

Bank of Baroda RFP [BCC:RMD:115:2083 (1)] for Appointment of a Consultancy Agency for Providing Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green Financing Framework as per the Applicable Regulatory Guidelines

Reply to Pre-Bid Queries Raised by the Consultancy Agencies

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
CRISIL	December 05,2023	1	37	Annexure 02	General-Curriculum vitae	Evaluation Terms - Technical Bid Evaluation	<p>6. Experience and profile of the key personnel assigned which includes Team Leader, Subject Matter Experts, Team members, etc.</p> <p>Team Leader/ Project Manager with 15+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability/ Climate Change/ Environment to be employed in the assignment - 10 marks</p>	<p>Request relaxation of criteria as mentioned below:</p> <p>Team Leader/ Project Manager with 15+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability/ Climate Change/ Environment with Post-Graduation in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 10 marks</p>	<p>As per the Bank requirement, for the Team Leader, PhD is desirable. Hence, the same has been allocated 10 marks.</p> <p>The criteria with relaxation although bearing 05 marks is mentioned in the Marking Criteria of RFP. The same is as under:</p> <p>Team Leader / Project Manager between 10-15 years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment and Post-Graduation in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 05 marks (Page # 37 of RFP)</p>
CRISIL	December 05,2023	2	37	Annexure 02	General-Personnel Schedule	Evaluation Terms - Technical Bid Evaluation	7. Team deployment plan by module/sub-module capability	Kindly clarify the evaluation parameters for this criteria	As indicated above the point # 7 for team deployment (Page # 36) of the RFP, Proposed team profile and deployment (based on the CV of the Team Leaders, Subject Matter Experts for different areas, resource personnel etc.) is desired to be given by the bidder as the same will depend on individual bidder SOP, availability of experts and their inputs (man hours) to be deployed for the given assignment.

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CRISIL	December 05,2023	3	37	Annexure 02	General-Curriculum vitae	Evaluation Terms - Technical Bid Evaluation	8. Environment, Social and Climate related Certifications of the involved team members (e.g. GARP SCR, CFA-ESG, FSA level 1, FSA level 2 amongst others)	Kindly clarify if 'GRI Certified Professional' certification will also be considered for this criteria	As a part of amongst others, GRI Certified Professional from certified training partners of GRI will be considered.
CRISIL	December 05,2023	4	57	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Project Scope	b. Implementation Support and Action Plan Designing of green financial products for the Bank in line with the RBI's Framework and Govt. of India guidelines.	Would request to kindly clarify a ballpark figure for number of financial products to be designed	Bank's financial products will be related to 09 sectors identified by RBI in its Framework for acceptance of Green Deposits (page # 3-4). In future (FY 24, FY 25 and FY 26), additional sectors based on regulatory directions and official release of Indian green taxonomy could be added by the Bank. At least 05 Green financial products per year will be required to be developed by the consultancy agency.
CRISIL	December 05,2023	5	58	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Project Scope	b. Implementation Support and Action Plan Capacity Development: Conduct a training needs assessment for the relevant professionals of the Bank. Every year 04 training sessions/workshops shall be required to be carried out (03 for Bank officers and 01 for the senior management).	Are these training sessions expected to be conducted offline or online?	Out of the 04 training sessions/workshops, 01 for Bank officers and 01 for the senior management will be in-person. Rest 02 will be virtual training sessions.

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CRISIL	December 05,2023	6	59	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Deliverables	Broad terms of Release of payment: Gap Assessment/ Diagnostics Report (FY24)-10% Gap Assessment/ Diagnostics Report (FY25)-10% Gap Assessment/ Diagnostics Report (FY26)-10% Implementation support and action plan (SOPs, Data Templates, E-Modules, Capacity Building workshops) - 25% Impact Assessment (FY24) - 15% Impact Assessment (FY25) - 15% Impact Assessment (FY26) - 15%	Kindly clarify the reason for conducting gap assessment exercise in FY25 and FY26 since gap assessment would already be done in FY24 and the GD&FCGA will be finalized then itself.	The gap assessment exercise in FY25 and FY26 for the Bank's GD&FCGA will be as per the changes in the regulatory landscape and emerging opportunities. The Bank's GD&FCGA will be periodically reviewed and updated accordingly based on these regulatory changes. The selected consultancy agency will be required to give crucial inputs to the Bank for the same.
CRISIL	December 05,2023	7	59	Annexure 10	Commercials	Payment terms	Broad terms of Release of payment: Gap Assessment/ Diagnostics Report (FY24)-10% Gap Assessment/ Diagnostics Report (FY25)-10% Gap Assessment/ Diagnostics Report (FY26)-10% Implementation support and action plan (SOPs, Data Templates, E-Modules, Capacity Building workshops) - 25% Impact Assessment (FY24) - 15% Impact Assessment (FY25) - 15% Impact Assessment (FY26) - 15%	The payment milestones here have been provided considering a 3-year contract timeline whereas section 3 in the 'Introduction' (<i>Contract period 3.1-3.4 on page 10-11</i>) states that the contract will be for 1 year initially which shall be extendable at the discretion of the bank. Kindly clarify.	Based on the techno-commercial evaluation criteria defined in the RFP, it will be our endeavour to work with the agency for full term of 03 years for which broad terms regarding release of payment are given (10 % for Gap Assessment, 8.33 % for Implementation Support and 15 % for Impact Assessment). Discretion of the Bank may be exercised in the unlikely event of deficiency of service, if any.

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KPMG	December 11,2023	8	82-83	17.2	Legal	Penalties and Liquidated Damages	<p>Bidder will have to pay penalty to Bank of Baroda @ Rs.50,000 exclusive of all taxes, duties, levies etc., per week or part thereof, for late submission beyond due date, to a maximum of Rs.5,00,000. If delay exceeds two weeks from due date of delivery, Bank of Baroda reserves the right to cancel the entire work order and recover the damages from Bidder. If penalty exceeds the maximum of Rs.5 Lakhs (Rupees Five Lakhs), Bank may de-list the Bidder from participating any of our Banks bid in future for a period of -2- years.</p> <p>17.2 If the Consultant fails to complete the due performance as per this Agreement, BOB reserves the right to terminate the contract and recover Liquidated Damages ___% of contract value.</p>	In lieu of clause 17 'Penalties and Liquidated Damages' on Page 85 of the RFP, in no event shall we (KPMG) be liable to pay penalties or liquidated damages above 10% of the Agreement value	The clause on Penalties and Liquidated Damages in RFP is as per the Bank's Standard Practice.

