Request for Proposal Form

Issue Date: 2nd November 2026

Proposal Deadline: 20th November 2026, 5:00 PM ICT

RFP Title: Study on Mechanisms and Regulatory Reforms to Promote Private Investment in Stand-Alone Grid-Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in Vietnam

Purpose of Request for Proposal

The Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (Global Energy Alliance) is seeking proposals from qualified consulting firms to undertake a comprehensive study on the most practical and readily implementable business models, remuneration mechanisms, and investment models to accelerate private investment in stand-alone grid-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in Vietnam.

Drawing on international experience and an assessment of Vietnam's current regulatory, institutional, and market environment, the study shall identify the commercial approaches with the greatest potential for near-term deployment, assess their commercial viability and bankability. It will also examine potential revenue streams, investment structures, financing options, and opportunities to mobilize domestic and international private capital.

The study will recommend the regulatory, commercial, financial, and institutional interventions needed to facilitate the implementation of these models, while supporting the longer-term evolution of Vietnam's electricity market. The findings will provide actionable recommendations to the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) and the Electricity Authority of Vietnam (EAV) through the Grid Modernization and BESS Task Force, helping inform policy development and practical pathways for accelerating stand-alone grid-scale BESS deployment.

Questions and submissions to be sent to *contractsgeappasia@energyalliance.org*. Please include RFP Title in all communications.

Our Mission

The Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (Global Energy Alliance) is a collective movement for change, working to unlock renewable energy access in emerging economies. Clean energy is development; without it, every other form of progress is impacted. Today, half the world's population – 3.6 billion people – live in energy poverty.

Formed on a spirit of radical collaboration, Global Energy Alliance brings together philanthropy, including our founder partners the IKEA Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation and the Bezos Earth Fund, governments, development partners, and the private sector. Together we seek to open up green energy access and a just transition, unlocking a new era of inclusive economic growth while enabling the global community

to meet critical climate goals within the next decade. Our mission is to accelerate a renewable energy tipping point that powers progress for people and planet.

Background

Vietnam's power sector is entering a new development phase characterized by rapidly increasing electricity demand, large-scale integration of renewable energy, and growing requirements for grid flexibility, reliability and resilience. Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are expected to play an increasingly important role in supporting power system operations, integrating renewable energy, and enhancing the flexibility of Vietnam's electricity system. While Vietnam has made progress in establishing the regulatory framework for energy storage, further development of appropriate commercial arrangements, remuneration mechanisms and investment frameworks will be essential to unlock private sector participation in stand-alone grid-scale BESS..

The Electricity Authority of Vietnam (EAV), under the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), and Global Energy Alliance have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen cooperation in support of Vietnam's energy transition. Building on the experience of the BESS Task Force previously convened under Vietnam Energy Partnership Group's Technical Working Group 3 on Grid Integration and Grid Infrastructure, Global Energy Alliance and MOIT/EAV are constituting a Grid Modernization and BESS Task Force — a multi-stakeholder platform that will serve as the primary platform for policy dialogue, technical review, and knowledge exchange on grid modernization and BESS development in Vietnam.

The Task Force will operate through two Focus Tracks:

- Grid Digitalization
- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)

This assignment will be undertaken under the BESS Focus Track, with a specific emphasis on identifying practical commercial and investment models, remuneration mechanisms and regulatory reforms to mobilize private investment in stand-alone grid-scale BESS.

Delivery Through the Grid Modernization and BESS Task Force

All activities under this assignment shall be delivered through targeted stakeholder engagement and periodic consultations under the BESS Focus Track of the Grid Modernization and BESS Task Force. The Task Force will convene approximately every 3–6 months and comprises representatives from MOIT, EAV, EVN and its its relevant subsidiaries, private sector stakeholders, domestic and international technical experts, financial institutions and development partners.

The Task Force will provide a platform to review interim findings, exchange international and domestic experience, discuss proposed commercial and regulatory approaches, and gather feedback on the study's recommendations.

The Consultant shall:

- Align the delivery schedule with the regular Task Force meetings, ensuring that key milestones and draft outputs are presented for discussion.
- Prepare pre-read materials for Task Force members 1–2 weeks before each session, tailored to the relevant Focus Track.
- Present analysis and interim findings at Task Force sessions, facilitating technical discussions and structured breakouts to obtain stakeholder input.
- Conduct targeted bilateral consultations with relevant government agencies, private developers, investors, financial institutions, utilities and other market participants, as appropriate to each task.
- Revise deliverables to reflect feedback received during Task Force discussions and stakeholder consultations.
- Work with MOIT/EAV and the Task Force to shape final recommendations.
- Support the Task Force with inputs for pre-reads, session logistics, and inter-session follow-up.

