

AMENDMENT #1: 2026-11011A Regional Africa and the Middle East: Lobito Corridor Electrification Project Feasibility Study

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Please note that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the feasibility study for the Regional Africa and the Middle East: Lobito Corridor Electrification Project 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 as well as additional reference documents.

N°	Bidder's Question	Response / Comment
1	Submission deadline: The RFP cover page states the deadline is "Friday, October 26, 2026." October 26, 2026 is a Monday. Please confirm the intended submission date and day of the week.	The submission deadline is confirmed as Monday, October 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM Mauritius time. No extension to the proposal submission deadline will be granted at this stage.
2	Number of ESIA's (Zambia): Section 1.2 and Appendix 1 refer to five ESIA's in Zambia, while Terms of Reference Subtask 5.3 refers to three. Please confirm the correct number.	For the scope of this project, the correct number in Zambia is three ESIA's, each with an associated ESMP, for project components of the distribution electrification plan. Each component is the area affected by a 33 kV feeder line of no more than 50 km and its associated LV and customer connection network, located within the Zambia concession area (North-Western Province) and selected by the Grantee under Subtask 5.3. No project-level ESIA's are required for the DRC.
3	Page limit scope: Please confirm whether CVs, individual commitment letters, and reference details count toward the 20-page limit or may be placed in annexes outside that limit.	Provided that a detailed summary of essential elements is incorporated into the main 20-page report, supporting documents submitted solely to demonstrate the Offeror's qualifications or to satisfy the Grantee's Know Your Supplier (KYS) requirements, including CVs, commitment letters, and references shall not be counted toward the twenty-page limit. These documents must be clearly identified and submitted separately from the main Proposal.
4	KYS declaration forms: Appendix 7 references seven declaration forms (WP-PRO-T&F-008 through 011, and HSES 01 through 03) that were not included in the RFP package. Please provide these forms.	Supporting documentation will be provided alongside this request for clarification.
5	Subcontractor KYS timing: Please confirm whether subcontractors must submit completed KYS questionnaires and supporting documents at the proposal stage, or only following selection.	The bidder, including each member of the joint venture (If applicable) must submit a complete KYS as part of its bid. Proposed subcontractors must submit a light KYS (Provided within this request for clarification) at the bid stage. Anzana may require a complete KYS before approving the subcontractor or authorizing the commencement of its activities. Any subcontractor introduced or replaced after the contract is awarded is also subject to the applicable KYS requirements and must obtain prior authorization.

6	Contract start date and duration: Mandatory Contract Clause K (Estimated Completion Date) is left blank. Please confirm the assumed contract start date and overall duration that offerors should use for scheduling purposes.	The estimated completion date will be agreed upon by Anzana and the selected Offeror at the time of contract signature. The start date will depend on approval of the selected contractor by USTDA, and proposals may include proposed timelines. USTDA requires that no grant funds may be disbursed more than four (4) years after the Effective Date of the Grant Agreement, which is dated September 22, 2026, so the cutoff for disbursement will be September 22, 2030.
7	Evaluation weights: Section 4 lists evaluation criteria weights of 35 (technical solution), 30 (execution methodology), 25 (experience), 10 (RFP compliance), and 10 (contract acceptance), which sum to 110%. Please confirm the correct weights.	The observation is acknowledged and the weighting will be corrected as follows: Technical Solution – 35% Project Execution Methodology – 30% Experience and Capability – 25% Compliance with RFP Requirements – 5% Contractual Acceptance and Readiness – 5% Total Technical Score of 100%.
8	Task 10 financial model linkage: Task 10 requires a business plan for each Host Country "linked to the financial model." Task 4 (financial model) is scoped as Zambia only. Please confirm whether a DRC financial model is expected to support the Task 10 DRC business plan, or whether Task 10 should rely on another basis for the DRC.	Task 2.4 calls for capex costs for up to 5 candidate hydropower projects within 50km of the concession areas. These capex costs should be used as the basis for a rudimentary model/ financial analysis for the business plan.
9	Task 4.2 scope: Subtask 4.2 refers to pro-forma financial statements "in each country," while Task 4 is otherwise scoped as Zambia only. Please confirm Task 4 is limited to Zambia.	Task 4 is limited to Zambia given the earlier development stage of the DRC projects.
10	SESA/ESMF relationship: Subtask 5.1 (SESA) is scoped as DRC only but refers to stakeholder engagement "in each Host Country." Subtask 5.2 (Zambia ESMF) is to "build upon the findings of the SESA." Please clarify whether a Zambia-level strategic environmental and social assessment is also expected, or whether the Zambia ESMF may rely on other existing sources as contemplated in Subtask 5.2.	The SESA under Subtask 5.1 is for the DRC only. The Zambia ESMF under Subtask 5.2 may rely on existing studies and other available sources rather than a Zambia-level SESA.

