

Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Evaluation Study of RoSCTL and RoDTEP
Schemes

Consolidated Response to Queries of Bidders

S. No.	RFP Clause Reference	Query	Response
1	Clause 4.2(b) – Eligible Assignments pg 26	Kindly clarify whether assessment, research, evaluation, or impact assessment studies relating to Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be considered as eligible assignments under the RFP, particularly in view of the eligibility criteria referring to “trade taxation” and related sectors.	Yes , subject to fulfilment of all other necessary conditions specified under Clause 4.2 of the RFP.
2	Clause 4.2(b) – Eligible Assignments pg 26	Kindly clarify whether assessment, research, evaluation, or impact assessment studies undertaken for foreign governments or for bilateral/multilateral agencies outside India, in the areas specified under the eligibility criteria, will be considered for satisfying the eligibility requirements of the RFP.	No , Please refer to Clause 4.2(b) of the RFP, which is self-explanatory.
3	Clause 4.2(b) and (e) – Eligible Assignments pg 26	Kindly clarify whether assessment, research, evaluation, or impact assessment studies/surveys independently undertaken by the bidder, including studies for which the primary survey was conducted by the bidder and the findings/reports have subsequently been made available in the public domain, may be considered for satisfying the eligibility criteria.	No. Please refer to Clause 4.2 of the RFP. Independently undertaken studies/surveys not undertaken for an eligible client and without the prescribed supporting documents will not be considered as Eligible Assignments.

4	Clause 4.2(b) – Eligible Assignments , pg 26	Kindly clarify whether the minimum primary survey sample size of 500 respondents applies to each individual assignment and to all categories of eligible assignments, and whether the requirement may be considered cumulatively across multiple assignments or any exception may apply depending on the nature and methodology of the study.	Please refer to Clause 4.2(b) of the RFP, which is self-explanatory. The minimum primary survey sample size of 500 respondents is applicable to each individual assignment category specified under Clause 4.2. No exception is contemplated.
5	Clause 4.2 , pg 26	Kindly confirm whether ongoing assignments are eligible and clarify the applicable eight-financial-year window for Eligible Assignments.	No ,please refer to Clause 4.2(c) and Clause 1.4.2 (B) of the RFP which is self-explanatory. No changes contemplated.
6	Clause 4.1.3, S. No. 1(a) and 1(c); Clause 4.2(a) – (Pg 25-26)	Request to reduce the marks for sample size under Criterion 1(a) and reallocate the resulting marks to Criterion 2 (Proposed Methodology and Work Plan), citing the limited availability of large-sample studies in export remission schemes.	No changes contemplated.
7	Data Sheet 4.2 and 5.11; Clause 1.16.1 and 1.16.2; Appendix-I Form-11 (Pg 20 , 111,)	Kindly clarify the Bid Security exemption applicable to MSMEs/MSEs, the documents to be submitted, and whether hard copies are required.	Please refer to Clause 1.16.1 of the RFP and Tender Information Summary (TIS) – 5.11 . MSMEs registered on the Udyam Portal are exempted from bid security.
8	Clause 1.4.2(C) and 1.4.3 , pg 13	Kindly confirm the three financial years to be considered for Average Annual Turnover and whether provisional financial statements may be submitted if the FY 2025-26 audit is not completed.	Please refer to Clause 1.4.2(C) and Clause 1.4.3 of the RFP which are clear and self explanatory.
9	Clause 1.14.1 and 1.14.2(ii); Appendix-II Form-2; Clause 4.4.2 (pg 18 ,27 ,113)	GeM requires the bid amount to be entered including taxes, while the RFP states that the Financial Proposal should be exclusive of tax liabilities. Kindly confirm the basis for financial evaluation.	Please refer to Clause 1.14.1 and Clause 1.14.2(ii) of the RFP . The bidder should submit Financial Proposal as prescribed in form 2 (Appendix- II).
10	Schedule 1 (Terms of Reference), Clause 6.1.4(a) , pg 50	Request to relax the educational qualification and experience requirements for field investigators engaged for surveys, KIIs/IDIs and FGDs.	No changes contemplated.

11.	Clause 4.2(b), p.26	Please clarify whether assessment, research, evaluation or impact assessment studies conducted for Export Promotion Councils and private-sector companies may be considered as Eligible Assignments for the purposes of eligibility and technical evaluation.	Please refer to Clause 4.2(b) of the RFP which is self explanatory. No changes contemplated.
12	Clauses 4.2 (b), 5.1.1.1, 5.1.1.2 and 5.1.2, pp.45-47	Please clarify the minimum number of HS codes/product categories and applicable HS-code digit level; confirm criteria for selecting exporters, minimum sample under each exporter category, representation across product categories and geographical zones, minimum overall sample size , component wise allocation	Please refer to Clauses 5.1.1.1, 5.1.1.2 and 5.1.2 of the schedule 1 of the RFP. Consultant is expected to submit detailed methodology and work plan in Form 7 and as prescribed in RfP. Further, please note that the final approach shall be developed by the Consultant in consultation with and approval of DMEO.
13	Clauses 5.1.2, 5.3 and 6.1.1, , schedule 1 (ToR) , 5.1.1.2 , footnote 12 pp.46-49	Please specify the administrative datasets and respondent databases that will be provided or facilitated by DMEO, including exporter contact details, scheme-wise claims, e-scrip generation/utilisation, rejected transactions, anomalies and beneficiary /non beneficiary classifications. Please confirm whether the Authority will facilitate scheduling of KIIs with officials from relevant Ministries/Departments.	Please refer to Clauses 5 and 6 of the Schedule 1 of the RFP. DMEO will endeavour to facilitate data collection by writing to relevant authorities once the contract has been awarded. However, the responsibility of collecting information/data lies with the Consultant only.