Scope of Work

Overview

The Consultant shall identify the most practical and readily implementable business models, remuneration mechanisms, and investment models to accelerate private investment in stand-alone grid-scale BESS in Vietnam. The study shall be informed by international experience and a thorough assessment of Vietnam's regulatory, institutional, and market environment.

In addition to engagement through the Grid Modernization and BESS Task Force, the Consultant shall undertake targeted consultations with key stakeholders including:

- MOIT/EAV, NSMO and relevant subsidiaries
- Private BESS developers, independent power producers (IPPs), project developers and investors
- Private developers and investors
- Commercial banks and financial institutions
- EVN and relevant subsidiaries, as appropriate to the commercial models and issues being assessed

Given the nature of this engagement, the Consultant is expected to maintain close coordination with MOIT/EAV as the primary government counterpart throughout the

assignment. The Consultant shall also undertake targeted consultations with private sector developers, investors, commercial banks and financial institutions to assess the commercial attractiveness and bankability of potential BESS investment models. Engagement with EVN and its relevant subsidiaries, NSMO and other utilities shall be undertaken as appropriate to obtain inputs on system operations, grid connection, dispatch arrangements, procurement and potential offtake structures. The Consultant's local presence in Vietnam will be essential to facilitating timely and effective stakeholder engagement.

Task 1: International Review of Commercial Approaches for Stand-Alone Grid-Scale BESS

Objective: Review international approaches to deploying stand-alone grid-scale BESS and identify the commercial, regulatory, and institutional conditions that have successfully attracted private investment.

Activities: The Consultant shall undertake a comparative review of international experience in developing stand-alone grid-scale BESS across mature and emerging electricity markets. The review shall examine the commercial approaches adopted to attract private investment, including business models, remuneration mechanisms and investment models.

The assessment shall cover, at a minimum:

- Business Models – merchant participation, ancillary services, capacity provision, network support, shared storage, and hybrid/value-stacking approaches.
- Remuneration Mechanisms – market-based revenues, capacity payments, availability payments, two-part tariffs, leasing arrangements and other payment structures.
- Investment Models – independent power producer (IPP), Build-Own-Operate (BOO), public-private partnerships, utility procurement and other ownership and delivery models.

For each commercial approach, the Consultant shall assess:

- contractual and procurement arrangements;
- allocation of commercial, operational and regulatory risks;
- financing and bankability considerations;
- enabling policy, regulatory and market conditions;

The Consultant shall synthesise the findings into a comparative assessment highlighting the strengths, limitations and applicability of each commercial approach.

The Draft International Review shall be presented at the BESS Focus Track meeting to guide discussions on the commercial approaches and international case studies most relevant to Vietnam.

Deliverable: International Review of Commercial Approaches for Stand-Alone Grid-Scale BESS.

Task 2: Assessment of Commercial Approaches under Vietnam's Market and Regulatory Context

Objective: Evaluate the applicability of the international commercial approaches within Vietnam's electricity sector, identify the principal barriers to private investment, and recommend measures to address those barriers.

Activities: Building on the international review undertaken in Task 1, the Consultant shall evaluate the applicability of the identified commercial approaches within Vietnam's regulatory, institutional and market context.

The Consultant shall review the existing legal, regulatory and institutional framework governing stand-alone grid-scale BESS, including the Electricity Law and implementing regulations, Revised PDP VIII, electricity market regulations, grid connection requirements, dispatch arrangements, remuneration mechanisms (such as Circular 62), planning processes, licensing requirements and other relevant policies.

Drawing upon the international experience reviewed under Task 1, the Consultant shall evaluate each commercial approach against a common set of criteria, including:

- regulatory and legal feasibility;
- compatibility with Vietnam's electricity market design and anticipated market reforms;
- commercial attractiveness to investors;
- bankability and financing potential;
- implementation complexity;
- institutional readiness.

The Consultant shall also identify lessons from comparable power sector reforms, such as renewable energy procurement and independent power producer programmes, that may be adapted to support private investment in stand-alone BESS.

Based on this assessment, the Consultant shall classify and rank the commercial approaches according to their readiness for deployment under Vietnam's current market conditions, identifying:

- commercial approaches that are potentially ready for deployment;
- approaches requiring targeted regulatory or market reforms; and
- approaches that are more appropriate as the electricity market evolves.

