Section II. Instructions to Bidders

Notes on the Instructions to Bidders

This Section on the Instruction to Bidders (ITB) provides the information necessary for bidders to prepare responsive bids, in accordance with the requirements of the Procuring Entity. It also provides information on bid submission, eligibility check, opening and evaluation of bids, post-qualification, and on the award of contract.

1. Scope of Bid

The Procuring Entity, ***PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH COTABATO*** wishes to receive Bids for the **_____**, with identification number **ITB** No. **_____**.

The Procurement Project (referred to herein as "Project") is composed of **_____**, the details of which are described in Section VII (Technical Specifications).

2. Funding Information

2.1. The G0OP through the source of funding as indicated below for **_____** in the amount of *P*_____.

2.2. The source of funding is:

LGUs, the Annual or Supplemental Budget, as approved by the Sanggunian

3. Bidding Requirements

The Bidding for the Project shall be governed by all the provisions of RA No. 9184 and its 2016 revised IRR, including its Generic Procurement Manuals and associated policies, rules and regulations as the primary source thereof, while the herein clauses shall serve as the secondary source thereof.

Any amendments made to the IRR and other GPPB issuances shall be applicable only to the ongoing posting, advertisement, or **IB** by the BAC through the issuance of a supplemental or bid bulletin.

The Bidder, by the act of submitting its Bid, shall be deemed to have verified and accepted the general requirements of this Project, including other factors that may affect the cost, duration and execution or implementation of the contract, project, or work and examine all instructions, forms, terms, and project requirements in the Bidding Documents.

4. Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive, and Coercive Practices

The Procuring Entity, as well as the Bidders and Suppliers, shall observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of the contract. They or through an agent shall not engage in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, and obstructive practices defined under Annex "I" of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184 or other integrity violations in competing for the Project.

5. Eligible Bidders

5.1. Only Bids of Bidders found to be legally, technically, and financially capable will be evaluated.

5.2. *[Select one, delete other/s]*

a. Foreign ownership exceeding those allowed under the rules may participate pursuant to:

   i. When a Treaty or International or Executive Agreement as provided in Section 4 of the RA No. 9184 and its 2016 revised IRR allow foreign bidders to participate;

   ii. Citizens, corporations, or associations of a country, included in the list issued by the GPPB, the laws or regulations of which grant reciprocal rights or privileges to citizens, corporations, or associations of the Philippines;

   iii. When the Goods sought to be procured are not available from local suppliers; or

   iv. When there is a need to prevent situations that defeat competition or restrain trade.

b. Foreign ownership limited to those allowed under the rules may participate in this Project.

5.3. Pursuant to Section 23.4.1.3 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No.9184, the Bidder shall have an SLCC that is at least one (1) contract similar to the Project the value of which, adjusted to current prices using the PSA's CPI, must be at least equivalent to:

[Select one, delete the other/s]

a. For the procurement of Non-expendable Supplies and Services: The Bidder must have completed a single contract that is similar to this Project, equivalent to at least fifty percent (50%) of the ABC.

b. For the procurement of Expendable Supplies: The Bidder must have completed a single contract that is similar to this Project, equivalent to at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the ABC.

c. For procurement where the Procuring Entity has determined, after the conduct of market research, that imposition of either (a) or (b) will likely result to failure of bidding or monopoly that will defeat the purpose of public bidding: the Bidder should comply with the following requirements: [*Select either failure or monopoly of bidding based on market research conducted*]

   i. Completed at least two (2) similar contracts, the aggregate amount of which should be equivalent to at least *fifty percent (50%) in the case of non-expendable supplies and services or twenty-five percent (25%) in the case of expendable supplies*] of the ABC for this Project; and

   ii. The largest of these similar contracts must be equivalent to at least half of the percentage of the ABC as required above.

5.4. The Bidders shall comply with the eligibility criteria under Section 23.4.1 of the 2016 IRR of RA No. 9184.

6. Origin of Goods

There is no restriction on the origin of goods other than those prohibited by a decision of the UN Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the UN, subject to Domestic Preference requirements under **ITB** Clause 18.

7. Subcontracts

7.1. The Bidder may subcontract portions of the Project to the extent allowed by the Procuring Entity as stated herein, but in no case more than twenty percent (20%) of the Project.

The Procuring Entity has prescribed that:

Subcontracting is not allowed.

