



## INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH PUNE

### CLARIFICATION ON TENDER NUMBER - IISER/PUR/1221/21

**SERVICE DESCRIPTION-** Empanelment of Agency for Online and Face to Face training of Early Career Researchers strand of the Inspiring India in Research, Innovation and STEM Education programme

Refer IISER Pune detailed tender published on Institute website [www.iiserpune.ac.in](http://www.iiserpune.ac.in) and in CPP Portal on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Press tender notice dated 29/10/2021 was published on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in Indian Express, Pune, Mumbai and Delhi Editions and in Times of India, Bangalore Edition.

Pre-Bid meeting was held on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 3.00 PM via video conferencing and minutes of meeting is as under.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all the Members and the representative of the Prospective Bidders and briefed in general the scope of the tender. Later on Project Head to read out the clarification sought by the Prospective Bidders and replied thereto as detailed in Annexure.

The representatives present were satisfied with the replies given and it was informed that the corrections / additions / clarifications given, as discussed during the Pre-Bid Conference would be hosted on the website of IISER Pune and all the Prospective Bidders are required to take cognizance of the proceedings of the Pre-Bid Conference before submitting their bids as stipulated in the Bidding Documents.

The other terms & conditions of the notice issued on our IISER website [www.iiserpune.ac.in](http://www.iiserpune.ac.in) will remain unchanged. No more correspondence in this regard will be entertained.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-

12.11.2021

Assistant Registrar (S&P)



## IISER PUNE

### TECHNICAL QUERIES AND CLARIFICATIONS

TENDER NUMBER - IISER/PUR/1221/21

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

Sr. No.	Query/Clarification Sought	Draft Clarification / Amendment
1.	Would you be able to clarify the role of the Indian Institute for Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune in this?	<p>The founder consortium partners have appointed Indian Institute for Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune as the lead implementation partner for the programme.</p> <p>IISER Pune will thus procure the needed consultants/ experts and agencies for the delivery of the programme. Hence, IISER Pune is not in a position to participate in the tender.</p>
2.	Would the winning institution be working with them on this project? Or are we supposed to find alternative Indian institutions to work with?	<p>The winning institution will report on their deliverables to IISER Pune. But IISER Pune will not be in a position to partner with you on this opportunity.</p> <p>It is ideal that you partner with an Indian institution with whom you already have an existing relationship.</p> <p>However, if you have none, we may be in a position to suggest names of institutions who approach us looking for a partner.</p> <p>Leader of the winning consortium has to be an Indian organization.</p>

3.	It looks like the total funding available is ₹3,00,00,000 - is that for both the U.K and Indian sides of the collaboration?	The funding announced in the tender is the cap on the overall tender applicable for all the consortium members involved, from both India and the U.K.
4.	What is the version, platform, name of the other LMS? (Pg No. 13)	<p>Given the low resource context in India, we would like the content to be easily transferable to a suitable government portal in the long run.</p> <p>As a reference, we advise you to check some of the existing government LMS platforms like:</p> <p>Diksha (<a href="https://diksha.gov.in/">https://diksha.gov.in/</a>)</p> <p>Swayam (<a href="https://swayam.gov.in/">https://swayam.gov.in/</a>)</p>
5.	What is the Total duration of Training? (Face to Face + Online)? (Pg. No. 14)	The Face-to-face training is expected to be for 15 days and Online training can be between 15 to 20 hours.
6.	What is the type of Online training expected (Webinar, Animated, Videos etc.)?	The Online training will be in asynchronous mode. We expect high quality immersive content with maximum engagement for participants.
7.	What is the complexity Level of Online training?	We look forward to a suitable level recommended from your end basis your understanding of the context of Indian PhD scholars. Please refer to the evaluation criteria of the tender.

8.	Tax implications/foreign exchange requirements for any amount to be paid in GBP to the U.K Partners. Is there any provision of tax exemption for U.K Consortium partners being a project of higher education and training?	There will be no tax exemption.
9.	Does the scope of work include collaborating with companies for internships besides the selection of the candidates?	No, it doesn't include collaboration with companies for internships.
10.	Though there is provision for travel costs to India, can there be provision of extra funds for travel of selected scholars to the U.K to get foreign exposure to labs/companies associated with the training partner?	It is beyond the scope of the project.
11.	What would be considered a demonstrable track record mentioned in Tender Document serial no. 3 of Eligibility Criteria at page 7?	Evidence of past experience in running similar programmes - especially online training programme with the target audiences (Ph.D scholars)
12.	What is the minimum and maximum number of members allowed for a consortium? Further, how many members are to be included from lead universities of India as per Tender Document Serial number 5 of Eligibility Criteria at Page 7?	<p>As mentioned in the tender (Page 7. Eligibility criteria point no 1) one of the key prerequisites of the tender is a joint consortium application, that includes an Indian and a U.K university/ universities/ organisation/ organisations. One of the Consortium members should be an academic institution.</p> <p>Hence there needs to be a minimum 2 partners, one from India and the U.K each, no cap on maximum number. But it is advisable that the size of the consortium should be manageable.</p>

