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**Minutes of the Pre-Bidding Meeting**
for
**ItB26/03170: GT/Strengthening Air Quality Monitoring Infrastructure in Moldova**

Enabling an Inclusive Green Transition in the Republic of Moldova

as of 22 January 2024, 11:00 Online via Zoom platform
https://undp.zoom.us/j/81243371537?pwd=AKrnkU7iyRMAdB5hEYkE5voywjLNKM.1

**Agenda:**
I. Presentation and description of procedures
II. Questions and answers

## I. Presentation and description of Terms of References

The Pre-Bid Conference for ITB26/03170 was opened by Ms. Cristina Gnaciuc, Procurement Analyst/ Head of the Procurement & Operational Support Unit, UNDP Moldova, together with Ms. Veronica Lopotenco, who welcomed the participants and invited them to introduce themselves.

UNDP Moldova was represented by the following officials:

Ms. Cristina Gnaciuc – Procurement Analyst / Head of Procurement & Operational Support Unit
Ms. Veronica Lopotenco – Project Analyst
Mr. Mihail Balan – Procurement Associate
Mr. Ion Vărzari – Finance Associate
Ms. Olesea Rotaru – Project Associate
Ms. Raisa Remhe – Procurement Associate
Ms. Natalia Ibrisim – Procurement Associate
Mr. Serghei Zamsa – ICT Analyst (GT Project)

Participants
A total of 22 participants attended the conference, representing the following organizations:

Bogdan Drezaliu – Tehnoinstrument SRL
Anna Palewicz-Lagojda – ENVEA SA
Angelica Centanaro – SUEZ Aria Technologies
Branislav Jurak – ECM ECO Monitoring a.s.

Daniel Moscin – "ARSCOM" SRL
Martin Marinov – Labexpert BG
Jose Miguel Garcia-Hollmann – California Innovation Group
Mira C. Sadanand – AGT SpA (formerly Agrotec SpA)
Nicolai Iasîbaș – Lokmera SRL
Olivier Schelfhout – Enviromen B.V.
Marius Radu Petre – Horiba GmbH Austria
Stefan Angheliu – Orion Europe SRL
Manuela Tzvetanova – Labexpert Ltd
Matt Wittebol – Enviromen B.V.
Ecaterina – BizMatters Consulting SRL
Elisa – Wagtech Projects Limited
Ilia – KVG LLC Sales Team
Iulia Petuhov – BizMatters Consulting SRL
Bilal Alkamouni – MEDILAB SAL
Dragos Guja - BizMatters Consulting SRL
Stefan Cebotari
Ondrej Svacinka – Envitech-Bohemia

Ms. Lopotenco took over the discussion and continued with a brief introduction and background to the tender ItB26/03170, made a technical presentation of required goods and related services and corresponding deliverables presented in the ItB. Serghei Zamsa intervened and clarified that responsibility for testing and additional system components lies with the bidders and clarified that, irrespective of the software solution proposed, the system must remain fully operable following the expiry of the maintenance period. Any licensed software shall not oblige the customer to depend on the supplier for continued operation, and the software licenses must allow uninterrupted system use after the maintenance period has concluded.

Subsequently, Ms. Lopotenco proceeded with presentation of Annex 1: Equipment, Services and Technical Specifications of the tender package and reviewed each page of the document.

Ms. Lopotenco further outlined the testing and acceptance procedures. She explained that, following the installation of the stations and the information system, acceptance testing would be carried out jointly with the final beneficiary and the project technical expert to verify correct installation in accordance with the approved project specifications. This would be followed by operational testing over a period of 30 working days, during which system performance would be monitored. Successful continuous operation of all equipment throughout this period would constitute successful completion of the operational tests. And continued with detailing the technical specifications, equipment and service requirements, testing and training procedures, commissioning, warranty conditions, and post installation support obligations and continued with deliverables.

Cristina Gnaciuc made an overall presentation of the tender's conditions and requirements, specifically focusing on Sections 1 - 7 of the solicitation documents.

***Section 1: Letter of Invitation*** provides an overview of the procurement process and an introduction to the project. It also lists all sections of the ITB along with the key documents that bidders need to review.

***Section 2 : Instructions to Bidders***, provides the general rules governing the tender process, including UNDP

procurement principles, bidder eligibility, bid preparation and submission requirements, clarification procedures, bid evaluation methodology, and award process, as well as required documentation, with relevant references and links. Bidders are strongly encouraged to review this section carefully to fully understand UNDP procurement rules and requirements.

***Section 3: Data Sheet*** sets out the tender's specific requirements that complement and, where applicable, prevail over Section 2: Instructions to Bidders. It is a critical part of the solicitation and defines the binding conditions under which bids must be prepared and submitted.

This section confirms, inter alia, bidder eligibility, eligible goods and services, acceptable submission languages (English and/or Romanian), pricing rules and fixed-price requirements, bid currency and payment arrangements, tax treatment, bid validity period, and the structure and format of bid submission through UNDP's Quantum ERP system, including deadlines and official communication channels.

Section 3 also specifies the mandatory bid security requirement, including its amount, currency, acceptable format, validity period, and submission procedure, as well as other key commercial and contractual conditions such as liquidated damages, performance security, and contract award arrangements. Bidders are therefore strongly encouraged to review this section carefully to ensure full compliance with the solicitation requirements.

Below ***Section 3: Data Sheet conditions*** were highlighted:

- The **general purpose of the tender** is to purchase, install and implement an Air Quality Monitoring Infrastructure in the Republic of Moldova, through delivering, installation, and commissioning of 10 (ten) fully functional and EU-compliant air quality monitoring stations, and upgrading 2 stations that are currently operational, and integrating them into the National Air Quality Monitoring and System in accordance with the Section 5: Schedule of Requirements of this ITB.

- The ITB includes the **Annex 1: Equipment, Services and Technical Specifications Schedule** as a separate attachment, that incorporate data to be used for the preparation of the offer and/or technical project**,** as well as **Annex 2: Technical Responsiveness Table** and **Form H: Price Schedule** as separate attachments, to be used for the presentation of the technical and financial offer.

- The bid could be presented in **English and/or Romanian** (acceptable).

- **Partial bids** shall not be allowed. Bidders must quote prices for the total requirement requested under Section 5: Schedule of Requirements. Evaluation will be done for the total requirement.

- The quotations shall be quoted only in the currency indicated in the system: **US Dollars (USD)**. In case of contract award to a local company, payments will be made in Moldovan Leu based on UN Operational Rate of Exchange on the day of payment: https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/OperationalRates.php

- **A bid security** in the amount of USD 55,000 is required. The Bid Security shall be valid up to 30 days after the final date of validity of bids. A copy of full Bid Security documentation must be submitted through Quantum system as part of the online bid and the Original Bid Security documentation must be physically received by UNDP (10) ten calendar days after the deadline for submission of offers indicated in the Quantum system the latest.

- The **submission deadline** has been extended to **26 February 2026 at 16:30 (GMT+3)** in order to allow Bidders sufficient time to prepare their Bids.

- The bids must be valid for a period not shorter than **90 days since submission deadline**. This is the period UNDP is obliged to take a decision and inform the bidders on the tender results. Bidders are encouraged to keep patience until an e-mail informing on the tender results will be sent.