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KPMG	December 11,2023	9	85	23.1	Legal	Limitation of Liability	<p>23.1 Notwithstanding, the contents of para 2 of this clause , the Consultant's aggregate liability in connection with obligations undertaken as a part of this Project whether arising under this project regardless of the form or nature of the action giving rise to such liability (whether in contract, tort or otherwise), shall be actual.</p> <p>The Consultant's liability in case of claims against BOB resulting from its wilful misconduct or gross negligence, loss suffered by BOB due to damage to real or tangible or intangible property by Consultant, its employees and/ or subcontractors or loss suffered by BOB due to infringement of patents, trademarks, copyrights or such other Intellectual Property Rights or breach of confidentiality obligations shall be unlimited.</p>	In accordance with standard industry practice, our aggregate liability under this RFP and in connection with the services shall be for direct damages only and shall, in all circumstances and events, be limited to one time the fees paid to us under the engagement	Please note that Limitation of Liability clause is divided into 07 paragraphs from 23.1 to 23.7. For your query, please refer to paragraph 23.2 (covering Consultant's aggregate liability).

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KPMG	December 11,2023	10	79	13.2	Legal	Confidentiality	13.2 The Consultant shall not make or retain any copies or record of any Confidential Information submitted by BOB other than as may be required for the performance of the Consultant obligation under this Agreement.	We shall be allowed to retain sufficient documentation as part of our professional records to support and evidence the work performed by us. Such retention shall be subject to obligations of confidentiality mentioned herein	It is acceptable as long as it qualifies and meets the standards of Clause 13.2
EY	December 11,2023	11	33	Annexure 02/Section 2	General	Criteria details	Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.	<p>We request to merge these criteria as below:</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 4 domestic or international large Banks/FIs. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2. Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assurance Services to the Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/ FIs in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators</p> <p>3. Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assurance Services to the Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/ FIs at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>	<p>The changes may be accepted based on the below-mentioned rationale:</p> <p>In line with the Technical Bid Evaluation criteria of the RFP (page no. 35-36), we have added FIs in the Bank/FI. The updated paragraphs for eligibility criteria compliance (pg no. 33) could be as under:</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>

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EY	December 11,2023	12	33	Annexure 02/Section 2	General	Criteria details	<p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>	<p>We request to merge these criteria as below:</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 4 domestic or international large Banks/FIs. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators or</p> <p>2. Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assurance Services to the Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/ FIs in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators</p> <p>3. Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assurance Services to the Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/ FIs at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>	<p>The changes may be accepted based on the below-mentioned rationale:</p> <p>In line with the Technical Bid Evaluation criteria of the RFP (page no. 35-36), we have added FIs in the Bank/FI. The updated paragraphs for eligibility criteria compliance (pg no. 33) could be as under:</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>

EY	December 11,2023	13	36	A.Technical Bid Evaluation /ii)	General	Criteria/Experience with International/National Banks over last 2 years	<p>Consultancy services to reputed National Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p> <p>Marking criteria: 3 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 05 entities</p>	<p>We request you to merge these two criteria as below: Consultancy services to reputed International or National Banks/FIs/NBFCs in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p> <p>Marking Criteria: 5 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 08 entities</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Consultancy services to reputed National Banks/FIs/NBFCs in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p> <p>Marking Criteria: 5 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 03 entities</p> <p>Consultancy services to reputed International or National Banks/FIs/NBFCs in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable</p>	The criteria's have been defined based on the Bank's requirements.
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								<p>Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p> <p>Marking Criteria: 5 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 05 entities</p>	
EY	December 11,2023	14	35	A.Technical Bid Evaluation /ii)	General	Criteria/Experience with International/National Banks over last 2 years	<p>Consultancy services to reputed International Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p> <p>Marking criteria: 5 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 05 entities</p>	<p>We request you to merge these two criteria as below: Consultancy services to reputed International or National Banks/FIs/NBFCs in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p>	The criteria's have been defined based on the Bank's requirements.

								<p>Marking Criteria: 5 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 08 entities Or</p> <p>Consultancy services to reputed National Banks/FIs/NBFCs in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p> <p>Marking Criteria: 5 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 03 entities</p> <p>Consultancy services to reputed International or National Banks/FIs/NBFCs in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.</p> <p>Marking Criteria: 5 marks for each such Bank/FI/Company up to maximum of 05 entities.</p>	
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EY	December 11,2023	15	37	A.Technical Bid Evaluation /ii)	General-Curriculum vitae	Criteria/Environment, Social and Climate Related Certifications of the involved team members	Team Leader / Project Manager with 15+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment with PhD in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 10 marks	We request you to amend the criteria as below: Team Leader / Project Manager with 15+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment/Financial Risk with Masters in Environmental science/Engineering/Science /MBA in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 10 marks	As per the Bank requirement, for the Team Leader, PhD is desirable. Hence, the same has been allocated 10 marks. To increase the scope of qualification for Team Leader / Project Manager, additional qualification "Financial Risk with Masters in Environmental science/Engineering/Science/MBA (with relevant experience) could be added.
EY	December 14,2023	16			General			We understand that during the preparation of impact assessment metrics for a counterparty, there could be the requirement to source external data from third-party vendors eg. Emissions data, or actual energy efficiency realized if data is not available with the counterparty. In such a case, please advise if the Bank would be open to sourcing data from external vendors? Is the Bank open to negotiating separate commercials with these vendors?	To the extent possible, relevant data of prominent counterparty borrowers for the baseline eg. Emissions data, or actual energy efficiency, etc. would be required to be sourced from the sustainability reporting/disclosure of the counterparty i.e., Sustainability/IR report, Annual Report, BRSR, company's website, etc. In case where data is not available, the baseline values need to be set by an agency in consultation with the Bank and its counterparty using industry/sector-specific emission standards and emission factors applicable for our country. At this stage, sourcing of data from external vendors is not envisioned to be considered by the Bank.