Deliverable: Vietnam Market Readiness Assessment and Ranking of Commercial Approaches for Stand-Alone Grid-Scale BESS.

Task 3: Commercial Viability and Bankability Assessment of Preferred Commercial Approaches

Objective: Assess the commercial viability and bankability of the preferred commercial approaches identified in Task 2 and determine the commercial conditions required to attract private investment.

Activities: The assessment shall consider representative stand-alone grid-scale BESS projects, including, at a minimum, 50 MW systems with two-hour and four-hour storage durations, and evaluate the performance of each preferred commercial approach under representative operating and market conditions.

For each commercial approach, the Consultant shall:

- Develop representative commercial and contractual structures
- Estimate capital and operating costs, revenue streams, and project cash flows
- Evaluate project economics including NPV, IRR, debt servicing capability, and other financial metrics
- Assess the allocation of commercial, operational, and market risks
- Evaluate attractiveness from the perspectives of private investors, lenders, and off-takers
- Assess overall commercial viability and bankability

The Consultant shall undertake scenario and sensitivity analyses to assess the impacts of electricity price volatility, technology costs, financing assumptions, renewable energy penetration, dispatch arrangements and other key market variables.

Based on the assessment, the Consultant shall identify the commercial conditions required for successful deployment, including indicative remuneration levels, contract duration, payment security arrangements, financing structures, risk allocation mechanisms and other measures necessary to support commercially viable and bankable projects.

Deliverable: Commercial Viability and Bankability Assessment of Preferred Commercial Approaches for Stand-Alone Grid-Scale BESS.

Task 4: Recommendations to Enable Private Investment in Stand-Alone Grid-Scale BESS

Objective: Develop a comprehensive set of recommendations to enable private investment in stand-alone BESS based on the findings of the preceding tasks.

Building on the findings of Tasks 2 and 3, the Consultant shall develop a package of regulatory, commercial, financial and institutional recommendations to facilitate implementation of the preferred business models, remuneration mechanisms and investment models under Vietnam's current and evolving electricity market.

The recommendations shall address, as appropriate:

- policy, regulatory and market frameworks;
- procurement and commercial arrangements;
- financing and investment support mechanisms;
- institutional roles and governance arrangements;
- technical and operational requirements; and
- project development and implementation processes.

For each recommended intervention, the Consultant shall:

- identify the barrier(s) or market failure preventing private sector investment that is being addressed;
- describe the proposed intervention and its intended outcome;
- identify the implementation instrument, which may include amendments to legislation, regulations, market rules, technical codes, contractual arrangements, financing schemes, investment instruments or institutional processes;
- where the recommendation involves targeted amendments to existing regulations, market rules, contractual documents, technical codes or other implementation instruments, provide suggestions on language or model provisions to facilitate implementation;
- assess the legal, commercial, financial and operational implications of the proposed intervention, including its expected impact on project viability, investor confidence and market development; and
- identify the responsible implementing agency together with indicative sequencing and dependencies for implementation.

The recommendations shall distinguish between:

- near-term / high-impact interventions that can be implemented under the existing market framework with minimal changes;
- targeted reforms requiring limited regulatory, commercial or institutional changes / amendments to improve investment attractiveness; and
- longer-term reforms aligned with the continued evolution of Vietnam's electricity market.

The Consultant shall consolidate the findings into a final set of recommendations that:

- identify and justify the preferred business models, remuneration mechanisms and investment models for deployment under current market conditions;
- describe how these commercial approaches may evolve as Vietnam's electricity market matures;
- recommend the policy, regulatory, commercial, financial and institutional interventions required to support their implementation; and
- assess the expected implications of the recommended interventions on investors, lenders, utilities, consumers and the broader electricity sector.

Deliverable: Final Recommendations for Promoting Private Investment in Stand-Alone Grid-Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems in Vietnam.

Contract Term and Performance Period

- **Expected Contract Start Date:** 14th December 2026
- **Contract Duration:** Approximately 9 to 12 months
- **Key Milestones:**

Deliverable	**Description**	**Indicative Timeline**
International Review (Task 1)	Comparative review of international BESS commercial approaches	Month 2 (February 2027)
Vietnam Market Readiness Assessment (Task 2)	Assessment and ranking of commercial approaches for Vietnam	Month 4 (April 2027)
Commercial Viability Assessment (Task 3)	Financial and bankability assessment of preferred approaches	Month 7 (July 2027)
Final Recommendations (Task 4)	Comprehensive recommendations package	Month 10 (October 2027)

Mandatory Eligibility and Selection Requirements

The following mandatory requirements apply to all proposing firms. Proposals that do not demonstrate compliance with these requirements will be deemed non-responsive and will not be evaluated further.