- A **Public bid opening report** will be sent automatically from the system to all bidders who have submitted a bid for this tender.

  UNDP Moldova will award a contract to **One Bidder Only**, award being made to the lowest priced out of technically responsive, eligible and qualified bids.

- The expected commencement date of the contract is **mid March 2026**, however, this date may be adjusted in case of delays related to the submission of offers or other technical issues.

- **Liquidated Damages -** will be imposed as follows: percentage of contract price per week of delay: 2.5% up to a maximum of 10% of the Contract value, after which UNDP may terminate the contract.

- **Performance Security** shall be required in the **amount of 10% of contract amount** from the awarded Bidder.

- Bidders must submit their **proposal directly in the online system Quantum.** Referring to the online submission via Quantum platform, the Bidders were suggested to pay attention to the detailed User Guide to assist Bidders with registration to the platform and submission of Bids, that is available with the tender documentation on all announcement pages:
  - UNDP Procurement Notices - Procurement Notices - UNDP-MDA-00894 - ItB26/03170: GT/Strengthening Air Quality Monitoring Infrastructure in Moldova
  - UNGM - ungm.org/Public/Notice/288546
  - UNDP Moldova – UNDP Moldova | Tender: ItB26/03170: GT/Strengthening Air Quality Monitoring Infrastructure in Moldova, Moldova

  If following strictly the guidelines, Bidders will succeed.
  **In case Bidders encounter problems in registering and submitting a bid through Quantum platform** as recommended in the user guide, they were suggested to write to sc.md@undp.org and UNDP will try to help with solving the issue.
  **In case Bidders are not registered in Quantum,** they need to follow this link to register a profile: **Supplier Portal Registration Link. (** https://estm.fa.em2.oraclecloud.com/fscmUI/redwood/supplier-registration/register-supplier/register-supplier-verification?id=TUW16eK6qcr67sVNwAfAMoYCOHny7FmchTkUNg99VcaL5ZkFrYsNQ1ceRw%3D%3D **)**
  Please note that the access link to the Supplier registered profile is sent from Oracle within up to 3 days. In case Bidders have not received the access link after 3 days since registration, they should address for support to UNDP at the email address: sc.md@undp.org.
  In case Bidders encounter errors with registration (e.g. system states Supplier already is registered), they should address for support to UNDP at the email address: sc.md@undp.org.
  Computer firewall could block *oracle* or *undp.org extension* and Suppliers might not receive the

Oracle notifications. Bidders were recommended to turn down any firewalls on your computers to ensure receipt of email notification.
Bidders were recommended to not create a new profile if they already have one. They have to use the forgotten password feature in case they do not remember the password or the username from previous registration.

- All the **clarifications** must be submitted not later than **5 days** before the tender deadline in the system using the messaging feature. Only in case of facing difficulties to register in the system and sending messages, bidders can write to the contacts indicated in the solicitation documents. In case questions will be considered relevant for other bidders, the questions, with their respective answers (without disclosing the source of questions) may be published for the use by other bidders. By this the "Fairness, integrity and transparency" procurement principle is respected – all the bidders have access to the same information.

- Bidders which registered in Quantum at the respective tender/negotiation will automatically be notified of:
    - any **amendments** to the tender documents
    - all **clarifications** issued by UNDP
    - any **extensions** of deadlines
    - **published minutes** of pre-bid meetings and associated **presentations**

  Please check the Quantum platform and websites: https://sc.undp.md/viewtenders2/, http://procurement-notices.undp.org/ , https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice accordingly.

- Bidders were pointed the **importance of submitting all requested documents as per solicitation document** together with the offer **through the Quantum system**. The system will not allow submission unless all required documents are uploaded. Please refer to Section 3 – Data Sheet, point 55 „Documents to be submitted".

- Ms. Gnaciuc mentioned that submission of bids through Quantum portal is the only means of accepting bids from potential Bidders. Moreover, Bidders were advised to **upload bid documents and to submit their offer a day prior or well before the date and time indicated under the deadline for submission of Offers**. If Bidder faced any issue during submitting offers at the last minutes prior to the deadline for submission, UNDP might not be able to assist on such a short notice and would not be held liable in such instance. UNDP would not accept any offer that is not submitted directly through the System.

Referring to ***Section 4. Evaluation Criteria***, it was underlined that this section reflects the **ELIGIBILITY** and **QUALIFICATION** requirements and **Technical Evaluation Criteria** to be met by the bidders. The criteria are applied on a knock-out principle.

Particular attention was drawn to **joint venture submissions**, noting that the **eligibility and qualification requirements must be met by the relevant partner**, as specified under each criterion in Section 4: Evaluation Criteria.

The **lead partner** of the JV/Consortium/Association must **submit the bid through the Quantum system** and will be the entity with which the contract is signed and to which all payments are made.

Failure to meet any mandatory eligibility, qualification, or documentation requirement will result in disqualification.

The **evaluation process** was explained as a three-stage procedure consisting of a preliminary document compliance review, an eligibility and qualification assessment on a pass/fail basis, and a detailed technical and financial evaluation. The technical evaluation will assess compliance with technical specifications, delivery timelines, warranty provisions, and service and technical support requirements. Financial evaluation will be based on the submitted price schedule, with payments linked to the completion and acceptance of specific deliverables rather than individual stations. Bidders were encouraged to carefully review all requirements and submit any questions through the official UNDP procurement channels within the specified timeframe.

Further, Bidders were recommended to pay attention to the main requirements towards the object of the tender outlined in ***Section 5: Schedule of Requirements***, together with Annex 1: Equipment, Services and Technical Specifications, which also presents the required deliverables and specifications.

***Section 6 : Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms***, presents the General Conditions of Contract of UNDP. It includes a link where the applicable terms and conditions can be reviewed. https://www.undp.org/procurement/doing-business-undp/how-we-buy

Referring to ***Section 7: Bidding Forms***, the below were highlighted:

- Bidders were encouraged to follow the template from Section 7 when presenting CV of the key personnel listed under Section 4: Evaluation Criteria. Bidders have to ensure that the CV reflects not only incumbent's qualifications and experience, but also provides names and contact details of at least 2 reference persons. UNDP reserves the right to contact those persons into the purpose of due diligence exercise. Bidders should pay attention to the fact that CV's must be signed only by the referred persons and not bidder's director or administrator.

- **Form H: Price Schedule** will form Bidder's Financial Bid. Form H: Price Schedule is attached as a separate document in Excel format. Bidders are required to complete and sign the form, and submit both the signed and scanned version and the editable Excel file as part of their submission.The form shall be filled in US Dollars. The currency shall be duly indicated by Bidders. According to contract provisions, the unit prices are fixed and are not subject to any variation whatsoever (currency fluctuation, increase of market prices, increase of any taxes etc.), that is why bidders are encouraged to rethink and include all the costs associated with any risks for the implementation of this contract. In case of deviations between unit prices submitted in the bid and those reported after completion, UNDP will not accept such deviations and may terminate the contract immediately.Also, Bidders should pay attention to the fact that the financial proposal shall be VAT 0%. The envisaged project is of technical assistance and falls under international treaties to which Moldova is a party and as a confirmation, the Contractor will be provided with confirming letter. This means that not only the contractor but also its subcontractors can benefit from the 0% VAT reduction for the services provided under this contract. At the same time, in case there are any imports envisaged under this contractwithin 24 hours period from written notification, UNDP will issue a letter confirming tax free and VAT 0% application for the imported goods and will complete the customs clearance.