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EY	December 11,2023	17	37	A.Technical Bid Evaluation /ii)	General-Curriculum vitae	Criteria/Environment, Social and Climate Related Certifications of the involved team members	Team Leader / Project Manager between 10-15 years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment and Post-Graduation in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 05 marks	We request you to amend the criteria as below: Team Leader / Project Manager between 10-15 years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment/Financial Risk with Masters in Environmental science/Engineering/MBA in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 05 marks	To increase the scope of qualification for Team Leader / Project Manager, additional qualification "Financial Risk with Masters in Environmental science/Engineering/Science/MBA (with relevant experience) could be added.
EY	December 11,2023	18	37	A.Technical Bid Evaluation /ii)	General-Curriculum vitae	Criteria/Environment, Social and Climate Related Certifications of the involved team members	Key subject experts with 10+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment to be employed for key areas in the assignment - 10 marks - Green Finance & Climate Risk Expert- 05 marks - Environmental and Social Management Expert- 05 marks	We request you to amend the criteria as below: Key subject experts with 5+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment/Financial Risk to be employed for key areas in the assignment-10 marks - Green Finance & Climate Risk Expert- 05 marks - Environmental and Social Management Expert- 05 marks	Key subject experts with 5+ years of experience can be considered. To increase the scope of qualification for key subject expert, additional qualification "Financial Risk (with relevant experience) could be added.
EY	December 11,2023	19	57	Annexure 10 – Project Detailed Scope of Work/1.P roject scope	Scope of Work	b. Implementation Support and Action Plan	Designing of green financing products for the Bank in line with the RBI's Framework and Govt. of India guidelines.	We request to amend the criteria as below: Designing up to 5 green financing products for the Bank in line with the RBI's Framework and Govt. of India guidelines.	At least 05 Green products per year will be required to be designed as per the RBI's Framework and other regulatory guidelines of Govt. of India.

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EY	December 11,2023	20	85	Annexure 18 (Service Level and Non-disclosure Agreement Format)	Legal	Limitation of Liability	The Consultant's liability in case of claims against BOB resulting from its wilful misconduct or gross negligence, loss suffered by BOB due to damage to real or tangible or intangible property by Consultant, its employees and/ or subcontractors or loss suffered by BOB due to infringement of patents, trademarks, copyrights or such other Intellectual Property Rights or breach of confidentiality obligations shall be unlimited	We request you to restrict consultant 's liability to be 1x of the fee value	The clause on Limitation of Liability in RFP is as per the Bank's Standard RFP template and Practice.
EY	December 11,2023	21	80	Annexure 18 (Service Level and Non-disclosure Agreement Format)	Legal	Confidentiality	The provisions of this Clause shall survive the termination of this Agreement.	We request you to restrict the period for which the recipient of confidential information should comply with terms of confidentiality to 3 years	The terms of confidentiality shall survive 5 years after the expiry or termination of the agreement.

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EY	December 11,2023	22	70	Annexure 16- Performance Guarantee	General	Bidder as a partnership or a consortium	“Bidder” (including the term ‘tenderer’, ‘consultant’ or ‘service provider’ in certain contexts) means any person or firm or company, including any member of a consortium or joint venture (that is an association of several persons, or firms or companies), every artificial juridical person not falling in any of the descriptions of bidders stated hereinbefore, including any agency branch or office controlled by such person, participating in a procurement process.	Please advise if the Consultant can submit a response to this RFP through a consortium arrangement? If yes, then whether the evaluation will be conducted together for the consortium or basis individual assessment of the consortium members?	As per the information of RFP for [B] Important Clarifications (page # 4-5), a Consultant can submit a response to this RFP through a consortium arrangement. The evaluation for the same will be conducted together for the consortium based on the clauses mentioned in the Bank's RFP. However, as per the point # 3 of "Section 11 - Other provisions" of the RFP (page # 74), If the Bidder is a partnership or a consortium, the agreement must be signed by all partners or consortium members.
CARE	December 11,2023	23	57	Annexure 10 – Project Detailed Scope of Work	Scope of Work	Implementation Support and Action Plan	Development of appropriate SOPs and data templates to establish controls for validating the Green Financing Framework such as risk screening checklists, sample terms of references, project monitoring checklists amongst others.	How many project monitoring checklist is expected to be prepared by BoB's Risk department (RBI's 11 April 2023 mandate mentions 9 Sectors and 21 sub-sectors)? However, in selected where further information may be required from client, do you foresee the consultant engaging with the Borrower?	To start with, Bank's monitoring checklist will be related to 09 sectors identified by RBI in its Framework for acceptance of Green Deposits (page # 3-4). The same will be required to be prepared in consultation with Bank's Business Units, partner agencies and borrowers (if required).

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CARE	December 11,2023	24	57	Annexure 10 – Project Detailed Scope of Work	Scope of Work	Implementation Support and Action Plan	Development of appropriate SOPs and data templates to establish controls for validating the Green Financing Framework such as risk screening checklists, sample terms of references, project monitoring checklists amongst others.	Does BoB want to build green project screening template (as per RBI Green Deposit Notification dt. 11 April 2023) at pre-on boarding stage or post-on boarding stage of potential borrowers? What kind of support we could expect from the BoB business/risk team reg. client interaction(s)?	The Bank desires the selected consultancy agency to build green project screening template in consultation with the Business Units (BUs) of the Bank at pre-on boarding stage of potential borrowers. RMD, if required and based on Bank's discretion will facilitate interaction(s) with clients in coordination with its related BUs of the Bank.
CARE	December 11,2023	25	57	Annexure 10 – Project Detailed Scope of Work	Scope of Work	Implementation Support and Action Plan	Appropriate Data templates for recording the data from borrowers or reporting and disclosures to measure the impact of the funds based on the environmental and social impact indicators.	Annex 10 (Scope of Work) milestone (b) point 5 states that the Consultant will develop data templates for environmental and social impact indicators. It is understood, while environmental impact are more straightforward to measure, social impacts may not be so. This may need more time and investigation. Please comment.	Environmental impacts indicators tend to be more straightforward to measure due to their quantitative nature, standardized methodologies, readily observable physical parameters, and relatively simple causal relationships. In contrast, social impacts are qualitative, subjective, multifaceted, long-term, and highly context-dependent, making them more challenging to capture through traditional measurement approaches. Measuring social impact therefore requires a more nuanced and context-sensitive approach. Social impact assessments can be done through a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, such as surveys, interviews, and community engagement. Social Impact Indicators may include changes in community well-being, cultural vitality, social equity, and stakeholder perceptions amongst others.

