



#### MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY

CONFERENCE FOR PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS
IN AN AUCTION
FOR THE SELECTION OF
ONSHORE WIND PROJECTS
THAT WILL BENEFIT FROM SUPPORT MEASURES,
WITH SITE-LOCATION IDENTIFIED BY DEVELOPERS

The Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy ("MIE" or the "Ministry") is currently running a two-stage tender for the selection of several onshore wind power projects with a capacity between 10 MW to 75 MW each, with site-location identified by developers, which will benefit from support measures. This tender is part of the Albanian Government's energy and climate change action to diversify renewable energy sources, deliver secure energy and attract sufficient investment in sustainable low-carbon technologies.

In this context, the Ministry invites prospective bidders and other interested parties to a bidders' conference with the objective to provide detailed information about the bidding procedure, the selection requirements, and facilitate bidders' participation.

The event will take place *virtually, in a Zoom Webinar,* on <u>24 November 2021</u>, from 14:00 – 16:45 Central European Time (CET). The conference will be held in English language.

The bidders' conference will provide a detailed explanation of the requirements of the RFQ documents and the subsequent RFP stage, as well as clarify prospective bidders' questions.

Further details about the tender process can be found at the *Background Information* section at the end of this invitation and on the MIE's website <u>here.</u>

Please register using the link below:

**REGISTER HERE** 

## SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS

MIE invites prospective bidders to submit any questions or enquiries in advance, at least 5 (five) business days before the planned date of the conference, to facilitate the preparation of the answers to be provided during the conference. A number of selected further questions can also be submitted directly during the bidders' conference.

Prospective bidders may submit written question or enquiries about this tender process (a) in a dedicated section provided in the link during the registration process and/or (b) in writing to the following contact:

> **Contracting Authority:** Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of the Republic

of Albania

Rruga "Abdi Toptani", no. 8, Tirana, Albania Address:

+355 4 2222245 Tel/Fax: **Contact Person:** Mr. Antonio Bushati

E-Mail: antonio.bushati@infrastruktura.gov.al

Internet Address: www.infrastruktura.gov.al

Replies to requests for clarification submitted by prospective bidders to date are published here.

### **AGENDA**

#### 1. Introduction

- a. Welcome by MIE
- b. Presentation of the dedicated website for all future auction announcements

# 2. Overview of the tender process

- a. General description of tender process
- b. Site selection by bidders
- c. Support mechanism for awarded projectsd. Two-stage process, submission procedure and overall auction timeline

# 3. Overview of the RFQ stage

- a. Bidder qualification criteria at the RFQ stage
- b. Documentary requirements
- c. Process for clarifications and amendments
- d. Recap of RFQ timeline

# 4. Preview of RFP requirements

- a. Site/project requirements at the RFP
- b. Financial bids and ceiling price
- c. Recap of RFP timeline
- 5. Gather audience questions
- 7. Responses to audience questions and pre-submitted questions
- 8. Close and next steps

Ministry will share with registered participants an attendance code about the tender process. Prospective bidders' or other interested parties' participation in the conference shall be at their sole cost, risk and responsibility.

Upon registration, you give us your consent to use your personal data solely for the purpose of organising this event and follow-up communication related to the conference. For further details on how we process your personal data, please refer to the Privacy Policy.

With best regards,

Minister

**Belinda BALLUKU** 

The Technical Assistance to support the MIE in the implementation of this tender is funded by the Swiss Confederation State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO.



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

The Consultancy Team is led by DLA Piper and consists of the following members.









### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- The Government's energy and climate change goals are to diversify renewable energy sources, deliver secure energy and attract sufficient investment in sustainable low-carbon technologies. The Government is committed to put the Republic of Albania on a path consistent with its renewable energy targets and drive ambitious action on climate change, while maximising the benefits and minimising costs for consumers and taxpayers.
- To this aim, on 22 June 2021, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of the Republic of Albania launched a two-stages tender process for the selection of utility-scale, onshore wind power plants with site-location identified by developers.
- Participation in this tender is restricted to projects with a minimum capacity of 10 MW and a maximum capacity of 75 MW (each referred to as "Wind Project"). Through this tender process, the MIE will select Wind Projects totalling 100 MW that will benefit from support measures as described below. The Contracting Authority (MIE) may decide at a later stage to increase the total tendered capacity to 150 MW.
- Each successful bidder will be offered a Project Development Agreement and a physically settled Power Purchase Agreement which guarantees the purchase by the Offtaker of the supported output for the total capacity of the selected Wind Project at a fixed electricity price equal to its financial bid in the Bidding Procedure, for a term of 15 years from the commercial operation date.
- Upon the occurrence of a conversion event (i.e. when a functional day-ahead market is operational in Albania, determined based on a pre-defined process and conditions), the physically settled Power Purchase Agreement must be converted to a financially settled Contract for Difference. The support will be granted directly in the form of a Contract for Difference if a market readiness assessment is completed by the RFP publication date (i.e. a functional day-ahead market and Renewable Energy Operator are established).
- This tender is currently at the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Stage Request for Qualification (RFQ) to prequalify prospective bidders with the required technical experience, financial resources and legal standing to deliver a wind project. The deadline for responding to the RFQ is 13 June 2022.
- RFQ documents are published in English language version <u>here</u> and in Albanian language version <u>here</u>.
- In anticipation of the **second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Stage Request for Proposals (RFP)**, the MIE has recommended prospective bidders to start as soon as possible activities for the identification of sites viable for the design, financing, construction and operation of new onshore wind power plants. During RFP, each prequalified bidder is required to demonstrate the viability of its proposed site, show a number of permits or preliminary rights, and to submit a financial bid. **The deadline for responding to the RFP will be in February 2023.**
- To assist developers with the site selection, the MIE has commissioned a high-level analysis of Albanian territory to indicate areas potentially suitable for developing new wind projects and areas unsuitable / non-eligible for developing new wind projects defined as "constraints" or "no go areas". The study can be accessed in English here and in Albanian language version here.