

Terms of Reference

Consultant, District Energy in Cities – Asia

Overview

The District Energy in Cities Initiative is a multi-stakeholder partnership coordinated by UN Environment, with financial support from the Global Environment Facility, DANIDA, and the Government of Italy. It supports local and national governments build local know-how and implement enabling policies that will accelerate investment in modern – low-carbon and climate resilient – district energy systems. As one of six accelerators of the Sustainable Energy of All (SEforAll) Energy Efficiency Accelerator Platform, launched at the Climate Summit in September 2014, the Initiative is supporting market transformation efforts to shift the heating and cooling sector to energy efficient and renewable energy solutions.

38 organizations, including industry associations, manufacturers, utilities, financiers, non-government groups, as well as 45 champion cities across the world have partnered with the District Energy in Cities Initiative to support local and national governments implement district energy policies, programs and project pipelines. The Initiative currently is working with 9 countries - including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, China, India, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Russia and Serbia – and 15 cities, each of which have committed to implement at least one policy, to pursue one demonstration project, and to track their progress. The partnership delivers training, technical support and resources that support these actions, and which contribute to the SEforALL goal of doubling the rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030.

The Copenhagen Centre for Energy Efficiency (C2E2) is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced consultants to provide technical, financial and political insight and expertise on district energy at the global and country-level as ongoing support to implementation of the UN Environment-led District Energy in Cities Initiative in India and Malaysia. C2E2 is a lead partner of this global Initiative.

The consultant will work in close coordination with the Initiative's Secretariat in UN Environment's Economy Division as well as Project Management Offices (PMOs) in the pilot countries.

Objectives:

- Contribute to the development of the Initiative's knowledge products, tools, training modules and assessments which are vital to building local capacity and expertise in district energy;
- Provide technical insight on country-level funding proposals for district energy in India and Malaysia;
- Establish and coordinate the Initiative's technical taskforce;
- Support the communication and capacity building activities of the Initiative;
- Support the on-the-ground coordination of technical experts in India and Malaysia.

Scope of work:

- Develop technical knowledge products: following the guidance of the technical taskforce and with the support of partners and other initiatives, the consultant will develop new knowledge products to support the Initiative's implementation activities:
 - Regionally-tailored rapid assessment methodologies for district energy.
 - one training modules, tailored to pilot country contexts, on topics that can include: district energy technology options, business models and project financing, combined district energy and buildings policy, urban planning policies for district energy, national policy frameworks for district energy.
 - Structured best practice recommendations and case studies that can be uploaded to an online decision tool of local and national government actions, policies, financing and regulations of district energy.

- Technical input to funding proposals

The consultant will provide technical inputs to GEF Project Identification Forms (PIF) for India and Malaysia under the coordination of the Initiative's Secretariat. Technical inputs will include: country-specific recommendations for methodology, country baselines including analysis of existing policy frameworks, calculated GHG benefits, and early-stage policy, regulatory and technology recommendations. Where GEF funding is not appropriate, the consultant will provide the technical inputs for GCF concept notes and/or similar. The consultant will also provide technical input to one external funding proposal not part of the GEF/GCF.

- Technical support to Initiative Project Management Offices and country training: the consultant will provide technical support to the Initiative's Project Management Offices (PMO) in India, Malaysia and China. Technical support will include:
 - adapting global methodologies on assessments and stakeholder coordination to the country context.
 - provide full quality control and technical review of technical assessments, MRV frameworks, policy analyses and training undertaken in the countries.
 - designing technical Terms of References for district energy pre-feasibility assessments and for development of city plans for district energy
 - aggregating and condensing multiple technical inputs from partners to provide country-relevant training material, guidance and case studies to support awareness raising and capacity building activities;
 - establishing links between learning cities and champion cities and partners.
 - organise study tours for learning cities in coordination with the Initiative's partners;
 - support local stakeholder engagement including alleviating misconceptions around district energy through training,

- organize global training webinars on topics based on pilot country needs and knowledge gaps

Deliverables:

- The technical taskforce is established, a workplan is delivered and at least the first update call is organised.
- Rapid assessment methodologies for district energy regionally tailored for the implementing countries and available online.
- One training modules tailored to pilot country contexts.
- At least three concept notes for GCF/GEF proposals finalised.
- Technical input provided for the development of GEF Project Identification Forms.
- Technical assessments, MRV frameworks, policy analyses and training undertaken in the pilot countries reviewed.(At least three assessments reviewed and input provided)
- ToRs for district energy pre-feasibility assessments and for the development of city-wide plans designed.
- Training material and case studies to support awareness raising and capacity building activities developed.
- Two study tours for learning cities organized.
- Links established between learning cities and champion cities.
- Two global training webinars adapted to pilot country needs and knowledge gaps provided.

Qualifications:

Candidates will be assessed primarily on their expertise in delivering on the assignment objectives, and must have prior experience working with UN Environment programmes and with municipal government energy efficiency programmes. Project work experience in India, China and Malaysia is an advantage.

Timeline:

The assignment will be over a period of 6 months.