

33/10/PPIC/2026-ISA

**Country: India
Issued on: 01.10.2026**

Request for Information

**Market Consultation for the 1st Biennial OSOWOG Flagship Knowledge
Report: “Global and Regional Electricity Grid Interconnection Outlook”**



**International Solar Alliance (ISA)
Secretariat, Surya Bhawan, NISE Campus,
Gwal Pahari, Gurugram, Haryana – 122003, India
Website: www.isa.int**

RFI Notice

RFI No.	33/10/PPIC/2026-ISA
Country / Location	India / Global assignment
Issue Date	01/10/2026
Response Deadline	20/10/2026, 11:00 IST
Official Contact	Procurement Unit, International Solar Alliance procurement@isa.int , CC to rrpanda@isa.int

1. RFI at a Glance

RFI purpose	Market research and industry consultation only; no selection or award
Assignment under consideration	1st Edition of Biennial Flagship Knowledge Report on OSOWOG - Global and Regional Electricity Grid Interconnection Outlook
Geographic coverage	Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia/Oceania, Latin America and North America, with regional/sub-regional analysis
Indicative horizon	Long-term outlook to 2050
Indicative delivery period	35 weeks from a future contract zero date, subject to market feedback and final solicitation
Response format	One PDF response using the response structure in Section 9; editable annex tables may also be provided
Commercial response	No formal financial proposal. Any budgetary information requested is non-binding and for market-estimation purposes only
Submission channel	procurement@isa.int, rrpanda@isa.int
Future procurement	If ISA proceeds, it will be separate procurement; RFI participation will not create an advantage or disadvantage

2. Background and Context

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is considering an assignment to develop the first edition of a biennial flagship knowledge report under the One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) programme on global and regional electricity grid interconnections. The proposed knowledge product would provide a consolidated global perspective on cross-border electricity transmission, cross-border electricity trade, regional electricity market integration and emerging transmission corridors, and would develop a long-term outlook through 2050.

The contemplated product is intended to serve policymakers, power-system planners, regulators, utilities, system operators, regional power pools and market institutions, investors, financiers, multilateral development banks, researchers and other stakeholders. It is envisaged as both an analytical publication and a reusable knowledge platform supported by datasets, digital/cartographic products and stakeholder consultations.

3. Purpose of the RFI

ISA is conducting this RFI to test the availability, depth, delivery capacity, expertise availability, and commercial characteristics of the market before finalising any future solicitation. The information received may be used to refine the Terms of Reference, implementation approach, packaging, schedule, market-access requirements, qualification thresholds, deliverables, contracting model, risk allocation and internal cost estimate.

Specifically, ISA seeks market feedback on:

- The number and profile of capable firms/consortium units, research institutions, technical consultancies, consortia and specialist service providers able to deliver a multi-regional flagship energy knowledge product having knowledge, exposure and expertise in the power systems across OSOWOG regions - ASIA (South Asia, Middle East, Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Central Asia), Africa (Eastern Africa, Western Africa, Central Africa, North Africa, Southern Africa), Europe (EU member states and ENTSOe member Countries), Australia, Latin America, North America.
- Availability of institutional experience in cross-border transmission planning, regional power-system planning, regional electricity markets/power pools, policy/regulatory analysis and international energy knowledge products.
- Data access and analytical approaches for harmonising heterogeneous national and regional datasets and addressing material data gaps.
- feasible approaches for 2050 scenario development, uncertainty treatment and cross-regional comparability.
- availability of GIS/cartography, web-development and interactive scenario-exploration capabilities.
- feasibility of organising multi-region stakeholder consultations within an accelerated delivery schedule.
- appropriate team structure, regional coverage, quality-assurance arrangements and institutional backstopping.
- key cost drivers, realistic delivery duration, contracting assumptions and risks that should be addressed in a future procurement; and
- any requirement that could unnecessarily restrict competition, reduce value for money, or create avoidable implementation risk.

4. Indicative Assignment Under Consideration

The scope below is indicative and is provided to enable meaningful market feedback. It does not constitute a final Terms of Reference and may be amended, reduced, expanded, repackaged or discontinued by ISA before any future procurement.

