



## **GUJARAT MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (GMDC)**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF SERVICE PROVIDER(S) FOR NEW PLANTATION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICE AT SURKHA (NORTH) - BHAVNAGAR AND UMARSAR LIGNITE MINES, AND BAUXITE MINES OF GADHSISA, KUTCH REGION, GUJARAT, INDIA**

**GMDC/ENV/03/2024-25**

***Response to Pre-bid Queries***

**Date:10/01/2025**

**Issuing Authority: Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC)**

This document is the response to queries received for the captioned RFP which was issued by Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) in November 2024. This response to pre-bid queries shall constitute an integral part of the above RFP document. GMDC has endeavoured to respond to all queries it had received during pre-bid. For any unanswered queries, the provisions of the RFP remain unchanged.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
1.	Clause 1.1. of Section II	Height of the sapling/plant at the time of plantation: Min. 06 Ft/ 10 Ft.	<b>Spacement Between the plants, Height of the plants is 6 ft and 10 ft:</b>  Can it be 2*2 mt or 3*1.3 mt Looking to the site condition hight should be 4 to 6 ft and color girth 2-3 inch will be better.	The RFP Provision remains unchanged.
2.	Clause 1.2 - Part A (ii) - Point 5 of Section II	(ii) Planting and Maintenance Plan and Cost Breakup: A detailed cost breakup of the planting stage, including good quality soil, cost of each plant saplings to be acquired, labour, fencing/tree guard charges, water & watering charges, drip irrigation, manuring, weed / grass removal, use of insecticides and other maintenance etc. have to be clearly outlined in the plan.	Water: Not specified weather available from the site free of cost or have to purchase	As per Clause 3.7 (b) of Section VI of the RFP, the bidders are required to arrange water for plantation and maintenance of plants at its own cost.
3.	Clause 1.2 - Part B (iii) of Section II	The Service Provider shall provide adequate fencing to the Plantation area or Tree Guards made of durable material to protect the planted saplings from stray and wild animals. The fencing/tree guards have to	<b>Fencing Requirements:</b> * Some sites may need individual tree guards, while others may benefit from group fencing. * The baseline survey should determine the most suitable approach for each site.	The bidders may propose and consider adequate fencing requirements, as per site conditions and may quote the cost accordingly.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
		be provided 6 feet above the ground.		
4.	Clause 1.2 - Part B (iii) of Section II	The Service Provider shall provide adequate fencing to the Plantation area or Tree Guards made of durable material to protect the planted saplings from stray and wild animals. The fencing/tree guards have to be provided 6 feet above the ground.	Fencing / tree guard 6 ft tall: Not sufficient looking to the exiting wild life like blue bull and wild boar which should be 9 ft above GL	Kindly refer to response number 3 above.
5.	Clause 2 of Section II	Timeline	<b>Topsoil Replacement and Flexible Timelines:</b> * Some sites may need topsoil replacement due to hard strata. * Request flexibility in the RFP timeline, particularly in Part C (Maintenance Period, Point 2), to accommodate site-specific challenges.	Noted.  Kindly refer to point no. 1 of Corrigendum No. 2 of this RFP.
6.	Clause 3 of Section III	Service Levels and Liquidated Damages	Section III-Service levels and liquidated damages 3. Liquidated damages We need a detailed clarification on the information presented in Table serial numbers 1, 2, and 3.	The table in question provides events describing non-performance of the Service Provider in terms of timelines, plant survival and promised maintenance activities. Further, the liquidated damages (penalty) applicable incase of occurrence of such event are also provided in the table.
7.	Clause 1.6 of Section IV	Schedule of Bidding	<b>RFP Timeline Extension:</b> Request an extension of the RFP timeline (10 days) or emphasize the need for adequate preparation time to ensure successful implementation.	Kindly refer to point no. 6 of Corrigendum No. 2 of this RFP.
8.	Clause 1.6 of Section IV	Schedule of Bidding	* Please extend the dead line for 10 more days for details site survey	Kindly refer to point no. 6 of Corrigendum No. 2 of this RFP.
9.	Clause 5.1 (b) of Section IV	Bidding as Consortium/Joint Venture is not permitted	Please allow for joint venture/consortium.	The RFP Provision remains unchanged.
10.	Clause 5.2 (f)	The Bidder shall have a	With reference to the captioned subject,we are	(i) Kindly refer to point no. 3 of Corrigendum No.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
