

RFP26 003 Priority Clarification Questions

To Mekong River Commission Secretariat Procurement Unit

Assignment International Consulting Firm for implementing the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Pilot Projects as Part of 9C-9T Project in Cambodia and Thailand

Date 25 September 2026

We respectfully request clarification of the matters set out below to support a complete and responsive proposal. References use the section titles and printed page numbers in the issued RFP.

ID	RFP reference	Query
Q01	Section III, Part A, Main Deliverables, A.2, p. 17; Part B, Main Deliverables, B.2, p. 26	The deadline column states that the inception report is due three weeks after contract start, while the note states four weeks after contract signature. Please confirm the governing deadline. The deadline is 4 weeks after the concept starts.
Q02	Section III, Part A, Main Deliverables, 6.1 and 6.2, p. 18; Part B, Main Deliverables, 12.1 and 12.2, p. 27	The draft and final construction completion reports are both due four weeks after construction completion. Please confirm the review period for the draft and the deadline for the final report following receipt of comments. The deadline for Draft after 4 weeks, Final after 6 weeks.
Q03	Section III, Work Summary, p. 7; Part A, Main Deliverables, p. 18; Part B, Main Deliverables, p. 27	The Work Summary states a delivery period ending in December 2027, while the country schedules indicate final handover in October 2027. Please confirm the contractual completion date and the intended period between October and December 2027, if applicable. October was the envisioned deadline, but contract would run until December 2027 with potential of extension till May 2028 if the process is delayed.
Q04	Section III, Part A and Part B, Main Deliverables and footnotes, pp. 17–18 and 26–27; Section VI, Form FIN-2, p. 41	Please confirm whether the stated total of 232 working days is a prescribed aggregate input or an indicative estimate. May bidders propose a different distribution or level of effort, or a qualified financial proposal, where they consider the stated person-days only? The 232 working days are the prescribed total level of effort. Bidders may adjust the allocation among experts, provided the total days and TOR requirements are maintained.
Q05	Section III, Work Summary, p. 7; Part A, Work Packages 4–6 and Main Deliverables, pp. 15–18; Part B, Work Packages 10–12 and Main Deliverables, pp. 24–27	Please confirm the anticipated construction start date and duration for each pilot project so that the required site-supervision effort can be priced. The RFP requests “continuous, rigorous inspection” while also referring to regular inspections and specified field missions. Please clarify the required site presence

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		in each country and whether the national site engineer is expected to be full-time, part-time or attendance-based. The construction phase is estimated to 4-month and may be expected to delay up to 6 months; construction start depends on contracting and permission process. The site's presence should be managed by the consultant depending on construction requirements, but the monthly construction report is mandatory. The report should include the progress of the construction, the obstacle, the material detail, and the technical responses. Joint site visits with MRC-GIZ are planned for start, mid and end of construction.
Q06	Section III, Part A, site surveys, p. 10 and Work Package 1, pp. 12–14; Part B, site surveys, p. 20 and Work Package 7, pp. 22–23	Please confirm that all procured topographical, bathymetric, geotechnical, surface-water and groundwater survey information will be provided at contract commencement and may be relied upon without independent re-performance, except where the Consultant identifies an evident inconsistency. Where gaps, inconsistencies or insufficient detail are identified, please confirm whether the Consultant is expected to undertake and fund supplementary surveys. All conducted topographical, bathymetric, geotechnical, surface-water and groundwater survey information will be provided; the consultant is not expected to undertake supplementary surveys. An additional survey option is included in the survey consultant TOR if required.
Q07	Section III, Part A, Expected Results and Work Packages 2–3, pp. 11 and 14–15; Overall Required Experts and Qualifications, pp. 29–33	Please confirm the professional licence, registration body and qualification criteria required for the Cambodian engineer authorised to prepare, sign and seal the designs and permit drawings, noting that professional licensing arrangements in Cambodia may differ from those assumed in the RFP and is less “common” than in Thailand. The consultant should secure the licensed engineer for the design.
Q08	Section III, Part B, Expected Results and Work Packages 8–9, pp. 20 and 23–24; Overall Required Experts and Qualifications, pp. 29–33	Please confirm whether all Thailand design and permit drawings must be prepared, signed and sealed by a Thai-licensed engineer, and specify the applicable licence, registration body and qualification criteria. The design and permit drawing must be prepared by Thai-licensed engineer. The engineer should be granted at least a Professional Engineer (Saman Witsawakon) level in Hydraulic Engineer, or civil engineer that allows them to design complex projects for water management. The licensed should be accredited by the Council of Engineers (COE).