No.	Indicative component	Description
1	Global and regional status review	Review and analyse the current status, progress, investment trends and future outlook of cross-border transmission interconnections, including submarine-cable-based interconnections, cross-border electricity trade and regional electricity market integration covering following regions ASIA (South Asia, Middle East, South East Asia, North East Asia, Central Asia), Africa (Eastern Africa, Western Africa, Central Africa, North Africa, Southern Africa), Europe (EU member states and ENTSOe member Countries), Australia, Latin America , North America.
2	Power system Geographic coverage/regional power grid	Asia (South Asia, Middle East, Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia and Central Asia); Africa (Eastern, Western, Central, North and Southern Africa); Europe (including EU and ENTSO-E member countries); Australia/Oceania; Latin America; and North America.

No.	Indicative component	Description
3	2050 outlook scenarios	Develop at least four scientifically grounded scenarios to 2050, building on national/regional transmission plans, power-system expansion strategies, interconnection initiatives and market-development pathways; where plans are absent, use transparent and reasoned projections.
4	Enabling frameworks and constraints	Assess policy, regulatory, institutional, legal, technical, system-operation, commercial, technological, financing, investment and electricity-market dimensions, including implications of the clean-energy transition and net-zero commitments.
5	Lessons, risks and case studies	Identify enabling factors, success drivers, barriers, bottlenecks, risks, mitigation measures and lessons from international experience, supported by stylised case studies.
6	Project pipeline and investment toolkit	Prepare global and regional pipelines of existing and prospective interconnection projects, investment needs, project fact sheets and an investment toolkit.
7	Stakeholder consultation	Consult regional bodies through physical workshops, power pools, planners, utilities, regulators, system operators, market institutions, financiers, MDBs and other stakeholders and integrate findings into the analytical products.
8	Digital and web outputs	Prepare digital publication outputs, including a web-based version capable of presenting the outlook and enabling basic scenario exploration through agreed adjustable parameters.
9	Interactive global map	Develop a high-resolution interactive digital map and publication-ready physical map, with at least location, transfer capacity, length, terminal substations, voltage level, line type (HVAC/HVDC) and project profiles.
10	Regional consultation workshops	Support regional consultation workshops covering, at minimum, South Asia, ASEAN, Middle East/GCC, Africa and Europe, including concept notes, agendas, background papers, presentations, proceedings and feedback matrices.
11	Publication package	Prepare a consolidated final report, one global flagship report, five regional outlook reports, presentation decks, dissemination products and final digital/web outputs in copy-edited, design-ready formats.
12	Handover and reusability	Provide underlying datasets, models, assumptions, reference logs, interview trackers, bibliographies, image permissions, map layers and editable files sufficient for ISA to update, reuse and disseminate the products.

5. Indicative Delivery Architecture and Timetable

ISA is currently considering a five-milestone structure over approximately 26 weeks. Respondents are specifically invited to comment on whether this sequence is realistic for the scope and quality standard described above, and to propose evidence-based alternatives if needed.

No.	Milestone	Indicative content	Indicative timing
1	Inception Report	Detailed methodology, work plan, staffing plan, risk register, source strategy, consultation plan, chapter outline, digital architecture notes and QA plan	T + 4 weeks
2	Draft Analytical Package	Draft global and regional analytical content, scenario framework and assumptions, draft investment pipeline/toolkit, prototype digital structure and draft map layers	T + 15 weeks
3	Regional Consultation Package	Regional workshops/consultations, presentations, proceedings, summary notes, consolidated feedback matrix and revised analytical notes	T + 25 weeks
4	Final Report Package	Final consolidated report, global flagship report covering all regions, five regional reports (South Asia, West Asia, ASEAN, Africa, Europe), final map outputs, editable source files, database, presentations and dissemination materials	T + 30 weeks
5	Release and Closure Support	Public-release support, final web-publication files, handover memorandum and complete archive of data, models, design files and permissions	T + 35 weeks

6. Indicative Capability Areas for Market Sounding

ISA is interested in understanding the market's institutional capability across the following areas. These are not pass/fail qualification criteria for this RFI, and responses will not be scored for award purposes.

Capability area	Market information sought
Institutional domain experience	Cross-border electricity transmission planning; regional grid master plans; multi-country power-system planning; regional electricity markets and power pools.
Policy and regulatory capability	Policy formulation, regulatory frameworks, market design, institutional development, legal frameworks and governance for cross-border electricity trade and interconnections.
Knowledge-product track record	Global/multi-regional analytical studies, outlooks, master plans, feasibility/techno-commercial studies and flagship publications.

