
dispute	dispute (in US\$)		(current value in US\$)
		Name of Client:	
		Address of Client:	
		Matter in dispute:	
		Party who initiated the dispute:	
		Status of dispute:	
		Party awarded if resolved:	

Previous Relevant Experience

Please list only previous similar assignments successfully completed in the last 3 years.

List only those assignments for which the Bidder was legally contracted or sub-contracted by the Client as a company or was one of the Consortium/JV partners. Assignments completed by the Bidder's individual experts working privately or through other firms cannot be claimed as the relevant experience of the Bidder, or that of the Bidder's partners or sub-consultants, but can be claimed by the Experts themselves in their CVs. The Bidder should be prepared to substantiate the claimed experience by presenting copies of relevant documents and references if so, requested by ISA.

Project name & Country of Assignment	Client & Reference Contact Details	Contract Value	Period of activity and status	Types of activities undertaken

Bidders may also attach their own Project Data Sheets with more details for assignments above.

□ Attached are the Statements of Satisfactory Performance from the Top 3 (three) Clients or more.

Financial Standing

Annual Turnover for the last 3 years	Year Year Year	USD USD USD
Latest Credit Rating (if any), indicate the source		

Financial information (in US\$ equivalent)	Historic information for the last 3 years		
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	Inf	ormation from Balance She	eet
Total Assets (TA)			
Total Liabilities (TL)			
Current Assets (CA)			
Current Liabilities (CL)			
	Infor	mation from Income State	ment
Total / Gross Revenue (TR)			
Profits Before Taxes (PBT)			
Net Profit			
Current Ratio			

□ Attached are copies of the audited financial statements (balance sheets, including all related notes, and income statements) for the years required above complying with the following condition:

- a) Must reflect the financial situation of the Bidder or party to a JV, and not sister or parent companies;
- b) Historic financial statements must be audited by a certified public accountant;
- c) Historic financial statements must correspond to accounting periods already completed and audited. No statements for partial periods shall be accepted.

FORM E: FORMAT OF TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

Please ensure that the information below is adapted in accordance with the technical evaluation criteria included in Section 4. The below sections correspond to the sample criteria included in this template RFP in Section 4]

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

The Bidder's proposal should be organized to follow this format of Technical Proposal. Where the bidder is presented with a requirement or asked to use a specific approach, the bidder must not only state its acceptance, but also describe how it intends to comply with the requirements. Where a descriptive response is requested, failure to provide the same will be viewed as non-responsive.

SECTION 1: Bidder's qualification, capacity and expertise

- 1.1 Brief description of the organization, including the year and country of incorporation, and types of activities undertaken.
- 1.2 Specific organizational capability which is likely to affect implementation: management structure, financial stability and project financing capacity, project management controls.
- 1.3 Relevance of specialized knowledge and experience on similar engagements for fund-raising done in the region/country.
- 1.4 Quality assurance procedures and risk mitigation measures.
- 1.5 Organization's commitment to sustainability.

SECTION 2: Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan

This section should demonstrate the bidder's responsiveness to the TOR by identifying the specific components proposed, addressing the requirements, providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics proposed and demonstrating how the proposed approach and methodology meets or exceeds the requirements. All important aspects should be addressed in sufficient detail and different components of the project should be adequately weighted relative to one another.

- 2.1 A detailed description of the approach and methodology for how the Bidder will achieve the Terms of Reference of the project, keeping in mind the appropriateness to local conditions and project environment. Details how the different service elements shall be organized, controlled and delivered.
- 2.2 The methodology shall also include details of the Bidder's internal technical and quality assurance review mechanisms.
- 2.3 Description of available performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and tools; how they shall be adopted and used for a specific requirement.
- 2.4 Implementation plan including a Gantt Chart or Project Schedule indicating the detailed sequence of activities that will be undertaken and their corresponding timing.
- 2.5 Demonstrate how you plan to integrate sustainability measures in the execution of the contract.

2.6 Any other comments or information regarding the project approach and methodology that will be adopted.

SECTION 2A: Bidder's Comments and Suggestions on the Terms of Reference

Provide comments and suggestions on the Terms of Reference, or additional services that will be rendered beyond the requirements of the TOR, if any.

SECTION 3: Management Structure and Key Personnel

- 3.1 Describe the overall management approach toward planning and implementing the project. Include an organization chart for the management of the project describing the relationship of key positions and designations. Provide a spreadsheet to show the activities of each personnel and the time allocated for his/her involvement.
- 3.2 Provide CVs for key personnel that will be provided to support the implementation of this project using the format below. CVs should demonstrate qualifications in areas relevant to the Scope of Services.

Format for CV of Proposed Key Personnel

NAME OF PERSONNEL	[INSERT]
POSITION FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT	[INSERT]
NATIONALITY	[INSERT]
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY	[INSERT]

	[SUMMARIZE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND OTHER SPECIALIZED EDUCATION OF PERSONNEL MEMBER, GIVING NAMES OF SCHOOLS, DATES ATTENDED, AND DEGREES/QUALIFICATIONS OBTAINED.]
EDUCATION/ QUALIFICATIONS	
	[INSERT]
PROFESSIONAL	[PROVIDE DETAILS OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS RELEVANT TO THE SCOPE OF SERVICES]
CERTIFICATIONS	NAME OF INSTITUTION: [INSERT]DATE OF CERTIFICATION: [INSERT]

EMPLOYMENT RECORD/ EXPERIENCE	[LIST ALL POSITIONS HELD BY PERSONNEL (STARTING WITH PRESENT POSITION, LIST IN REVERSE ORDER), GIVING DATES, NAMES OF EMPLOYING ORGANIZATION, TITLE OF POSITION HELD AND LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT. FOR EXPERIENCE IN LAST FIVE YEARS, DETAIL THE TYPE OF ACTIVITIES PERFORMED, DEGREE OF RESPONSIBILITIES, LOCATION OF ASSIGNMENTS AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE CONSIDERED PERTINENT FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT.]
	[INSERT]
	[PROVIDE NAMES, ADDRESSES, PHONE AND EMAIL CONTACT INFORMATION FOR TWO (2) REFERENCES]

	REFERENCE 1:
REFERENCES	[INSERT]
	REFERENCE 2:
	[INSERT]

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, these data correctly describe my qualifications, my experiences, and other relevant information about myself.

Signature of Personnel

Date (Day/Month/Year)

FORM F: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for [Insert Title of services] in accordance with your Request for Proposal No. [Insert RFP Reference Number] and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and our Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [Insert amount in words and figures].

Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Bid Data Sheet.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

Name:	 _
Title:	 _
Date:	 _
Signature:	 -

[Stamp with official stamp of the Bidder]

FORM G: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL FORM

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	[Insert RFP Reference Number]		

The Bidder is required to prepare the Financial Proposal following the below format and submit it in an envelope separate from the Technical Proposal as indicated in the Instruction to Bidders. Any Financial information provided in the Technical Proposal shall lead to Bidder's disqualification. The Financial Proposal should align with the requirements in the Terms of Reference and the Bidder's Technical Proposal.

Table 1: Summary of Overall Prices

	Amount(s)
Professional Fees	All Bidders shall quote only one price
Other Costs (If any)	
Total Amount of Financial Proposal	
(Monthly & Yearly separately)	