

Memorandum of Information

Tender: Bangladesh Circular Apparel & Textile

Reference: 202601017

Date: 19 May 2026

Nr	Lot	Subject	Question	Answer
1	All	Success strategies	1. On page 9 of the tender document, under Pathway 1, it is stated that a precondition for the strategy's success is that front-runners have an interest in sharing their success stories with second movers. These include enhancing front-runners' status or position within the local value chain and providing business support to improve their position/profitability. Could you please clarify whether such incentive mechanisms or strategies are expected to be developed from scratch under this programme, or whether there are existing initiatives that can be leveraged? For example, are there pre-existing sustainability awards or recognition schemes, or would these need to be designed and implemented as part of the programme?	On page 9 the following is mentioned regarding what could possibly be an interest of a front-runner: "There must be something in it for them. This can be personal satisfaction from supporting sustainability/circularity in the sector, out of personal convictions that sustainability in business is good for the world. However, to make a stronger case, the project will focus on the following strategies (which will also be used in comparable ways in working with the second movers): [...] " [for the details on the mentioned strategies we refer to the tender document.] What strategies per partner will be needed (for example in terms of support to a frontrunner in introducing sustainability/circularity innovations or support a frontrunner with branding on EU market) will be discussed and worked out during the inception phase as part of building the relationship. For some strategies CBI already has mechanisms, such as our export competency modules, a BSO assessment tool, the CBI CSR assessment and CSR roadmap trajectory including coaching on how to become compliant, etc.
2	All	Front-runners	1. On page 10 of the tender document, the first sentence states: "The project will use its two current front-runner partners to recruit and select the larger group of front-runners." Could you please indicate who these two current front-runner partners are?	The names of these two front-runner partners will be communicated to the Contractors of the three lots after awarding of the Contracts.

3	All	Outreach taskforce	1. On page 10, under Pathway 2, the tender refers to the establishment of an outreach taskforce to ensure that front-runners' successes are visible to second movers. Could you clarify whether this outreach taskforce is expected to consist of external individuals, or whether it will be composed of staff or representatives from CBI and/or the programme itself?	This outreach taskforce will consist of representatives of a stakeholder who has an interest in ensuring that lessons learned, services, experiences etc. become visible to and accessible for second movers via the platform. The inception phase will clarify who that stakeholder will be and with whom the project can develop such a platform. The project team will support the set-up of such a platform by providing expertise, experience and coaching on how to set it up.
4	All	Branding campaign	1. On page 11 of the tender document, under Pathway 3, it is stated that the project will support a sector branding campaign. Could you please clarify who is expected to lead this campaign (e.g. the front-runners, CBI, or another partner)?	It is CBI's approach that the initiatives like a branding strategy are locally developed and owned. This means that CBI will collaborate with a partner identified in the inception phase, and will provide coaching and share expertise on how to set up such a branding campaign. This partner will be in the lead for this campaign.
5	All	Experts	1. With regard to the structure of the Framework Contract (FWC), could you please clarify whether each lot will have a pool of experts available under the framework, or whether a single expert will be selected per lot?	In chapter 3 of the Tender Document, under 3.1.1, this is mentioned: "The lead expert, Single Point of Contact: For lot 1, a maximum of three (3) experts may be proposed by Tenderer for the execution of the assignment. For lots 2 and 3, a maximum of two (2) experts may be proposed by Tenderer for the execution of the assignment." Hence, it is for Tenderer to decide whether they propose one or multiple experts for the execution of the Framework Contract. If more than one expert is proposed you can find the preconditions for doing this in 3.1.1 as well.
6	All	Award limited to 1 lot	1. Page 37 of the tender document states: "Tenderers can submit a tender for all lots. However, the amount of lots to be awarded per Tenderer is limited to one (1), due to the Contracting Authority's intent to maintain independence between the lots." Based on this, would you recommend that suppliers focus their bids on a single lot?	This is for the Tenderer to decide.

7	All	Specific contracts	7. Once the lots have been awarded, will specific assignments ("specific contracts") under the framework be subject to a competitive selection process among framework contractors, or will assignments be awarded directly to the selected expert/contractor?	Per lot, only one Tenderer will be awarded a Framework Contract. Hence, there is no competitive selection under the Framework Contract, assignments will be awarded directly to the winner of that Contract.
8	All	Conflict of interest	1. With regard to conflict of interest considerations: our organisation is currently implementing a project entitled "Learning Oriented Monitoring Combi-tracks" funded by RVO. Could you please confirm whether our organisation would still be eligible to submit a proposal for this tender, or whether this could constitute a conflict of interest?	In case of potential risk situations, the Tenderer needs to show that 1. such risk for a potential conflict of interest is limited, and 2. that the expert has adequate mitigation measures in place in case a potential conflict of interest might arise. The Tendering Authority decides if the explanation is sufficiently plausible and if the two elements have been adequately proven in the Tender. If that's not the case the Tendering Authority can exclude the Tenderer from participating in the tendering process. Based on the current information, the Tendering Authority cannot provide a definitive answer regarding this specific situation. We request that you include the information requested under points 1 and 2 in your Tender.
9	Lot 2	TenderNed: Place of performance	Q1: With reference to Lot 2, section 5.1.2 Place of performance , the notice indicates: " Country: Netherlands – Anywhere in the given country ", while the additional information refers to Bangladesh . Could the Contracting Authority confirm whether this indication means that tenderers must be established, resident, working from, or physically present in the Netherlands, or whether tenderers established outside the Netherlands may also submit a tender, provided that they can perform the required activities under the contract?	Tenderers established outside the Netherlands may also submit a tender. Due to the working of TenderNed, it is not possible to select another location than the Netherlands for the notice.
10	Lot 2	TenderNed: Language of submission	Q2 In addition, with reference to section 5.1.12 Terms of submission , which indicates Dutch as the language in which tenders may be submitted, could the Contracting Authority confirm whether both the Financial Tender and the Technical Tender must be submitted in Dutch, or whether these documents may also be submitted in English?	Please refer to the Tender Document, chapter 7, section 7.3.20: "The Tender must be submitted in English."

11	Lot 1	Budget	In the documents sent, there is a bit of question mark on the budget itself for lot 1. In section 2.4 of the Tender document, the contract is described as 2 phases: Inception phase for 6 months, and Execution Phase for 1.5 years (which can be extended to 4.5 years). However, while the inception phase budget is very clear at €70,000 for lot 1, Implementation budget timeline is not clear. Is the €330,000 Implementation budget for the initial 1.5 years or total even for 4.5 years? The on-ground costs for 4.5 years seem unsustainable at that rate. Any help will be appreciated.	The inception phase is six months and the implementation phase lasts a maximum of (including optional extension years) 4,5 years. For the Inception phase €70.000 is calculated and for the Implementation phase a budget of € 330.000 is calculated for the maximum total duration of 4,5 years. The estimated total contract value is therefore €400.000 for the maximum total contract duration of 5 years. See section 2.5 of the Tender Document. These amounts have been calculated based on more than 50 years of conducting private sector development projects. Please note that under the Framework Agreement, separate contracts based on Terms of References can be drafted with specific targets and deliverables. It is not a full-time job for an expert. Occasional on-ground costs (such as transportation costs during a mission in Bangladesh/Dhaka) may occur and will be compensated, according to the requirements set out in chapter 3 of the Tender Document.
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