DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AND COMMERCE
GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Department of Economic Development and Commerce (DEDC) seeks proposals from qualified individuals or organizations with established and verifiable experience, to provide one or more of the following services:

Request for Proposal (RFP) | Puerto Rico Semiconductor Supply Chain Strategy

This initiative supports Puerto Rico's economic competitiveness by positioning the island within the global semiconductor ecosystem. The selected consultant will conduct a comprehensive supply-chain analysis to identify priority segments for Puerto Rico; develop a target-company identification and outreach strategy; support PR's DEDC / Invest PR sales efforts through training and dealing support; and recommend policy and infrastructure actions to attract semiconductors' investments.

This RFP is issued in alignment with Executive Order OE-2025-012, which establishes a government-wide Reshoring and investment Promotion Strategy. The Executive Order designates the PR's DEDC Secretary as the Principal Coordinator of the Reshoring Strategy and mandates efforts to strengthen and expand current companies on the island, attract foreign and domestic investment, and position Puerto Rico as a preferred destination for high-tech, pharmaceutical, aerospace, agrotechnology and manufacturing activity.

The RFP Guidelines will be available in digital format from November 12th 2025 and can be requested through the following email: **propuestas@ddec.pr.gov.**

Please indicate the number of the RFP in the Subject line: **RFP-DDEC-2025 – 09** – Puerto Rico Semiconductor Supply Chain Strategy.

Any interested person or entity may submit their proposal to the following address: PRIDCO Building, Ave. F.D. Roosevelt 355, Hato Rey, PR, 00918. Proponents will also be able to submit their proposals, according to the RFP Guidelines, by email at: **propuestas@ddec.pr.gov.**

Proposals must be submitted, regardless of the method used, on or before December 15th 2025. No exemptions will be made.

The DEDC will not evaluate incomplete proposals. The DEDC reserves the right to accept or reject one or all the proposals in conflict with the best interests of the project.

Sebastián Negrón Reichard

Sebastián Negrón Reichard
Secretary, Department of Economic Development and Commerce
Government of Puerto Rico

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCE
GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR
PUERTO RICO SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAIN STRATEGY

ISSUED BY
PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCE

RFP-DDEC-2025-09

Puerto Rico Department of Economic Development and Commerce
Request for Proposal (RFP)
Puerto Rico Semiconductor Supply Chain Strategy

Table of Contents

1. Overview and Purpose

The Puerto Rico Department of Economic Development and Commerce ("DDEC", by its Spanish acronym), duly organized under Reorganization Plan No. 4 of June 22, 1994, as amended, and pursuant to the Department of Economic Development and Commerce Reorganization Plan Implementation Act of 2018, Act No. 141 of July 11, 2018, seeks qualified consultants with deep expertise in the semiconductor industry to develop and execute a comprehensive strategy for integrating Puerto Rico into the global semiconductor supply chain.

The purpose of this Request for Proposal ("RFP") is to establish an economic framework that will create the conditions to attract, deploy and retain state of the art global manufacturing and services greenfield projects in Puerto Rico. A successful strategy will be one that sets Puerto Rico up to be a likely breeding ground for multibillion dollar greenfield projects in the semiconductor or semiconductor adjacent industries.

This initiative supports Puerto Rico's economic competitiveness by positioning the island as a strategic location within the semiconductor ecosystem. The selected consultant(s) will be responsible for conducting market analysis, identifying optimal supply chain segments for Puerto Rico to target, developing targeted outreach strategies, building internal capacity through training and advisory support for DDEC's business development team, and providing policy and infrastructure recommendations to attract semiconductor companies to the island.

This RFP is issued in alignment with Executive Order OE-2025-012, which establishes a government-wide Reshoring and Investment Promotion Strategy. The Executive Order designates the DDEC Secretary as the principal coordinator of the Reshoring Strategy and mandates efforts to strengthen current companies, attract foreign and domestic investment, and position Puerto Rico as a preferred destination for high-tech manufacturing and advanced industries.

2. Eligible Proponents

Proponents must be corporations, consulting firms, research institutions, or other legal entities (for-profit or non-profit), mainland United States or Puerto Rico based, properly registered or capable of being registered to

do business in Puerto Rico and the United States at the time of proposal submission. Proponents must:

- Have demonstrated expertise and experience in the semiconductor industry, including knowledge of semiconductor manufacturing, supply chain dynamics, and industry trends.
- Possess established relationships with semiconductor companies, industry associations, or relevant stakeholders.
- Have experience in economic development, site selection, or business attraction in the semiconductor or advanced manufacturing sectors.
- Demonstrate organizational capacity and adequate resources to execute the project requirements.

3. Scope of Work

Task 1: Semiconductor Supply Chain Analysis

Conduct a comprehensive analysis of the global semiconductor supply chain to identify opportunities for Puerto Rico. This analysis must include:

- Detailed mapping of the semiconductor supply chain, including design, fabrication, assembly, testing, packaging (ATP), materials, equipment, and support services.
- Assessment of current global capacity, bottlenecks, and emerging trends in semiconductor manufacturing and supply.
- Analysis of Puerto Rico's competitive advantages and disadvantages relative to competing locations (tax incentives, skilled workforce, infrastructure, proximity to markets; availability or possibility of semiconductors cluster(s), etc.).
- Identification of 2-5 specific segments of the semiconductor supply chain that Puerto Rico should prioritize, with detailed rationale for each recommendation.
- Economic impact projections for each recommended segment (potential investment, job creation, supply chain multiplier effects).
- Assessment of infrastructure, workforce, and policy requirements to support each target segment.
- Assessment of Puerto Rico's existing supplier base and manufacturing ecosystem to identify companies that could support semiconductor operations and create additional business opportunities.