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CARE	December 11,2023	26	10	3. Contract Period	General-Contract Period	Contract Period	Should we bid for 12 monthly (as per Clause 3.1) or full 36 months period as per Annex 10 Payment Terms (pg. 59). Person-power involvement in both cases will be different, please clarify.	The initial appointment of consultancy agency for project is envisaged for a duration of 12 months starting from the beginning of the FY 2024, extendable by another 24 months for the FY 2025 and FY 2026 at the discretion of Bank from the date of appointment with the same T&C and rate. Starting from the date of engagement and its extension based on Bank's discretion, the successful agency will be required to facilitate alignment of the Bank's GD&FCGA Framework with any revisions brought out by the RBI and meet any other regulatory requirements.	The consultancy agency should bid for full 36 months.
CARE	December 11,2023	27	57	Annexure 10 – Project Detailed Scope of Work	Scope of Work	Implementation Support and Action Plan	Conduct a training needs assessment for the relevant professionals of the Bank. Every year 04 training sessions/workshops shall be required to be carried out (03 for the Bank officers and 01 for the senior management). The topic and content for the training sessions/workshops shall be decided by the agency by having prior consultations with the RMD of the Bank.	Are physical training and e-learning modules have to be prepared in parallel? Please advise. Are we expected to prepare content of e-learning module or the entire e-learning module?	Yes, in-person training and e-learning modules have to be prepared in parallel by the consultancy agency in coordination with RMD after conducting of training needs assessment of the relevant Professionals/Business Units of the Bank. The consultancy agency is expected to prepare the entire e-learning module.

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Deloitte	December 12, 2023	28	14	9. Sub-Contracting	Legal	Sub-Contracting	The selected service provider/ vendor shall not subcontract or permit anyone other than its personnel to perform any of the work, service or other performance required under this project. In case any particular specialized service prescribed in the scope of work requires subcontracting, it need to be specified in the proposal/ response document with all the details of the work/services. Please note that no work/services shall be subcontracted without the prior permission from the Bank in writing	We understand collaboration with any third party providers is also restricted similar to subcontracting, please confirm.	In line with the Sub-Contracting clause of the RFP, collaboration with any third party providers is restricted subject to prior permission from the Bank in writing.

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Deloitte	December 12, 2023	29	33	Eligibility Criteria Compliance Sl. 2 & 3	General	Eligibility Criteria Compliance	<p>2. Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>3. Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>	Does the bidder have to comply with both these criteria's for eligibility or compliance with just one of these criteria's will make the bidder eligible to bid.	Both As per the eligibility criteria compliance table (pg no. 33 of RFP), bidder will have to comply with both these criteria's for becoming eligible to bid.

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/ Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/ Deviation	Bank's Reply
Deloitte	December 12, 2023	30	59	2. Payment Terms	General	Payment Terms	<p>The payment shall be made on successful submission of deliverables as per aforesaid stages, plus applicable GST subject to applicable TDS. In case, bidder is engaged for the extended period i.e. milestone d onwards, then payment will be made on completion of above mentioned milestones. Bidder shall submit required documents as prescribed by the Bank for payments.</p>	<p>1. We would like to see clarification on how the timeline mentioned in the RFP corresponds to the payment milestones. As per the instruction there is no milestone d in the table of terms of release of payment (snip below) or scope of work.</p> <p>2. Broad terms of release of payment also include Gap Assessment Report and Impact Assessment report for FY 25 and FY 26, however this is subject to extension by Bank. Please clarify the terms of release of payment for initial 12 month period and a separate terms if project is extended to 2025 and 2026.</p> <p>3. In the commercial Bid, please clarify if the bidder needs to quote only for the initial 12 months or should bidder also include quote assuming project extension to 2025 and 2026.</p>	<p>Payment of 10 % (Gap Assessment), 8.33 % (Implementation support and action plan) and Impact Assessment (15 %) will be released for FY 24 to the consultancy agency subject to timely delivery. The same is likely to follow for FY 25 and FY 26 with the same terms and rate approved for the assignment.</p> <p>The Bidder should quote for 36 months. It will be our endeavour to work with the agency for full term of 03 years. Discretion of the Bank may be exercised in the unlikely event of deficiency of service, if any.</p>

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	31	5	IV.1	General	[A] Important Dates, Application & Bid Security/Earnest Money and RFP Coordinator details:	In case of a company or Limited Liability Partnership, the beneficial owner is the natural person(s), who, whether acting alone or together, or through one or more juridical person, has a controlling ownership interest or who exercises control through other means. Explanation— a. "Controlling ownership interest" means ownership of or entitlement to more than twenty-five per cent, of shares or capital or profits of the company; b. "Control" shall include the right to appoint majority of the directors or to control the management or policy decisions including by virtue of their shareholding or management rights or shareholders agreements or voting agreements;	Our understanding is that this condition will not be applicable to Company / LLP registered in India where there are number of owners / partners. Please confirm our understanding.	The given clause is for the Bidder from a country which shares a land border with India (Pg # 05 of RFP). Hence, the condition will not be applicable to Company / LLP registered in India. However, the Company / LLP registered in India shall follow the Eligibility Criteria Compliance table of the RFP (Pg # 33- 34) and other related provisions mentioned in the RFP.