Capability area	Market information sought
Scenario modelling and data	Scenario architecture, data harmonisation, data-gap management, assumptions, sensitivity/uncertainty analysis, source audit trails and reproducible analytical workflows.
Digital, GIS and cartography	High-resolution transmission mapping, GIS layers, interactive maps, web publishing and user-facing scenario exploration.
Regional reach	Ability to mobilise credible regional specialists and institutional networks across Asia, Africa, Europe, the Americas and Oceania.
Stakeholder engagement	Consultation design and engagement with governments, regulators, system operators, power pools, utilities, financiers and MDBs.
Publication and editorial quality	International-standard technical editing, copy-editing, graphic design, publication production, visualisation and dissemination products.
Project management and QA	Senior engagement leadership, adequate staffing depth, internal peer review, quality control, risk management and rapid review/resubmission capacity.

7. Procurement Integrity and RFI Process Safeguards

7.1 Non-binding and non-competitive nature

- This RFI does not invite bids or proposals and will not result in an award.
- Responses will not be ranked, scored or used to select, shortlist or prequalify respondents.
- Participation or non-participation in this RFI will not, by itself, confer an advantage or disadvantage in any future solicitation.
- Any future eligibility, qualification, technical, financial, security, insurance, performance-security or contractual requirements will be stated only in the future solicitation.

7.2 Equal access to information

- All RFI communications shall be made only through the official Procurement Unit channel specified in this document.
- Respondents should not contact ISA programme staff, evaluators, consultants or other personnel regarding this RFI outside the official channel.
- Where a clarification materially affects the market's understanding of the RFI, ISA may issue the clarification to all prospective respondents through an appropriate common channel.
- If ISA conducts group or one-to-one market-sounding discussions, such discussions will be documented and will not be used as a substitute for a future competitive procurement.

7.3 Ethics, sanctions and conflict of interest

ISA expects respondents to observe the highest standards of ethics and to avoid fraud, corruption, collusion, coercive practices, obstruction, inappropriate gifts/hospitality and any attempt to obtain an unfair procurement advantage. Respondents should disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest relevant to the contemplated assignment and indicate whether the

entity is subject to any suspension, debarment or ineligibility by a UN organisation, the World Bank Group or another international organisation.

7.4 Cost of participation

All costs associated with preparation of an RFI response, participation in clarification meetings, market-sounding sessions or other related activities shall be borne by the respondent. ISA will not reimburse such costs.

7.5 Confidential and proprietary information

Respondents should avoid submitting trade secrets or information that is not necessary for market consultation. Any information considered proprietary should be clearly marked. ISA will make reasonable efforts to handle marked information appropriately, subject to applicable rules, internal audit, oversight and disclosure requirements. ISA may use aggregated or anonymised market insights to inform procurement design.

7.6 ISA rights

ISA may amend, suspend, cancel or discontinue this RFI at any time; seek clarification from any respondent; conduct further market research; or decide not to proceed with any procurement. ISA is not obliged to accept or act on any suggestion received through this RFI.

8. RFI Timetable and Communications

The dates below are placeholders for Procurement Unit completion. Adequate response time should be provided considering the international nature of the market consultation.

Activity	Date / time (IST)	Method / channel
RFI publication	01/10/2026	ISA website
RFI response deadline	20/10/2026, 11:00 PM (IST)	procurement@isa.int , CC to rrpanda@isa.int
Optional market-sounding follow-up	Indicative period [30-10-2026 to 15-11-2026]	At ISA discretion, non-evaluative
Note: Respondents should use the RFI number and title in the email subject line.		

9. Instructions for Responding

- Submit one consolidated response in English, preferably in searchable PDF format. An editable version of the response tables may also be attached.
- Recommended maximum length: 30 pages excluding corporate brochures, selected references and annexes. Concise, evidence-based responses are preferred.
- Do not submit a formal technical proposal, formal financial proposal, bid security, performance security, bank guarantee or contract acceptance as part of this RFI.
- Where indicative budget information is provided, it must be clearly labelled non-binding, budgetary and for market-estimation purposes only, with assumptions and exclusions.

- Respondents may identify information they consider confidential/proprietary as described in Section 7.5.
- Responses should follow the structure in Sections 10 and Annexes A-D so ISA can compare market information consistently.
- Respondents are encouraged to flag any contemplated requirement that could inadvertently restrict competition, create dependence on a narrow vendor set, or materially affect value for money.

10. Information Requested from the Market

Please respond to each question to the extent relevant. "Not applicable" is acceptable where a question does not apply. Supporting examples should focus on directly comparable institutional experience rather than individual experts' personal assignments.

