



INVITATION FOR BIDS

IFB TITLE AND NUMBER: TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF NEW OPGW CONDUCTORS FOR THREE LINES - ZESCO/OIB/110/2023

1. ZESCO Limited operates an extensive optic fibre infrastructure country-wide comprising the backbone, Lusaka Province and Copperbelt Metropolitan networks collectively stretching over 12,000 km. The backbone is built mainly of Optical Pilot Ground Wire (OPGW) and installed on 66kV, 88kV, 132kV, 220kV and 330kV transmission lines. The Metropolitan networks consist chiefly of All Dielectric Self Supporting (ADSS) cable and installed on 0.4kV, 11kV and 33kV distribution lines. ZESCO has deployed various technologies for transmission of communication services on these optical fibre assets including DWMD, SDH, and MPLS-TP to serve both the internal communication needs as well as commercial services to public institutions, private corporate entities, and individuals.
2. To improve communication service availability, ZESCO Limited has decided to fortify the existing fibre optic infrastructure to increase resilience to outages by proving alternative routes for aging OPGW cables. Consequently, this tender has been generated to invite prospective bidders to submit proposals for the Supply, delivery, installation, testing and commissioning of new OPGW conductors for three transmission lines.
3. The brief scope and supply include supply, deliver, install, test and commission the OPGW on three sections of the ZESCO 330 kV transmission grid as follows (L/Hill – Kabwe SD 330 kV Line-3, Kabwe – Kitwe 330 kV Line-2 and Kafue West - Lusaka West 330 kV Line).
4. ZESCO has in its possession some transmission line materials such as towers, line conductors, insulators and other line hardware which are to be supplemented for the construction of the transmission line.

5. Bidding will be conducted through **Open International Bidding (OIB)** procedures specified in the Public Procurement Act No. 8 of 2020 and the Public Procurement Regulations of 2022. **Foreign bidders are required to partner with citizen bidders. The terms foreign, local and citizen bidder are defined in the Public Procurement Act No. 8 of 2020.**
6. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2% of the bid sum duly signed and sealed by the guarantor(s) as per sample form provided in the bidding document.
7. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be accessed on the e-GP platform and purchased by interested bidders at **fee of K1,000.00** or its equivalent in any freely convertible currency. The method of payment will be made using the procedures as specified in the **electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) System.**
8. The closing date for the receipt of the bids is **Friday, 22 December 2023** at 10:30 hours local time. Bids will be opened thirty minutes later on the e-GP System.

FELIX H. MUNSAKA
HEAD PROCUREMENT

FHM/LN/rk