14	Clause 5.3.1, p.48; Clause 5.3, p.48	Please confirm whether the Authority will provide a list of “major exporting” economies and the number of countries to be considered, and provide a list of comparable non-beneficiary sectors that may be used as comparators for assessing the performance of beneficiary sectors under the schemes.	Please refer to Clause 5.3.1 of schedule 1 of the RFP. Consultant is expected to submit detailed methodology and work plan in Form 7 and as prescribed in RfP. Further, please note that the final approach shall be developed by the Consultant in consultation with and approval of DMEO. DMEO will endeavour to facilitate data collection by writing to relevant authorities once the contract has been awarded. However, the responsibility of collecting information/data lies with the Consultant only.
15	Clause 4.1.3, Footnote 6; pg 25	Please clarify whether each FGD will be counted as one unit for the prescribed sample coverage or whether each participant will be counted separately.	FGD is counted as one FGD/session , irrespective of the number of participants comprising the group which is the standard industry practice .
16	Schedule 1 (Terms of reference Table 3) and clause 6.1.3, pg 47 & 50	Please confirm whether a defined share of the 1,900 surveys may be conducted through CAWI for remote respondents and whether KIs with senior officials and EPC/association representatives may be conducted virtually. Please also clarify whether a geo-tagged image of the respondent or premises is mandatory for every survey response and whether an alternative verification mechanism may be used where the respondent does not consent to photography or confidentiality restrictions apply.	Please refer to Clause 6.1.3 of the schedule 1 of the RFP, which is clear and self explanatory . No changes contemplated .

17	Clause 6.1.4(b), p.50	Please clarify whether the minimum 2% pilot requirement applies to surveys, KIs/IDs and FGDs under each scheme or to the aggregate primary-research sample for each scheme. Please confirm whether pilot responses may be included in the final achieved sample where no material changes are made to the instrument.	Please refer to Clause 6.1.4(b) of the RFP. Pilot surveys shall be conducted for at least 2% of the sample size for both the schemes, RoDTEP and RoSCTL, respectively, covering surveys, KIs/IDs and FGDs. Pilot exercise shall be exclusive of the main survey.
18	Schedule 1, Section 7, Notes (ii) and (v); Schedule 2, Clause 7.2.2	Please specify the timelines within the six-month period for submission and approval of the Mid-Term Report, Draft Evaluation Report and Final Evaluation Report. Please confirm the treatment of delays arising from non-availability of administrative data, respondent access, stakeholder scheduling or delayed review/approval by the Authority.	Please refer schedule 1 of the RFP, section 7-table 4(Pt 1). The Consultant shall propose the timeline for the payment-linked deliverables in the Inception Report. Further, refer the provisions of Schedule 2, Clauses 6.3 and 7.2 which are clear and self explanatory.
19	Schedule 2, Clauses 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and 7.3, p.78	Please define “significant deficiencies” and clarify the basis for determining such deficiencies.	Please refer to Clause 7.2 & 7.3 of Schedule 2, which is clear and self-explanatory.
20	Clause 5.3, p.48	Please provide a list of “other converging export promotion schemes” that may be considered for the evaluation.	Please refer to Clause 5.3 of the schedule 1 of the RFP, which is self-explanatory. Further Consultant is expected to submit detailed methodology and work plan in Form 7 and as prescribed in RfP. Further, please note that the final approach shall be developed by the Consultant in consultation with and approval of DMEQ.
21	Clauses 1.3 and 1.13.6; Annexure A, pp.13, 18, 29-34; Annex-2: Deployment of Personnel	Please confirm if there is a mandatory minimum number of team members to be deployed on the assignment, whether continuous on-site deployment is required, and how many team members will be required to be deployed at the Authority’s office.	Please refer to Annexure A of the RFP which is clear and self explanatory. Continuous on-site deployment is not mandated, however, the proposed team members shall be required to be present/work at the Authority’s office, as per the requirement.

22	Clause 1.17; Checklist of Documents; Schedule 2, Clauses 6.3(d), 7.2.3 and 7.3	Please confirm when the Performance Security is to be submitted, clarify the criteria for determining whether work is “substandard” or non-compliant, and confirm whether the Consultant will be provided written notice and a reasonable opportunity to rectify identified deficiencies before invocation/appropriation of the Performance Security.	Please refer to Clause 1.17 of the RFP and checklist of documents in the RFP and clause 6.3 & clause 7 of schedule 2 (Form of Agreement) which is clear and self explanatory.
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