

AMENDMENT #1: ZAMBIA: METALEX COBALT AND COPPER PRODUCTION EXPANSION (USTDA ACTIVITY NO. 2025-11011A)

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Please note that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the feasibility study for the Metalex Cobalt and Copper Production Expansion is amended, as follows:

Questions, Answers and Clarifications: This amendment consists of clarifying questions and answers submitted by potential Offerors regarding the RFP packet. Responses to submitted questions are attached.

RFP Questions and Answers
Zambia: Metalex Cobalt and Copper Production Expansion Feasibility Study
2025-11011A

1. To what extent (if any) will the selected contractor have access to historical drilling data, core samples, and previous metallurgical reports from the Kazozu mine?
 - a. The contractor will have access to all historic data and all reports related to Kazozu Mine.
2. Will Metalex provide on-site lodging and security for the U.S. and regional field teams during the 18-month study period?
 - a. There is police presence on staff as well as added security with Garda present too. The area is safe. There is no need for additional security. There is accommodation about 30 minutes away from site.
3. The RFP specifies a 100% solar or hybrid energy solution. Does Metalex prefer Behind-the-Meter (BTM) storage, or should the study evaluate a grid-tied system with the Zambian national utility (ZESCO)?
 - a. Connection to ZESCO is a part of the plan, so we would like this to be included in our plans.
4. Is there a designated land area within the current license boundaries for the proposed solar farm?
 - a. Yes, there is designated land within the license boundaries for the proposed solar farm.
5. Given the strategic focus on the Lobito Corridor, does Metalex currently hold any preliminary agreements or MOUs for rail capacity, or should the contractor facilitate these discussions as part of the logistics study?
 - a. Yes, we signed an MoU with African Finance Corporation.
6. Could the Grantee confirm if a specific Cost-Share percentage is required from the U.S. firm, or is the "in-kind" contribution left to the discretion of the bidder?
 - a. There is no expectation by USTDA of success fee or cost share for this project because this is a competed activity (i.e. not sole sourced to a U.S. company to carry out the feasibility study)
7. Regarding the Success Fee, does USTDA require the standard 1% fee based on total project implementation cost, or is there a fixed amount relevant to this specific activity?
 - a. There is no expectation by USTDA of success fee or cost share for this project because this is a competed activity (i.e. not sole sourced to a U.S. company to carry out the feasibility study).
8. Does the Grantee require the financial model to be developed in a specific currency (USD vs. ZMW), and which international accounting standards (IFRS vs. GAAP) are preferred for the "Bankability" report?

- a. The financial model will be developed in USD, and GAAP will be used as the accounting standard for the bankability report.
9. Are the information and data at a level to perform a Feasibility Study (FS)?
 - a. At least a pre-feasibility study should be possible given the current information and data, but this is subject to a review of the data we have available.
10. What is the execution plan if the data is not at a level to support an FS?
 - a. Where more work is required, the cost will be evaluated at the time of the work and executed on a case-by-case basis.
11. Is the \$1.4 million price inclusive of all testing (drilling and metallurgical) and ancillary studies?
 - a. The \$1.4 million in grant funds are meant to cover the costs of all tasks and studies outlined in the Terms of Reference.
12. Please share an itemized budget for each task included in the table in Appendix 4 (Reference Task Values).
 - a. The Reference Task Values provided are for reference only to provide a sense to interested contractors of the level of effort or value (including potential travel/other direct costs aside from labor) that USTDA and the grantee estimate should be allocated to each task. We will not be able to provide an itemized budget given these tasks are reference only. Please refer to page 5 (Section 1.4) of the RFP for more information.
13. Is the study by Caracle Creek Consulting available for review?
 - a. Yes, Caracle Creek documents are available.
14. Is there a data room that can be reviewed for the proposal effort?
 - a. A data room is available.
15. What is the expected time frame for the completion of the FS?
 - a. The time frame is as soon as possible.
16. The drilling and trenching program specified in Task 2 may encounter risks that cannot be fully assessed until field work begins. The ToR notes that "where the client indicates, budget from the aerial magnetic surveys could be utilized to increase the number of drill holes and/or trenches." May the Contractor, with Client and USTDA approval, reduce the scope of the aerial magnetic survey below the full 34,181 ha—and/or reduce the number of drill holes below 25 if either (a) early results demonstrate sufficient resource confidence or (b) unforeseen field conditions materially increase drilling or trenching costs—in order to execute Task 2 within budget?
 - a. The budget can be moved around with USTDA approval for reallocations.
17. What level of engineering/study work has been completed to date? Can any documentation/reports from previous work be made available?

- a. All documentation can be provided for review.
18. Specifically, could you please confirm whether USTDA permits a firm to participate as a subcontractor on more than one proposal submitted in response to this Opportunity? If allowed, please advise whether any limitations apply (for example, restrictions on proposed key personnel, conflicts of interest, or other eligibility considerations).
- a. There is no USTDA restriction against a firm participating as a subcontractor on more than one proposal. Typical eligibility requirements apply, including USTDA's Nationality, Source and Origin Requirements and Criteria for Withholding Approval of the Contractor (including conflicts of interest), all outlined in the RFP as well as on USTDA's website.