GOVERNMENT OF GILGIT-BALTISTAN
CHIEF CONSERVATOR FORESTS
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No. REDDGB-Carbon-1(3)/2026 Gilgit dated the 16th September 2026

CONSOLIDATED CLARIFICATION NOTE

Procurement Reference: TSE-202609013067/GB Information Department ID# 481/26

Project Title: HIRING OF INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL CARBON MARKET CONSULTANT/FIRM FOR DEVELOPMENT, REGISTRATION, VALIDATION, MONETISATION AND TRANSACTION ADVISORY SERVICES FOR AN AFFORESTATION, REFORESTATION AND REVEGETATION (ARR) CARBON PROJECT IN GILGIT-BALTISTAN.

1. Proposal Format and Eligibility to Participate

Clarification: The governing format is a **Full Technical Proposal (FTP)**. The mention of "STP" in Data Sheet 15.2 is due to following the standard format. Bidders must submit all standard forms (**TECH-1 to TECH-6**).

Eligibility: This is a National and International Competitive Bidding process open to all eligible firms. Participation is not restricted to any prior shortlist or past procurement rounds.

2. **Date and Opening Arrangements**

Clarification: The correct, legally binding dates under the Gilgit-Baltistan PPRA Portal rules are:

- **Proposal Submission Deadline: September 22, 2026, at 11:00 AM**.
- **Technical Proposal Opening: September 22, 2026, at 11:30 AM**.
- The outdated date of "July 25, 2026" listed in Clause 19.4 is typo error.

3. Evaluation Weights and Sectional Thresholds

Governing Weightage: The final evaluation ratio is fixed at **75% Technical Weight (T) and 25% Financial Weight (P)**.

Technical scores out of 230 marks will be normalized using the formula: St = (technical Score / 230) × 100 before applying the 70% technical weight.

Section Thresholds: The minimum pass mark of **50% for each individual section** and a **cumulative minimum score of 60% (138/230)** are strictly mandatory to qualify for financial opening.

4. **Financial Strength and Qualifying Threshold (Section B)**

Effective Threshold: The absolute minimum entry requirement is an average annual turnover of **PKR 100 million** over the last 3 financial years.

Turnover Definition: "Annual transaction" is explicitly defined as **gross audited turnover / revenue**. Bidders must use financial years **FY 2023-24, FY 2024-25, and FY 2025-26**, or Calendar years backed by audited financial statements.

Foreign Partners: Conversion for overseas firms will be calculated using the official selling rate issued by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on the date of the procurement notice publication (September 03, 2026).

5. **Joint Venture (JV) Eligibility and Credential Aggregation**

Aggregation: Technical experience and firm age will be fully **aggregated/averaged** across all formal JV members.

VVB/Survey Subconsultants: The subconsultant restriction applies strictly to the core carbon project developer role. Hiring independent third-party accredited **Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs)** or localized topographic/soil survey providers **is permitted**.

6. **Completed Assignments and Acceptable Evidence**

Assignment Status: Only **fully completed assignments** or completely concluded independent phases of a grouped project (with formal close-out certificates) qualify for points in Section A. Ongoing projects will not be scored.

Evidence Hierarchy: Procuring agency will accept official Completion Certificates or Final Client-Approved Reports, or a live, verifiable link to an international carbon registry (Verra Registry or Gold Standard Impact Registry etc).

7. **Area Thresholds and Double-Counting Rules**

Area Limit: The **3,000-hectare minimum size** applies strictly to lines explicitly highlighting land area limits (e.g., Feasibility, REDD+, Registration, Stock Assessment, and Financial Modelling).

Cross-Utilization: One single large-scale project **can support multiple distinct scoring achievements** (e.g., if a firm did the PDD, completed validation, and achieved credit issuance for the same project, it can claim points across those separate rows).

Audit & Financial Models: Financial models must reflect at least a **05-year forecasting period**. Audit lines require end-to-end statutory corporate financial audits or third-party carbon expenditure compliance reviews.

8. **Equivalent Academic Qualifications for Key Experts**

Equivalency Allowed: To avoid restricting quality competition, relevant equivalent qualifications **are accepted** provided the equivalency has been issued by HEC or the authorized institute of the country for the matter.

9. **Expert Numbers and Experience Bands**

CV Requirements: Separate, distinct CVs are required for each of the expert roles. One individual **cannot occupy more than one key expert position**.

