Answers to Request for Clarifications
RFQ 002-2017: List of Qualified Advisors - 2017

1. We would like to understand if the PPPA would consider us for approval as “Company name” on the merits of our firm as a whole, and, if approved, allow our companies to bid for assignments individually as wholly owned subsidiaries of “Company name”?

   As stated in Section II.B of the Request for Qualifications, the qualified advisor will be placed on a list from which the Authority may then request particular advisory services in the future. Because this Request for Qualification will not result in the immediate negotiation and execution of a contract, we suggest that each interested firm or party submit their qualifications in the manner that best allows them to showcase their experience and expertise, but noting any particularities involved in the contracting with such entity.

2. Please describe the Government of Puerto Rico’s current e-procurement environment and infrastructure.

   Although certain electronic means are may be utilized during procurement processes in Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico currently doesn’t have a fully integrated e-procurement system.

3. Can a qualified advisor (“QA”) chosen by the PPPA to provide assistance in one specific “Industry or Area of Advisory” participate in a team submitting a P3 proposal in another industry?

   As stated in Section II.B of the Request for Qualifications, qualified advisors will be included on a list from which the Authority may then request particular advisory services in the future. Because this Request for Qualification will not result in the immediate negotiation and execution of a contract, as long as the PPPA has not engaged the qualified advisor, we see no impediment in submitting a P3 proposal in another industry.
4. How will QAs be selected by the PPPA?

In accordance with Section IV of the RFQ, all responses to the RFQ will be reviewed by the PPPA for completeness as per the information requested. The PPPA may, at its sole and absolute discretion, conduct reference checks, take into consideration information from other sources, seek clarifications from any or all respondents, and request meetings with any or all respondents. The PPPA expects that advisors that meet the eligibility requirement set forth in the RFQ will be included in the List of Qualified Advisors.

5. Once the advisors list resulting from this RFQ process is complete, will it be available or accessible to the proponents?

Yes. The list will be available in the PPPA website once it’s finalized.

6. If our firm is selected as an advisor for the PPPA, would that firm be precluded from providing services directly to the specific projects/investors?

As provided in Section II.A. of the RFQ, the List of Qualified Advisors principal purpose is to facilitate the identification and engagement of suitably qualified providers of Advisory Services for occasions when such services are required. As stated in Section II.B of the Request for Qualifications, qualified advisor will be placed on a list from which the Authority may then request particular advisory services in the future. Because this Request for Qualification will not result in the immediate negotiation and execution of a contract, a qualified advisor will not be precluded from providing services directly to the specific projects/investors so long as it is not already engaged by the PPPA for that particular project.

7. Will the PPPA share the list of the projects being evaluated in each of the stages with all proponents once they are qualified?

The PPPA has made public the official list of priority projects under evaluation for procurement. The list is available (only in Spanish) at: http://www.p3.gov.pr/wpcontent/uploads/2017/05/InventarioProyectosPrioritarios2017.pdf

The PPPA will make public, in accordance with Law 29-2009, the steps, if any, taken in regards to a particular project.
8. If the firm currently serves as auditor or consultant to an Agency or Department of the Government of Puerto Rico, would those engagements preclude the Firm from providing services to the PPPA?

Because this Request for Qualifications will not result in the immediate negotiation and execution of a contract, the PPPA is not in a position to make a final determination regarding this matter. Decisions such as this will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

9. As per item G.3. of the RFQ, the PPPA is requesting the experience of the professional team that would provide services to the PPPA. Please clarify until what professional level would this apply (ex. Manager, Senior, Staff, etc.)

As stated in section III.G.3 of the Request for Qualifications, we ask for an organization chart of your team with the designation of primary leadership and day-to-day professionals. The purpose of this is not to undermine any business or operational structure that a given proponent may have. Hence, it’s up to the proponent to determine the best way to provide such information.