- **Form I** (Section 7) is the template for Bid Security (Bank Guarantee). Bidders are required to strictly follow this template and do not allow banks to operate modifications in the text. In case any modification

to the template is requested by the bank, Bidders should address to UNDP at sc.md@undp.org for advice if the required modification could be accepted by UNDP.

During the pre-bidding conference, **no questions were raised**, including during the Q&A session scheduled at the end. However, Ms. Gnaciuc and Ms. Lopotenco informed the participants that the minutes will include the answers to the questions previously submitted in Quantum. They also encouraged all participants to submit any additional questions that may arise after the conference by replying to the emails sent by Quantum.

The Pre-Bidding Meeting Session was closed by Mrs. Lopotenco with dully regards.

## II. Questions posted by Bidders prior to and after the Pre-Bid Meeting Communication (by QUANTUM) and Answers

| Questions | Answers |
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| **Question 1: Local Partner Requirement**<br>Is it mandatory to subcontract or appoint a local Moldovan resident company or individual(s) as a subcontractor or as a Joint Venture (JV) / consortium member? Alternatively, may the required services and goods be delivered by a non-resident company that fully meets all technical requirements, including after-sales warranty and maintenance obligations? | **ANSWER:** No. The ITB does not require bidders to subcontract or to form a Joint Venture/Consortium with a local Moldovan entity.<br>Section 3, Article 4 of the Data Sheet explicitly states: *"Bidders from all countries are eligible to bid."*<br>The ITB does not impose any mandatory local content or local partner requirement.<br>However, the contractor remains fully responsible for meeting all contractual obligations, including delivery, installation, commissioning, warranty, and provision of 24/7 local or regional technical support. These obligations may be fulfilled either directly by the bidder or through consortiums/associations/subcontractors, at the bidder's discretion.<br>Accordingly, the bidder may either fully perform the contract without a local partner, provided that all technical, warranty, and service requirements are duly met, or choose to form a Joint Venture (JV) or consortium with a local partner. |
| **Question 2: Joint Venture Payment Structure**<br>In our preferred setup, the JV lead would meet the qualification, experience, and major technical requirements stipulated in the ITB, while the JV member would provide financial support, overall project management support, and undertake part of the construction and installation services. In this scenario, is it permissible for payments to be made to the JV member rather than the JV lead, provided this arrangement is | **ANSWER:** In the case of a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association, UNDP signs the contract exclusively with the JV Lead. Consequently, all payments are made solely to the Contractor, i.e. the JV Lead.<br>UNDP does not make direct payments to individual JV members, regardless of the internal division of responsibilities or financial arrangements agreed within the JV. Any payment distribution between JV partners must be managed internally, in accordance with the JV Agreement.<br>Accordingly, the bid must be submitted by the JV Lead Partner, who will remain fully responsible for contract performance and financial management vis-à-vis UNDP. |

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| clearly indicated in the Proposal (Form E: Joint Venture / Consortium / Association Information) and the JV Agreement?<br>In case of a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association, will payments be made exclusively to the JV Leader, or can UNDP make direct payments to each JV member in accordance with the agreed scope split/responsibility allocation and the commercial breakdown included in the bid and the JV agreement? | |
| **Question 3: Payment Milestones and Cost Breakdown**<br>The ITB states that payments will be made based on deliverables, and the attached "Table – Prices per Deliverables" lists eight (8) milestones:<br>☒ Pre-shipment inspection (FAT)<br>☒ Inspection upon arrival at destination<br>☒ Installation<br>☒ Testing<br>☒ Training on Operation and Maintenance<br>☒ Commissioning<br>☒ Written Acceptance of Goods based on full compliance with ITB requirements<br>☒ Follow-up training.<br>However, no payment percentages are specified.<br>**Please clarify:**<br>○ **Whether the listed eight milestones correspond to eight separate payments.** | **ANSWER**: Payment(s) will be carried out upon successful completion and acceptance of Contract(s) deliverables. The latest are established din Section 5: Schedule of Requirements, section **G. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES AND ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME.** |
| **Question 4:** In the absence of defined payment percentages, what criteria or mechanism should be used to calculate and indicate the amounts in the | **ANSWER**: Since UNDP does not prescribe percentages, the bidder must:<br>• allocate costs proportionally to each deliverable,<br>• align the amounts with the bidder's internal cost structure, and |

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| "Breakdown of Costs per Deliverables." | • ensure the total equals to the overall bid price.<br>UNDP will evaluate whether the breakdown is realistic, consistent, and compatible with the implementation plan.<br>There is no predefined formula; the bidder defines the cost distribution. |
| **Question 5: Acceptance phases**<br>Please clarify whether we can deliver goods and services in parts. For example, in the 1st phase, we can deliver 5 complete sets of stations, followed by another 5 stations + 2 station upgrades. This approach is much more business-wise, considering there is no advance payment in this project. | **ANSWER:** Deliveries may be carried out in phases, provided that they fully comply with the approved implementation schedule and that the entire scope of the contract is completed within the maximum implementation period of 16 months.<br>This means that:<br>• Phased logistics and staged deliveries are permitted and are common for projects of this nature. Details shall be discussed and agreed with the awarded Contractor.<br>• Phased bidding, partial offers, or bidding for only part of the scope are **not** permitted.<br>Accordingly, the contractor may deliver the stations in several batches as part of the implementation plan; however, the bid must cover the full scope of the contract, including all 12 stations, station upgrades, and all associated services. |
| **Question 6: Bid and Performance Security**<br>Please confirm whether bid security and performance security issued by a foreign (non-Moldovan) bank is acceptable (using the ITB templates). | **ANSWER:** Both the **Bid Security** and the **Performance Security** must be issued by banks "acceptable to the UNDP Comptroller, i.e., banks certified by the central bank of the country to operate as a commercial bank."<br>Therefore, the Bid and Performance Securities may be issued by any internationally licensed commercial bank. |
| **Question 7: Performance Security validity period**<br>Please clarify Performance Security validity period. | **ANSWER**: Section 6 (Performance Security template) specifies the required validity: The Performance Security must remain valid "until 30 days after the date of issuance of the certificate of satisfactory performance and full completion."<br>Given the contract duration of 16 months, the typical validity requirement is: 16 months + 30 days, unless extensions occur.<br>The exact dates for the performance security validity shall be discussed with the awarded Bidder before contract signature. |
| **Question 8: Audited Financial Statements Requirement**<br>For international bidders, the ITB requires the submission of the latest audited financial statements (Income Statements and Balance Sheets), including auditors' reports for the past three (3) years (2022–2024). Please note that in some | **ANSWER:** The ITB (Section 3, Article 55) requires international bidders to submit the *latest audited financial statements*, including the auditors' reports, for the past three (3) years. However, in cases where the bidder's national legislation does not require statutory audits, audited financial statements are not strictly mandatory. In such circumstances, the bidder should submit:<br>• Financial statements signed and certified by the company's authorized accountant; |