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	32	33	Annexure 1	General	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA COMPLIANCE	The Bidder should be a company registered under Companies Act, 1956 / partnership Bidder registered under LLP Act, 2008 and should be in existence for at least five years as on March 31, 2023. The Bidder should also be in the line of similar project consultancy at least for a period of 5 years as on March 31, 2023. The Bidder should be registered for GST. It should not be individual/ proprietorship firm etc.	Similar Project is not defined in RFP. Our understanding is that all Sustainability related Advisory work for Banks / Financial Institutions / NBFCs should be covered under similar project experience to encourage more participation from Bidder as Acceptance of Green Deposit Framework is a new regulation introduced recently and Sustainable Financing is a relatively new concept in India. Please confirm our understanding. Can development of climate risk stress testing framework and Climate Risk management be considered as "similar project consultancy"?	Sustainability related Advisory work for Banks / FIs / NBFCs will be covered under similar project experience. In line with Eligibility Criteria Compliance table of the RFP (Pg # 33- 34), development of climate risk stress testing framework and Climate Risk management will be considered as "similar project consultancy".

PwC	December 12, 2023	33	33	Annexure 1	General	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA COMPLIANCE	<p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>	<p>a) Considering the Acceptance of Deposit framework is new regulation and Sustainable Financing is a relatively new concept in India, not many bidder would have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green / Sustainability Financing Framework. To encourage more participation, it is suggested that Assurance, Advisory and Assistance Services in relation to any Sustainability related work including Social / Environmental Impact Assessment for any Banks / Financial Institutions / NBFCs in India should be considered</p> <p>b) Also Credentials of Network Firms of the Bidder in India should be allowed to be considered.</p>	<p>In line with the Technical Bid Evaluation criteria of the RFP (page no. 35-36), we have added FIs in the Bank/FI. The updated paragraphs for eligibility criteria compliance (pg no. 33) could be as under:</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Credentials of Network Firms of the Bidder in India will be allowed to be considered subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>Strict adherence to Eligibility Criteria Compliance table of the RFP (Pg # 33- 34) and other related provisions mentioned in the RFP.</p> <p>In case of a Joint Venture, the Bid Securing Declaration must be in the name of all partners to the Joint Venture that submits the Bid.</p> <p>If the Bidder is a partnership or a</p>
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Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
									<p>consortium, this agreement must be signed by all partners or consortium members.</p> <p>The Bidder shall perform its obligations under this Tender as an independent contractor, and shall not engage subcontractors to perform any of the Deliverables or Services without the prior permission from Bank.</p>
PwC	December 12, 2023	34	35	Annexure 2	General	Evaluation Methodology for Eligible Bidder	<p>Consultancy services to reputed Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) in the area of providing Advisory on Green /Social /Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green / Social / Sustainable Bond / Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards</p>	<p>a) Considering the Acceptance of Deposit framework is new regulation and Sustainable Financing is a relatively new concept in India, not many bidder would have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green / Sustainability Financing Framework. To encourage more participation, it is suggested that Assurance, Advisory and Assistance Services in relation to any Sustainability related work including Social / Environmental Impact Assessment for any Banks / Financial Institutions / NBFCs in India should be considered</p> <p>b) Also Credentials of Network Firms of the Bidder in India should be allowed to be considered.</p>	<p>In line with the Technical Bid Evaluation criteria of the RFP (page no. 35-36), we have added FIs in the Bank/FI. The updated paragraphs for eligibility criteria compliance (pg no. 33) could be as under:</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p>

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									<p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Credentials of Network Firms of the Bidder in India will be allowed to be considered subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>Strict adherence to Eligibility Criteria Compliance table of the RFP (Pg # 33- 34) and other related provisions mentioned in the RFP.</p> <p>In case of a Joint Venture, the Bid Securing Declaration must be in the name of all partners to the Joint Venture that submits the Bid.</p> <p>If the Bidder is a partnership or a consortium, this agreement must be signed by all partners or consortium members.</p> <p>The Bidder shall perform its obligations under this Tender as an independent contractor, and shall not engage subcontractors to perform any of the Deliverables or Services without the prior permission from Bank.</p>

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PwC	December 12, 2023	35	33	Annexure 1	General	Eligibility Criteria Compliance	Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.	<p>a) To ensure compliance of this requirement, it is suggested that Assurance, Advisory and Assistance Services in relation to Sustainable Finance / Bonds for any International Banks / Financial Institutions / NBFCs / Companies should be considered b) Also, since Credentials are being requested for International Organisations, it is suggested that credentials of Global Network Firms of the Bidder in India should be allowed to be considered.</p>	<p>In line with the Technical Bid Evaluation criteria of the RFP (page no. 35-36), we have added FIs in the Bank/FI. The updated paragraphs for eligibility criteria compliance (pg no. 33) could be as under:</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks/FIs at International level. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators.</p> <p>Credentials of Global Network Firms of the Bidder in India will be allowed to be considered subject to strict adherence to Eligibility Criteria Compliance table of the RFP (Pg # 33- 34) and other applicable/related provisions of the partner firms mentioned in the RFP.</p>

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/ Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/ Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	36	35	Annexure 2	General	Evaluation Methodology for Eligible Bidder	Consultancy services to reputed International Banks/ Financial Institutions (FIs) in the area of providing Advisory on Green /Social /Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green / Social / Sustainable Bond / Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards	a) To ensure compliance of this requirement, it is suggested that Assurance, Advisory and Assistance Services in relation to Sustainable Finance / Bonds for any International Banks / Financial Institutions / NBFCs / Companies should be considered b) Also, since Credentials are being requested for International Organisations, it is suggested that credentials of Global Network Firms of the Bidder in India should be allowed to be considered.	As above (item No. 34)
PwC	December 12, 2023	37	33	Annexure 1	General	Eligibility Criteria Compliance	The bidder should be primarily in the field of providing Sustainability, Green Finance and Climate Risk services to the Banks/FIs.	Considering the Acceptance of Deposit framework is new regulation and Sustainable Financing / Climate Risk is a relatively new concept in Banks in India, not many bidder would have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green / Sustainability Financing Framework/ Climate Risk. To encourage more participation, it is suggested that Bidder experience in Assurance, Advisory and Assistance Services in relation to any Sustainability related work including Social / Environmental Impact Assessment for any Banks / Financial Institutions / NBFCs in India should be considered.	The given scope of experience for the prospective bidders for providing Sustainability, Green Finance and Climate Risk services to the Banks/Fis is comprehensive for the specific RFP.