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Q09	Section III, Work Package 3, p. 15; Work Package 9, p. 24; National Civil Engineers, pp. 30–31	Please define the consultant's responsibility for construction permits. Does the scope require preparation and delivery of application documentation only, or formal submission, liaison and securing of approvals? Please also confirm which party will submit each application and pay statutory fees. The consultant is required to prepare, deliver, and adapt (if required) application documentation only. Submission will be handled by MRCS, the National Mekong Committee Secretariats and relevant government agencies. The application document must be aligned with the government standard and regulations.
Q10	Section III, Part A, implementation arrangements, p. 12; Part B, implementation arrangements, p. 21; Work Packages 3 and 9, pp. 15 and 24	Please identify the competent permitting and design-approval authorities for each pilot, including the authority that will act as Executing Agency and approve construction permits in Cambodia. Permission application will be handled by MRCS through the National Mekong Committee Secretariats and relevant government agencies.
Q11	Section III, Part A, implementation arrangements, p. 12; Part B, implementation arrangements, p. 21; Overall Implementation Arrangement, p. 28	Please confirm the support that MRCS, the National Mekong Committee Secretariats and relevant government agencies will provide for permits and approvals, including facilitating timely access to authorities, landowners, communities and other stakeholders. MRCS, the National Mekong Committee Secretariats and relevant government agencies will support the permit and approval process. Also, local stakeholders are already involved in both pilot projects.
Q12	Section III, Work Packages 4 and 10, pp. 15–16 and 24–25; Section II, Clause 9, pp. 5–6	Please confirm the procurement rules, procedure and tender-document format that will apply to the Cambodia and Thailand works contracts. MRCS will procure the national construction firms following MRC procurement manual and guidelines. The consultant must support MRC to provide tender drawing, technical specification, and BOQ for the tender process.
Q13	Section III, Work Packages 4 and 10, pp. 15–16 and 24–25	Please define the consultant's required involvement in works procurement. Is the consultant to prepare tender documents and evaluation criteria only, or also respond to tender queries, evaluate bids, support negotiations and participate in contractor selection? Who will conduct the formal evaluation and make the award decision? The consultant will prepare tender and technical evaluation of bids and support MRC in responding to tender queries related to

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		technical issues but will not participate in negotiations and selection.
Q14	Section III, Work Packages 5–6 and 11–12, pp. 16–17 and 25–26; Section IX, Draft Contract and GCC Clauses 32–33, pp. 47–50 and 65–66	Who will have contractual authority under each works contract to issue instructions, approve variations, determine extensions of time, certify quantities and payments, and accept the completed works? MRCS.
Q15	Section III, Work Packages 5–6 and 11–12, pp. 16–17 and 25–26; Section IX, GCC Clause 27, p. 62	Please confirm whether the works contracts will include a defects-liability or defects-notification period, its duration, and the level of consultant support required during that period, including inspections, defect certification and final acceptance. It is the consultant's work to prepare construction tender documents and therefore define the required defects-liability or defects-notification periods, but to support during that period is not foreseen under the current consultancy contract.
Q16	Section III, Part A, Expected Results and Work Package 1, pp. 11 and 13–14; Part B, Expected Results and Work Package 7, pp. 20 and 22–23	Please identify the environmental baseline data, flora and fauna assessments, socio-economic information, land-ownership records and land-availability confirmations that will be provided. Where these are incomplete, please confirm whether primary surveys, title verification and resolution of land availability are included in the consultant's scope. Related to land ownership, initial information has been already collected from the Commune Council and Municipality during several field missions. MRCS, the National Mekong Committee Secretariats, and relevant government agencies will further support this process. Flora and fauna assessments should be done by the consultant, with supported secondary data information.
Q17	Section IV, Criteria 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3, p. 35	Please confirm whether the same Southeast Asian reference projects may satisfy both the three general reference-project requirement under Criterion 1.1 and the two regional reference-project requirement under Criterion 1.2. Please also confirm acceptable evidence where client documents or contracts contain confidential information. The same Southeast Asian projects may satisfy Criteria 1.1 and 1.2 if they meet both requirements. Confidential information may be redacted, provided sufficient evidence remains for MRCS verification.

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Q18	Section III, Qualifications and Requirements, pp. 32–33; Section IV, Criteria 3.1 and 3.2, pp. 35–37	Please confirm whether every listed personnel qualification is a minimum responsiveness requirement or a criterion for achieving the maximum score. Where a proposed expert exceeds most requirements but does not fully meet one subcriterion, please clarify whether partial scoring will apply. The qualifications specified represent the criteria required to achieve the maximum score in the technical assessment. Partial scoring is possible. The only exclusive requirement is for National Experts to hold valid professional certifications/licenses.
Q19	Section III, Part A, Main Deliverables, p. 18; Part B, Main Deliverables, p. 27	Please confirm which deliverables require Khmer or Thai versions in addition to English, beyond the technical tender documents, monthly construction progress reports and construction completion reports specifically identified in the schedules. Only the construction drawing, BOQ, and Drawing specification, construction supervision report and Construction Completion Reports must be submitted in local language and English.
Q20	Section II, Clause 7.1, pp. 4–5	For electronic submission, please confirm whether the technical proposal may be transmitted in multiple emails under a common submission index to comply with the 5 MB limit. Please also confirm when and by what method MRCS will request the password for the financial proposal file. The technical proposal may be split into multiple emails due to the 5 MB limit. The financial proposal must remain password-protected, and MRCS will request the password only from bidders passing the technical threshold.
Q21	Section III, Part A, Work Package 3, p. 15; Part B, Work Package 9, p. 24; implementation arrangements, pp. 12 and 21	For construction permit applications, please confirm under whose name each application will be submitted and which entity will be the project owner or applicant for permitting purposes. Given that the pilots are on public land and may involve government-owned assets or infrastructure, will the applicant be MRCS, the relevant national or local government authority, a designated beneficiary entity, or another party? Please also confirm whether an international organisation or foreign consulting firm is legally eligible to apply directly. Applicants will be MRCS or the relevant national or local government authorities