Ref.	Topic	Information requested	Respondent cross-reference / summary
A1	Organisation and legal form	Provide the legal name, jurisdiction of registration, entity type, ownership/affiliation structure and principal office locations.	[Insert page / annex reference]
A2	Delivery model	Indicate whether you would expect to respond as a single entity, JV/consortium or with specialist subcontractors. Describe the likely role split and what scope should remain with the lead entity.	[Insert page / annex reference]
A3	Relevant institutional track record	Summarise institutional experience in cross-border electricity transmission, regional power-system planning, regional electricity markets/power pools and related policy/regulatory frameworks. Identify 3-5 most comparable assignments.	[Insert page / annex reference]
A4	International knowledge products	Describe experience delivering flagship, global or multi-regional energy outlooks, master plans, strategies, analytical reports or comparable knowledge products.	[Insert page / annex reference]
A5	Geographic coverage	Identify regions where your organisation has direct delivery experience, institutional presence, established partners or access to authoritative sector data and stakeholder networks.	[Insert page / annex reference]
B1	Data strategy	Explain available data sources and practical approaches to building a harmonised database of cross-border interconnectors, trade, market structures and project pipelines across heterogeneous regions.	[Insert page / annex reference]

Ref.	Topic	Information requested	Respondent cross-reference / summary
B2	Data gaps and verification	Describe how you would address missing, inconsistent, politically sensitive or non-public information while maintaining a traceable source and assumptions register.	[Insert page / annex reference]
B3	2050 scenario architecture	Comment on the feasibility of a minimum four-scenario approach and suggest suitable scenario logics, modelling depth, uncertainty treatment and cross-regional consistency mechanisms.	[Insert page / annex reference]
B4	Project pipeline and investment analysis	Describe feasible methods for developing project fact sheets, investment needs, corridor pipelines and an investment toolkit without overstating project maturity or bankability.	[Insert page / annex reference]
B5	Digital platform and web product	Describe recommended architecture, technology stack, hosting assumptions and maintenance implications for a web-based report and basic scenario-exploration interface.	[Insert page / annex reference]
B6	Interactive map	Describe the recommended GIS/cartographic approach, likely data attributes, map-layer formats, licensing considerations and handover requirements for a reusable global interconnection map.	[Insert page / annex reference]
B7	Stakeholder consultation	Comment on the feasibility of meaningful consultations with regional power pools, system operators, regulators, financiers, MDBs and governments across the contemplated regions.	[Insert page / annex reference]
B8	Regional workshops	Assess the feasibility and major logistics/cost drivers of at least five regional consultation workshops (South Asia, ASEAN, Middle East/GCC, Africa, Europe) within the proposed schedule.	[Insert page / annex reference]
C1	Team architecture	Identify the minimum core disciplines and seniority needed: assignment director/team lead; transmission/power-system experts; electricity-market/policy/finance analysts; regional specialists; GIS/cartography; digital/web; editorial/design; consultation management; project management/QA.	[Insert page / annex reference]
C2	Institutional backstopping	Explain the institutional systems and internal quality-control mechanisms required to prevent over-reliance on individual consultants and to ensure continuity.	[Insert page / annex reference]

Ref.	Topic	Information requested	Respondent cross-reference / summary
C3	Schedule feasibility	Is the indicative 26-week schedule feasible? Identify critical path activities, minimum realistic review periods and any milestone changes that would improve quality or reduce execution risk.	[Insert page / annex reference]
C4	Quality assurance	Recommend practical QA, peer review, expert validation, citation/source audit and editorial processes appropriate for an international flagship publication.	[Insert page / annex reference]
D1	Commercial model	Comment on suitable contracting models (e.g., fixed-price milestone-based, hybrid or other) for this assignment and explain which cost categories create the greatest uncertainty.	[Insert page / annex reference]
D2	Indicative budget range	Optionally provide a non-binding order-of-magnitude budget range for the full indicative scope, clearly separating professional fees, digital/GIS work, publication design, travel/consultations and third-party event costs where possible.	[Insert page / annex reference]
D3	Payment and security provisions	Comment on market-standard payment milestones, performance-security/insurance arrangements and whether advance-payment restrictions materially affect competition or pricing for an assignment of this type.	[Insert page / annex reference]
D4	Key risks and risk allocation	Identify the 5-10 most material delivery risks (data, access, geopolitics, stakeholder participation, web/GIS, travel, review cycles, IP/licensing, etc.) and recommend how each risk should be allocated or mitigated.	[Insert page / annex reference]
D5	Competition and market access	Identify any eligibility, turnover, experience, local-presence or staffing thresholds that could unnecessarily narrow the market, and suggest proportionate alternatives that still protect quality and delivery assurance.	[Insert page / annex reference]
D6	Procurement design recommendations	Provide any other recommendations on packaging, qualification, evaluation, deliverables, timelines, IP/data handover or contract management that could improve competition, transparency and value for money.	[Insert page / annex reference]