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| countries, companies are not legally required to have their financial statements audited, although they maintain proper accounting records and prepare financial statements in accordance with internationally recognized accounting standards. In such cases, is it mandatory for the financial statements to be audited, or would financial statements signed and certified by an internal accountant be acceptable? It is worth mentioning that this is a common practice in other UNDP tenders. | • A written declaration confirming that statutory audits are not required under the bidder's national legislation;<br>• Supporting evidence of the applicable national accounting rules, where available.<br><br>UNDP reserves the right to request additional supporting documentation during the evaluation process. Accordingly, while audited financial statements are preferred, financial statements certified by an authorized internal accountant and supported by a clear justification will be accepted where audits are not legally required. |
| **Question 9: Stage 5: Training**<br><br>The ITB states that the Contractor shall prepare a detailed training concept, in English or Romanian, outlining the proposed duration, structure, methodology, and content of the training sessions. It is also specified that two types of training are required: initial training and follow-up training.<br><br>Please confirm whether the training sessions may be delivered entirely in English, or whether simultaneous interpretation into Romanian is required. | **ANSWER**: Training sessions may not be delivered entirely in English. Simultaneous interpretation into Romanian is required for all training sessions. |
| **Question 10: Stage 5: Training** Please clarify whether face-to-face training is mandatory for both initial and follow-up sessions, or whether online/remote training would be acceptable, at least for the follow-up training. | **ANSWER**: A face-to-face training is mandatory for both initial and follow-up sessions. |

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| **Question 11: Stage 5: Training**<br>The ITB states that in relation to the provision of trainings, *"all costs associated with the development, implementation, and follow-up of the training sessions, including materials, travel, and personnel expenses, shall be fully borne by the Contractor."*<br>Please clarify whether this requirement also implies that the training venue must be arranged and provided by the Contractor, or whether the venue will be provided by the Client. | **ANSWER**: Section 5 of the ITB, point C "Project's Stages" states: "Costs related to catering and venue for initial and follow-up trainings will be covered by the Green Transition Project." |
| **Question 12: Documentation**<br><br>The ITB requires the submission of user manuals and operation/maintenance guidelines, as well as project-specific system operation documents, in English and Romanian or Russian (preferably Romanian).<br><br>Please confirm whether the submission of documentation in English only would be acceptable, or whether Romanian translation is mandatory. | **ANSWER**: At the submission stage an English version of the documentation would suffice, however the bidder should clearly state that a translated to Romanian or Russian (preferably in Romanian) version of the documents will be provided if selected. |
| **Question 13: Local Permits and Authorizations**<br>What local permits or authorizations are required for the installation of station shelters, fencing, and associated infrastructure, and how are responsibilities for obtaining and coordinating these permits allocated between the Contractor and the Beneficiary? | **ANSWER**: According to Section 5: Schedule of requirements of the ITB, all permitting acts required by national service providers, in accordance with national legislation (e.g., connection to electricity, internet, etc.), shall remain under the responsibility of UNDP and the final Beneficiary. |

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| **Question 14: Soil Conditions and Foundation Requirements**<br>What information is available regarding soil conditions at the proposed station locations, and what level of site-specific soil assessment, verification, or foundation design adaptation is expected from the Contractor? | **ANSWER:** The Contracting Authority does not hold specific geotechnical studies for the proposed locations of the automatic air quality monitoring stations, and such studies are not required, as the indicated locations are predominantly situated on existing public land (premises of public institutions, urban areas, school and preschool courtyards, etc.) that are already developed and used for public purposes.<br>No additional complex geotechnical investigations are required, unless the Contractor considers them necessary for its own technical solution.<br>It is envisaged that simple foundation solutions will be used, consisting of a reinforced concrete platform of the indicated dimensions, with certain openings or holes in the concrete to allow for the routing and entry of electrical cables into the interior of the station.<br>The Contractor is responsible for verifying the actual site conditions at the time of installation and, if necessary, for adapting the proposed foundation solution, without affecting the functionality of the station and without any additional cost to the Contracting Authority. |
| **Question 15: Electrical Connection and Utilities Scope**<br><br>What is the defined point of responsibility for electrical power and utility connections at each station location, including the scope of cabling, protection, and connection work expected to be performed by the Contractor? | **ANSWER**: For each site, the Contracting Authority will provide the location and access to an existing electricity supply point within the premises of the institution or on the respective public land.<br>The point of demarcation of responsibilities shall be considered the existing electricity supply point at the site (e.g. the existing electrical panel or another available connection point located on site near the installation area).<br>The Contractor shall be responsible for the design, supply, and execution of all works required to ensure the complete and safe power supply of the monitoring station, starting from the above-mentioned point of demarcation up to the connection and commissioning of the station. This includes, but is not limited to, electrical cabling, electrical protections (fuses, circuit breakers, surge protection, grounding), sockets, and auxiliary equipment. All works shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable national standards and the national regulations in force, including the Regulation on Connection to Electricity Networks and the Provision of Electricity Transmission and Distribution Services No. 168/2019 of 31.05.2019 - https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=141334&lang=ro#<br>Additionally, all electrical works shall be performed under the supervision of an authorized specialist. In cases where the station is connected directly to the energy system operator, the Contractor shall assist the Beneficiary with all required documentation, such as the electrical network design, requested capacity, and related technical documentation. Where the station is installed within the premises of an existing electricity consumer, the Contractor shall comply with the requirements of the holder of the electricity network |

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| | connection. |
| **Question 16. UPS Autonomy Requirements**<br>What minimum autonomy duration is required for the UPS systems at each monitoring station to ensure power continuity during outages? | **ANSWER:** Please see *Annex 1: Equipment, Services and Technical Specifications*/*Item 8/Subitem 12*: Autonomy: Battery packs or extended battery modules will be sized to provide at least 1.5 hours of autonomy for a 1.3kW load. These are minimum and mandatory requirements. However, it is considered that UPS shall be sized adequately to supply no less than 30 minutes of autonomy, if the total load greatly exceeds 1.3kW. |
| **Question 17: IT Integration, Protocols, and APIs**<br>What IT communication protocols, APIs, data formats, cybersecurity requirements, and national platforms or standards must be used for integration with the central system? | **ANSWER:** This is an integrated solution. The choice of data formats and communication protocols is dependent on the Bidder. The bidder will ensure that the proposed solution ensures data safety and integrity. Most of the locations in Moldova have access either to 4G/5G and fiber broadband access. There is a great number of technologies and vendors that will allow building a secure communications network over available transport networks. UNDP will recommend to the bidder to consider both fiber/copper broadband and wireless access, respectively to choose communication equipment that will allow building a secure network over public infrastructure. |
| **Question 18: Physical Security and Key Management**<br>What physical security measures are required for the monitoring stations, and how is key management, custody, and access responsibility expected to be structured between the Contractor and the Beneficiary? | **ANSWER:**<br>Each monitoring station will be equipped with a fence and a lockable access gate. In addition, the station will be fitted with a surveillance camera, a fire alarm sensor, and an entry-door opening alarm sensor. During the installation, testing, and commissioning phase, the Contractor shall be responsible for the custody and management of all physical access keys (or equivalent access mechanisms) required to access the monitoring stations, strictly for the purpose of fulfilling contractual obligations.<br>Upon completion of installation and formal acceptance of the monitoring stations:<br>– Primary custody of all physical access keys shall be transferred to the Beneficiary;<br>– The Beneficiary shall assume full responsibility for key management, secure storage, and authorization of access for routine operation, maintenance, and emergency interventions;<br>– The Contractor may retain duplicate or emergency access keys only if explicitly agreed in writing with the Beneficiary and solely for warranty, maintenance, or support activities defined under the contract;<br>– Any access by the Contractor after handover shall be subject to prior coordination and authorization by the Beneficiary.<br>Clear records of key handovers, any duplication, and assigned access responsibilities shall be maintained to ensure accountability and traceability. |