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PwC	December 12, 2023	38	38	Annexure 2	General	Evaluation Methodology for Eligible Bidder	The applicant firm/company should have steady average turnover during the last Three financial years and should not have negative net worth, in any, of the last three years. i. Copy of Audited financial accounts for the last three years (FY 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23). ii. A certificate from an independent Chartered accountant certifying the turnover and net worth of relevant years.	Instead of certificate from an independent Chartered accountant certifying the turnover and net worth of relevant years, whether audited Financial Statements can suffice the requirement.	Copy of Audited financial accounts for the last three years (FY 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23) and A certificate from an independent Chartered accountant certifying the turnover and net worth of relevant years are required.
PwC	December 12, 2023	39	59	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Impact Assessment (FY 24)	Deliverable: Impact Assessment Report on the Annual Basis	By the time financing Framework is finalised and assurance is provided and funds are allocated / disbursed to borrower, FY 24 will be completed and therefore, impact assessment would be of lesser importance as there would be no sustainable benefit that the borrower would have obtained from the fund lent. Kindly confirm that whether FY 24 should not be considered for Impact Assessment.	Bank has already prepared its draft "Framework for Green Deposits and associated Flow of Credit for Green Activities" and it will be finalized soon after receiving Second Party Opinion (SPO) for the same. Impact Assessment of the same for FY 24 and onwards will be required to be carried out.

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/ Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/ Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	40	89	Annexure 18	General	Subcontracting	The Consultant shall not subcontract or permit anyone other than its personnel to perform any of the work, service or other performance required by it under the contract without the prior written consent of the BOB.	We are a global network of firm where we work together with network firms from different geographies. Will engaging with different network firms and collaborating on this assignment be considered as sub-contracting? Please note: while we will work together with network firm, the primary responsibility of the engagement will still be with us.	Although the primary responsibility of the engagement will still be with PwC, the provisions mentioned in the RFP related to working with National/International Partners, Network Firms amongst other needs to be followed by the consultancy agencies.
PwC	December 12, 2023	41	37	Annexure 2	General	Evaluation Methodology for Eligible Bidder	Experience and profile of the key personnel assigned which includes Team Leader, Subject Matter Experts, Team members, etc.	For providing these services, bidder may draw resources from the network firms in India.	As long as provisions mentioned in RFP for the pertaining clause are strictly followed, the proposal is acceptable.
PwC	December 12, 2023	42	37	Annexure 2	General	Evaluation Methodology for Eligible Bidder	Environment, Social and Climate Related Certifications of the involved team members (e.g. GARP SCR, CFA ESG, FSA Level 1, FSA Level 2 amongst others).	Considering the requested certification like GARP SCR, CFA ESG, FSA certifications are not commonly perused, to encourage more participation, it is suggested that project experience and knowledge on Climate Risk Assessments should suffice the requirement.	Knowledge on Climate Risk Assessments forms part of the GARP SCR curriculum.

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	43	37	Annexure 2	General	Evaluation Methodology for Eligible Bidder	Team Leader / Project Manager with 15+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment with PhD in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 10 marks or Team Leader / Project Manager between 10-15 years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment and Post-Graduation in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 05 marks	Considering the concept of Sustainability which has become more significant since last few years in India, not many bidder would have relevant experience more than 15years. So its suggested that there is only 1 category of 10-15 years' experience which can give us maximum marks (i.e. 10 marks here)	As per the Bank requirement, for the Team Leader, PhD is desirable. Hence, the same has been allocated 10 marks. The criteria with relaxation although bearing 05 marks is mentioned in the Marking Criteria of RFP. The same is as under: Team Leader / Project Manager between 10-15 years of experience in the field of Sustainability/Climate Change/Environment and Post-Graduation in the relevant domain to be employed in the assignment - 05 marks (Page # 37 of RFP)
PwC	December 12, 2023	44	37	Annexure 2	General	Evaluation Methodology for Eligible Bidder	Key subject experts with 10+ years of experience in the field of Sustainability / Climate Change / Environment to be employed for key areas in the assignment- 10 marks § Green Finance & Climate Risk Expert- 05 marks § Environmental and Social Management Expert- 05 marks	Considering the concept of Sustainability which has become more significant since last few years in India, not many bidder would have relevant Green Finance and Climate Risk experience more than 10years. So it's suggested that 5-10 years' experience should give 5 marks each.	Key subject experts with 5-10 years of experience can be considered and related scoring would be done accordingly. For Example: An expert with 05 years of relevant experience will receive 05 marks, with 06 years of relevant experience will receive 06 marks.....and with 10 years of relevant experience will receive 10 marks respectively.

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	45	3	(A) 3	General	Important Dates, Application & Bid Security/ Earnest Money and RFP Coordinator details	Last date of submission of RFP Response (Closing date) :28th December 2023, 3:00 PM Mode: Online	We would request for an extension regarding the RFP submission deadline, seeking to shift it from the current date of December 28th to January 10th due to the impending year-end leaves coupled with the requisite permissions essential for government client engagements.	As per the Bank requirement and reasonable time was given since publication of RFPs on November 30, 2023, the Last date of submission of RFP Response (Closing date) i.e., December 28, 2023 till 3:00 PM through Online mode remains unchanged.
PwC	December 12, 2023	46	33	Annexure 01	General	Eligibility Criteria Compliance	Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green /Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/ Regulators.	For the credentials, can we also submit the credentials, where the EL is signed, but work not yet started, or the engagement date is later than the RFP release date?	As per the Bank requirement, after signing of EL; the work with client should have been started and reasonably progressed ahead.