- Analysis of strategic alignment between semiconductor integration and Puerto Rico's current manufacturing portfolio, including potential synergies and cluster development opportunities.

Deliverable: Comprehensive Semiconductor Supply Chain Opportunity Analysis Report with prioritized recommendations.

Task 2: Target Company Identification and Outreach Strategy

Develop a detailed outreach strategy to attract semiconductor or semiconductor-adjacent companies to Puerto Rico:

- Identify specific target companies within each identified supply chain segment (minimum 30 companies total across all segments).
- Create company profiles including current locations, expansion plans, capital investment patterns, workforce requirements, and decision-making factors.
- Develop customized value propositions for Puerto Rico tailored to each target segment.
- Design a phased outreach campaign including messaging frameworks, marketing collateral recommendations, and engagement tactics.
- Provide contact strategies and recommended approaches for key decision-makers at target companies.
- Identify relevant industry events, conferences, and forums for DDEC participation and networking.

Deliverable: Target Company Database and Comprehensive Outreach Strategy Playbook.

Task 3: Sales Team Support and Capacity Building

Provide direct support to DDEC's staff (which includes DDEC's business development team as well as Invest Puerto Rico's sales team):

- Conduct training sessions for DDEC staff on semiconductor industry fundamentals, supply chain dynamics, and company decision-making factors.

- Develop pitch materials, presentations, and FAQ documents tailored to semiconductor companies.
- Participate in up to 10 company meetings or site visits alongside DDEC staff to provide technical expertise and industry credibility.
- Provide ongoing advisory support through monthly check-in calls and ad-hoc consultation.
- Help DDEC respond to company inquiries and information requests with technical accuracy and industry insight.

Deliverable: Training Materials, Sales Support Toolkit, and Ongoing Advisory Services.

Task 4: Policy and Infrastructure Recommendations

Identify policy enhancements and infrastructure investments to strengthen Puerto Rico's competitiveness:

- Benchmark Puerto Rico's incentive programs against competing jurisdictions. This includes an analysis of the incentive programs managed by DDEC.
- Recommend enhancements to tax incentives, workforce development programs, and regulatory frameworks.
- Identify critical infrastructure gaps across three dimensions and prioritize investments:
  - Physical and Utility Infrastructure (power reliability, water systems, telecommunications).
    - This includes an analysis of access to ultra pure water.
  - Innovation and Ecosystem Infrastructure (R&D facilities, testing capabilities, technology transfer).
  - Institutional Infrastructure (regulatory frameworks, workforce training systems, industry-government coordination). This includes providing guidance on potential partnerships with universities, research institutions, and federal programs.

Deliverable: Policy and Infrastructure Recommendations Report.

4. Key Performance Indicators and Reporting

The selected consultant will be expected to report on the following KPIs:

Quantitative KPIs:

- Investments made across semiconductor, or semiconductor related, new greenfield projects in Puerto Rico.

Supporting Metrics

- Number of target companies identified (minimum 30).
- Number of companies successfully contacted and engaged.
- Number of site visits or meetings facilitated.
- Number of PRDEDC staff trained.

Reporting Requirements:

- Monthly progress reports summarizing activities, accomplishments, and upcoming milestones (due by 5th business day of each month).
- Quarterly review presentations with DDEC leadership to discuss progress, challenges, and strategic adjustments.
- Final comprehensive report synthesizing all deliverables, outcomes achieved, and recommendations for ongoing implementation.

5. RFP Procedures

This RFP shall be governed by the procedures described in the following sections.

5.1 RFP Documents Acquisition

All documents pertaining to the procurement process will be sent via e-mail upon request at propuestas@ddec.pr.gov. Requests for proposal guidelines will be answered during business hours, which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. See section 5.3 for the full schedule.

5.2 Addenda

DDEC reserves the right to amend this RFP at any time. Any amendments to the RFP will be issued as written Addenda. Copies of each Addendum

for all prospective Proposers shall be sent by e-mail or can be retrieved at DDEC's website to all the persons and entities that requested the RFP instructions.

All documents pertaining to the procurement process, including Addenda issued by DDEC, are and will be published at http://www.ddec.pr.gov under the section for RFPs. All prospective proposers must monitor the abovementioned website to retrieve Addenda, if any, issued for the below-stated procurement process.

Addendum will become a part of this RFP. **All prospective proposers must monitor the Website and e-mail accounts to retrieve Addenda.**

5.3 Schedule

A summary schedule of major activities associated with this RFP is presented in Table 1 below. The dates, times, and activities are subject to change and may be revised through the issuance of Addenda by the DDEC.

Event/Activity	Date
RFP Release Date	November 12th
Questions and Answers Period (submit questions to propuestas@ddec.pr.gov)	November 19th
PRDEDC Provides Final Q&A Document	November 26th
Proposal Submission Deadline	December 15th
Expected Date of Award	December 29th (approximately)
Expected Date of Agreement Execution	January 5th (approximately)

5.4 Correspondence and Communications

Inquiries and communications regarding the RFP must be submitted to DDEC by the following electronic mail: propuestas@ddec.pr.gov. The proponent is responsible for obtaining any needed clarification of the RFP requirements, while the RFP is open until Q&A period closes. Email is the only method of contact.

