



## Set of Q&A

# Request for Proposals (RFP) to Implement Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems with Battery Storage and Lighting Retrofit in Two (2) Public Schools in Lebanon

Energy Smart Mediterranean Schools Networks Project

ESMES (A\_B.4.3-0123)

Financed in the framework of the ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2014-2020

22 February 2023

Prepared by the Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC)

Beirut, Lebanon



## **Notes to Bidders**

1. This document provides the answers to 15 questions that were sent by interested bidders, following the launching of the RFP to “Request for Proposals (RFP) to Implement Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems with Battery Storage and Lighting Retrofit in Two (2) Public Schools in Lebanon” under ESMES project.
2. This document shall be considered an integral part of the RFP.



Q1. Which type of smart meter should be used?

A1. The installation of smart meters is not within the scope of this RFP. The meter referred to in this RFP is related to the net metering mechanism, not a smart meter to monitor energy consumption. As mentioned in the RFP pages 7 and 29, "The excess of electricity produced shall be delivered to the national grid through net-metering mechanism. The contractor shall provide all necessary documents for the net-metering applications and shall assist, to the extent reasonably possible, in the application procedure. "

Q2. Is the platform of the inverter wifi dongle sufficient for monitoring or is there any additional platform required?

A2. As mentioned in the RFP page 38 "A data monitoring system shall be accessible locally and also remotely via the web". Therefore, if the proposed platform of the inverter allows data monitoring system, accessible both locally and remotely via the web, providing at least the readings mentioned in the RFP page 38, then it is sufficient. Otherwise, an additional platform should be added, taking into consideration that the pyranometer sensor readings should also be available using the same platform.

Q3. Is the required battery storage for Abi Samra school 20kWh or 30kWh?

A3. As mentioned in the RFP pages 23 and 29, the required battery storage for Abi Samraa Al Oula for Girls is 20kWh, while the battery storage requested for George Sarraf public school is 30 kWh.

Q4. Can the existing structure be shifted to the back to accommodate for more roof area available to use?

A4. The existing PV structure belonging to an independent entity occupying the same building cannot be altered in any way or form.

Q5. Where is the location of the inverter and battery room?

A5. The bidder shall propose a location for the inverter and battery room. At a later stage, the exact location will be determined with the approval of each schools' principal.



- Q6. Can you please provide us with a CAD drawing of the roof, if not available, can we have the dimensions (length x width) of the available roof area for an accurate design?  
A6. CAD drawings of the schools are not available. As observed during the site visit, several locations could be suitable for the installation of the PV structures. One of the possible roof locations has a dimension of 15x14m.
- Q7. Can we replace the existing light fixture with a fixture that fits T8 LED Tube?  
A7. The whole fixture could be replaced if clearly indicated in the proposed bid; as long as no additional cost is requested by the contractor at any stage of this tender procedure.
- Q8. Should the elevator be included in the solar system of the school?  
A8. The elevator load should be segregated from the solar PV system dedicated to Abi Samraa Al Oula for Girls Public school.
- Q9. Should the cable trays be UV protected or will the fact that they are hot dip galvanized be enough?  
A9. As mentioned in the RFP pages 31 and 35, a UV protected cable trays is required to protect all AC and DC cables
- Q10. Is the lightning system only for the PV panels or for the protection of the whole building?  
A10. The lightning systems shall be dedicated for the solar PV systems.
- Q11. Is it possible to connect the earth cables on the existing earthing system?  
A11. As mentioned on page 39 in the RFP" The contractor is responsible for the installation of one (1) electrical earthing system for both sites, in the form of earthing rods, with a ground resistance value less than 5 ohms"; thus, a separate earthing system is mandatory.
- Q12. Could a hybrid inverter with built in MPPT charger be used?  
A12. It is possible to use a hybrid inverter with built in MPPT charger as long as it complies with the RFP requirements.
- Q13. Can the bid bond be a certified check?  
A13. As mentioned on page 17 in the RFP, "Form 3: Bid Bond – to be made payable in cash to the LCEC to the amount of 4,000 USD"; the Bid Bond cannot be a certified check. Also, Form 3 shall be completed, signed, and stamped by the bidder.  
The bid bond shall be submitted by the bidders before the deadline of the bid submission.



Q14. *The currency of the tender is EURO; while in “Form 3 - Bid Bond” the currency is USD, and in “Form 5 – Financial Situation and Performance” is LBP. So which currency is to be used for all the tender and forms?*

*A14. As mentioned in the RFP page 6, the currency of the tender is Euro. Also, as mentioned in the RFP page 17, the bid bond is to be made payable in cash to the LCEC to the amount of 4,000 USD. The Financial Situation and Performance Form reflecting the financial situation of the applicant is in LBP as mentioned on page 55 in the RFP. Each of the abovementioned currencies do not contradict since each one is dedicated for a specific independent activity in the tender. To sum up, the financial offer must be submitted in Euro (€) and exclusive of VAT, the performance bond should be paid in cash dollars and the Financial Situation and Performance Form template should be filled in LBP.*

Q15. *Can we submit “copies” of the original legally certified documents of: Company registration documents (Registration documents along with their English version translation) and certificates of similar experience.*

*A15. As mentioned on page 17 in the RFP “Copies of articles of incorporation or equivalent, and/or documents of registration of the legal entity to be attached”. Thus, copies of original documents of requested articles shall be submitted.*