

## ETHIOPIA: SCALING SOLAR 2 COMPETITION OFFICIALLY OPEN

*The second round of Ethiopia's Scaling Solar programme is now open for bidding.*

The Ethiopian Ministry of Finance's Public-Private Partnerships Directorate General (PPP-DG) officially kicked off proceedings for Scaling Solar Round 2 by issuing a Request for Pre-Qualifications.

The tender is for up to 500 MW of solar photovoltaic energy projects, split between four separate project developments across the regions of Weranso, Welencheti, Humera and Mekelle.



The deadline for bids has been scheduled for May 29, 2019.

After shortlisting the list of qualified bidders, Ethiopia's PPP-DG will move on to the request for proposals (RfP) stage.

### **What happened to Ethiopia Scaling Solar Round 1?**

The successful bidder(s) will be selected based on the lowest proposed tariff put forward as has been the case in previous rounds.

PPP-DG also encouraged international bidders to participate in consortia alongside local private partners.

Ethiopia now has two competitions currently ongoing under the Scaling Solar programme and it will be hoping to attract the same, if not greater, level of interest that it did in the first competition.

Ethiopia actually qualified 12 bidders in March 2018 for Scaling Solar 1 from 28 project submissions in total.

However, the PPP-DG has since issued earlier this month an RfP to those 12 prequalified bidders, comprising:

- Access/ Total Eren
- Acciona/ Swicorp
- Actis/ Mulilo
- ACWA Power
- Al-Nowais/ Aldwych/ Alten
- EDF/ Masdar
- Enel Green Power
- FRV/ Globeleq/ Belayab
- KoSPCo/ KEPCO
- Mitsui
- Nareva/ Adani
- Scatec Solar

They are all competing for two solar PV projects, each with a capacity of up to 125 MW (AC).

The 12 competitors will have to submit their respective bids before the end of June 2019.

## **First Scaling Solar project now online**

There have now been six Scaling Solar tenders held in Africa to date, all of which have been under the auspices of the World Bank Group. Two rounds have been initiated in Zambia, one in Senegal, one in Madagascar and two in Ethiopia.

As a result of the programme, Africa's first Scaling Solar project was commissioned last month in Zambia.

The 54 MW solar plant is being developed by Neoen and First Solar which secured the project after putting forward a winning bid of 6.02 US\$ cents per kWh in the maiden auction back in 2016.

The Bangwelulu solar project was built at a total cost of approximately \$60 million and it will supply power under a 25-year power purchase agreement with Zambian utility ZESCO.