11	Final Report language: Task 11 requires the Final Report in English and French. Please confirm whether the full Final Report, including Zambia-specific chapters, must be produced in French, or only the DRC-related content.	Only the DRC-related content or combined sections need to be produced in both French and English. The Zambia-related work can be produced in English only.
12	Task 7 development indicators: Task 7 lists indicators of 625,000 households (90,000 Zambia pilot, 335,000 full joint-venture area, 200,000 DRC) and 250 MW (40 MW Zambia, 210 MW DRC). Please confirm whether the 90,000 Zambia pilot figure is a subset of the 335,000 joint-venture area figure, or additive to it.	Yes, the pilot connection figures for Zambia are a subset of the overall expanded project figures. However, the updated pilot numbers are now 8,000 connections, and the total JV connections are 100,000, based on updated geographic boundaries.
13	Subcontractor references: Section 3.5 requires up to six references for each subcontractor in addition to the prime. Given the number of proposed subcontractors, please confirm whether subcontractor reference details may be placed in an annex outside the 20-page limit.	Bidders must include in their 20-page technical proposal a summary table of subcontractors' references, including at a minimum: - The subcontractor's name and the scope of services offered; - The client's name and the project name; - The country/location; - The nature and relevance of the services provided; - The contract duration; and - The client's contact information (reference/contact). Supporting documents and additional information regarding these references may be provided in an appendix and will not be counted in the 20-page limit.
14	Submission method: Section 2.13.2 specifies submission "via an appropriate file transfer system." Please confirm whether email submission with PDF attachments is acceptable, and whether there is a file size limit.	Submission via email is accepted, provided that the proposal is submitted in accordance with the document structure and organization required in the request for proposals. Bidders are not required to combine their entire bid package into a single PDF file. The technical proposal, KYS documentation, and supporting annexes may be submitted as separate, clearly identified files. If the total file size prevents transmission via email, bidders may use an appropriate file transfer system and provide the corresponding access link.
15	Will USTDA or the Grantee make the list of prospective offerors (firms that requested the RFP package) available, so that U.S. small businesses can offer their services to firms preparing proposals as subcontractors?	Please email RFP@ustda.gov to request the most up to date list of prospective offerors.

16	Section 3 limits proposals to 20 pages. Do subcontractors' letters of commitment and Know Your Supplier documentation count toward the 20 pages, or may they be included as attachments?	The 20-page limit applies primarily to the Technical Proposal. Supporting documentation related to the Know Your Supplier (KYS) requirements, which will be reviewed as part of the preliminary compliance assessment prior to the technical evaluation, is not included in the 20-page limit. These documents must be clearly identified and submitted separately from the main Proposal. Similarly, subcontractors' letters of commitment and other supporting administrative or compliance documentation may be submitted as attachments or annexes and will not count toward the 20-page limit.
17	Given the complexity of this Study and federal holidays in October, we kindly request that USTDA and Anzana extend the proposal submission deadline by two weeks, to Friday, November 6.	No extension to the proposal submission deadline will be granted at this stage. The submission deadline therefore remains Monday, October 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM Mauritius time.
18	Please confirm that the Know Your Supplier (KYS) questionnaire in Appendix 7 is required only from the successful offeror upon award and not as a part of the proposal submission	As clarified in the response to Question 5, the KYS documentation is required as part of the proposal submission and is not limited to the successful offeror upon award. The bidder, including each member of a joint venture or consortium, if applicable, must submit a complete KYS as part of its proposal. Proposed subcontractors are required to submit the Light KYS provided with this clarification
19	If the KYS questionnaire is required as a part of the proposal submission, please confirm whether: a. The KYS questionnaire is to be completed only for the Prime Contractor or by all firms in the consortium (including any U.S. or local subcontractors). b. The KYS questionnaire is to be submitted as a part of the technical submission or as a separate document	As clarified in response to Question 5: a. A complete KYS must be submitted by the Prime Contractor, including each member of a joint venture or consortium, if applicable. Proposed subcontractors are required to submit the Light KYS provided with this clarification. b. KYS documentation should be submitted as separate supporting documentation and will be reviewed as part of the preliminary compliance assessment prior to the technical evaluation. It does not form part of, nor count toward the 20-page limit applicable to the Technical Proposal.
20	The stated objective of the Activity is preparation of a feasibility study; however, certain TOR requirements appear to extend into later-stage project preparation and implementation activities. Examples include preparation of EPC tender documents and a FIDIC Red Book-based contract template; project-level ESIAs/ESMPs;	For the DRC portions, given the earlier stage of the project, the consultant's work is primarily intended to be feasibility-level and support further development work. In Zambia, some of the sub-projects are more advanced, and the consultant's work should be substantially complete with only limited additional further development.

	detailed GIS routing, asset locations and project-package BOQs; regulatory-ready tariff modeling; and drafting of definitive project agreements and lender documentation. Given the fixed \$3,000,000 Grant amount, please clarify the intended level of development for these deliverables. Specifically, are these deliverables intended to be feasibility-level or preliminary documents sufficient to establish project viability and support subsequent project development, or are they expected to be substantially complete, implementation-ready documents suitable for procurement, permitting, financing, regulatory approval, and/or execution without significant further development?	
21	As a U.S. small business evaluating the level of effort and resources required to perform the Activity, we note that the Terms of Reference prescribe a broad range of technical, environmental and social, financial, legal, and other deliverables within the fixed USTDA grant amount of \$3,000,000. Please clarify: a. Whether the Reference Task Values in Appendix 4 were developed based on specific assumptions regarding the anticipated level of detail and effort for each Task. b. The extent to which the selected Contractor, in consultation with the Grantee and USTDA, may tailor the methodology, level of effort, and level of detail of the deliverables to the available budget, provided that all required Tasks and deliverables identified in the	a) These tasks were developed based on assumptions and continued progress that Anzana has been undergoing since the release of the TOR. The projects range in the amount of detail and effort for each task by Country/Region. b) Yes, tasks and deliverable effort/detail can be tailored based on project priorities c) Yes.