1. Demonstrated Track Record with MOIT/EAV (Mandatory)

As these technical assistance activities are intended to directly support MOIT and its Electricity Authority of Vietnam (EAV) in advancing regulatory reforms to promote private investment in stand-alone grid-scale BESS, proposing firms must demonstrate a proven track record of working effectively with MOIT/EAV, alongside relevant expertise in power sector investment, commercial structuring and regulatory advisory.

Proposals must include:

- At least two (2) specific project references demonstrating prior engagement with MOIT/EAV on energy sector policy, regulation, or technical advisory assignments.
- At least two (2) specific project references demonstrating experience in one or more of the following areas: commercial and financial assessments, investment

structuring, project feasibility, or bankability assessments of utility-scale power projects, energy infrastructure or other relevant energy projects. Experience involving grid-scale BESS or energy storage projects will be an advantage.

- For each reference, provide: client name, project description, scope of work, duration, and outcomes achieved.

Firms that cannot demonstrate relevant prior working relationships with both MOIT/EAV and EVN will not be considered for this engagement.

2. Local Presence and Stakeholder Engagement Capacity in Vietnam (Mandatory)

To ensure effective stakeholder engagement and contextual understanding of Vietnam's electricity market and regulatory environment, proposing firms must demonstrate sufficient local presence or established operational capacity in Vietnam.

Proposals must include:

- Evidence of a registered office, branch, or formally established local partnership in Vietnam.
- Description of the firm's local operational capacity, including the number and roles of locally based staff who will be involved in this engagement.
- Demonstration of the firm's ability to conduct regular in-person consultations, workshops and coordination activities with relevant government agencies, private sector developers, investors, and other stakeholders in Vietnam , and other stakeholders in Vietnam.

Firms relying primarily on international expertise must demonstrate appropriate local resources and arrangements to ensure effective stakeholder engagement and delivery of the assignment.

The RFP Process

GEA seeks input from potential suppliers about their business ownership, their commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and their compliance with environmental and social regulations and guidelines.

The information provided will assist GEA in choosing suppliers who maintain practices that align with GEA's diversity, equity, and inclusion policies and sustainability values, while at the same time, are best positioned to provide high quality, competitively priced goods and services.

We believe that the information presented in this RFP provides enough information for you to start analyzing our requirements. If you need any more questions answered in this process, please don't hesitate to contact us. We reserve the right to distribute answers to all participants.

Key Activity	Target Date
Issue RFP	2 November 2026
Intent to Bid / Proposers Questions	6 November 2026
Response to Proposers Questions	11 November 2026
Deadline for Submission of Proposals	20 November 2026, 5:00 PM ICT
Evaluation of Proposals	23–27 November 2026
Selection of Finalists and Proposal Presentations (if needed)	30 November – 2 December 2026
Selection Announcement	4 December 2026

Proposal Requirements

All proposals must address the following categories. GEA will evaluate proposals based on the weighted criteria listed below. Sections 1 to 3 make up the technical score, which accounts for 70% of the overall score. The Pricing & Budget proposal accounts for the remaining 30%.

1. Capacity and Expertise of the Firm / Organization [Weight: 30% of technical score]

Please provide:

- **Company Registration & Track Record:** Evidence that your firm is a locally registered consulting firm or research institute with an established local presence in Vietnam and at least five (5) years of operation in Vietnam's energy and/or power sector, providing technical, policy, or advisory services to government, utilities, or development partners. *(Scoring: 50 points for 5 years of relevant experience, 5 points for each additional year, up to 70 points)*
- **Regulatory & Policy Analysis Experience:** Demonstrated experience in conducting regulatory, legal, or policy analysis on electricity market design, energy storage regulation, tariff and remuneration mechanisms, grid connection and dispatch rules, or private investment frameworks in the power sector, preferably including grid-scale BESS. *(Scoring: 20 points for each relevant evidence, up to 80 points)*
- **Commercial, Financial & Bankability Analysis:** Demonstrated institutional experience developing business models, financial models, techno-economic or bankability assessments, or investment and procurement structures for utility-scale power projects, such as IPP, PPP or utility procurement programmes.