7.2. *[If Procuring Entity has determined that subcontracting is allowed during the bidding, state:]* The Bidder must submit together with its Bid the documentary requirements of the subcontractor(s) complying with the eligibility criteria stated in **ITB** Clause 5 in accordance with Section 23.4 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184 pursuant to Section 23.1 thereof.

7.3. *[If subcontracting is allowed during the contract implementation stage, state:]* The Supplier may identify its subcontractor during the contract implementation stage. Subcontractors identified during the bidding may be changed during the implementation of this Contract. Subcontractors must submit the documentary requirements under Section 23.1 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184 and comply with the eligibility criteria specified in **ITB** Clause 5 to the implementing or end-user unit.

7.4. Subcontracting of any portion of the Project does not relieve the Supplier of any liability or obligation under the Contract. The Supplier will be responsible for the acts, defaults, and negligence of any subcontractor, its agents, servants, or workmen as fully as if these were the Supplier's own acts, defaults, or negligence, or those of its agents, servants, or workmen.

8. Pre-Bid Conference

The Procuring Entity will hold a pre-bid conference for this Project on the specified date and time and either at its physical address _____ at _____ and/or through videoconferencing/webcasting} as indicated in paragraph 6 of the **IB.**

9. Clarification and Amendment of Bidding Documents

Prospective bidders may request for clarification on and/or interpretation of any part of the Bidding Documents. Such requests must be in writing and received by the Procuring Entity, either at its given address or through electronic mail indicated in the **IB**, at least ten (10) calendar days before the deadline set for the submission and receipt of Bids.

10. Documents comprising the Bid: Eligibility and Technical Components

10.1. The first envelope shall contain the eligibility and technical documents of the Bid as specified in **Section VIII (Checklist of Technical and Financial Documents)**.

10.2. The Bidder's SLCC as indicated in **ITB** Clause 5.3 should have been completed within ***[state relevant period as provided in paragraph 2 of the IB]*** prior to the deadline for the submission and receipt of bids.

10.3. If the eligibility requirements or statements, the bids, and all other documents for submission to the BAC are in foreign language other than English, it must be accompanied by a translation in English, which shall be authenticated by the appropriate Philippine foreign service establishment, post, or the equivalent office having jurisdiction over the foreign bidder's affairs in the Philippines. Similar to the required authentication above, for Contracting Parties to the Apostille Convention, only the translated documents shall be authenticated through an apostille pursuant to GPPB Resolution No. 13-2019 dated 23 May 2019. The English translation shall govern, for purposes of interpretation of the bid.

11. Documents comprising the Bid: Financial Component

11.1. The second bid envelope shall contain the financial documents for the Bid as specified in **Section VIII (Checklist of Technical and Financial Documents)**.

11.2. If the Bidder claims preference as a Domestic Bidder or Domestic Entity, a certification issued by DTI shall be provided by the Bidder in accordance with Section 43.1.3 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184.

11.3. Any bid exceeding the ABC indicated in paragraph 1 of the **IB** shall not be accepted.

11.4. For Foreign-funded Procurement, a ceiling may be applied to bid prices provided the conditions are met under Section 31.2 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184.

11.5. *[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* Financial proposals for single or multi-year Framework Agreement shall be submitted before the deadline of submission of bids as prescribed in the **IB**. For multi-year Framework Agreement, evaluation of the financial proposal during this stage is for purposes of determining eligibility and whether or not such financial proposal is within the ABC.

12. Bid Prices

12.1. Prices indicated on the Price Schedule shall be entered separately in the following manner:

a. For Goods offered from within the Procuring Entity's country:

i. The price of the Goods quoted EXW (ex-works, ex-factory, ex-warehouse, ex-showroom, or off-the-shelf, as applicable);

ii. The cost of all customs duties and sales and other taxes already paid or payable;

iii. The cost of transportation, insurance, and other costs incidental to delivery of the Goods to their final destination; and

iv. The price of other (incidental) services, if any, listed in e.

b. For Goods offered from abroad:

i. Unless otherwise stated in the **BDS**, the price of the Goods shall be quoted delivered duty paid (DDP) with the place of destination in the Philippines as specified in the **BDS**. In quoting the price, the Bidder shall be free to use transportation through carriers registered in any eligible country. Similarly, the Bidder may obtain insurance services from any eligible source country.

ii. The price of other (incidental) services, if any, as listed in **Section VII (Technical Specifications).**

12.2. *[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* For Framework Agreement, the following should also apply in addition to Clause 12.1:

a. For a single year Framework Agreement, the prices quoted by the Bidder shall be fixed during the Bidder's performance of the contract and not subject to variation or escalation on any account. Price schedules required under Clause 12.1 shall be submitted with the bidding documents.

b. For a multi-year Framework Agreement, the prices quoted by the Bidder during submission of eligibility documents shall be the ceiling and the price quoted during mini-competition must not exceed the initial price offer. The price quoted during call for mini-competition shall be fixed during the Bidder's performance of that Call-off and not subject to variation or escalation on any account. Price schedules required under Clause 12.1 shall be submitted with the bidding documents.