	Terms of Reference are completed. c. Whether the Reference Task Values may be reallocated among Tasks during contract negotiations based on the selected Contractor's proposed work plan and staffing approach, while remaining within the total Grant Funds.	
22	Section 2.11 and the USTDA Mandatory Contract Clauses provide that up to 30% of the Grant Funds may be used for work performed by eligible Host Country or Target Country subcontractors and personnel. Given the extensive in-country technical, environmental and social, legal, stakeholder engagement, field verification, and other locally dependent services required by the TOR, please clarify whether USTDA may approve Host Country/Target Country participation in excess of the 30% threshold where the selected U.S. Contractor demonstrates that doing so is necessary to efficiently perform the required scope within the available Grant Funds. If so, please identify the process and criteria for requesting such approval and whether such approval may be considered during contract negotiations.	Exceptions to USTDA's Nationality, Source, and Origin requirements are granted on a very limited basis. The Contractor must demonstrate that there is no alternate means to complete the activities required. Any requests will need to be submitted through USTDA's Regional Team, approved by the Office of General Counsel and Executive Board, and an amendment to the Grant Agreement would be required.
23	Given the significance of the foregoing clarifications to a U.S. small business's assessment of the required level of effort, teaming structure, staffing, and ability to perform the Activity within the available Grant Funds, would the Grantee and USTDA consider extending the October 26, 2026 proposal deadline to provide Offerors reasonable time following issuance of responses to clarification questions to	The submission deadline is confirmed as Monday, October 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM Mauritius time. No extension to the proposal submission deadline will be granted at this stage.

	evaluate the responses and, as appropriate, refine their teams, work plans, and technical approaches?	
24	TOR, Sub-Task 1.3: The TOR requires that the Contractor conduct a grid condition assessment along with georeferencing existing grid assets in the concession areas in both countries. In order to scope this data collection activity in our proposal, we need to know the boundaries of the Grantee's concession areas. Please provide that information.	North-Western Province, Zambia. The detailed concession areas in Lualaba Province, DRC, are not finalized, but are envisioned to include Kolwezi and environs, as well as Kasaji.
25	TOR, Sub-Task 2.1: Existing distribution infrastructure may be owned and operated by SNEL. Does the scope of the distribution network assessment include evaluating SNEL's existing assets, or does the Grantee envisage a greenfield distribution network development approach?	We envision primarily greenfield distribution development, but a project concession may include brownfield repair and operation of some of SNEL's network, so the network assessment should include an evaluation of the SNEL assets.
26	TOR, Sub-Task 2.2: The TOR references the Contractor should "conduct a detailed survey of existing and prospective critical minerals mining projects." Is there a list of existing mines in the region and/or priority critical minerals for this analysis? Since a regional utility would presumably supply electricity to all mines within its service territory, should the electrical demand forecast consider all mining projects or only those with U.S. or U.S.-aligned offtake agreements	The concession area may cover only part of the region, so you should assume the electrical demand forecast considers primarily mines with U.S. or U.S.-aligned offtake agreements or plans.

27	TOR, Sub-Task 2.3: Should the electrification expansion plans consider power supply from any of the following: interconnection to SNEL or CEC, power supply from hosted generation at mining off-takers, cross-border interconnections?	Yes, the electrification expansion plans should consider power supply options from interconnection to SNEL or CEC, power supply from hosted generation at mining off-takers, cross-border interconnection.
28	TOR, Sub-Task 2.4: The TOR requires site visits to each of the Grantee's five hydropower generation projects. In order to scope this data collection activity in our proposal, we need to know the locations for these five potential projects. Please provide that information.	The five hydropower generation projects are to be identified as part of the scope of the grant, so the precise location is not yet known. However, as per the TOR, the sites should not be more than 50km from the proposed concession areas (Kolwezi and Kasaji)
29	TOR, Sub-Task 5.3 (Zambia only): “For Project components that are not selected by the Grantee (i.e. other feeders contemplated in the least cost electrification plan developed by the Contractor), the Contractor shall instead identify the likely environmental and social studies, permitting pathways, and management plans that will be required as those components progress toward implementation, consistent with the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Framework.” Mentioning the DRC SESA in this paragraph suggests that this activity would be undertaken for both countries, Zambia and DRC. For scoping purposes, please clarify: is the activity in this paragraph in Zambia only, or both countries? With regard to the same paragraph, for Zambia only, wouldn't these activities be essentially completed in the ESMF, and are therefore not needed again during the Sub-Task 5.3	This activity described is intended for Zambia only. The ESMF should satisfy these requirements for the selected project components. For any identified potential project components that are not selected for additional study, this subtask should provide relevant information for future development.

30	TOR Task 3: The Contractor shall develop the EPC tender documents for project activities including electric distribution network rehabilitation projects and electrification expansion projects. Is the EPC documentation limited to distribution rehabilitation and expansion projects, or does it also include EPC documentation for the hydropower investments included in Anzana's investment program in the Lobito Corridor	The EPC tender documentation under Task 3 is limited to the electric distribution network rehabilitation and electrification expansion projects. EPC documentation for the hydropower investments in Anzana's wider Lobito Corridor programme is not part of this scope; for hydropower, the Contractor's work is limited to the feasibility-level assessment and capex estimates under Subtask 2.4.
31	TOR Sub-Task 5.3 (Zambia only): “A Project component in this case refers to the area impacted by a 33KV feeder line of no more than 50km and the associated LV and customer connection network” Please confirm that the three Zambia ESIAs do not include any of the hydropower investments intended in Anzana’s program in Zambia.	Confirmed, none of the three ESIAs cover hydropower.
32	TOR Task 8 “no more than three in-person Stakeholders Workshops” For our logistics planning for the proposal workplan, please advise how many of the three workshops will in DRC and how many will be in Zambia.	Two stakeholder workshops in Zambia, One in DRC.
33	Appendix 1 Project Synopsis “In Zambia specifically, the study will develop EPC tender documents, economic and financial analysis, an Environmental and Social Management Framework, and 5 project level full ESIAs.” The TOR in Sub Task 5.3 states three Zambia ESIAs, kindly confirm this is the final and correct number of ESIAs.	For the scope of this project, the correct number in Zambia is three ESIAs, each with an associated ESMP, for project components of the distribution electrification plan. Each component is the area affected by a 33 kV feeder line of no more than 50 km and its associated LV and customer connection network, located within the Zambia concession area (North-Western Province) and selected by the Grantee under Subtask 5.3. No project-level ESIAs are required for the DRC.
34	Appendix 2 The Project will be implemented through the following phases: (1) feasibility studies and	In Zambia, the sequencing of tasks will be as follows: (3) Legal structuring and negotiation of JV concession, PSA, etc.--> target for completion is EOY 2026 for key JV

