

Questions & Answers
Expression of Interest (EOI) INVEST-002:
Vietnam Renewable Energy Transaction Assistance Fund (Amended)

Technical Questions

1. Is wave energy eligible to apply?

Yes, wave energy is eligible to apply.

2. Is it possible for a project to ask for two studies to be completed in parallel? For example, an ESIA and a FS?

Yes, but only if both these activities are able to be implemented without exceeding the \$300,000 USD price ceiling.

Cost Questions

1. Is it correct that the in-kind support is for only one activity with maximum value at 300K USD?

Yes, the support would be for one proposal (one proposal per applicant) which cannot exceed \$300,000 USD in value. Multiple activities for the same project can be proposed (i.e. two types of studies) but value cannot exceed \$300,000 USD.

2. How is the in-kind support funded? One time or in completion each completion phase.

It is anticipated that INVEST will issue a deliverable-based subcontract for the support. Payments to the subcontractor will be issued upon successful completion of deliverables. Please note that the applicant cannot be hired to perform the work and the support is to be completed by a third-party service provider identified through a competitive solicitation released by DAI.

3. Our current estimates for the cost of in-kind services is quite rough and may exceed the \$300,00 limit. How would this be controlled by INVEST?

If the services proposed exceed \$300,000, INVEST will work with the successful EOI applicant(s) to fund discrete activities that would not exceed \$300,000. Any costs exceeding \$300,000 would need to be covered by the EOI applicant or other sources. The procurement process for the services will be managed by DAI but DAI will work with the successful applicant(s) to develop a solicitation for services that is within the budget range.

General Questions

1. When do we know that the in-kind support is accepted?

Successful respondents to the EOI will be contacted by INVEST on or before February 26, 2021. INVEST and the selected applicants will develop Scopes of Work that detail the specific in-kind activity that INVEST will support. INVEST will then release Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the specific activities each selected EOI requires and will subcontract with services providers on the partners' behalf.

2. If the in-kind support is accepted, when is the earliest the funding will take place?

The implementation of the support is dependent on the Scope of Work development process with the selected EOI applicants and the recruitment and subcontracting process for the services. Scope of Work development is anticipated to take approximately 2 weeks and recruitment and subcontracting is anticipated to take approximately 9 weeks.

3. Can you confirm that program start date is May 2021?

Yes, the services will start on or before May 2021. The start date for the services are dependent on the timeline for Scope of Work development with the selected EOI applicants and subsequent recruitment and subcontracting process. This process may move quicker than expected and could start anywhere between March – May 2021.

4. Is there any obligation that the parent company has to abide by?

The parent company will be engaged under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and will need to share the names of their majority shareholders/stakeholders. The INVEST team will confirm the ability of the parent company to receive U.S. government support. The company/recipient will also need to present its license to operate within Vietnam. References should be made available upon request as well.

Questions & Answers (Additional Responses)
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1. Do you still consider providing funds to the Project which has not been added into the PDP?

The INVEST project will consider projects which are not in the PDP. However, the applicant must indicate how the project may function within the existing or upcoming framework of PDP 8.

2. In comparison with two types of projects a) Project that has been added into PDP but will be as business as usual (normal ground mounted solar project) Project that has not yet been added into PDP but may contain some additionality of innovation (such as floating solar + storage) --> which type of project is much more preferred by INVEST?

The INVEST project refers the applicant to the EOI section noting the selection criteria. The INVEST project is open to considering both concepts that are in the PDP and those that are not. However, the concept must indicate how the project would function if not part of the current PDP 8 framework.

3. Do you also consider providing funds to the Project which is not clear yet with the economic return? For example - floating solar project ><normal ground mounted project that has a high chance to participate into the pilot solar auctioning or DPPA?

The INVEST project will consider contracting in kind services on behalf of an applicant for projects which have not yet determined the financial feasibility. The purpose of this project is to de-risk the exploratory and initial studies which developers may incur to pursue projects as a way to encourage project development for renewable energy projects in Vietnam.