11. How ISA May Use Information

Subject to internal approvals and applicable procurement requirements, ISA may use RFI information to:

- validate market capacity and competition.
- refine the Terms of Reference and split or combine deliverables.
- set proportionate eligibility and qualification requirements.
- define technical evaluation criteria that are objective, relevant and non-discriminatory.
- calibrate delivery timelines, review cycles and milestone/payment structures.
- prepare or validate an independent internal cost estimate / budget envelope.
- identify data, IP, digital-platform, cybersecurity, licensing and handover requirements.
- refine risk allocation, performance-management and contract-administration provisions; and
- determine whether, when and how to proceed with a future competitive procurement.

12. General Provisions

12.1 No Obligation to Use Information

ISA is under no obligation to incorporate any suggestion, methodology, commercial information or other feedback received through this RFI into any subsequent procurement or Terms of Reference, and shall have no obligation to compensate respondents for such use

12.2 Third-Party Information

Respondents shall ensure that third-party information included in their response may lawfully be provided to ISA and shall disclose any material restrictions. The Respondent shall be responsible for obtaining all necessary permissions and licences.

12.3 No Reliance

Respondents shall not rely on the indicative scope, timelines, milestones, budget information or other statements in this RFI as a commitment by ISA in any form; or as a basis for expenditure, investment or mobilisation. ISA shall have no liability arising from any such reliance.

12.4 Intellectual property in RFI responses

Unless expressly agreed otherwise in writing, respondents retain ownership of their pre-existing intellectual property. By submitting a response, the respondent grants ISA a non-exclusive, royalty-free right to reproduce, analyse and internally use the response for procurement planning, subject to applicable confidentiality requirements. No licence to proprietary methodologies, software or intellectual property is transferred or implied beyond such use.

No reliance / no commitment

Respondents should not rely on this RFI as a representation that ISA will procure the contemplated services. Any future solicitation may differ materially from this RFI. Respondents remain responsible for reviewing the future solicitation in full and submitting a compliant bid/proposal if they choose to participate.

Annex A. Respondent Information Form

Legal name of respondent	
Registered address and country	
Website	
Primary contact person / title	
Email / telephone	
Legal form / year established	
Parent / affiliate (if relevant)	
Proposed response model (single entity / JV / consortium)	
Regions of direct institutional presence	
Permission to contact for RFI clarification (Yes/No)	

Annex B. Comparable Institutional Experience

No .	Client	Assignment / year	Geography	Relevant scope	Contract / role	Reference / evidence
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						

Respondents may attach up to five concise project sheets (maximum one page each) for the most comparable assignments. Institutional assignments should be clearly distinguished from individual experts' personal experience.

Annex C. Non-Binding Budgetary and Commercial Information (Optional)

Important

This annex is market research only. It is not a financial proposal, will not be evaluated for award and will not bind either ISA or the respondent. Provide ranges and assumptions rather than a negotiated or final price.

Cost category	Indicative range / unit	Key assumptions / exclusions	Main cost drivers
Professional / analytical fees			
Regional specialist inputs			
GIS / cartography			
Web / interactive platform			
Editorial / design / publication			
Travel and consultations			
Regional workshop support			
Data / licence / third-party services			
Contingency / other			
Indicative total range			

Currency used: [USD / INR / other] | Taxes: [included / excluded] | Validity of market estimate: [e.g., 90 days] | Assumed delivery period: [insert]

Annex D. RFI Integrity and Declaration

By submitting this RFI response, the authorised representative confirms that, to the best of their knowledge:

- the information supplied is accurate in all material respects and is submitted voluntarily for market-consultation purposes;
- the respondent understands that this RFI is not a solicitation and creates no right to or expectation of an award, reimbursement, shortlisting or preferential treatment;
- the respondent has disclosed any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest relevant to the contemplated assignment;
- the respondent has disclosed any current suspension, debarment or ineligibility imposed by a UN organisation, the World Bank Group or another international organisation;
- the respondent has not offered, promised or provided any improper gift, hospitality, payment or other advantage in connection with this RFI; and
- any proprietary information submitted has been clearly identified.

Authorised representative name	
Title	
Organisation	
Signature	
Date	

--- End of Request for Information ---