

SCOPE OF WORKS

For the execution of an environmental impact assessment (EIA) of a solar PV-based hybrid mini-grid in Shedder camp, Somali Region, Ethiopia February 2022

(1) Preamble

Mercy Corps is a leading global organization powered by the belief that a better world is possible. In disaster, in hardship, in more than 40 countries around the world, we partner to put bold solutions into action — helping people triumph over adversity and build stronger communities from within. Now and for the future. Mercy Corps Ethiopia exists to alleviate suffering and poverty by helping people build secure, productive, and sustainable livelihoods. Since 2004, we have worked in rural, peri-urban and urban areas in five regional states - Somali, Oromia, Afar, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples, Amahara, and the capital city, Addis Ababa. Our mission is to foster populations that are financially stable, healthy and nourished, and educated and informed, within a context where natural resources are accessed, shared and utilized sustainably, so people can lead productive livelihoods. Driven by local needs, our programs provide individuals, agencies and businesses with the tools and support they need to transform their lives, businesses, and communities. Our partners include government, academic institutions, development and private sector actors, civil societies, and participating public. We strive to strengthen all of these institutions in the hopes that one day they become self-reliant

Powering infrastructure in relief settings, where clinics, offices, communications towers, water pumping stations and other necessary services are commonly fuelled by diesel generators, represents a substantial economic burden for humanitarian agencies & for the businesses and households located in refugee settlements and host communities. In 2019-2021, Mercy Corps, in partnership with Shell under Shell's Enter Energy – Ethiopia (EE-E) initiative has been exploring the feasibility of deploying and operating clean and commercially viable energy infrastructures in displacement settings and for humanitarian operations. The strategic objective was to assess the potential to develop a replicable, market-based model to provide clean, sustainable, reliable and affordable energy services for the humanitarian sector. To this end, Mercy Corps has conducted a baseline study on energy access in Jijiga, Somali Region, which has resulted in the potential for the development of a scalable, replicable model for integrated renewable electrification that would improve operational sustainability for humanitarian organizations while enabling better service delivery for people living in refugee settlements and host communities.

Mercy Corps will undertake this effort through the incorporation of an Ethiopian commercial entity and in collaboration with private sector actors to ensure sustainability of the business model proposed and with the aim to reach scale for access to energy in displacement settings for all segments of the population. For its first phase, Mercy Corps has chosen to pilot its model in the host and refugee communities of Sheder, Aw Barre District, Somali Region. The project aims at designing, funding, deploying and operating, in collaboration with the private sector under a market-based model, a 300 kWp PV-powered mini-grid in the Sheder camp.

(2) Objective of the vacancy

For its solar PV-based mini-grid of about 300 kWp in the Shedder camp, Aw Barre District, Somali Region, Mercy Corps is looking for a sole Consultant or a Firm that could:

- Carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) compliant with the applicable legislation
- Ensure the obtention of the Environmental Authorization/Clearance Certificate (EA/CC) from the Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) or its equivalent designed authority
- Develop an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which complies with the requirements of the prevailing environmental policies and legislations in Ethiopia

(3) Key tasks

The selected candidate will work during the following areas:

Phase 1: Carry out an environmental impact assessment (EIA)

- Develop a brief statement summarizing the study in non-technical terms as well as indicating the completeness and accuracy of the information given in the study report
- Assess based on the size, location, nature, cumulative effect with other concurrent impacts of phenomena, transregional effects, duration, reversibility, irreversibility, or other related effects to the project
- Provide, as a minimum: the nature of the project, including the technology and processes to be used; the content amount of pollutant that will be released during implementation as well as during operation; information on likely trans-regional impacts; characteristics and duration of all the estimated direct or indirect, positive or negative impacts; contingency plan in case of accident; procedures of self-auditing and monitoring during implementation and operation
- Indicate of the absence of or acceptable levels of seismic or volcanic activity at the proposed site
- Identify the likely adverse impacts of the project, and incorporate the means of their prevention, mitigation or containment
- Provide sufficient information to enable the Authority to determine whether and under what conditions the project shall proceed

Phase 2: Ensure the obtention of the Environmental Authorization/Clearance Certificate (EA/CC)

- Support the Client to file the EIA to the Authority
- Timely address any question and/or request for clarification that might be raised by the Authority
- Ensure the timely approval of the EIA, as per applicable legislation
- Obtain the Environmental Authorization/Clearance Certificate (EA/CC)

Phase 3: Develop an Environmental Management Plan (EMP)

- Develop an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) compliant with the prevailing environmental policies and legislation of Ethiopia.

(4) Minimum qualification and skills

The selected Candidate for this position will meet the following criteria:

- Be a registered and accredited entity at the Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) or equivalent body to carry out EIAs and develop EMPs
- Proven experience in similar assignments, ideally in the energy sector
- Full mastering of requirements of EIA and EMPs for similar projects

(5) Submission of offers and deadlines

Interested candidates should submit the following document to ***tenders@mercycorps.org***

- A **technical offer** highlighting the proposed methodology, staff, calendar of execution and previous references
- A **financial offer** with the proposed budget for the assignment, broken down per activity

The deadline for the submission of offers is **February 27th, 2022, 5:00PM EAT**. The selected candidate is required to complete the assignment within 3 weeks from Contract signing.