5.5 Allowed and Prohibited Communications

Only questions and requests for clarifications on this RFP submitted by prospective Proposers of this RFP are allowed. Other than these communications for clarifications purposes, communications by prospective Proposers with officials and/or representatives of the DDEC, and other Government Entities, regarding any matter related to the contents of this RFP or this qualification and selection process, are prohibited during the submission and selection processes. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in the rejection of submitted Proposals.

Verbal inquiries or e-mails sent to addresses not specified in this RFP will not be addressed by DDEC.

5.6 Submission of Inquiries

Each prospective Proposer may submit written questions to the intent of clarity of this RFP, its attachments, and its Exhibits. Proposers must submit all questions in writing on or before the submission deadline established in this RFP to the electronic mailing address specified in Section 5.4 of this RFP.

Questions shall be clearly labeled and shall cite the Section(s) and page number in this RFP or other document that forms the basis of the question. Questions may be in Spanish or English.

Responses to all Proposers' questions will be distributed as an Addendum to this RFP on or before the date established in Table 1 in this RFP.

5.7 Representations for Proposal Submission

All costs associated with the Proposal in response to this RFP are the sole responsibility of Proposer. Neither DDEC, the Government of Puerto Rico, nor any of its government entities or its instrumentalities, will be responsible for any expenses in the preparation and/or presentation of the Proposals, oral presentations or for the disclosure of any information or material received in connection with this RFP.

No individual, or firm, is assured of obtaining any work because of this RFP process.

DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to reject partially or completely all Proposals received in response to this RFP when, in its opinion, the Public Interest, the best interest of the Government of Puerto Rico or DDEC, will be served by such action. DDEC further reserves the right, without limitations, to make such investigations as it deems necessary as to the qualifications or perceived conflicts of interest of all firms submitting Proposals in response to this RFP. The mere appearance of a conflict of interest shall constitute sufficient cause for the outright rejection of a Proposal. If any or all Proposals are rejected, DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to re-solicit Proposals.

By submitting a Proposal, the Proposer shall adhere to complying with all applicable Puerto Rico laws and regulations.

DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to: (i) grant more than one contract and/or select more than one qualified Proposer; (ii) amend the Contract(s) of the Selected Proposer(s) to, among others, extend its original duration, as further explained in this RFP, or to extend its scope to include work.

5.8 Proposal Modification or Withdrawal

A Proposer may modify or withdraw a Proposal at any time before the Proposal Due Date. The withdrawal must be submitted in writing to the electronic mailing address specified in Section 5.4. of this RFP and directed to the Evaluation Committee of DDEC. Timely withdrawal of a Proposal does not prejudice the right of a Proposer to submit another Proposal by the Proposal Due Date. No oral, telephonic, or facsimile modification of a Proposal shall be recognized. After the Proposal Due Date, corrections or withdrawal of Proposals may be permitted only if the Proposer can show clear and convincing evidence that a mistake of a non-judgmental character was made, the nature of the mistake, and the Proposal price intended.

All decisions to allow correction or withdrawal of a Proposal shall be supported by a written determination signed by DDEC's Contracting Officer or Procurement Director, as delegated official after the Proposal Due Date. Changes in prices or other provisions of Proposals prejudicial to the interest of the DDEC or fair competition will not be permitted.

5.9 Ownership of Proposals

All materials submitted in response to this RFP shall become the property of DDEC and will not be returned. The selection or rejection of a Proposal does not affect this provision.

5.10 Requirements for Legal Entities

Proposers that are Puerto Rico based corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships, or any other legal entity, shall be duly and properly organized or registered in compliance with the applicable laws of Puerto Rico. Such entities must show that they are in "good standing" at the time of Proposal submission. In the event the Proposer is a foreign legal entity, including US-based entities, it shall be duly and properly organized and/or registered in compliance with the applicable laws of its place of organization and/or incorporation. Such entities must show that they are in "good standing" within their jurisdiction at the time of Proposal

submission. If a Contract is awarded to a foreign entity Proposer, said Proposer should request authorization to do business in Puerto Rico before the execution of the contract.

6. General Instructions

To ensure uniformity with specific requirements and prompt reference among all Proposals, the format of the Proposals shall adhere to the following parameters:

6.1 Proposal Format

All proposals should follow the format provided. Responses will be reviewed for completeness before detailed evaluation. Any response submitted in a manner that makes evaluation unnecessarily time-consuming may be eliminated from further consideration. Elaborated proposals are not necessary. Quality, substance, brevity, clarity, and responsiveness to DDEC's needs are essential and required.

- Take the time to use language that is clear and concise and responds to the rating factors listed below. *"Over-written"* submissions will reflect negatively to the Proposer's ability to prioritize and communicate in an effective manner.
- Proposals shall be type written in English or Spanish, on standard 8 ½" x 11" paper. Pages shall have a one-inch margin, and the font shall be 12-point pitch size.
- All documents that need a signature as part of the Proposal shall be signed in blue ink. Documents consisting of more than one page that require signature shall contain the initials of the Proposer's Authorized Representative at the right-top corner of every page.
- All names must be included below each signature.
- Proposals' cover page shall include the Proposer's name, contact information, mailing address, the RFP submission date, and the Project Title.
- Figures and tables must be numbered and referenced in the text by that number. They should be placed as close as possible to the referencing version.

- Written content of the Proposal can be presented in double line spacing. Insertion of tables, graphs, calculations, and projections may be written in single line spacing, as needed. Larger paper (up to 11" x 17") and smaller fonts are permissible for charts, diagrams, spreadsheets, etc.