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| | After the final acceptance, responsibility for the custody of the keys, access management, and the ongoing physical security of the station shall rest with the Beneficiary. The Contractor shall no longer have permanent or exclusive access to the monitoring stations after completion of the contract. |
| **Question 19: Access Control to Stations and Systems**<br><br>What access control mechanisms are required for station housing and system access, including authentication methods, authorization levels, and audit or logging expectations? | **ANSWER**: The monitoring stations and the associated IT systems (hardware, software, data collection and visualization platforms, etc.) are not classified as national security or military systems; however, they are declared as official technical systems in the field of atmospheric air protection, and therefore access is controlled by Beneficiary.<br>Access to the monitoring stations and the associated IT systems shall be controlled by the Beneficiary through standard access control mechanisms, namely via the system administrator, operator or technical user, and data-viewing user roles. The system shall ensure the recording and retention of access and operation logs, which shall be made available to the Beneficiary for verification and technical audit for a reasonable period, in accordance with the proposed technical solution.<br>The Beneficiary shall have full administrative rights over the system after final acceptance. The Contractor's access shall be limited to the implementation, testing, maintenance, and warranty periods and shall be granted solely for technical purposes and only with prior notification to the Beneficiary. |
| **Question 20: Data Transmission Frequency and Latency**<br><br>What data transmission frequency and latency requirements apply between the monitoring stations and the central server, including expectations for near real-time transmission or scheduled data uploads? | **ANSWER:** Data transmission should be carried out through secure communication channels, in accordance with audit mechanisms, system security requirements, and access control policies. Data transmission should support both near real-time monitoring and resilient store-and-forward delivery when communications are degraded. As a baseline, observations should be transmitted at a configurable interval, typically every 5–10 minutes for operational monitoring and no slower than every 10 minutes for standard networked deployments, with an end-to-end latency target of ≤10–30 seconds for "near real-time" mode (station timestamp to central server availability) under normal connectivity.<br>The station should buffer data locally for a defined minimum period (commonly 7–30 days) and automatically backfill missed records once connectivity returns, with clear handling of duplicates and acknowledgements from the server to guarantee delivery. Data transmission frequency and latency must be configurable per parameter and per station. |
| **Question 21**: The Bidder doesn't have a yearly turnover of minimum 3.5 million, but claims to be financially healthy. Is this a | **ANSWER**: According to the ITB, the requirement that *"bidders should have an average annual turnover of at least USD 3,500,000 for the last three (3) years"* is a qualification criterion. If a bidder does not meet this requirement, the technical offer will not be considered for further |

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| knock-out criterion? | evaluation, regardless of the bidder's overall financial health. Please also note that in the case of a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association, the turnover requirement may be met cumulatively by all JV partners combined, in accordance with the ITB provisions. |
| **Question 22:** The Bidder offers a different solution than the classical reference analyzers. Would it be acceptable? | **ANSWER**: Under Form G: Technical Bid, the Bidder should submit a technical proposal in line with the requirements of the ITB. Specifically, the Bidder shall mandatorily complete Annex 2: Technical Responsiveness Table as part of its Technical Offer. The completed Annex 2 will demonstrate how the Bidder's proposed solution meets the requirements of Annex 1: Equipment, Services, and Technical Specifications. |
| **Question 23:** With reference to Annex 1: Equipment, Services and Technical Specifications, the Works & Services requirement for each AQMS, e.g.:<br>- Construction of the concrete platform (22.5 m², min. 20 cm height)<br>- Installation works<br>- Other, if applicable<br>Please clarify the necessary permits and approvals for the construction works.<br>As the platform will be built outdoors in public space, will the Beneficiary/Contracting Authority obtain and provide all necessary permits/approvals and related documents (e.g., building permit and any endorsements from relevant authorities/utilities), or is this scope expected from the Contractor?<br>If the Beneficiary is responsible, please confirm when the required permits/approvals will be made available for each specific AQMS site. | **ANSWER**: According to the ITB, all permits and approvals required by national service providers, in accordance with national legislation (e.g., electricity and internet connections), are the responsibility of UNDP and the final Beneficiary. This includes all permits and approvals applied for at the national level.<br>All necessary permits and approvals will be made available at the time of the installation of the stations. |
| **Question 24: Formal documentation and technical design drawings**<br>We can provide the execution/shop drawings for the platform. However, please | **ANSWER:** The Beneficiary shall provide the winning bidder with the general information necessary regarding the monitoring station locations (location, type of site, right of use/access) and the functional and operational requirements of the system.<br>The Contractor shall be responsible for preparing all technical documentation required for permitting, including the project outlines |

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| confirm whether the Beneficiary will provide the technical project documentation required for permitting (including any authorized technical verification/review, where applicable), or whether the Contractor is expected to prepare such documentation. | of the stations at the initial stage of the assignment.<br>The Beneficiary will provide administrative and institutional support, including facilitating access to sites and relevant approvals, while the Contractor will provide technical support to ensure the installation and commissioning of the stations are carried out in compliance with legal requirements and within the agreed timelines. |
| **Question 25: Scope of "Other, if applicable" costs under the "Works&Services" price per each station**<br>Please clarify what is included under "Other, if applicable" for the concrete platform scope, i.e., any additional works/services beyond the platform construction and installation works, such as site survey, geotechnical investigations, utilities detection/locating, temporary fencing and safety signage, traffic management, reinstatement of the area, inspections/testing, as-built documentation, or any other ancillary works/services required? | **ANSWER**: The "Other, if applicable" costs under the "Works&Services" price per each station is intended for any additional works or services that could not be specifically identified at the time of drafting the ITB but are known to the Bidder as necessary to be implemented from their side. |
| **Question 26:** In case of a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association, will payments be made exclusively to the JV Leader, or can UNDP make direct payments to each JV member in accordance with the agreed scope split/responsibility allocation and the commercial breakdown included in the bid and the JV agreement? | **ANSWER**: In the case of a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association, UNDP will sign the contract exclusively with the JV Lead. Consequently, all payments shall be made solely to the Contractor, i.e. the JV Lead.<br>UNDP does not make direct payments to individual JV members, regardless of the internal division of responsibilities or financial arrangements agreed within the JV. Any payment distribution between JV partners must be managed internally, in accordance with the JV Agreement. |
| **Question 27:** Considering the need to ensure communication links between each local AQMS site and the Center, and noting that the ITB diagram refers to "TCP/IP, Cellular, Radio, Leased | **ANSWER:** Beneficiary did not conduct such an assessment. It is expected that at each location a minimum one of the two technologies will be available: broadband through fiber or copper connection and 3/4/5G cellular connection. Out of the available - broadband connection will be preferred. |