	environmental and social assessments; (2) detailed engineering design and business planning; (3) legal structuring and negotiation of joint venture, concession, and power supply agreements; (4) procurement and construction of generation and distribution infrastructure; and (5) operations, capacity building, and long-term utility management. Kindly provide indicative timelines and sequencing of the phases listed.	agreements, and End of H1 2027 for operational agreements (asset transfer, grid interconnection, PSA, etc.) (1) Feasibility studies and E&S assessments, target for completion is by End of H1 2027 to allow for construction in pilot area to begin in Q3 (2) Detailed engineering design and business planning, target for completion is also by End of H1 2027 to feed into construction and start of operations (4) Procurement and construction of infrastructure, target for initial connections is Q3 2027, with generation construction stretching into 2028 depending on the completion timeline of technical and E&S studies (5) Operations and capacity building, ongoing. In the DRC, (1) feasibility studies and E&S assessments, including the SESA and identification of candidate hydropower sites, will start first, followed shortly by business planning and (3) legal structuring. Design work for the DRC under this contract is limited to the preliminary least-cost electrification plan, GIS routing and bill of quantities under Subtask 2.3. Detailed engineering design, (4) procurement and construction, and (5) operations will follow but are outside the scope of this contract.
35	TOR Subtask 1.4: System Data Collection “the Contractor shall specifically review, geographically reference, and evaluate the quality of existing electric distribution lines and distribution transformers in the concession areas identified in both of the Host Countries. The Contractor shall validate and reinforce data on existing substations and feeder lines. The Contractor shall update geo-spatial data layers in existing asset databases.” For Zambia: can the Client confirm that this information will be provided by ZESCO under the terms of their MOU with the Client? Does the Client anticipate the Copperbelt Electricity Corporation providing any electric line data to this study, and if so, does the Client already have an MOU with CEC to obtain that data? For DRC: does the Client already have an MOU with SNEL to obtain any existing	Zambia: This information will be provided by Anzana, with geospatial information from both ZESCO and other sources. There is no intention of receiving or obtaining data from CEC and NWECC. Priority focus will be on the ZESCO, REA and Zengamina networks. DRC: For the spatial extent of the service territory, please see response to Question 24/36/37. An MoU with the Provincial Governor and utility of Lualaba is in progress, and we expect them to assist us in obtaining data from SNEL. The Lualaba utility should plan to operate widely across the province. Kolwezi and Kasaji will be areas of initial focus

	distribution line data in the Lualaba Province? What is the spatial extent of the service territory that the provincial utility in Lualaba serves? Kindly provide the geospatial extents of this system to estimate field digitization requirements.	
36	TOR Subtask 2.2: Mining Energy Demand Forecast “a detailed survey of existing and prospective critical minerals mining projects within or adjacent to the Grantee's concession areas in the Host Country that have current or anticipated U.S. or U.S.-aligned offtake agreements.” What is the spatial extent of the Grantee’s concession that should be considered for this sub task?	North-Western Province, Zambia. The specific concession areas in Lualaba Province, DRC, are not finalized, but are envisioned to include Kolwezi and environs, as well as Kasaji.
37	TOR Subtask 2.3: Electrification Expansion Plans Zambia & DRC Within the boundaries of the Grantee’s concession areas in the Host Country, as defined under Task 1, and considering the current extent of electric distribution infrastructure within each concession area, the Contractor shall evaluate electrification expansion options and develop an electrification expansion plan. What is the spatial extent of the Grantee’s concession areas in Zambia and DRC that should be considered for this sub task?	North-Western Province, Zambia. The specific concession areas in Lualaba Province, DRC, are not finalized, but are envisioned to include Kolwezi and environs, as well as Kasaji.
38	TOR Subtask 2.4: New Generation and Rehabilitation Plans For a maximum of five hydropower generation projects identified in the Host Country as candidates for greenfield construction and/or rehabilitation and as being within 50km of the proposed concession areas, What is the spatial extent of the Grantee’s concession that	Subtask 2.4 applies to the DRC only. Candidate sites must be within 50 km of the proposed concession areas (envisioned to include Kolwezi and environs, and Kasaji), measured from the concession area boundaries. Candidate sites may therefore lie outside the concession areas and, if within 50 km, outside Lualaba Province.

	should be considered for this sub task? Does this mean that the candidates' sites could be outside of Lualaba Province? Does this mean that the candidates' sites could be 50 km radius outside of the concession area's spatial extent?	
39	TOR Subtask 5.3: Project-Level Environmental and Social Assessment for Defined Project Components The Contractor shall undertake a full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment ("ESIA") for three Project components, as selected by the Grantee prior to the commencement of this Subtask. Can the Client indicate when the three Project components will be selected? Are they already known and can be started at the start of the project, or do they depend on the results of sub task 2.3 for Zambia?	The three Zambia project components will be selected by the Grantee once the least-cost electrification expansion plan under Subtask 2.3 is available. Where components in the pilot area are already sufficiently defined, the Grantee may select them at or soon after kick-off so the ESIA work can start early. Offerors should plan Subtask 5.3 to follow Subtask 2.3 and may propose an approach to start early on pilot-area components. As defined in Subtask 5.3, each component is the area affected by a single 33 kV feeder line of no more than 50 km and its associated LV and customer connection network. The depth and complexity of the ESIA work are therefore expected to be broadly similar whichever three components are selected.
40	TOR Task 9: Draft Legal Documentation In consultation with the Grantee, the Contractor shall produce draft versions of certain definitive agreements and other legal documents, the list of which shall be determined and finalized by the Grantee. Can the Client provide their methodology for how the list of legal documents will be selected for drafting, and how they will be finalized between the Client, Grantee, and host government/third parties?	Documents will be selected by priority basis based on project progress and implementation timeline. After documents are drafted, Anzana will finalize and execute the legal documentation without the involvement of the Contractor.