Specific experience in commercial or bankability assessments of grid-scale BESS will be an advantage. *(Scoring: 20 points for each relevant evidence, up to 60 points for general experience; 20 points for each grid-scale BESS evidence, up to 40 points)*

- **Stakeholder Engagement in Vietnam's Power Sector:** Demonstrated experience working with key stakeholders including MOIT/EAV, NSMO, EVN and its subsidiaries, private developers and investors, and commercial banks and financial institutions. Firms must demonstrate the ability to facilitate effective engagement with both public and private sector stakeholders, particularly in relation to mobilizing private investment in utility-scale power infrastructure and energy storage projects . *(Scoring: 10 points for each relevant evidence, up to 50 points)*

2. Technical Proposal [Weight: 20% of technical score]

Please provide a detailed technical proposal addressing:

- **Understanding of the Task:** Demonstrate your understanding of GEA's objectives and the requirements of this engagement, including the context of Vietnam's electricity market and the need for private investment in grid-scale BESS. *(50 points)*
- **Scope Definition:** Clearly define the scope of your proposed work and demonstrate alignment with the Terms of Reference. *(50 points)*
- **Detailed Approach:** Address the important aspects of all four tasks in sufficient detail, with clear roles and responsibilities for each team member. *(50 points)*
- **Work Plan & Timeline:** Present a clear, logical, and realistic sequence of activities and planning that promises efficient implementation of the assignment. *(50 points)*

3. Personnel [Weight: 50% of technical score]

Please provide details of the proposed team. The consulting firm shall make available a team of qualified experts responsible for implementing the tasks. Key personnel requirements:

3.1 Team Leader – Grid-Scale BESS and Power Sector Investment Expert *(200 points)*

- Master's degree or higher in Electrical Engineering, Power Systems Engineering, Energy Engineering, Energy Economics, Finance, or a closely related field. *(Scoring: Bachelor: 0; Master: 35; PhD: 50)*
- Minimum ten (10) years of professional experience in the power sector, including energy storage, electricity market design, power project development, or

infrastructure investment. *(Scoring: 35 points for 10 years, 5 points for each additional year, up to 50 points)*

- Demonstrated experience in grid-scale BESS or other utility-scale power projects, including at least four (4) assignments involving BESS business model or remuneration design, techno-economic or bankability assessments, procurement or contract structuring, grid integration studies, or advice to governments, regulators or utilities on energy storage. *(Scoring: 35 points for 4 relevant assignments, 5 points for each additional, up to 50 points)*
- Demonstrated experience leading preparation of policy or regulatory recommendations, investment frameworks, electricity market reform studies, or feasibility studies. *(Scoring: 5 points per relevant assignment, up to 30 points)*
- Fluency in English and Vietnamese with one writing sample in each language relevant to the power sector, BESS, electricity markets, or energy regulation. English proficiency certificate/evidence required. *(20 points)*

3.2 Legal / Regulatory Expert *(180 points)*

- Minimum Bachelor's Degree (Master's preferred) in law, public policy, regulatory affairs, economics, public administration, mechanical, power, electrical, or energy engineering. *(PhD: 30; Master: 25; Bachelor: 20)*
- Minimum five (5) years of professional experience in Vietnam's electricity sector regulation, electricity market rules, energy project licensing, or power sector contracting. *(Scoring: 35 points for 5 years, 5 points for each additional year, up to 50 points)*
- Demonstrated experience supporting regulatory assessments, legal due diligence, permitting reviews, electricity licensing, or policy analysis relating to energy storage, electricity market and tariff regulations (such as Circular 62), DPPA, IPP or PPP frameworks, or other relevant energy regulations. *(Scoring: 10 points per relevant experience, up to 50 points)*
- Demonstrated experience in reviewing or drafting contractual and commercial agreements including PPAs, capacity or availability-based contracts, storage service or leasing agreements, grid connection agreements, IPP or PPP agreements, and/or other power sector commercial contracts. *(Scoring: 5 points per relevant experience, up to 30 points)*
- Fluency in English writing skills with one writing sample provided on a topic related to the scope of work. *(20 points)*

3.3 Project Coordinator – Stakeholder Engagement Specialist *(120 points)*

- Bachelor's degree in engineering, economics, public policy, energy economics, business administration, finance, or related field. *(PhD: 30; Master: 25; Bachelor: 20)*
- Minimum five (5) years' experience coordinating consulting assignments, development partner projects, energy programmes, or infrastructure projects. *(Scoring: 21 points for 5 years, 3 points for each additional year, up to 30 points)*
- Demonstrated experience in market surveys, stakeholder consultations, interview management, industry consultations, and/or workshop coordination. *(Scoring: 10 points per evidence, up to 30 points)*
- Demonstrated experience working with government agencies, utilities, private developers and investors, financial institutions, or development partners. *(Scoring: 10 points per evidence, up to 20 points)*
- Strong Vietnamese communication skills and working-level English. English proficiency certificate/evidence required. *(10 points)*