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| Line" Communication Environment, please confirm whether the Beneficiary has already assessed and identified the feasible communication option at each site. Please also specify which communication channel will be provided for each location and when it is expected to be made available to the Contractor, as it will be required from the installation and verification/commissioning phase and throughout the operational period. | |
| **Question 28.** The ITB requires submission of duly signed an stamped offer documents. Please confirm whether electronic signatures will be accepted? | **ANSWER**: The offer documents may be signed electronically. Physical (wet) signatures and stamps are not mandatory for submission. |
| **Question 29:** Regarding the Bid Security requirement, most banks issue bid securities with electronic signatures. Could you please confirm whether a Bid Security bearing an electronic signature applied by the bank and countersigned electronically by the bidder would be accepted? | **ANSWER**: A Bid Security bearing an electronic signature applied by the authorized bank representative is acceptable. Countersignature by the bidder may also be applied electronically. |
| **Question 30:** Please confirm whether a Joint Venture Agreement signed by the members, without notarization, would be accepted. | **ANSWER**: For offer submission purposes, a non-notarized Joint Venture Agreement signed by the members, or a Letter of Intent to form a Joint Venture, is acceptable. Please note that a notarized Joint Venture Agreement, duly signed by all members, will be required only from the awarded bidder prior to contract signature. |
| **Question 31:** Section 5: Schedule of Requirements specifies the requirement that each sensor must operate directly on 220/230V AC is technically inappropriate and inconsistent with international standards and industrial practice for the similar systems. Certified fire and environmental sensors (including | **ANSWER**: For safety and reliability reasons, in accordance with international standards and industry best practices, it is confirmed that low-voltage sensors (12–30 V) are acceptable for this project. |

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| temperature probes, magnetic contacts, UPS monitoring modules, and watchdog timers) are designed to work only on low-voltage DC (typically 12–30V) for safety, reliability, and compliance. Direct AC operation at the sensor level is unsafe, introduces unnecessary electrical risk, reduces compatibility with dataloggers and control systems, and does not reflect how such devices are manufactured or deployed in real installations. Due to indicated high risks no EN54-compliant sensor exists that functions directly on 220V AC. Therefore this part of the specification contradicts existing market availability.<br>Proposed solution: All sensors should be powered through the main control panel or datalogger, which itself is supplied from 220/230V AC. The panel provides regulated low-voltage outputs to the sensors and includes a backup battery to ensure autonomous operation during mains power failure. This architecture guarantees:<br><br>• Safe operation of sensors at low voltage, consistent with industrial design norms.<br>• Compliance with relevant standards and best practices for fire safety, monitoring, and automation systems.<br>• Reliable integration with dataloggers, UPS units, and alarm panels.<br>• Continuous functionality even in case of power outages, thanks to the panel's battery backup.<br><br>We strongly recommend considering amending this part of the requirement or confirm, that | |

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| low-voltage DC (typically 12–30V) sensors are acceptable for this project as well. | |
| **Question 32:** There is no mention in the Datasheet about the power supply connection points, needed to power the AQM stations. Will this be provided by UNDP/end-user? If yes, which is the distance from the power supply point to the station location/platform?<br>Please clarify who takes care of the needed authorization for connection to power supply grid. | **ANSWER:** The Beneficiary is responsible for obtaining approval for connection to and supply of electricity. The distance from the electricity supply point to the location/platform of the station will be in the immediate vicinity of the station and will not exceed 10 meters. |
| **Question 33: Regarding the "Automatic analyzer for PM10 and PM2,5":** Please clarify if measurement of PM10 & PM2.5 has to be done simultaneous or sequential is also allowed. | **ANSWER:** Measurement of PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations must be carried out simultaneously, so that the data are comparable within the same time interval. This requirement is also confirmed by Directive 2008/50/EC, which stipulates that PM10 and PM2.5 data must be representative of the same time period. |
| **Question 34: Regarding the "Automatic analyzer for PM10 and PM2,5":** Regarding the ambient operating temperature, mentioned in the specifications (namely 0 – 50 °C), considering that all other analyzers installed inside the shelter have specified an operating temperature of 5 – 40 °C, please confirm that this temperature range also applies and it is accepted for the PM10 & PM2.5 analyzer. | **ANSWER:** Bidders are requested to comply with the minimum technical requirements established in the ITB. |
| **Question 35: Regarding the "Automatic analyzer sampler for gaseous-phase mercury":** Please clarify if CVAAS technology is also accepted for total gaseous mercury measurement, a technology which also follows sensor EN15852 and also maintains the same sensitivity as CVAFS. Moreover, the big advantage of CVAAS is in OPEX | **ANSWER:** The Beneficiary does not impose a specific technology for the measurement of gaseous-phase mercury, and automatic analyzers using any measurement technology are accepted, provided that the technology is compliant with technical requirements established by the ITB. |

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| costs, due to the fact that it does not require carrier gas, meaning that the extrapure Argon cylinders would not be required anymore. | |
| **Question 36: Regarding the "Mini-station for analyzing the ambient dose equivalent rate of gamma radiation (radioactivity level)":** Regarding the detector specifications, there is an inconsistency between the detector type (NaI(Tl), CsI(Tl), or $LaBr_3$:Ce) and the maximum dose rate (10 mSv/h). Normally, detectors of this type are not able to measure such high dose rates. Is it possible to change the detector type (for such dose rates, Geiger–Müller (GM) detectors are typically used), or to reduce the maximum dose rate to 40 µSv/h? | **ANSWER:** The mini-station for analyzing the ambient gamma radiation equivalent dose rate (radioactivity level) is a background ambient mini-station and not a station for monitoring ionizing radiation sources. Therefore, the specifications in the tender documentation define the functional and performance requirements specifically for an ambient gamma equivalent dose monitoring system.<br>Detectors such as NaI(Tl), CsI(Tl), or $LaBr_3$:Ce are well suited for low-dose sensitivity and natural background measurements and are widely used in European ambient monitoring networks. In contrast, Geiger–Müller (GM) detectors are designed to withstand high dose rates, have low sensitivity to background radiation, and are not ideal for precise continuous ambient monitoring.<br>According to data collected within the national environmental quality monitoring network, the ambient gamma radiation equivalent dose rate values recorded over recent years have reached maximum levels of up to 0.25 µSv/h, which fully justifies the use of the aforementioned detectors. |
| **Question 37: Regarding the "Power disconnection notification sensor"** it looks like the specifications are the same with "Indoor temperature notification sensor". Is this maybe a typing/writing error? Please clarify.<br>If yes, please inform us which are the requirements for the "Power disconnection notification sensor". | **ANSWER:** Please see Amendment 1 to the ItB26/03170 that established corrected technical specifications for Power disconnection notification sensor. |
| **Question 38:** Concerning the Mateuți site, could you please clarify what is meant by the "inclusion" of the existing operating equipment? What specific aspects or particularities should be taken into account to ensure compatibility? | **ANSWER:** The Mateuti station in the north-east of the country was recently acquired (two years ago) to monitor pollutant flows and air masses with high concentrations of industrial emissions, and it is already equipped with modern equipment. Within the project, a decision was taken to further equip the Mateuti station with additional analyzers and equipment in order to meet the new monitoring requirements. This point specifically refers to ensuring that the existing operational equipment is compatible with the newly installed equipment, enables continuous monitoring, and transmits data in a common format accepted by the system. Information on the existing equipment at the Mateuti station will be provided to the |