41	TOR Task 9: Draft Legal Documentation The Grantee may request that the Contractor review and comment on any additional legal or regulatory requirements and agreements which the Grantee may have entered into related to this Project, without exceeding the specific amount of time budgeted to this Task. Can the Client share a provisional list and the current status of the agreements?	Zambia: SHA and JPIA have been drafted and are under negotiations. No other documents have been drafted. The next documents for drafting are the PPA, Power Supply Agreement, Asset Transfer/Lease Agreements, Implementation Agreement. DRC: SHA, JV Agreement, Implementation Agreement, Power Supply Agreements, PPAs, financing documents, none of which have been drafted.
42	RFP Section 3.4 Proposal Format and Content, Technical Approach and Workplan: What is the overall timeline for the completion of the feasibility study? Does the Client have a target duration or interim milestones dates for the completion of each major task and sub task, especially since the TOR allows the two countries to run on different timelines?	Timeline for the feasibility study will be dependent on the region of focus and implementation timeline. The feasibility study may be broken up into multiple stages to allow for project progress, e.g. Pilot areas, ESIA territories. Anzana anticipates an indicative duration of about 6 months per country, to be agreed at contract signature.
43	RFP Section 4: Award Criteria For our part, we fully accept the draft contract. Nevertheless, we respectfully request that the Client review the selection criteria in RFP Section 4, since the acceptance/non-acceptance criteria ought to be a threshold question, and that particular criteria sends the total over 100% to 110%.	The observation is acknowledged and the weighting will be corrected as follows: Technical Solution – 35% Project Execution Methodology – 30% Experience and Capability – 25% Compliance with RFP Requirements – 5% Contractual Acceptance and Readiness – 5% Total Technical Score of 100%.
44	Submission deadline The cover page gives the deadline as "11:59PM Mauritius & 3:59PM Eastern Daylight Time, Eastern & Local Time, Friday, October 26, 2026". October 26, 2026 is a Monday, and Section 2.13.2 refers only to 11:59 PM local time in Mauritius. Please confirm that the deadline is Monday, October 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM Mauritius time (3:59 PM EDT).	The submission deadline is confirmed as Monday, October 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM Mauritius time. No extension to the proposal submission deadline will be granted at this stage.

45	Deadline Extension: We would kindly request a 2-week extension so we may incorporate the clarifications and also have time to finalize our proposal package due to the complexity of this assignment.	No extension to the proposal submission deadline will be granted at this stage. The submission deadline therefore remains Monday, October 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM Mauritius time.
46	Evaluation criteria weights: The technical criteria in Section 4 are weighted 35%, 30%, 25%, 10% and 10%, which total 110%. Please confirm the weights that will apply.	The observation is acknowledged and the weighting will be corrected as follows: Technical Solution – 35% Project Execution Methodology – 30% Experience and Capability – 25% Compliance with RFP Requirements – 5% Contractual Acceptance and Readiness – 5% Total Technical Score of 100%.
47	Transmittal Letter: Section 3 lists a Transmittal Letter as a required element and counts it within the 20-page limit, but does not set out its content or format. Please confirm whether there is a required template.	There is no required template for the Transmittal Letter. It should be on the Offeror's letterhead and signed by an authorized representative. It should identify the RFP, the Offeror and any joint venture or consortium members, and state the period for which the proposal remains valid.
48	Please confirm the controlling submission deadline in UTC. The cover states 11:59 p.m. Mauritius and 3:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on 26 October 2026, which are not equivalent, and labels that date Friday.	The submission deadline is confirmed as Monday, October 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM Mauritius time. No extension to the proposal submission deadline will be granted at this stage.
49	Please confirm that the 30% host-country subcontracting ceiling applies in aggregate across DRC and Zambia subcontractors, including local services contracted through a U.S. subcontractor.	Yes, it applies in aggregate across DRC and Zambia subcontractors, including local services contracted through the U.S. subcontractor. No more than 30% of the total grant funds can be spent on host-country labor, services, and subcontracts More details about USTDA's Nationality, Source, and Origin Requirements can be found here: https://s3-us-gov-west-1.amazonaws.com/cg-654ebf73-8576-4082-ba73-dd1f1a7fe8dc/uploads/USTDA_Nationality_Requirements_November_2023.pdf
50	For DRC Subtask 5.1: Please confirm any mandatory corporate ACE accreditation requirements, distinguishing strategic assessment inputs from subsequent project-level studies.	The SESA under Subtask 5.1 is a strategic, programme-level assessment. Offerors should state in their proposal how they will meet applicable DRC requirements, including Agence Congolaise de l'Environnement (ACE) approval of consultants, for any document that will be submitted to ACE. ACE-accredited firms or experts are not mandatory for the strategic inputs, but are strongly encouraged in the DRC E&S team; they will be required for any future project-level studies (ESIAs/ESMPs) that