6.2 Technical Proposal Organization

Table of Contents:

The Proposal shall contain a Table of Contents to facilitate the DDEC's consideration and evaluation. It is the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that all sections of the Proposal, including all Attachments, are identified and easy to locate. The Table of Contents should read as follows:

Cover Page:

The title page shall contain the RFP subject; the name, email, and postal address of the Respondent; the name, title and telephone number of the person authorized to represent the Respondent; and the date of the Proposal.

Transmittal Letter:

The letter of interest shall contain a general statement of the purposes for submission of a Proposal. It should briefly state the operational concept for the services (Project Approach), complying with the requirements of this RFP, demonstrate its understanding of the needs hereunder and the Respondent's commitment to performing the services by the provisions of this RFP.

Tab 1: Executive Summary:

This part of the response to the RFP should be limited to a brief narrative highlighting the Respondent's Proposal. It should succinctly include qualifications and experience regarding the Respondent's ability to do the work requested in this RFP. The section should limit technical jargon and marketing information and focus instead on qualifications, experience, assumptions, and a summary of the Respondent's ability to meet the business partnering requirements of the DDEC, as stated in this RFP. The Executive Summary should be limited to a maximum of five pages (Times Roman, size 12, single space).

Tab 2: Company Information:

1) Name of the Company or Entity
2) Corporate Registration Number in the State Department (if applicable)
3) Postal Address
4) Telephones
5) Facsimile
6) Email address
7) Name, Position and Signature of the Authorized Representative or Contractor
8) Direct phone, cell phone and email address of the Authorized Representative
9) Employer Social Security Number
10) Number of the Merchant-Treasury Registration Certificate
11) Policy Number-State Insurance Fund
12) Organization chart of the firm

Respondents are expected to address the following information items within this section of the Solution Proposal:

Background Information: The Respondent shall submit a brief history describing its experience providing services, like the ones specified herein.

Type of Organization: The Respondent shall specify the type of organization, D/B/A, Corporation, Partnership, Joint Venture, or Sole Proprietorship.

Description of the Organization's History: If applicable, the Respondent shall describe the Respondent organization's history, including the ownership, operations, management and staff, subsidiaries, affiliations, and office locations of the organization.

Organizational Documentation: Certifications depending on the type of organization. The Respondent shall submit copies of the Certificate of Incorporation, Partnership Agreement or Joint Venture; and any other organizational document deemed necessary.

Financial and Responsibility Information: All Respondents shall submit financial information that will enable the DDEC to evaluate its financial capacity to perform under the contract.

Tab 3: Approach to Scope of Services (Strategy and Methods)

Respondents are expected to address the following information items within this section of the Proposal:

- Overall description of the proposed solution
- Overall description of the approach and methodology
- Detailed scope of services to be provided
- Risk management approach
- The purpose of this section is to provide all the information needed by the DDEC to fathom the implications of the proposed services.

Although the DDEC recognizes that it may require additional information from specific Respondents concerning this section of the Proposal, it must be evident that Respondents have made a reasonably effort to formulate a responsible project approach.

Tab 4: Resumes of Key Staff and consultants

Provide a personnel roster and resumes of key staff who shall be assigned by the Respondent to perform duties or services under the contract. Include an estimated number of hours to be worked on the contract for each person. Provide a resume, including education, licenses, valid certifications, background, accomplishments and any other pertinent information of the Respondent, key staff, and consultants. Provide an organizational chart highlighting the key people who shall be assigned to accomplish the work required by this RFP, illustrating the lines of authority. And designate the individual responsible for the completion of each service component and deliverable of the RFP.

The Respondent shall provide the names of specific clients for whom similar work to the services requested in this RFP has been performed. Any

licenses or certifications applicable to the services requested in this RFP should be submitted.

Tab 5: References for Services Performed

The Respondent will provide at least three recent references (within the last five years), including client names, contact persons, phone numbers and a description of services provided.

Tab 6: Attachments

Aside from other documents mentioned in this RFP, every proponent must attach the following documents to their proposal for it to be considered valid:

1. Certificate of Eligibility from the Registry of Professional Service Providers (Registro Único de Proveedores de Servicios): Proof thet the proposer is registered and authorized to contract with the Government of Puerto Rico, as per the registry maintained by the General Services Administration ("ASG", by its Spanish acronym).
2. Compliance Certification: A declaration that the proponent has read, understood, and accepted the terms of the RFP, including addenda issued.
3. Conflict of Interest Certification: A declaration that the proponent's partners, officers, subcontractors, or any other natural or legal persons involved in the execution of the contract have no direct or indirect conflicts of interest, in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations.
4. Legal and Ethical Compliance and Criminal Conduct Certification: A statement confirming that none of the proponent's partners, employees, subcontractors, or related individuals:
    a. Have been convicted of crimes;
    b. Are under investigation for corruption, domestic violence, sexual offenses, or other disqualifying conduct.
5. Legal Entity Certification: Required when the proponent is a legal entity (corporation, limited liability company, etc.). The proponent must disclose the identity of all the owners, shareholders, partners, and

officers. (This requirement does not apply to publicly traded companies).

6. Transparency and Disclosure Commitment: A certification in which the proponent agrees to disclose all information requested by DDEC to conduct a complete and accurate evaluation of the proposal.