13. Bid and Payment Currencies

13.1. For Goods that the Bidder will supply from outside the Philippines, the bid prices may be quoted in the local currency or tradeable currency accepted by the BSP at the discretion of the Bidder. However, for purposes of bid evaluation, Bids denominated in foreign currencies, shall be converted to Philippine currency based on the exchange rate as published in the BSP reference rate bulletin on the day of the bid opening.

13.2. Payment of the contract price shall be made in:

a. Philippine Pesos.

14. Bid Security

14.1. The Bidder shall submit a Bid Securing Declaration[2] or any form of Bid Security in the amount indicated in the **BDS**, which shall be not less than the percentage of the ABC in accordance with the schedule in the **BDS**.

14.2. The Bid and bid security shall be valid until *[indicate date]*. Any Bid not accompanied by an acceptable bid security shall be rejected by the Procuring Entity as non-responsive.

14.3. *[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* In the case of Framework Agreement, other than the grounds for forfeiture under the 2016 revised IRR, the bid security may also be forfeited if the successful bidder fails to sign the Framework Agreement, or fails to furnish the performance security or performance securing declaration. Without prejudice on its forfeiture, bid securities shall be returned only after the posting of performance security or performance securing declaration, as the case may be, by the winning Bidder or compliant Bidders and the signing of the Framework Agreement.

15. Sealing and Marking of Bids

Each Bidder shall submit one copy of the first and second components of its Bid.

The Procuring Entity may request additional hard copies and/or electronic copies of the Bid. However, failure of the Bidders to comply with the said request shall not be a ground for disqualification.

If the Procuring Entity allows the submission of bids through online submission or any other electronic means, the Bidder shall submit an electronic copy of its Bid, which must be digitally signed. An electronic copy that cannot be opened or is corrupted shall be considered non-responsive and, thus, automatically disqualified.

16. Deadline for Submission of Bids

16.1. The Bidders shall submit on the specified date and time and either at its physical address or through online submission as indicated in paragraph 7 of the **IB.**

16.2. *[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* For multi-year Framework Agreement, the submission of bids shall be for the initial evaluation of their technical and financial eligibility. Thereafter, those declared eligible during the said initial eligibility evaluation and entered into a Framework Agreement with the Procuring Entity shall submit anew their best financial offer at the address and on or before the date and time indicated in the Call for each mini-competition.

17. Opening and Preliminary Examination of Bids

[2] In the case of Framework Agreement, the undertaking shall refer to entering into contract with the Procuring Entity and furnishing of the performance security or the performance securing declaration within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of Notice to Execute Framework Agreement.

17.1. The BAC shall open the Bids in public at the time, on the date, and at the place specified in paragraph 9 of the **IB**. The Bidders' representatives who are present shall sign a register evidencing their attendance. In case videoconferencing, webcasting or other similar technologies will be used, attendance of participants shall likewise be recorded by the BAC Secretariat.

In case the Bids cannot be opened as scheduled due to justifiable reasons, the rescheduling requirements under Section 29 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184 shall prevail.

17.2. The preliminary examination of bids shall be governed by Section 30 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184.

18. Domestic Preference

18.1. The Procuring Entity will grant a margin of preference for the purpose of comparison of Bids in accordance with Section 43.1.2 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184.

18.2. *[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* For multi-year Framework Agreement, determination of margin of preference shall be conducted every call for Mini-Competition.

19. Detailed Evaluation and Comparison of Bids

19.1. The Procuring BAC shall immediately conduct a detailed evaluation of all Bids rated "*passed*," using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria. The BAC shall consider the conditions in the evaluation of Bids under Section 32.2 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184.