		need ACE approval, and those studies are outside this scope for the DRC.
51	Please provide the location of the latest RFP version, any issued addenda and the public interested-parties list.	The most up to date RFP and any issued addenda can be found here: https://ustda.gov/rfp/lobito-corridor-electrification-project-feasibility-study/ . Please email RFP@ustda.gov to request the most up to date list of prospective offerors.
52	Number and scope of environmental and social impact assessments: Section 1.2 refers to five project-level ESIA's, while Annex I, Subtask 5.3 specifies three components. Please confirm the required number, locations and scope of the ESIA's and associated Environmental and Social Management Plans.	For the scope of this project, the correct number in Zambia is three ESIA's, each with an associated ESMP, for project components of the distribution electrification plan. Each component is the area affected by a 33 kV feeder line of no more than 50 km and its associated LV and customer connection network, located within the Zambia concession area (North-Western Province) and selected by the Grantee under Subtask 5.3. No project-level ESIA's are required for the DRC.
53	Country coverage of economic and financial analysis: Does Task 4 require full economic, financial and tariff analyses for Zambia only, or for both Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)? Please clarify the financial modelling required for each country's Task 10 business plan.	Task 4 (economic, financial and tariff analysis) is limited to Zambia, given the earlier development stage of the DRC projects (see response to Question 9). For the DRC business plan under Task 10, the Contractor should prepare a rudimentary financial analysis based on the capex estimates for the candidate hydropower projects under Subtask 2.4 (see response to Question 8). The Zambia business plan should be linked to the full Task 4 financial model.
54	Procurement arrangement and contract form Task 3 refers to EPC tender documentation and the FIDIC Red Book. Please confirm the intended procurement arrangement, applicable FIDIC form and edition, and allocation of design responsibility.	Task 3 tender documentation should be based on the FIDIC Conditions of Contract for Construction (Red Book), 2017 Second Edition (2022 reprint), for employer-designed works. Under this arrangement, the Employer (Anzana/the JV) is responsible for the design, which the Contractor under this Activity will develop to the level needed for tender, and the works contractor is responsible for construction.

55	KYS forms and contracting entity references Please provide the seven documents listed at the end of Appendix 7: the Supplier Code of Conduct; Supplier Conflict of Interest declaration; Supplier Eligibility, Debarment and Litigation declaration; Supplier Anti-fraud, Anti-Corruption and Ethical Business Practice declaration; and the three HSES declarations covering child and forced labor, listed activities, and SEA/SH performance. Please also confirm whether references to Weza Power in the KYS questionnaire should remain unchanged for this Anzana procurement.	Supporting documentation will be provided alongside this request for clarification. References to Weza Power in the KYS questionnaire may remain unchanged. Weza Power is a subsidiary of Anzana Electric Group, and such references should be understood as applying, where relevant, to the Anzana Group entity conducting this procurement.
56	Eligibility evidence and host-country participation Please confirm the documentary evidence required to establish prime contractor, subcontractor and individual personnel eligibility, including the treatment of independent consultants. Is the 30% host-country subcontracting allowance applied collectively across Zambia and DRC? How should relevant personnel costs and reimbursable expenses be counted against that allowance?	The prime contractor must certify that all employees participating in the activity are in compliance with USTDA's Nationality, Source, and Origin Requirements. It is recommended that all CV's submitted indicate the workers' citizenship, residence, and/or legal worker status. In the event of an audit, the prime contractor would be responsible for validating worker status by providing documents such as passports, work permits, or other means of identification. Yes, the 30% host-country subcontracting applies in aggregate across DRC and Zambia subcontractors. No more than 30% of the total grant funds can be spent on host-country labor, services, and subcontracts. More details about USTDA's Nationality, Source, and Origin Requirements can be found here: https://s3-us-gov-west-1.amazonaws.com/cg-654ebf73-8576-4082-ba73-dd1f1a7fe8dc/uploads/USTDA_Nationality_Requirements_November_2023.pdf
57	Qualification evidence for recently established firms Where a U.S. firm has operated for fewer than three years, what financial records are acceptable in place of the KYS questionnaire's three-year average turnover history? May the prime contractor satisfy prequalification through its own corporate record combined with the separately attributed experience of its principals,	A firm that has operated for fewer than three years is not automatically excluded. Eligibility as a U.S. firm is determined under USTDA's nationality requirements in Annex II of the Grant Agreement (Appendix 3), which can be met through U.S. ownership or control as well as through years of operation. For the KYS questionnaire, a firm with fewer than three years of operation should provide the audited financial statements for each year it has operated. As defined in Section 2.2, the "Offeror" includes the U.S. firm and all of its subcontractors. Experience and

	proposed personnel and committed specialist subcontractors? Which experience and financial-capacity requirements must the prime contractor satisfy independently?	capability will therefore be evaluated across the proposed team, including the relevant experience of key personnel and committed subcontractors, provided it is clearly attributed. The prime contractor must independently meet the USTDA nationality requirements, submit a complete KYS, hold an active SAM.gov registration at the time of contract award, and pass USTDA's financial-capacity screening.
58	Evaluation weights: The five stated evaluation weights total 110%, while the table states a total of 100%. Please provide the corrected weights.	The observation is acknowledged and the weighting will be corrected as follows: Technical Solution – 35% Project Execution Methodology – 30% Experience and Capability – 25% Compliance with RFP Requirements – 5% Contractual Acceptance and Readiness – 5% Total Technical Score of 100%.
59	Main proposal page limit and separate qualification documents: Please confirm whether separately submitted CVs, individual commitment letters, corporate qualification records and KYS documentation are excluded from the 20-page limit, while concise staff qualifications and project references needed for evaluation must remain in the main proposal.	Supporting documentation concerning the team structure can be included in the annexes, provided that a detailed summary of essential elements is incorporated into the main 20-page report. The 20-page limit applies primarily to the Technical Proposal. Supporting documentation related to the Know Your Supplier (KYS) requirements, which will be reviewed as part of the preliminary compliance assessment prior to the technical evaluation, is not included in the 20-page limit. Similarly, subcontractors' letters of commitment and other supporting administrative or compliance documentation may be submitted as attachments or annexes and will not count toward the 20-page limit.
60	Study duration and available information: Is there a required or preferred completion period for the study? What existing asset and GIS records, hydrology information, environmental and social baseline studies, and legal agreements will be available to the contractor at commencement?	There is no fixed completion period. The estimated completion date will be agreed between Anzana and the selected Offeror at contract signature, and grant funds cannot be disbursed after September 22, 2030 (see response to Question 6). Offerors should propose a timeline; an indicative duration of about 6 months per country is expected, possibly in stages (see response to Question 42). At commencement, Anzana will share available asset and GIS data (from ZESCO, REA, Zengamina and other sources), the draft SHA and JPIA, and any existing studies. Hydrology and E&S baseline data are expected to be limited and should mainly be collected by the Contractor. We expect distribution network GIS and information to be fairly robust by commencement of the contract.