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	47	33	Annexure 01	General	Eligibility Criteria Compliance	Bidder should have provided Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework in at least 2 large Banks in India. Preference would be given to the assignments carried out for Public Sector Banks/Regulators	<p>Please clarify if the requirement for Advisory and Assistance Services to the Bank on Green/Sustainability Financing Framework, specifically in relation to engagements with two banks in India, allow consideration for an assignment completed with a single bank.</p> <p>Additionally if it is accepted, could you clarify the weightage or acceptability of such a single-bank assignment compared to the stipulated requirement of engagements with at least two banks?</p> <p>Can development of climate risk stress testing framework and Climate Risk management for a banks & financial institutions be considered under this category</p>	<p>As per the Bank's requirement, the suggested deviation for engagements with single-bank instead of two banks in India is not acceptable.</p> <p>Development of climate risk stress testing framework and Climate Risk management for Banks & FIs can be considered</p>

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	48	33	Annexure 01	General	Eligibility Criteria Compliance	Copies of Completion Certificate/ POs may be provided. A Self-Declaration also to be furnished by the Bidder on the Company's letter head for the same. The declaration should contain name and contact details of senior client references.	While sharing the client details, we would be able to share the client name, but to maintain the client confidentiality and privacy at our end we will not be able to share client contact information, and the value of work order. We will share the EL (with redacted client contact information and fee) for the proof of engagement. Kindly please consider this as an exception.	As per the Bank's requirement, client name and contact information is required. The information on fees can be redacted in the EL.
PwC	December 12, 2023	49	34	Annexure 01	General	Eligibility Criteria Compliance	The Bidder should not have been blacklisted/debarred by the Central Government/ State Governments/Semi-Government departments/Regulatory Authorities/ Financial Institutions/ Banks/ Public Sector Undertakings in India.	We request you to kindly modify the eligibility criteria to allow Bidders that have not been blacklisted as on date or for a specific period in the past, to participate in the bid. We also request you to kindly allow Bidders to declare that they are not blacklisted as on date or for a specific period in the past from the date of RFP.	As per the Bank's requirement, Bidders are required to declare that they are not blacklisted as on date on the Company's letter head with sign and seal.
PwC	December 12, 2023	50	36	Annexure 02	General	Technical Bid Evaluation	Consultancy services to reputed National Banks/FIs in the area of providing Advisory on Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework and/or doing Green/Social/Sustainable Bond/Loan or assurance of proceeds of any financial product using globally acceptable standards.	Please provide clarification on whether projects involving International Banks operating within India would be included within the criteria specified for providing consultancy services to reputed National Banks/Fis.	Yes, International Banks/FIs operating within India would be included for the said criteria

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	51	36	Annexure 02	General	Technical Bid Evaluation	Tools and techniques, standard operating procedures and best practices adopted for implementation of the assignment.	Could you provide insights into the anticipated IT tools envisioned by the bank for the execution of this project?	IT tools envisioned by the bank for the execution of this project may involve a Dashboard for Bank's Green Financing and related automation of MRV aspects, excel based toolkit amongst others. The same will be decided based on consultation with the Bank's team during the presentation by the successful bidder.
PwC	December 12, 2023	52	37	Annexure 02	General	Technical Bid Evaluation	Experience and profile of the key personnel assigned which includes Team Leader, Subject Matter Experts, Team members, etc.	Is there a minimum qualification / experience criteria for individuals to be eligible for this project? Can work experience act as a substitute for minimum qualification?	Details about minimum qualification / experience of individuals has been covered in the table A. Technical Bid Evaluation in the page # 36-38 of the RFP.
PwC	December 12, 2023	53	57	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Implementation Support and Action Plan	Develop a system for validating the sustainability information provided by the borrower to the Bank and data templates for reporting and disclosures to measure the impact of the funds based on the environmental and social impact indicators.	Please provide further clarification on the specific system requirements envisioned by the bank to establish a mechanism for validating the sustainability information furnished by the borrower	A web-based platform could be developed to streamline and automate the validation of sustainability information submitted by borrowers. The given platform could integrate with existing bank systems to allow for seamless data collection and analysis. Borrowers would upload their sustainability performance details, impacts and photographs. The system could employ algorithms and machine learning to perform preliminary checks for completeness, consistency, and adherence to relevant standards. These checks would flag any inconsistencies or missing information for further scrutiny by bank sustainability specialists.

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PwC	December 12, 2023	54	57	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Gap assessment/ Diagnostic	Provide recommendations to enhance the existing Green/Social/Sustainable Financing Framework to meet the global standards and requirements like Loan Market Association (LMA) provisions for Sustainability-linked Loans, International Capital Market Association (ICMA) principles.	For the RFP, would the scope to enhance financing framework cover the Bank's complete portfolio including Corporate, MSME and retail business or only one segment. Please clarify. Would the financing framework development be undertaken at account level or at the consolidated level for each borrower?	The scope to enhance financing framework would involve the Bank's complete financing portfolio including Corporate and Institutional Credit, MSME, Retail Liabilities and Food & Agribusiness.
PwC	December 12, 2023	55	57	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Project Detailed Scope of Project Scope	Establish the internal controls for project evaluation and selection, management of proceeds, monitoring and reporting of the utilization of funds.	Please provide clarification on whether the project selection process encompasses the assessment of credit risk perspectives and contributes to the enhancement of the bank's credit policy.	Yes, the project selection process encompasses the assessment of credit risk perspectives which will in turn contribute to the enhancement of the bank's credit policy.