[Include the following options if Framework Agreement will be used:]

a. In the case of single-year Framework Agreement, the Lowest Calculated Bid shall be determined outright after the detailed evaluation;

b. For multi-year Framework Agreement, the determination of the eligibility and the compliance of bidders with the technical and financial aspects of the projects shall be initially made by the BAC, in accordance with Item 7.4.2 of the Guidelines on the Use of Framework Agreement.

19.2. If the Project allows partial bids, bidders may submit a proposal on any of the lots or items, and evaluation will be undertaken on a per lot or item basis, as the case maybe. In this case, the Bid Security as required by **ITB** Clause 15 shall be submitted for each lot or item separately.

19.3. The descriptions of the lots or items shall be indicated in **Section VII (Technical Specifications)**, although the ABCs of these lots or items are indicated in the **BDS** for purposes of the NFCC computation pursuant to Section 23.4.2.6 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184. The NFCC must be sufficient for the total of the ABCs for all the lots or items participated in by the prospective Bidder.

19.4. The Project shall be awarded as follows:

[Select one, delete the other/s]

Option 1 – One Project having several items that shall be awarded as one contract.

Option 2 – One Project having several items grouped into several lots, which shall be awarded as separate contracts per lot.

Option 3 - One Project having several items, which shall be awarded as separate contracts per item.

[Delete Options 2 and 3 if Framework Agreement will be used.]

19.5. Except for bidders submitting a committed Line of Credit from a Universal or Commercial Bank in lieu of its NFCC computation, all Bids must include the NFCC computation pursuant to Section 23.4.1.4 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184, which must be sufficient for the total of the ABCs for all the lots or items participated in by the prospective Bidder. For bidders submitting the committed Line of Credit, it must be at least equal to ten percent (10%) of the ABCs for all the lots or items participated in by the prospective Bidder.

20. Post-Qualification

20.1. *[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* For multi-year Framework Agreement, all bidders initially determined to be eligible and financially compliant shall be subject to initial post-qualification. The BAC shall then recommend the execution of a Framework Agreement among all eligible, technically and financially compliant bidders and the Procuring Entity and shall be issued by HoPE a Notice to Execute Framework Agreement. The determination of the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall not be performed by the BAC until a Mini-Competition is conducted among the bidders who executed a Framework Agreement. When a Call for Mini-Competition is made, the BAC shall allow the bidders to submit their best financial proposals on such pre-scheduled date, time and place to determine the bidder with the LCB.

20.2. Within a non-extendible period of five (5) calendar days from receipt by the Bidder of the notice from the BAC that it submitted the Lowest Calculated Bid, {*[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* or in the case of multi-year Framework Agreement, that it is one of the eligible bidders who have submitted bids that are found to be technically and financially compliant,}the Bidder shall submit its latest income and business tax returns filed and paid through the BIR Electronic Filing and Payment System (eFPS) and other appropriate licenses and permits required by law and stated in the **BDS**. {*[Include if Framework Agreement will be used:]* For every mini-competition in Framework Agreement, the LCB shall likewise submit the required documents for final Post Qualification.}

21. Signing of the Contract

21.1. The documents required in Section 37.2 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184 shall form part of the Contract. Additional Contract documents are indicated in the **BDS**.

[Include the following clauses if Framework Agreement will be used:]

21.2. At the same time as the Procuring Entity notifies the successful Bidder that its bid has been accepted, the Procuring Entity shall send the Framework Agreement Form to the Bidder, which contract has been provided in the Bidding Documents, incorporating therein all agreements between the parties.

21.3. Within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the Notice to Execute Framework Agreement with the Procuring Entity, the successful Bidder or its duly authorized representative shall formally enter into a Framework Agreement with the procuring entity for an amount of One Peso to be paid to the procuring entity as a consideration for the option granted by the procuring entity to procure the items in the Framework Agreement List when the need arises.

21.4. The Procuring Entity shall enter into a Framework Agreement with the successful Bidder within the same ten (10) calendar day period provided that all the documentary requirements are complied with.

21.5. The following documents shall form part of the Framework Agreement:

a. Framework Agreement Form;
b. Bidding Documents;
c. Call-offs;
d. Winning bidder's bid, including the Technical and Financial Proposals, and all other documents/statements submitted (*e.g.,* bidder's response to request for clarifications on the bid), including corrections to the bid, if any, resulting from the Procuring Entity's bid evaluation;
e. Performance Security or Performance Securing Declaration, as the case may be;
f. Notice to Execute Framework Agreement; and
g. Other contract documents that may be required by existing laws and/or specified in the **BDS**.