13.	As per Tender Document at Page 25, Consortium member 2 is mentioned twice, are there two members or one member other than Consortium Member. How many consortium organizations are required to be there?	It looks like a typo which we will correct at our end. There must be a lead member of the consortium and other members. Minimum two members are mandatory (at least one member from India and U.K each)
14.	Can the existing MOU/Agreement/Contract with the U.K Universities/Organizations fulfil the consortium partner requirement, or a separate MOU is required specifically for this project?	There has to be a specific agreement for this project even if you have a broader agreement with the organization.
15.	What are the specific disciplines to be covered for training and development under STEM Education, e.g. Biosciences, Environmental Sciences, Nanotechnology, Artificial Intelligence, Defense Technology etc.?	Please refer to scope of work on page 13 and 14 of the tender document.
16.	Will IISER provide the venue and infrastructure for face-to-face training? Or does it need to be organized by the training partner?	It needs to be organized by the selected agency.
17.	Would Ph. D Classes (conducted Online during Covid-19 Pandemic and Offline classes conducted during Covid-19 Pandemic be counted towards training experience?	No, Ph. D Classes conducted in the past will not be counted towards training experience.

18	How many people need to be trained? Does the training need to be facilitated in all parts of the country or in one specific location?	<p>1) Skill development (online for a target of 5000 PhD scholars). Training can be conducted across locations within the country (as deemed fit by the selected agency) in uniform batches with at least 3 workshops a year.</p> <p>2) Skill development Fellowships (face to face intensive training for 500 PhD scholars). 500 shortlisted candidates who successfully complete the online programme will be selected for the face-to-face training programme. 50% of these should be women.</p>
19	Is the platform also required?	Yes.
20	Why do we need a U.K university for collaboration?	As the program also aims at enriching & strengthening bilateral relations between the U.K & India, it is essential for collaboration and relationship building between the 2 countries.
21	Will the internships be in India or in the U.K?	Internship is not part of the scope of the tender for the selected agency. iRISE will be responsible for the internship process.
22	Does the travel cost of the face-to- face trainers be taken care of by the training partner?	Yes.
23.	If the bidder has been working with IISER, Pune previously then can that be mentioned in their track record experience?	IISER is excluded from bidding on the tender. But prior work experience can be included in the bid.

24.	<p>What will be the scope of bidder in taking care of the expenses of face-to-face training of research scholars in terms of the following: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Travel</li> <li>2. Boarding &amp; Lodging</li> <li>3. Training Infrastructure</li> <li>4. Reference Material</li> <li>5. Allowances</li> </ol>	The selected agency will be responsible for the said expenses of the face-to-face training.
25.	Are there any guidelines for travel/boarding & lodging of research scholars who are selected for face-to-face training?	The selected agency is expected to follow all Covid guidelines for travel as mandated by the Government. And all other relevant guidelines applicable at the time of travel.
26.	The BOQ to be submitted as a financial bid has only option of lump sum amount and there are no break ups whereas the format given in the RFP has a detailed breakup table. Do we need to fill in offline and upload the detailed breakup format along with the BOQ in the financial bid or it will be made available and to be filled online on the portal?	The total lump sum amount should be quoted in the Excel sheet of the BOQ only, and the detailed break up of price/costs should be submitted online in the .pdf format as mentioned in the Financial Bid cover on the online portal.
27.	There is a breakup of Direct Costs (B) related to travel to India. Does this travel cost pertain to faculty travel from U.K or the travel of officials of consortium Partner to India or both?	The travel cost pertains to all travel costs to India as deemed necessary by the selected agency.

28.	Who will bear the cost of Candidates travel, accommodation, training fees and other logistics? (Pg No 13)	The selected agency will bear the cost of travel, accommodation, training fees and other aligned expenses.
29.	<p>An open call will be made to STEM PhD scholars from central and state government and private universities across India, to enroll for the online training programme.</p> <p>Please clarify - Will this activity be conducted by IISER or is it a joint effort between the Winning bidder and IISER?</p>	The selected agency will be primarily responsible for the open call. However, IISER Pune can support the selected agency for promoting sign ups and enrollments.