61	Submission deadline and electronic transfer arrangements: Please also confirm the accepted file-transfer method, any file-size or access restrictions, and whether receipt will be acknowledged.	Submission via email is accepted, provided that the proposal is submitted in accordance with the document structure and organization required in the request for proposals. Bidders are not required to combine their entire bid package into a single PDF file. The technical proposal, KYS documentation, and supporting annexes may be submitted as separate, clearly identified files. If the total file size prevents transmission via email, bidders may use an appropriate file transfer system and provide the corresponding access link. Receipt of the proposal will be acknowledged either by email or through an automatic confirmation of successful download generated by the file-sharing platform used.
62	Project reference limit Please clarify how the six-project reference limit applies to a proposed team comprising a prime contractor and specialist subcontractors. Is the limit six references for the entire team, or may the prime contractor and each subcontractor provide separate references?	The six-reference limit in Section 3.5 applies separately to the prime contractor and to each proposed subcontractor. The prime may provide up to six references, and each subcontractor may provide up to six of its own. As stated in the response to Question 13, a summary table of subcontractor references must be included in the 20-page technical proposal; supporting reference documents may be placed in an appendix that does not count toward the page limit.
63	What voltage does Anzana operate for MV and LV	In Zambia, MV distribution is at 33 kV and 11 kV, and LV is 400/230 V (ZESCO standard). In the DRC, SNEL MV distribution is mainly at 30 kV, 15 kV, 11 kV and 6.6 kV, and LV is 400/230 V. New-build networks are expected to follow the applicable national utility standards.
64	How many feeders are there for Zambia and DRC in the study area?	Zambia: There are 5 feeders in the Pilot area from the one substation. However, the number of feeders in the rest of the total study area is unknown but estimated to be around 50 and will need to be verified. The total length of MV line (11/33kV) is about 6600km. This information is not yet known in the DRC, but will be part of subtasks 1.4 and 2.1.
65	How many substation and substation transformers are there?	Zambia: There are 18 substations in the AOI, of which 4 are 33/11kV distribution substations. Of 7 of the visited substations, there are 9 total substation transformers. The number of transformers in the remaining substations are estimated to be 47 but will need to be verified. This information is not yet known in the DRC, but will be part of Subtasks 1.4 and 2.1.
66	What is the modeling software that Anzana uses	Anzana does not require any specific network modelling software. Offerors should propose industry-standard tools (e.g. DigSILENT PowerFactory, CYME, Synergi Electric or PSS/E) and deliver models and data in formats that can be transferred to Anzana.

67	Should Offers consider reliability or asset health in the Analysis, or is that Analysis restricted to capacity only	Yes. The analysis should cover asset condition/health and reliability as well as capacity, in line with the grid condition assessment under Subtask 1.4, with the related analysis in 2.1. Recommendations for rehabilitation and reinforcement should reflect all three.
68	Will Anzana share standards with the successful Offeror	Yes. Anzana will share its applicable technical and design standards, and any relevant ZESCO, REA and SNEL standards it holds, with the successful Offeror at kick-off.
69	Will Anzana share per unit costs for the region for upgrading components of the substation and distribution system?	Anzana will share any available unit cost data with the successful Offeror. However, the Contractor is expected to develop and validate per-unit costs from recent regional benchmarks, supplier quotes and comparable projects, and to state its sources in the deliverables.
70	Please confirm if the intention of Task 8 (Stakeholder Workshops) is to present the findings and lessons learned from Tasks 1-7 to different groups of stakeholders, or whether the intention is for these Stakeholder Workshops to take place throughout the Study period, rather than after completion of Tasks 1-7	The Stakeholder Workshops are mainly meant to present and validate the findings and recommendations of Tasks 1–7. They may be scheduled at key milestones during the Study (e.g. after the main technical and E&S findings) rather than only after all of Tasks 1–7 are complete. As stated in the response to Question 32, two workshops will be held in Zambia and one in the DRC. Offerors may propose timing in their workplan.
71	Page 31 of the RFP defines “Target Country” as a “country, other than the Host Country, (i) that is an integral part of the Project’s scope and (ii) whose local labor is required for work to be performed in connection with the Activity. A project may have one or more Target Countries.” a. Can USTDA identify the applicable Target Countries for this Study, or can the Offeror propose Target Countries in their bid?	Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo are both the Host and Target Countries as it relates to this activity.
72	Subtask 5.2: Environmental and Social Management Framework (for Zambia Only): a. Often, a SESA or similar assessment should have been completed prior to development of an ESMF. Does USTDA expect a SESA to be developed for the Zambia portfolio also? b. Please confirm that up to three (3) project-level ESIA’s on proposed components in Zambia will be developed.	a. No--the SESA under Subtask 5.1 is for the DRC only. The Zambia ESMF under Subtask 5.2 may rely on existing studies and other available sources rather than a Zambia-level SESA. b. Confirmed. For the scope of this project, the correct number in Zambia is three ESIA’s, each with an associated ESMP, for project components of the distribution electrification plan. Each component is the area affected by a 33 kV feeder line of no more than 50 km and its associated LV and customer connection network, located within the Zambia concession area (North-Western Province) and selected by the Grantee under Subtask 5.3. No project-level ESIA’s are required for the DRC.

