



Drug Rehabilitation Centre and Services under a Design Build Finance Maintain and Operate Contract

K. Himmafushi Island, Republic of Maldives

Request for Expressions of Interest



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1 Introduction

The Government of Maldives (GOM) has embarked on an active and coordinated action for drug control in the country. Currently, the Ministry of Health and Family (MoHF) is the only provider of drug rehabilitation treatment services in the Maldives. MoHF operates one intensive Drug Rehabilitation Centre (DRC – the subject of this procurement), as well as two small Detoxification Centers and three Community Service Centers (Male, Addu, Faumulac).

Since 2008, the GOM has initiated a policy shift toward increased involvement of the private sector in service and infrastructure delivery. To this end, GOM has introduced a nation-wide strategy to implement Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in many services and infrastructure, including the health sector.

In this context, the Government wishes to appoint a private partner to operate the existing Drug Rehabilitation Centre K. Himmafushi (the DRC) under a long-term Design, Build, Finance, Maintain and Operate (DBFMO) contract with the government. The primary objective is the provision of high quality drug rehabilitation services and facilities that are delivered in an efficient manner, substantially contributing to the eradication of drug abuse on the Maldives. The contract will be awarded through a transparent competitive bidding process to the party offering best value-for-money.

2 Scope and Objectives

The DRC is located on the island of Himmafushi, 15km from the capital island Malé, and is the only drug rehabilitation centre on the Maldives. All clients are currently Maldivian and receive treatment for successful reintegration into society. Approximately 250 clients are accommodated and treated annually at the DRC following the TC (Therapeutic Community) treatment approach. The average duration of stay of clients at the DRC is six months.

The total existing area of the DRC is 32,835 m² (355,000 ft²), which may be expanded by another 26,045 m² (280,000 ft²). The site is walled on three sides, with the northern perimeter comprising the beach of the island. Currently approximately 100 staff are employed at the DRC. Existing facilities include several multi-storey buildings, and stand-alone facilities. This includes a small medical centre, detox centre, and a fully-equipped gymnasium. A refurbishment of existing facilities is required to bring them to required standards.

The 15-year DBFMO contract between the GOM and the appointed private operator will include both refurbishment, provision and maintenance of the facilities, and the provision of the drug rehabilitation treatment services themselves. Regarding facilities, private operators are expected to undertake refurbishment, but may also reorganize the use of facilities. Regarding drug rehabilitation treatment services, the GOM is open to either continuation of the current TC treatment approach, or the introduction of other proven drug rehabilitation therapies, provided that these are appropriate in the socio-cultural context of the Maldives. Private operators may also propose new uses and facilities on a commercial or non-commercial basis (see Key Project Features below).

Full details on existing facilities and services provided at the DRC will be made available in the Data Room which will be accessible to shortlisted firms during the Request for Proposal stage.

3 Key Project Features

- **Availability Payment** – the operator will receive a regular (quarterly) availability payment from the GOM for the treatment of a specified number of MoHF clients annually (indicatively 250).
- **Land and asset ownership** – Ownership of the land and facilities will remain with the MoHF. The operator will have usage and will maintain the property under a lease agreement with the GOM.

- **Other uses possible** – private operators may propose new facilities, uses and services to be introduced at the DRC on a commercial or not-for-profit basis, as well as possible new treatment markets, provided that these are consistent with the overall objectives of dependency rehabilitation, and contribute to the optimal functioning of the DRC.
- **Referral and post-treatment reintegration** – the MoHF will remain responsible for the referral of MoHF clients to the DRC. Post-treatment reintegration outside of the DRC will remain the responsibility of the MoHF as well, however operators are expected to play an active role in advising the MoHF, and may also propose to play a more direct role in post-treatment reintegration.
- **Cost compensation for possible personnel restructuring** – should restructuring of personnel be required, within applicable criteria such costs (e.g. redundancies) will be borne by the GOM.

4 Procurement Process

The procurement process entails two consecutive stages, the current Pre-qualification Stage and the Request-for-Proposal Stage. During the current Pre-qualification Stage, interested parties are requested to submit an Expression of Interest (as described below). Based on the Expressions of Interest received, a limited number of firms will be shortlisted and invited to the Request-for-Proposal Stage.

Interested parties are now invited to submit an Expression of Interest with information indicating that they are qualified to carry out the project, in particular in relation to the following criteria:

- A clear and effective vision on the intended provision of drug rehabilitation services and facilities
- An outline of the proposed and proven rehabilitation treatment approach or approaches to be followed, and how this is compatible within the socio-cultural context of the Maldives
- Technical and managerial qualifications to undertake a project of this nature
- Sufficient experience by demonstrating the execution of at least one similar project (such as size and nature, drug rehabilitation or similar services, facilities rehabilitation and maintenance, performance of PPP/ DBFMO contracts, etc.) in the last three years
- Sufficient financial standing by demonstrating (through audited financial statements) sound financial performance and an annual turnover of at least US\$2 million in the last three years

Firms may request to be qualified alone, or in consortium with other firms. If the Expression of Interest is from a consortium of firms, information on all firms making up the consortium must be provided, it must be clearly indicated which firm is the lead firm of the consortium, and the nature of the consortium arrangement should be specified, including a consortium letter or agreement signed by all firms. The involvement of appropriately qualified Maldivian firms as bidders or in consortiums is encouraged.

Expressions of Interest should be no longer than 10 pages, excluding supporting financial information or brochures. Submissions marked clearly as “Expression of Interest – DRC K. Himmafushi” should be submitted electronically by email (PDF document) and/or in hard copy before **17:00 Maldives Time, 23rd August 2010** to the address below:

Ministry of Economic Development / Invest Maldives

To the attention of: Ms Fathimath Niuma

fathimath.niuma@trade.gov.mv

Ghazee Building, 1st Floor,

AmeerAhmed Magu,

Male’, Republic of Maldives

Tel: (960) 3324767, Fax (960) 3322528

Website: www.investmaldives.org

This project is part of a nation-wide strategy supported by the Asian Development Bank to introduce Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in social and other infrastructure sectors in the Maldives. The GoM has retained RebelGroup Advisory of The Netherlands as Transaction Advisor.