Agency	Date	Sr. No.	RFP Page #	Point/Section #	Category (Scope/Commercial/Legal/General)	Heading	Clarification point as stated in the Tender/RFP document	Comment/Suggestion/Deviation	Bank's Reply
PwC	December 12, 2023	56	58	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Project Detailed Scope of Project Scope	Conduct a training needs assessment for the relevant professionals of the Bank. Every year 04 training sessions/workshops shall be required to be carried out (03 for the Bank officers and 01 for the senior management). The topic and content for the training sessions/workshops shall be decided by the agency by having prior consultations with the RMD of the Bank.	Will the training sessions/workshops be imparted in an online mode or offline mode?	Out of the 04 training sessions/workshops, 01 for Bank officers and 01 for the senior management will be in-person. Rest 02 will be virtual training sessions.
PwC	December 12, 2023	57	58	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Project Detailed Scope of Project Scope	Develop an e-module on the use of data templates and procedures to be followed for implementing the Bank's GD&FCGA Framework as a part of the Loan disbursement process.	Please clarify if the e-modules modules are expected to be created in excel, word document or any other format or digital tool.	For e-modules modules, content are expected to be created in video format (digital tool) and related detailed reference material in the word format. Further, in case of tool in excel format, the user manual shall be required in word format.
PwC	December 12, 2023	58	58	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Impacts Assessment	Provide a comprehensive Impact assessment report on the Annual Basis based on the identified results and provide these findings to the senior management.	Please provide clarification on whether the annual impact assessment, as specified in the Request for Proposal (RFP) is exclusively intended for senior management review only. Please clarify whether the bank shall place the impact assessment report on their website after third party verification/assurance.	As per RBI guidelines, impact assessment reports are required to be placed on the Bank's website after third party validation as per the format suggested in the RBI's "Framework for acceptance of Green Deposits".

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PwC	December 12, 2023	59	60	Annexure 10	Scope of Work	Payment Terms	If Bank is made aware that the Bidder is offering similar services to any other entity at lower price than Bidder will have to refund the higher charges levied to the Bank.	Please provide clarification on the term 'similar services' as referenced in the clause? Specifically, does it pertain to an identical scope of services outlined in this RFP being offered to any other entity? Additionally, could you specify the timeframe within which such a contract, offering similar services at a lower price, should have been established? Given the inherent challenge in comparing project scopes across diverse entities, we kindly request the exclusion of this clause due to its potential limitations in equitable evaluation.	'Similar services' here means activities and services covered under Regulatory Framework on Green Deposit and associated flow of Credit. As per the Bank's guidelines, Payment Terms as mentioned in the RFP cannot not be altered.
PwC	December 12, 2023	60	86	Annexure 18	General	Penalties and Liquidated damages	.1.Consultant shall be liable to pay penalty of ____% to the contract value per week or part thereof for not adhering to the time schedules. 2. If the Consultant fails to complete the due performance as per this Agreement, BOB reserves the right to terminate the contract and recover Liquidated Damages ____% of contract value.	We would request you to provide the specific percentages of penalty and liquidated damages that would be applicable. We request a clear definition of the term "part thereof" for the purpose calculating penalties. For example will a delay of one day be considered "part thereof" and trigger full week penalty?	Penalties and Liquidated damages will be as per the Clause 2. Payment Terms (pg # 59-60) and other applicable terms mentioned in the RFP. Even a delay of one day beyond due date will be considered "part thereof" and trigger full week penalty.

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PwC	December 12, 2023	61	88	Annexure 18	General	Audit	BOB reserves the right to conduct an audit/ ongoing audit of the services provided by the Consultant. The Consultant should allow the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) or persons authorized by it to access BOB documents, records or transaction or any other information given to, stored or processed by the Consultant within a reasonable time failing which the Consultant will be liable to pay any charges/ penalty levied by RBI.	We wish to clarify that we will retain our records as per our records retention policies. Upon reasonable notice, we will allow Client/RBI to inspect our invoicing records under this engagement; such inspection shall be done in a pre-agreed manner and during normal business hours. For avoidance of doubt, such inspection should not cause us to be in breach of our organizational confidentiality requirements. Please acknowledge that our audit related obligations will be subject to foregoing statement.	The inspection by RBI will be as per the Clause # 22. AUDIT and confidentiality clauses mentioned in the RFP
PwC	December 12, 2023	62	89	Annexure 18	General	Subcontracting	The Consultant shall not subcontract or permit anyone other than its personnel to perform any of the work, service or other performance required by it under the contract without the prior written consent of the BOB.	We are a global network of firm where we work together with network firms from different geographies. Will engaging with different network firms and collaborating on this assignment be considered as sub-contracting? Please note: while we will work together with network firm, the primary responsibility of the engagement will still be with us.	Although the primary responsibility of the engagement will still be with PwC, the provisions mentioned in the RFP related to working with National/International Partners, Network Firms amongst other needs to be followed by the consultancy agencies as per the clauses mentioned in the RFP.

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PwC	December 12, 2023	63	NA	No clause in RFP	General	No third party disclaimer	No clause in RFP	We will be providing services and deliverables to you under the contract. We accept no liability to anyone, other than you, in connection with our services, unless otherwise agreed by us in writing. You agree to reimburse us for any liability (including legal costs) that we incur in connection with any claim by anyone else in relation to the services. Please confirm our understanding is correct.	The clause 14. INDEMNITY (Pg # 81-82) of the RFP is related to the claim by anyone in relation to the services provide by the agency to BOB. The same shall be followed for this assignment.
PwC	December 12, 2023	64	NA	No clause in RFP	General	Acceptance	No clause in RFP	If the project is to be completed on time, it would require binding both parties with timelines to fulfil their respective part of obligations. We request you that you incorporate a deliverable acceptance procedure, perhaps the one provided by MeitY in their guidelines, or the one suggested below, to ensure that acceptance of deliverables is not denied or delayed and comments, if any, are received by us well in time. You may consider including the below simple clause:	As per the Bank's standardized approved template for RFP, the suggested clause for deliverable acceptance procedure cannot not be added at this stage. However, the timelines to fulfil the respective part of obligations can be decided and mutually approved during the EL signing/Kick-off stage.

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								"Within 10 days (or any other agreed period) from Client's receipt of a draft deliverable, Client will notify Consultant if it is accepted. If it is not accepted, Client will let Consultant know the reasonable grounds for such non acceptance, and Consultant will take reasonable remedial measures so that the draft deliverable materially meets the agreed specifications. If Client does not notify Consultant within the agreed time period or if Client uses the draft deliverable, it will be deemed to be accepted."	