6.3 Proposal Execution

An authorized representative of the Respondent shall duly execute the Proposal. To constitute proper execution, the Proposal shall be in strict compliance with the following:

- **Individuals:** Proposals submitted by Individuals shall be signed by them. If the Proposal is signed by an authorized representative, a power of attorney, dated and executed by the individual shall be attached to the Proposal, as evidence of the representative's authority to sign the Proposal and to bind the Proposer thereto.
- **Partnerships:** Proposals submitted by a partnership shall be signed on the partnership's behalf by at least one general partner or by an authorized representative of the partnership. If an authorized representative signs the Proposal, a power of attorney, dated and executed by all partners of the Proposer shall be attached to the Proposal, as evidence of the representative's authority to sign the Proposal and to bind the Proposer.
- **Corporations:** Proposals submitted by for-profit and non-profit corporations shall state the correct name of the corporation and must be signed by an authorized officer, whose authority to bind the corporation must be evidenced by the corresponding corporate resolution. The title or position occupied by the corporate officer executing the Proposal shall appear below the signature.
- **Joint Venture:** Proposals submitted by a joint venture shall be signed by all members of the joint venture. If the Proposal is signed by only one member of the joint venture entity, the Proposal shall be accompanied with a copy of the joint venture agreement evidencing that the Proposal is signed by a member with authority

to bind the joint venture. The joint venture agreement shall be executed before the date and time specified for the proposal submission.

6.4 Proposal Submission

Proposals are to be submitted on the Proposal Due Date. Responses to the RFP submitted after the prescribed deadline will not be accepted.

Date: December 15th
Time: 4:30 p.m.

Any Proposal received after this date and time shall be recorded as late and retained unopened in the procurement file.

The DDEC expressly reserves the right to extend or otherwise amend the Proposal Due Date via Addenda.

6.4.1 Emailed Submissions:

Through email will be the only method to receive bids / proposals / responses (collectively known as submissions) from vendors (i.e., bidders, proponents, or Respondents) for all types of solicitation methods and contracts.

- Proposals must be saved in PDF format. The format must be "text searchable" and no scanned or "image" only document.
- The PDF file must be 25 megabytes or smaller.
- The PDF file must be submitted via email to propuestas@ddec.pr.gov.
- RFP number and company name must be included in the subject line of the email.
- The PDF file shall be named using the following format: RFP-DDEC-WDP- 2025- 09 Company Name. PDF.
- Proposals must be received by the DDEC on or before the due date and time specified in each RFP.

- The DDEC will not consider any *proposals* that are *submitted* to an email address different from the one specified in the instructions.
  NOTE: the email used to receive the RFP guide requests and submit questions regarding the RFP is not the same email to submit the Proposal.
- The DDEC recommends Respondents to send **one** (1) email with their complete submission whenever possible, and if it is not possible, clearly explain what the DDEC should consider as the final and full submission.
- The DDEC may request the Respondent to clarify which of the emailed documents should be considered as their final and full submission. However, the Respondent will not be able to submit additional information in response to this clarification.
- Only the emails received on time are going to be considered, which may mean that only some of the emailed documents are considered if a submission is sent in multiple emails.
- There are risks associated with sending submissions via email, including but not limited to delays in transmission between the sender's computer and the DDEC's electronic mail system.
- The DDEC recommends that the email be sent with a delivery receipt request.
- If an email is rejected or if an automated email is not received confirming that the email was received, contact Naelia Cruz at (787) 758-4747 ext. 25497.
- Any email containing a virus or malware will be rejected.
- The DDEC's designated staff will not open any emailed attachments prior to the closing of the submission period and, if one or more files cannot be opened

  (e.g., are corrupted), the Respondents will not have an opportunity to resend such files after closing.
- The Respondent is responsible for the choice of the method ("channel") they use to submit the Proposal. The DDEC does not

assume any responsibility for delayed or rejected emails or for any files that cannot be opened.

- The Respondent acknowledges that all risks associated with emailed submissions are their sole responsibility and that late submissions, regardless of the reason, will be rejected.
- The COST PLAN must be submitted as a separate file. None of the financial proposal data is disclosed in other documents of the submission.

7. Technical Requirements

Each complete package of a Proposal shall comply with the technical information specified in the following sections.

7.1 Mandatory Requirements

Proposers shall comply with the following Mandatory Requirements for their Proposals to be evaluated on their Qualification and Work Approach Requirements. Mandatory Requirements will be scored as either "Pass" or "Fail". If the Proposal meets all Mandatory Requirements of this RFP, the Proposal will "Pass" the Mandatory Requirements evaluation.

If the Proposal does not meet all Mandatory Requirements of this RFP, the Proposal will "Fail" the Mandatory Requirements evaluation. **Failure to comply with each of the Mandatory Requirements of this RFP will result in the disqualification of the Proposer**. However, the DDEC reserves the right to waive minor irregularities and minor instances of noncompliance.

Mandatory Requirements for this RFP are as follows:

7.1.1 Proposal Submission

The Proposal must be submitted within the closing date and time for Proposals, as established in Section 5.3 of this RFP.

7.1.2 Organizational Documents

Include all documents that demonstrate that the Proposer:

1. Is properly organized and/or registered and in compliance with the laws of its place of incorporation.
2. Is in "good standing" with the Government of Puerto Rico or with their jurisdiction of incorporation.

7.1.3 Financial Requirements

The Proposer shall demonstrate in the Proposal that has adequate financial resources to perform the services under the contract. Accordingly, the Proposer shall provide the following financial information to allow the DDEC to evaluate its financial capability:

The Respondents that generate over $1 million annual revenue must provide the audited financial statements for the past two (2) years and that include, as minimum, income statement and balance sheet. Those generating less than $1 million annually may submit a reviewed financial statement if an audited report is not available, for the past two (2) years. All Respondents shall submit the availability of bank credit or other information that will enable the DDEC to evaluate its financial capacity to perform under the contract.