	(Note that item 1.2 “Objective” of the RFP mentions that five (5) project level ESIA’s should be developed for the projects in Zambia.)	
73	If required, can USTDA or Anzana provide the following documents for Offerors to complete as part of Offer submissions under Appendix 7: a. WP-PRO-T&F-008 - Supplier Code of Conduct b. WP-PRO-T&F-009 - Supplier Conflict of Interest declaration c. WP-PRO-T&F-010 - Supplier Eligibility, Debarment and Litigation declaration d. WP-PRO-T&F-011 - Supplier Anti-fraud, Anti-Corruption and Ethical Business Practice declaration e. HSES 01 - Child and forced labor declaration f. HSES 02 - Listed activity declaration g. HSES 03 - Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and / or Sexual Harassment (SH) performance declaration	Supporting documentation will be provided alongside this request for clarification.
74	Approximately how many primary substations, MV feeders (by voltage), km of MV and LV line and distribution transformers are in each concession area? In what form are GIS and asset data held, and by whom?	Zambia: See responses to Questions 63, 64 and 65 for voltages, feeders, MV line length, substations and substation transformers. LV line length and distribution transformer numbers are not yet known and will be established under Subtask 1.4. Asset and GIS data are compiled by Anzana from ZESCO and other sources, held by Anzana, and stored as a geopackage (QGIS) with various line, polygon, and point layers and will be shared at commencement (see responses to Questions 35 and 60). DRC: This information is not yet available and will be collected under Subtasks 1.4 and 2.1.

75	Will GIS boundaries, or the districts, territories and towns, of the Zambia pilot area, the full JV area and the DRC concession in Lualaba be provided during kickoff	Yes. Available boundaries will be provided at kick-off. In Zambia, the concession area is North-Western Province, and the pilot area and full JV area boundaries will be shared. In the DRC, the concession areas in Lualaba Province are not yet finalized but are envisioned to include Kolwezi and environs, and Kasaji; indicative boundaries will be shared as available.
76	Does the Grantee expect a minimum sample for on-site verification, or will it nominate priority facilities?	The Grantee will nominate priority facilities for on-site verification in consultation with the Contractor. Offerors should propose a sampling methodology and an indicative sample size in their proposal, with a justification.
77	Subtask 2.4: New Generation and Rehabilitation Plans (DRC only): a. Please confirm if the Contractor will have access to a hydropower asset database that lists all existing hydropower projects and potential greenfield projects? b. Please confirm if the Contractor is expected to identify new potential hydropower projects and sites beyond the existing data base? c. Please confirm if the database includes the following information: • Catchment area upstream (km²) • Elevation of intake and powerhouse locations • Existing infrastructure access (roads, ports, transmission) • 10-30 years of river flow records (daily preferred), • Flood and drought records • Mean annual flow (m³/s), environmental flow requirements • Firm flow, design flow, energy generation potential • Surface geological mapping, seismic activity, landslide susceptibility • Are tunnels required or feasible?	a. Anzana does not hold a dedicated hydropower asset database. Reference data for this Subtask will come primarily from existing World Bank, AfDB and other publicly available hydropower atlases and studies. Anzana will share any additional information it obtains before commencement. b. Yes. The candidate hydropower projects are to be identified as part of the Contractor's scope (see response to Question 28), within 50 km of the proposed concession areas (see response to Question 38). The Contractor should start from existing inventories and atlases. Where these do not provide enough suitable candidates, the Contractor is expected to identify new potential sites, for example through desktop geospatial screening followed by site visits. c. Anzana cannot confirm that all of the listed parameters are available for every candidate site. Availability is expected to vary, and some data, such as long-term daily flow records, flood and drought records, and geological and seismic data, may be limited or unavailable. Where data are not available, the Contractor should use the best available sources and site observations, clearly state its assumptions and data gaps, and recommend any further studies needed. Offerors should describe in their proposal how they will address data limitations in completing Subtask 2.4.
78	Please confirm that a financial-economic assessment/model is not required to support the analysis/recommendations for DRC.	Confirmed: a full Task 4 financial model is not required for the DRC. However, the DRC business plan under Task 10 should be supported by a rudimentary financial analysis based on the Subtask 2.4 hydropower capex estimates (see responses to Questions 8 and 9).

79	Is there a target timeline/duration (number of months) for completing the feasibility study?	The estimated completion date will be agreed between Anzana and the selected Offeror at contract signature, and offerors may propose timelines. Grant funds cannot be disbursed after September 22, 2030. An indicative duration of about 6 months per country is expected, possibly in stages (see responses to Questions 6 and 42).
80	Please confirm where the Anzana management team is based and where the Kick-Off Meeting is expected to take place.	The team leading this effort is based in Lusaka, Zambia. We expect the kick off meeting to be virtual.
81	The TOR notes several DRC-focused documents that need to be translated into French. Please confirm if the following reports (which cover both DRC and Zambia) also require French translation: a. Task 5: Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Environmental and Social Framework (ESMF) b. Task 6: Assessment of U.S Sources of Supply c. Task 7: Assessment of Development Impacts d. Task 10: Business Plan e. Task 11: Final Report	Only the DRC-related content or combined sections need to be produced in both French and English. The Zambia-related work can be produced in English only.
82	Will USTDA or the Grantee share the list of firms that submitted an intention to participate, or otherwise assist prospective U.S. subcontractors in connecting with lead offerors?	Please email RFP@ustda.gov to request the most up to date list of prospective offerors.
83	May a U.S. subcontractor be named on proposals submitted by multiple offerors?	Yes.
84	Are subcontractors required to have a SAM.gov Unique Entity ID or full SAM registration at the proposal submission stage, or is this only required upon contract award?	Subcontractors are not required to have a SAM.gov registration. Only the prime contractor is required to have an active SAM.gov registration at the time of contract award.