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| | Contractor at the initial stage of the activity. |
| **Question 39**: Position 1, Equipment housing, point nr. 3: Required walls of 35 mm sandwich panel could be too thin to ensure a constant climate in the cabin. Therefore, please consider the option with at least 60 mm width. | **ANSWER:** The ITB establishes the minimum technical requirements for the equipment, including a wall thickness of 35 mm. A technical offer proposing a wall thickness of 60 mm will be acceptable and will be considered. |
| **Question 40:** Position 1, Equipment housing: Will you install any additional equipment on the roof? What is the approximate weight and fixing method? | **ANSWER:** Depending on the manufacturer, a range of equipment will be installed on the roof, including a mini meteorological station, a meteorological mast, air sampling inlets, communication antennas, a lightning protection system, etc. Both the proposed station and its roof must be designed and constructed in accordance with the applicable technical and safety standards. The load-bearing capacity, fixing method, and structural solution of the station roof are the responsibility of the bidder, who must ensure the safe operation of the station. |
| **Question 41:** Position 1, Equipment housing, point nr. 7: The requested loading capacity of 300 kg refers to the total area of the roof? | **ANSWER:** The required load-bearing capacity of 300 kg refers to the roof area where the meteorological mast with all associated equipment and auxiliary sensors will be installed; however, the entire roof must ensure the safe operation of the station and support no less than the indicated load. |
| **Question 42:** Position 1, Equipment housing: How often should the operator go to the roof and for which type of works? | **ANSWER:** The condition of the station, and the equipment installed on the station roof is subject to routine inspections on a quarterly basis (or as needed), including calibration of meteorological sensors, adjustment of the mast suspension cables, calibration of the environmental radioactivity monitoring detector, maintenance of sensors and sampling inlets, cleaning of the roof surface from vegetation residues and other debris, etc. |
| **Question 43:** Position 1, Equipment housing, point nr. 8: What is the door material? Metal, Polypropylene or other? | **ANSWER**: The access door to the automatic air quality monitoring station must be made of weather- and corrosion-resistant materials suitable for outdoor use, capable of withstanding wide variations in temperature, humidity, precipitation, snow, and UV radiation, while ensuring the security of the equipment and preventing dust ingress.<br>Solutions made of galvanized steel, electrostatically painted steel, aluminum, or equivalent materials are accepted, provided that they meet the requirements for mechanical strength, durability, and protection against unauthorized access.<br>Wood-based materials or other materials unsuitable for outdoor use are not accepted. |
| **Question 44:** Position 1, | **ANSWER:** The ITB establishes the minimum technical requirements |

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| Equipment housing, point nr. 9: Should the floor have thermal isolation or not? In the requirements, it is not indicated. | for the equipment housing, including the floor. A technical solution that includes additionally thermal insulation of the floor will be considered. |
| **Question 45:** Position 1, Equipment housing, point nr. 8: What do you mean by identical keys for all stations? Usually, each lock has its own key. | **ANSWER:** The requirement to equip all air quality monitoring stations with a single set of identical keys for all stations is established intentionally, considering the operational and continuous maintenance needs of the system. From a technical perspective, equipment of this type can be fitted with standardized locking systems that allow the use of the same key for all stations, a solution that is commonly available at the manufacturer level. The implementation of such a solution does not affect the functionality, safety, or performance of the stations, and will ensure a simpler and more efficient key management. This approach is widely used for similar technical equipment installed in different locations or in public spaces (universal key systems, such as key-alike or master key systems). |
| **Question 46:** Position 29, Mini-station for analysing the ambient dose equivalent rate of gamma radiation (radioactivity level), point nr. 5: For the mini-station for analysing the ambient dose equivalent rate of gamma radiation (radioactivity level), is it mandatory to provide Detector type: scintillation (NaI(Tl), CsI(Tl) or $LaBr_3$:Ce)? Usually, for such applications, a Geiger–Müller detector type should be enough. | **ANSWER:** Detectors of the type NaI(Tl), CsI(Tl), or $LaBr_3$:Ce are used for low-dose and natural background sensitivity and are widely used in European environmental monitoring networks, whereas Geiger–Müller (GM) detectors can handle high dose rates, have low sensitivity to background radiation, and are not ideal for continuous precision environmental monitoring. |
| **Question 47:** Position 38, Industrial PC and position 43, Data acquisition server: Is it mandatory to have a data server and an industrial PC in the same cabin? | **ANSWER:** Industrial PCs are located within the stations, while data acquisition server will be installed in central location. |
| **Question 48:** Position 43, Data Acquisition Server and Position 44, Data Acquisition hardware reference (Enterprise Server): How many servers are requested and how many enterprise servers are requested? Also, where will the installation place be for each of them? | **ANSWER**: "Hardware reference" is provided as the minimum requirement for the hardware server forming part of the solution. The Data Acquisition Server shall be treated as part of the Central Data Management System (CDMS). The minimum requirement is one (1) physical server (as established in the Annex 1: Equipment, Services and Technical Specifications/Sheet ICT Necessities) that meets the minimum required parameters. The Contractor may provide additional server units if required to meet performance, availability, scalability, redundancy, or segregation needs, and may use server virtualization technologies to deploy more than one application on |

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| | the same physical hardware, provided that the applications are hosted in separate, isolated environments and all applicable performance and security requirements are maintained.<br>The number of Virtual Machines (VMs), operating systems (OS), and application servers is not limited and shall be provided as necessary to fit the Solution, in compliance with applicable licensing terms and maintenance/support requirements.<br>Data acquisition server will be installed in central location. |
| **Question 49:** Could you please clarify who will be responsible for providing internet connectivity and electrical power to the stations? | **ANSWER:** The Beneficiary will be responsible for obtaining all necessary approvals, consents, and permits regarding the locations of the monitoring stations, including obtaining approvals for electrical connection and supply, securing internet service contracts for each station separately depending on the coverage of national operators, obtaining decisions from municipal/local councils, obtaining consents from property owners or space administrators, etc. |
| **Question 50:** Will a proper access route to the stations be provided to facilitate the delivery, installation, and potential maintenance of the equipment? | **ANSWER:** All sites identified for the future automatic air quality monitoring stations are provided with suitable access routes and have sufficient surrounding space to facilitate the delivery, installation, and possible maintenance of the equipment. |
| **Question 51:** Position 23 and 24, Air Samplers: We kindly ask you to specify if you require a dual simultaneous lines sampler or a single line? Usually, when it is mentioned PM10 AND PM2.5, it means dual line. | **ANSWER:** The measurement of PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations must be carried out simultaneously so that the data are comparable within the same time interval. This is also confirmed by the requirements of Directive 2008/50/EC, which stipulate that PM10 and PM2.5 data must be representative of the same time interval. |
| **Question 52:** For position 25, the Automatic precipitation sampler, point 21: there is requested an "Option for solar panel". For -25°C it is not possible to operate a heater with solar power for 24h. Please clarify. | **ANSWER:** The automatic precipitation sampler is provided with the "Solar Panel Option." This type of sampler has been successfully operated for several years within the national transboundary air mass monitoring system at the Leova transboundary station. Considering that winters in Moldova are relatively mild and that the sampler is maintained periodically in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, the equipment has proven to remain fully operational over extended periods. Accordingly, the concern regarding operation at –25°C does not apply under the local conditions. |
| **Question 53:** For position 23, point 5, Air samplers: will it be acceptable to provide a cooling compressor instead of a Peltier element for cooling? | **ANSWER:** Bidders are requested to comply with the minimum technical requirements established in the ITB. Any proposed solution, including the use of a cooling compressor in place of a Peltier element, must fully meet these requirements to be considered acceptable. |
| **Question 54**: For position 24, Low | **ANSWER:** Point 3 of Position 24 specifies the general conditions of the |

