

Clarifications – RFP No: PPC-001-Program Audit

1. Timeline: The RFP timeline indicates that a number of audits should happen before the end of the year, while at the same time 5 weeks seem to be in place after the signature of the contract to define the methodology, which leads to 2024 already. Given the delay in selection, when should we anticipate the first audits to begin? ***We do not expect all projects to be completed by the end of the year – the timeline in the RFP was not updated in the reposting, but we are hoping to get started as soon as possible. Additionally, depending on what format/approach to auditing is taken by the successful tenderer that some of the projects might be completed remotely with desk-based reviews a potential approach for some of the projects at least.***
2. Budget: After doing a rough budget, we also see that based on our international experience, that the total amount is limited, so we were wondering if travel and accommodation costs can have an additional fund to be covered? ***The budget identified in the RFP is notionally what is available on an annual basis. So no further funds available for travel/ accommodation. Noting that the budget is limited this is why we also anticipate that any audits conducted may select a methodology and approach that still fulfils the requirement for an audit but may not necessarily require the same level of resourcing or approach.***
3. We noticed that the RFP was originally issued in August, and was recently re-issued. Is there a specific reason for the re-issuance? Was there a lack of response, were bids too high, or did the proposed audit approaches not meet your expectations? Is there anything specific you are looking for that was missing? ***We added the available budget for this project to help guide bidders.***
4. Is the expectation for vendors to include travel expenses in an all-inclusive price, or are you open to having travel separated from the quote as a reimbursable expense? ***You may separate reimbursable expenses in a separate table.***
5. Are you open to both remote and onsite means of auditing? For example, are you open to a portion of the sites being audited onsite with a portion remotely (e.g., different protocols for each tier, depending on the risk)? ***Yes, we are open to all proposed approaches based on your expertise and recommendations.***