The financial information requested is based upon circumstances existing at the time the RFP is released. The DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to: (i) modify the requirements of the information; (ii) request additional information or clarification during the evaluation process and, if appropriate, (iii) modify the minimum score requirements; all in the best interest of the DDEC's action plans.

7.1.4 Conflicts of Interest

Pursuant to Act 12 of July 24, 1985, as amended and known as the Puerto Rico Government Ethics Act of 2011, Act 237 of August 31, 2004, known as Act to Establish Uniform Parameters in the Procurement Processes of Professional and Consulting Services for Commonwealth Agencies and Government Entities, and/or Act 2 of January 4, 2018 known as the

Anticorruption Code for a New Puerto Rico, Proposers will be required to certify that no officer, agent or employee of the Government of Puerto Rico or its Government Entities and instrumentalities, has a monetary interest in the Proposal or has participated in contract negotiations on behalf of the Government of Puerto Rico; that the Proposal is made in good faith without fraud, collusion or connection of any kind with any other Proposers; that the Proposer is competing solely in its own behalf without connection with, or obligation to, any undisclosed person or firm; and that the Proposer has not been convicted or has pleaded guilty in a state of federal court or any other jurisdiction of the United States of America, or another country if the elements which constitute the crime are the same, of certain crimes constituting fraud, illegal appropriation or misuse of public funds, for the terms stated in Act 2-2018.

7.1.5 Sole Registry of Professional Service Providers

Pursuant Act 73 of July 23, 2019, as amended and known as the 2019 General Services Administration Act for the Centralization of the Purchases of the Government of Puerto Rico and Regulation No. 9302 of August 26, 2021, and known as the Regulation on the Sole Registry of Professional Service Providers for the Government of Puerto Rico, Proposers will be required to provide a copy of their active Sole Certificate of Professionals granted by the General Services Administration (GSA).

8. Period of Performance

This project is expected to be completed within 12-18 months from contract award, with a greenfield announcement before March 2028. The specific timeline and milestones will be negotiated with the selected consultant during the contracting phase.

9. Budget Parameters

Proposals must include a detailed budget narrative and breakdown for all tasks.

Proponents should clearly identify:

- Personnel costs (hourly rates and estimated hours by task).
- Travel and meeting expenses.
- Research and data acquisition costs.
- Any other direct or indirect costs.
- Cost-efficiency and value for money will be important evaluation criteria.

10. Data Access and Sharing

DDEC shall have unrestricted access to all project-related data, analyses, company databases, and deliverables. The selected consultant must:

- Transfer complete datasets and documentation upon request or contract completion.
- Maintain appropriate confidentiality and data security compliance.
- All data and work product created under this contract remains the property of PRDEDC.

11. Proposal Evaluation Rubric

PRDEDC will evaluate proposals based on the following weighted criteria:

Evaluation Factor	Weight	Criteria
Semiconductor Industry Expertise	35%	Demonstrated deep knowledge of semiconductor supply chain, manufacturing processes, and industry dynamics. Track record of successful semiconductor-related consulting or business development projects.
Approach and Methodology	30%	Quality and feasibility of proposed approach. Clarity of methodology for supply chain analysis, target identification, and outreach strategy. Innovation and practical value of recommendations.

Evaluation Factor	Weight	Criteria
Team Qualifications	20%	Experience and credentials of proposed team members. Relevant past performance and client references. Organizational capacity to deliver all project requirements.
Cost Structure	15%	Cost-effectiveness and reasonableness of proposed budget. Clear cost breakdown and value for money. Alignment with budget parameters.

Scoring Method:

Each factor will be scored on a 0-5 scale:

- 5 = Outstanding: Exceeds all requirements with exceptional approach
- 4 = Strong: Meets all requirements with some exceptional elements
- 3 = Adequate: Meets basic requirements
- 2 = Marginal: Meets some but not all requirements
- 1 = Poor: Significant gaps in requirements
- 0 = Not addressed

Weighted scores will be summed for a maximum of 100 points. PRDEDC may request clarifications or conduct interviews before final selection.

12. Procurement and Award Process

12.1 Receipt of Proposals

Proposals will be dated, and time stamped immediately upon their receipt at the DDEC's Office as evidence of timely delivery.

Only Proposals timely received will be considered and evaluated. No Respondent may modify, withdraw, or cancel his Proposal or any part thereof after the Proposal Due Date, except as required in writing by the DDEC, this RFP and the applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Submittal of Proposals shall serve as evidence of a Respondent's acceptance of the terms, conditions and disclaimers of this RFP and the rights and options reserved hereunder by the DDEC.

All proposals shall remain valid for a period of one hundred and eighty (180) days after the date specified for the receipt of proposals.

Following the receipt, the response of all Proposers will be reviewed to determine that: (i) each Proposal has been submitted following the requirements of this RFP; (ii) each Proposal is complete and (iii) all required documentation was included with the Proposal.

Proposals will be evaluated by the DDEC, as described in the following sections.

12.2 Evaluation Committee

The Evaluation Committee appointed by the Secretary of the DDEC will review and score the different sections of this RFP, as well as make final recommendations to the Secretary. The Committee shall conduct a comprehensive, fair and impartial evaluation of Proposals received in response to this RFP.