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| volume PM sampler, point 3, it is requested 'outdoor use', and in point 11 the request is for indoor use'. Could you please clarify which housing is required? | PM sampler, indicating that it is suitable for outdoor operation, at fixed air quality monitoring stations, and at independent locations. Point 11, however, specifies directly that the sampler will be installed inside the air quality monitoring station (–20 to +40 °C), with only the sampling tube extending to the exterior. |
| **Question 55:** Position 24, Low volume PM sampler, point 24 requires a calibration kit/adapter for the external flow calibrator. Could you please let us know what this is needed for? Do you need a flow calibrator? | **ANSWER:** The calibration adapter kit is required to perform correct and traceable calibration of the PM sampler's airflow using an external flow calibrator. It ensures a proper and airtight connection between the external flow calibrator and the sampler's aspiration circuit, preventing air leakage and measurement errors. Furthermore, it ensures compliance with the applicable standards (e.g., EN 12341, EN 14907, etc.), which require periodic verification and calibration of the flow using traceable external equipment. Finally, it allows for proper adjustment and verification of the sampler's nominal flow, contributing to the accuracy and comparability of particle concentration measurements. Without this adapter kit, calibration cannot be performed correctly, as a standardized and reproducible connection between the calibrator and the sampler cannot be guaranteed, potentially leading to flow errors and, consequently, non-compliant measurement results. |
| **Question 56:** The specific devices indicated in Annex N2, Position n23 - in particular: Sampler for cations and anions on PM2.5 filters, Sampler for cations and anions on PM10 filters, Sampler for heavy metals on PM10 filters, Sampler for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons on PM10 filters, Sampler for Benzo[a]pyrene (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) on PM10 filters , Heavy metals sampler - there are no information about quantities of these devices. These samplers are not indicated in none of the presented locations. Please clarify the quantity of the mentioned samplers and their delivery conditions if no installation is required. | **ANSWER**: Please consult the Annex 1: Equipment, Services and Technical Specifications that was amended to reflect the locations where these need to be placed as well as quantities. |
| **Question 57:**<br>With reference to Clause 27 (Tax Exemption) of the General Terms and Conditions for Contracts and considering that the Bidder is a | **ANSWER:** For the purpose of financial offer formulation, bidders are kindly requested to note the following:<br>**VAT and Tax Treatment**<br>• The financial proposal shall be submitted with 0% VAT. |

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| company registered in Romania, kindly clarify, for the purpose of accurate price formulation, which taxes, duties or charges of a similar nature, if any, are applicable and payable by the Contractor under this procurement, including but not limited to:<br>- VAT on import of goods into the Republic of Moldova;<br>- customs duties and import charges;<br>- withholding taxes;<br>- any other direct taxes, duties or charges imposed by national authorities. | • The envisaged project is a technical assistance project falling under international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.<br>• As confirmation, UNDP will issue a letter confirming the application of VAT 0%, which applies both to the Contractor and its subcontractors for services provided under the Contract.<br><br>**Imports (if applicable)**<br><br>• In case of imports, UNDP will be responsible for customs clearance procedures.<br>• Upon written notification of goods/equipment arrival at border, UNDP will issue within 24 hours a confirmation letter certifying tax exemption and VAT 0% applicability for the imported goods, in line with UNDP tax privileges. |
| **Question 58:** With reference to Clause 14.2 of the General Terms and Conditions for Contracts and for the purpose of accurate cost estimation and compliance, the Bidder kindly requests clarification regarding: :<br>- the minimum coverage amounts and limits to be maintained under the Contract for the following insurance types:<br>1. All-risks insurance covering property and equipment used in the performance of the Contract<br>2. Workers' compensation or employer's liability insurance, or its equivalent, covering the Contractor's personnel for injury, death, disability, or other legally required benefits<br>3. Liability insurance, including but not limited to claims for bodily injury, death, property damage, products and completed operations liability, personal and advertising injury, arising from or in connection with the Contractor's performance of the Contract<br>- which other insurance may be | **ANSWER:** Contractors are required to maintain insurance coverage that is **adequate and appropriate**, taking into account the nature, scope, value, and risks of the Contract, as well as applicable legal requirements in the Republic of Moldova.<br><br>The following indicative insurance requirements apply:<br><br>1. **All-Risks Insurance**<br><br>• Coverage: Loss of or damage to equipment and materials used in contract performance, including delivery, installation, testing, and commissioning.<br>• Indicative coverage: At least 100% of the replacement value of the equipment supplied under the Contract.<br><br>2. **Workers' Compensation / Employer's Liability Insurance**<br><br>• Coverage: Injury, death, disability, or other legally required benefits for the Contractor's personnel.<br>• Coverage level: As required by applicable national legislation.<br><br>3. **Liability Insurance**<br><br>• Coverage: Third-party claims for bodily injury, death, and property damage arising out of or in connection with contract performance.<br>• Indicative coverage: 15–20% of the total contract value per occurrence, and aggregate limit of 100% of the total contract value.<br><br>• Insurance coverage shall be maintained in a freely convertible currency of the country of registration of the insurance company. Where currency conversions are required, all amounts shall be |

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| agreed upon in writing between UNDP and the Contractor<br><br>Specifically, the Bidder requests UNDP to provide:<br>- the minimum insured amount or coverage limit for each type of insurance,<br>- the required currency,- and any other relevant conditions or specifications for compliance with UNDP requirements. | calculated in accordance with the official UN Operational Rates of Exchange (UNORE) applicable at the relevant time. (https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/OperationalRates.php#M).<br>• Any additional insurance requirements may be **agreed in writing** between UNDP and the Contractor, depending on the specific contract risks. |
| **Question 59:** Given the complexity of the tender and the goal of submitting a comprehensive proposal in every aspect, both in terms of cost analysis to ensure a competitive offer and in terms of documentation preparation, we kindly request an extension of the submission deadline. | **ANSWER:** The competition is extended by **26 February 2026 at 16:30 (GMT+3)** in order to allow Bidders sufficient time to prepare their Bids. |