	of Section IV	minimum Average Annual Turnover of Rs. 8 Crores in Last continuous Three Financial Years preceding the bid due date as per the latest available Audited Annual Reports. The Average Audited Annual Turnover before the FY 2020-21 shall not be considered for the evaluation.	<p>planning to bid above mentioned tender in which we would like to convey you that we <u>are little short of the annual turnover criteria mentioned in the tendering process</u>. We confirm that all others criterias and documentation will be fulfilled by us. We are having a wide experience for the mentioned work i.e Avenue plantation in Gadhsisa GMDC mines, avenue plantation in Nashik Pune Highway (40,000 Nos Of PLANTS) and Miyawaki plantation.</p> <p>Moreover as per our experience in plantation work in Kutch, scarcity of water has been a major issue in summer times and hence the prices go much higher. To enhance and maintain the good quality of work, we would like you to add a criteria as ' Agency must have minimum two tankers having capacity of 20,000 ltrs each in the name of the company or proprietor with a copy of RC, Insurance certificate and photos of tanker as mandatory documents before opening the bid.</p> <p>In view of the above we would like you to consider our bid for the tendering process. For your consideration please. Copy Of Average Annual Turnover Attached Here Below.</p>	2 of this RFP.  (ii) The RFP Provision remains unchanged.
11.	Clause 5.2 (f) of Section IV	The Bidder shall have a minimum Average Annual Turnover of Rs. 8 Crores in Last continuous Three Financial Years preceding the bid due date as per the latest available Audited Annual Reports. The Average Audited Annual Turnover before the FY 2020-21 shall not be	<p><b>Average annual turnover for the last three years –</b> According to the RFP, a participant must have achieved an average annual turnover of Rs.8.0 crores over the last three years.</p> <p>1. We are a ‘not for profit’ organisation and we focus more on the impact of our various works rather than turnover and profits. 2. Due to the impact of COVID, the CSR space was very badly affected and social sector spending by</p>	Kindly refer to point no. 3 of Corrigendum No. 2 of this RFP.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
		considered for the evaluation.	<p>organisations was substantially curtailed. This had a huge adverse impact on operations and turnover of NGOs like us. We kindly request you to reconsider the average turnover for the past three years and revise it from Rs. 8.0 crores to Rs. 5.5 crores. Additionally, one of our turnover figures from the last three years is approximately Rs. 7.27 crores. We request GMDC to take this into account when evaluating our eligibility based on the turnover criteria.</p> <p>2021-2022 : Turnover is 7.27 Cr.  2022-2023: Turnover is 5.49 Cr.  2023-2024: Turnover is 5.49 Cr.  Average of three years: 5.92 Cr.</p> <p>Note: Year-wise balance sheets are attached also we will send CA-certified documents at bid submission.</p>	
12.	Clause 5.3 of Section IV	Technical Score Criteria	<p>Sincere Request from Anarde Foundation to GMDC to Do modification in Marketing Criteria</p> <p>Sr. No. A, A2 - experience of Similar Nature of Work in Mining Sector / any Govt. Dept.  25000 ( Twenty Five thousand ) Saplings / Plants.</p> <p>Sr. No. A, A3 - experience of similar Nature of work in the kutch District OR Saurashtra Regions Districts of Gujarat.25000 ( Twenty Five thousand ) Saplings / Plants.</p> <p>Hope GMDC will Consider our Request.</p>	Kindly refer to point no. 4 of Corrigendum No. 2 to this RFP.
13.	Clause 7.2 of Section IV	Signing of the Agreement	<p>Selection of service provided and signing of agreement</p> <p>7.2) Signing of agreement-</p> <p>3. There is stamp paper for rupees 300, and there will not be any additional amount required for stamp duty (please clarify.)</p>	The stamp paper of Rs. 300 will be sufficient.
14.	Clause 2.3 of Section VI	Rights and title over the project site	<p>General terms</p> <p>2.3) Rights and title over the project site</p>	Query is not clear.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
			c)We need at least 30 days' notice; immediate changes won't be possible.	
15.	Clause 10 of Section VI	Event of default and Termination	Event of default and termination. Request to include dispute settlement methodology	Kindly refer to Clause 11 of Section VI of the RFP.
16.	Annexure 9: Price Bid Format	Annexure 9: Price Bid Format	<b>Contingency Costs:</b> Include a contingency provision of 15-20% (Total Project cost) to manage budget variations identified during the baseline survey.	The bidders are required to cover all the applicable costs in their price bids for execution of the scope of work as per the RFP.
17.	General	-	<b>Revival of Indigenous Plant Species:</b> After site visit, prioritize the revival of indigenous plant species to ensure effective and sustainable ecological restoration.	Noted.
18.	General	-	<b>Challenges of Scattered Sites in Kutch:</b> The dispersed nature of sites in Kutch complicates resource allocation and increases costs. Consolidating efforts on fewer, larger sites can improve outcomes. Key cost challenges include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b>Clearing Prosopis juliflora forests.</b></li> <li>o Protecting and maintaining new plantations.</li> <li>o Managing dispersed operations.</li> <li>o <b>Developing a 7.5-meter green belt in arid regions where heatwaves impact the survival of the first two rows of plants.</b> Strategies to enhance survival rates are necessary.</li> </ul>	The bidders are required to provide end to end solution for plantation as per the requirement of the RFP with optimal resource utilisation plan. The bidders may quote the cost of execution of scope of work as specified in the RFP, based on the site assessment and their understanding of the project.