Following receipt, the responses of all Proposers will be reviewed for completeness and analyzed based upon the criteria described in this RFP. An initial evaluation will consider the Mandatory Requirements of the Proposal. Those who meet the Mandatory Requirements will then be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee for Qualification, Work Approach and Budget or Cost Requirements of the Proposals.

The Evaluation Committee may request clarifications to Proposers, to assist in gaining additional understanding of the Proposals. A response to a clarification request must be to clarify or explain portions of the already submitted Proposal and may not contain new information not included in the original Proposal.

Technical Committees may be convened by the Evaluation Committee, as deemed necessary.

The Evaluation Committee shall then prepare a written evaluation report to document the ranking of the Proposals by technical and cost merits. The Evaluation Committee report will be submitted to the Secretary of Economic Development with the corresponding recommendation for adjudication.

12.3 Errors and Omissions in Proposals

The DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to reject a Proposal that contains an error or omission. It also reserves the right, without limitations, to request correction of any errors or omissions and/or to request any clarification or additional information from any Proposer, without opening clarifications for all Proposers.

12.4 Interviews and Proposal Refinements

The DDEC reserves the option to engage in interviews with Proposers that it considers viable candidates, to discuss questions and/or considerations that can provide better clarity to refine proposals.

12.5 Negotiations

After the corresponding evaluation of the Proposals, the DDEC will select all Qualified Proposers for negotiations. Negotiations are exchanges between the DDEC and Proposers that are undertaken with the intent of allowing the Proposers to revise their Proposals. If the DDEC is not satisfied with the price offer of the Respondent, they will recommend doing further discussions/negotiations.

The primary object of discussion is to maximize the DDEC's ability to obtain the best value, based on the requirements and the evaluation factors outlined in the RFP. The D DEC's Evaluation Committee may request and receive best and final offers.

12.6 Selection and Award

Proposer(s) to be selected for the award will be based on the Proposal Scoring stated in Section 11 and the negotiations from Section 12.5. The DDEC, based on the overall Proposals received and their evaluation results, shall determine the number of successful proposers that represent the best interest of the overall programs implementation and the people of Puerto Rico.

The Proposer(s) to be awarded the RFP shall be recommended by the Evaluation Committee. After the final recommendation from the Evaluation Committee, the Secretary of the DDEC will issue the Award Notice.

Award will be made to the responsible and responsive Respondent whose Proposal represents the best value to the DDEC, taking all elements (including price and technical score) into consideration. Award will be made at fair and reasonable prices only. The DDEC reserves the right to select a proposal other than the lowest price from a Respondent within the competitive range.

A proposal must conform to the material requirements of the RFP. If the Proposal does not conform to the solicitation, it will be rejected because it is considered non-responsive.

The Secretary of Economic Development shall review the Report of the Evaluation Committee and shall identify the Respondent(s) that should be selected to provide the services requested by this RFP. The determination of a Respondent's selection will be based on the merits of the Proposal presented, following the evaluation criteria. However, the Secretary of Economic Development, taking into consideration the Respondent's Proposal and the Evaluation Committee recommendation, shall identify for selection the Respondent(s) as deemed most advantageous to the DDEC's interests and objectives.

12.7 Award without Negotiation

If, after the initial evaluation of Proposals, there is a clear winner and there is no need to negotiate or obtain further clarification or information from that Respondent (e.g., the price is reasonable), the Secretary of Economic Development may proceed directly to award, provided that the RFP clearly stated that award could be made without negotiations.

12.8 Notice of Selection

The DDEC will issue a written notice of selection to the successful Proposer(s) through certified mail to the address provided as part of the Proposal (the "Notice of Selection"). The Notice of Selection will establish the selected Proposer(s) obligation to submit any applicable post-award documentation.

12.9 Execution of Agreements

The DDEC will seek to execute a Service Agreement with the selected Proposer(s). If an agreement cannot be reached, the DDEC may terminate negotiations with the chosen Respondent(s) and proceed to the next-highest rated Respondent until an agreement determined to be fair and reasonable to both parties is obtained.

No Proposal shall be binding upon the DDEC until an Agreement has been executed. The DDEC reserves the right to issue press releases or public statements regarding the services under the contract; and the right to cancel the award of an Agreement at any time before execution of the contract, without incurring in any liability.

12.10 Rejection of Proposals and Cancellation of RFP

Issuance of this RFP does not constitute a commitment by the Government of Puerto Rico and/or the DDEC to award a contract. The DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to accept or reject, in whole or in part, and without further explanation, any or all Proposals submitted; and/or to cancel this solicitation and reissue this RFP or another version of it, if it deems that

doing so is in the best interest of the public interest, the Government of Puerto Rico, the DDEC or the impacted communities.
The DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to disregard or waive any noncompliance, informalities and/or irregularities in the Proposals received in response to this RFP, not otherwise identified as Mandatory Requirements and Qualifications in this RFP when, in its opinion, the public interest, the best interest of the Government of Puerto Rico, the DDEC or of the impacted communities will be served by such action.

12.11 Confidentiality of Responses and Proprietary Information

Upon completion of the RFP process, the DDEC will make public its report regarding the qualification, procurement, and selection process, which shall contain certain information related to this RFP process, except trade secrets, proprietary information or privileged and confidential information of the Proposers, so identified by Proposers. Accordingly, all Proposers are suggested to submit a redacted copy of their Proposal at the time of submission. For clarity, "redacted copy" refers to a copy of the Proposal that has been modified, edited, or revised and any confidential or sensitive information has been removed.
The DDEC reserves the right, without limitations, to make public the redacted copies of the Proposals at the conclusion of the RFP process. If a redacted copy is not submitted by a Proposer, the DDEC will assume that the original copy of the Proposal can be made public. Proposals containing substantial contents marked as confidential or proprietary may be rejected by the DDEC.