Proposal Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated by a cross-functional Assessment Committee based on the weighted criteria listed above. The technical score is out of 1,000 points:

Evaluation Criterion	**Weight**	**Points Obtainable**
Capacity and Expertise of the Firm / Organization	30%	300
Technical Proposal	20%	200
Personnel	50%	500
Total Technical Score	**100%**	**1,000**

Overall Score

The overall score combines the technical score (70%) and the financial score (30%), calculated as follows:

- Technical score = (technical points obtained ÷ 1,000) × 70
- Financial score = (lowest proposed price ÷ price of the proposal being evaluated) × 30
- Overall score = technical score + financial score (maximum 100)

GEA reserves the right to:

- Conduct interviews with shortlisted vendors
- Request clarifications, additional information, or proposal revisions
- Negotiate terms with selected vendor(s)
- Award to multiple vendors if appropriate
- Select a proposal other than the lowest-priced proposal based on best value determination

Pricing & Budget (Weight: 30% of overall score)

Please submit:

- Completed budget template (attached) showing a detailed breakdown of all costs
- Pricing model description (e.g., fixed fee, time and materials, retainer, performance-based)
- Proposed compensation structure and payment terms
- All anticipated additional expenses and costs including:
    - Travel and expenses
    - Materials and supplies
    - Third-party services or subcontractors
    - Technology or licensing fees
    - Any other potential costs
- Cost efficiency measures or value engineering approaches
- Assumptions underlying your pricing

Due Diligence Documents

To speed up contracting, bidders must submit the following due diligence documents together with their proposal:

- W8 / W8-E / W9 tax forms, as applicable.
- Most recent financial statements, or confirmation of the firm's financial health from its auditors or directors.
- Constitutional documents or charter.
- Completed GEA Pre-Award Questionnaire.

Terms and Conditions

IKEA Foundation Funding Requirement

This procurement is funded, in whole or in part, by the IKEA Foundation.

The successful bidder will be required to comply with IKEA Foundation profit-blocking requirements.

Any funds disbursed under the resulting agreement may not be used, directly or indirectly, to finance or otherwise benefit the ultimate beneficial owners (shareholders/owners) of the contractor.

Any profit generated in connection with the agreement must be reinvested in support of the charitable purpose of the project.

The contractor shall ensure that equivalent requirements apply to any downstream subcontractors receiving project funds.

Reservation of Rights

Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if it is deemed to be in the best interest of GEA. All proposals and supporting documentation shall become the property of GEA, subject to claims of confidentiality in respect of the proposal and supporting documentation. GEA reserves the right to check the accuracy of all information and to request official supporting documents. Applicants who provide inaccurate information can always be excluded from the RFP process.

Material Contractual Requirements

GEA is committed to transparency in our procurement processes. The following contractual requirements are material to this engagement and are not routinely negotiable. Respondents should carefully review these requirements and confirm their ability to comply in their proposal submission. Failure to accept these requirements may render a proposal non-responsive or result in withdrawal from the competitive process.

Insurance, Indemnity and Limitation of Liability

Insurance, indemnity and limitation of liability provisions will be set out in GEA's standard consulting agreement and shared with the selected firm at contracting.

Confidentiality

The Alliance reserves the right to require any respondent to enter into a non-disclosure agreement.

Intellectual Property

Applicants should not use any intellectual property of GEA or its Funders including, but not limited to, all logos, registered trademarks, or trade names, at any time without the prior written approval of GEA, as appropriate.

Governing Law

This RFP and your response to it shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

No Liability

GEA shall not be liable to any respondent, person, or entity for any losses, expenses, costs, claims, or damages of any kind:

- Arising out of, by reason of, or attributable to, prospective vendors responding to this RFP; or
- As a result of the use of any information, error, or omission contained in this RFP document or provided during the RFP process.

GEA assumes no obligation, no responsibility, and no liability for costs incurred by vendors responding to this RFP prior to the issuance of a contract.

Entire RFP

This RFP, any addenda to it, and any attached schedules, constitute the entire RFP. If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, GEA will contact all participants.