19.	General	-	<b>Approach Road Development:</b> Develop approach roads for better access to large sites like Naredi II, Umarsar, and Bhavnagar. Include this requirement in the project proposal.	All the plantation sites under Package 1 and Package 2 are currently accessible by road. If required, GMDC may make necessary arrangements to provide better access to the site however at its sole discretion and after due deliberation.
20.	General	-	<b>Landscape Leveling Challenges:</b> Sites with sloped terrain, such as Naredi II, require high budget for landscape leveling. Budget provisions should account for these challenges.	Noted. Bidders are requested to submit the proposal accordingly.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
21.	General	-	<b>Support from GMDC's Environment Department:</b> While the RFP assigns responsibility to the Service Level Provider, support from GMDC's Environment Department is critical for seamless project execution.	Noted.
22.	General	-	<b>Technical Proposal Format Clarification:</b> Clarify if the technical proposal requires a prescribed format or if agencies can use their own.	The bidder shall submit the technical and price bid as specified in the Clause 4.4 (b) of Section IV of the RFP.
23.	General	-	<b>Site Office and Monitoring Structures:</b> Propose establishing temporary site offices and monitoring structures to enhance project management efficiency.(In GMDC premises and one temporary at plantation site).	The Service Provider may set up required monitoring mechanism for the successful execution of the scope of work.
24.	General	-	<b>Permanent Water Structures:</b> Address water scarcity by incorporating permanent water structures, while recognizing the impact on overall project costs.	As per Clause 3.7 (b) of Section VI of the RFP, the bidders are required to arrange water for plantation and maintenance of plants at its own cost.
25.	General	-	<b>Pilot Dew Water Collection Technique:</b> Initiate a pilot project to test dew water collection at one site. While outcomes are uncertain, this approach could offer innovative solutions to water scarcity.	Noted. The bidders are encouraged to take such initiatives at its own cost and risk.
26.	General	-	<b>Borewell Development:</b> * Consider borewell development at all sites, except Bhavnagar. * Explore repairing the existing borewell at Naredi.	Kindly refer to response no. 24 above.
27.	General	-	<b>Electricity Access:</b> Propose installing solar grids or tapping into nearby electricity sources to address limited power access at some sites.	As per Clause 3.7 (c) of Section VI of the RFP, the bidders are required to arrange electricity for plantation and maintenance of plants at its own cost.
28.	General	-	<b>Wild Animal Interference:</b> Significant wild animal intrusion necessitates sustainable fencing solutions. CEE recommends innovative designs (CEE has internal expert team for such challenges) but notes potential funding constraints.	Kindly refer to response number 3 above.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
29.	General	-	<p><b>Alternative Fencing Methods:</b> Explore ultrasonic and solar-powered fencing for protecting plantations from wild animals. Confirm if these methods align with project guidelines.</p>	Kindly refer to response number 3 above.
30.	General	-	<p><b>Nursery Development Project:</b> Given the high demand for plants and saplings, CEE recommends proposing a Nursery Development Project for GMDC to ensure a consistent and reliable supply.</p>	Noted. The bidder shall arrange for such facilities at its own cost.
31.	General	-	<p><b>Community-Based Nursery Development:</b> Establish nurseries managed by local communities to provide employment and ensure a steady supply of saplings tailored to regional needs.</p>	Noted.
32.	General	-	<p><b>Community Engagement and Conflict Prevention:</b> *Community Awareness and Dialogue: Since many sites are grazing areas, mitigate potential conflicts through:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training and dialogue sessions.</li> <li>▪ Awareness programs aligning community interests with project goals.</li> </ul> *Social Fencing: Engage the local community to support plantations through social fencing by building trust and promoting:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental and community benefits of plantations.</li> <li>▪ Climate resilience and agroecological advantages.</li> </ul> *CEE's Role: CEE will facilitate community engagement through training sessions and awareness activities to ensure long-term protection of plantations.</p>	Ok.
33.	General	-	<p><b>Drone-Based Monitoring:</b> Utilize drone technology for monitoring plantations to:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Identify areas requiring intervention.</li> <li>* Measure growth rates.</li> </ul> </p>	Noted.

Sr. No.	Clause	Provision in the RFP	Queries/Clarification/suggestions submitted by the prospective bidder	Response
			* Analyze vegetation health.	
34.	General	-	State the height of the wire fencing and area to be covered.	Kindly refer to clause number 1.2(B)(iii) of section 2 of the RFP.
35.	General	-	Tell how much high the tree guard will be for the plant in village.	Kindly refer to response no. 3 above.
36.	General	-	In this regards time is very short, kindly request to extend the time of tender.	Kindly refer to point no. 6 of Corrigendum No. 2 of this RFP.