Scoring Bands: Experience scoring categories are benchmarked as follows:

- **100% Compliance:** Meets exact minimum criteria (e.g., 10 years experience + 3 projects for Team Leader).
- **150% Compliance:** Exceeds baseline requirements by 1.5 times (e.g., 15 years experience + 5 projects).
- **Above 150%:** Exceptional profiles exceeding 150% values earn full maximum points.
- Omission of any mandatory key expert position will lead to technical non-responsiveness.

10. **Support Staff and Availability Documentation**

Exclusivity: Under Data Sheet 11.1, a Key Expert **cannot participate in more than one proposal**. Doing so will result in the rejection of all proposals featuring that expert.

Support Staffing: Field survey teams, lab technicians, and local data collectors should be listed under "Non-Key Experts" in Form TECH-6 and bundled into the financial reimbursable/overhead cost structure.

11. Contract Form and Payment Mechanism

Contract Type: The agreement is a **Lump-Sum, Milestone-Linked Contract based on Deliverables**, despite utilizing standard Time-Based templates for general provisions. Remuneration will be paid against fixed percentage milestones rather than hourly staff timesheets.

Advance Payment: Not Allowed.

12. Reconciliation of Deliverables and Payment Milestones

Milestone-Linked Payment Structure is the governing sequence:

- **Milestone 1 (10%):** Inception Report approval.
- **Milestone 2 (15%):** Submission of complete Draft PDD, Baseline Study, and Carbon Accounting Models.
- **Milestone 3 (20%):** Formal Submission of the package to the VVB/Validator.
- **Milestone 4 (20%):** Formal Listing/Registration Confirmation from the Carbon Registry.
- **Milestone 5 (20%):** Final Carbon Commercialization Structure and Transaction Readiness.
- **Milestone 6 (15%):** Execution of standard off-take agreement, secure private partner investment closure and transfer of first tranche by investor.

13. Assignment Duration and Third-Party Delays

Duration: The total project footprint is **72 weeks** from contract signature. The expected commencement date is target-set for **December 01, 2026**.

External Delays: Pursuant to GCC Clause 17 (Force Majeure/Extension of Time), delays caused exclusively by international registries, validation backlogs by VVBs, or state host-country authorization bodies **will qualify for a time extension without penalties**. However, no additional input costs or monetary claims will be paid for extensions unless the scope of work is expanded by the department.

14. First Revenue Transfer and Completion Obligations

Milestone 6 Trigger: Milestone 6 (Final 15%) is triggered when an **Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA), Forward-Sale Agreement, or formal Concession/Investment Agreement** is successfully executed between the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan and a qualified buyer/investor. Actual credit issuance or cash receipt is required to close out the contract.

15. Basis of Financial Pricing and Budget Ceilings

Budget Cap: The financial allocations totaling **PKR 100 million constitute a strict, binding ceiling** inclusive of all indirect/direct local taxes. Any escalation if required will be made strictly under Planning commission rules which allows a maximum of upto 15% from the allocated budget.

16. Bid Security and Mandatory Submission Envelopes

Security Requirements: Both instruments are mandatory. Bidders must include a physical **Bid Security (CDR) equivalent to 4% of the bid price**.

Envelopes: The **Original CDR must be sealed inside the Financial Proposal Envelope**. A hidden/masked copy with the face value hidden and account particulars protected must be placed inside the Technical Envelope to demonstrate compliance.

Validity: The CDR must be valid for at least **208 days** (180 days bid validity + 28 days extension buffer).

17. Candidate Land and Implementation Responsibilities

Site Identification: The consultant is responsible for **identifying, surveying, and geofencing the final 10,000 hectares** of eligible lands. The department will provide preliminary data, boundaries, and regional maps to assist.

Land Management: Plantations and field costs will be financed and implemented by the subsequent private investor/implementation partner selected through the transaction advisory process, not by this consultant. A **grouped project structure** should be assumed.

18. **Carbon Pathway and Existing Decisions**

Pathway Justification: There are no pre-fixed departmental assumptions regarding carbon baselines. The consultant must scientifically analyze, propose, and justify the optimal standard registry, crediting period (minimum 20–30 years), leakage deductions, and risk buffer pools based strictly on the selected methodology.

19. **Investor Procurement and Change-Control Mechanisms**

Procurement Support: The transaction advisory role covers **one complete open competitive bidding round** to select an implementation partner / investor under GB Public Procurement rules.

Scope Changes: Any addition of extra land area beyond 10,000 hectares, added pilot sites, or shifts caused by major national policy changes will be managed via formal contract variations under GCC Clause 16, subject to reciprocal financial adjustments.

<u>This issues with the approval of Chairman Procurement Committee</u>

(MUJEEB SARDAR)
DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER
Direction, Monitoring & Evaluation