The DDEC cannot guarantee that confidentiality or proprietary claims made by a Proposer, in any way, will be honored. Due to the nature of this RFP, some confidentiality or proprietary claims cannot be assured. Provision of any information marked as confidential or proprietary shall not prevent the DDEC from disclosing such information if required by law. The ultimately awarded contract(s) and all prices set forth therein shall not be considered confidential or proprietary, and such information may be made publicly available. All information, be it trade secrets, proprietary or confidential, submitted as part of this RFP, will be made available to DOLETA, the US Office of Inspector General or any other federal or state agency that

requires said information for program evaluation and compliance purposes.8.13 DDEC Options

Without limitation and in addition to other rights reserved by the DDEC in this RFP, and when it is determined to be in its best interests, the DDEC reserves and holds, at its sole discretion, the following rights, and options:

- To reject any Respondent that has a poor performance record, as demonstrated by past work performed for the DDEC, specifically from the standpoint of work quality and progress.
- To reject any Proposal due to uncompleted work, which, in the judgment of the DDEC, might hinder or prevent the prompt completion of additional work, if awarded.
- To reject a Proposal if any of the Respondent's previous agreements with the DDEC or any other public or private entity declared in default.
- To conduct further investigations regarding the technical and financial qualifications of Respondents from any sources deemed necessary, which might be others than those identified in the Proposal.
- To reject a Proposal if there are unauthorized additions, conditional or alternate proposals or irregularities of any kind which may tend to make the Proposal incomplete, indefinite, or ambiguous.
- To cancel, without prejudice, any selection of Respondents before the execution of the Agreements.
- To reject Proposals from a Respondent shown to be submitting Proposals under different names for the same services.
- To reject Proposals upon evidence of collusion among several or all Respondents.
- To take any action affecting the RFP process or the subject matter of this RFP, that would be in the best interests of the DDEC.
- Failure to provide any of the above-requested information shall be considered a substantial defect. All documents and products created

by the Respondent's and their sub-consultants shall become the exclusive property of the DDEC.

- By submitting a Proposal, each Respondent agrees, if the Proposal is accepted, to enter a contract with the DDEC for the term outlined in this RFP.
- Each Respondent also accepts all terms and conditions of this RFP and any amendment thereof. The Respondent's Proposal and any additional information submitted by the Respondent or negotiated between the Respondent and the DDEC before the selection, together with this RFP and any addenda hereto, will serve as confirmations of the Respondent's acceptance of all terms and conditions therein.

13. Administrative Procedure and Appellate Remedies

Any person, party or entity that considers itself having been adversely affected by the Award Notice or award determination of the Secretary of the DDEC, made in relation to this RFP, may file a petition for reconsideration before the Secretary within the twenty (20) days from the date on which the copy of the Award Notice is duly notified, as established in Act 38-2017, known as the Uniform Administrative Procedures of the Government of Puerto Rico Act. This is a jurisdictional term not subject to any extension. Failure to timely file the petition for reconsideration will preclude the Secretary of the DDEC from considering the same.

The applicable terms for the filing of a judicial review petition before Puerto Rico's Court of Appeals in relation to this action or lack of action by the Secretary of the DDEC, shall be those established in Act 38-2017 for bids procedures, particularly, in Sections 3.19 and 4.2. Simultaneously with the filing of the petition for reconsideration, the petitioner shall submit a copy of the petition to all the parties in the procedure and to the Secretary of the DDEC.

The mere filing of a petition for reconsideration before the DDEC's Secretary or filing of a judicial review petition before Puerto Rico's Court of Appeals will not have the effect of halting the contested award.

14. Contract

14.1 Type of Contract

The DDEC expects to award a professional services contract for the selected firm(s) for the services. The services fees will be paid every month after the firm's monthly report is submitted to the DDEC, agency which will evaluate and recommend the payments to be issued.

14.2 Contract Period

The DDEC intends to execute a contract with the Proposer(s) selected under this solicitation. The Grant Management System and related services, if applicable, contract will have effectiveness of one (1) year and renewable subject to availability of funds from each program for the second year. This period includes all administrative tasks, the startup of services, the services included in the Proposal and the final payment at the end of each service.

14.3 Performance Period

The Performance Period for this Agreement is for a maximum of one year, including holidays, from the day stated in the contract. The time is included in the Contract Period and is not to be considered as in addition to the Contract Period. The duration of the services will be as per Statement Work and as agreed to by the parties.

14.4 Payments

Payments shall be issued for services provided, previously approved by the DDEC. It is the Selected Proposer's responsibility to provide all services, as set forth under the Scope of Services detailed in this RFP.

Payment will be made upon presentation of invoice evidenced by the services provided and duly authorized by the DDEC. Selected Proposer must submit all required invoice supporting documents, including but

not limited to, monthly reports, timesheets, expense plans, work projections and any other documentation that supports the services provided. Invoices must be submitted within the first ten (10) calendar days from the end of the period for the services being invoiced.

If the DDEC finds the submitted invoice and supporting documents as acceptable, then the invoice will be approved and processed for payment promptly after submission of the invoice. The DDEC reserves the right to review the correctness of invoices and perform audits as it deems necessary.

The Selected Proposer shall submit monthly invoices for the agreed fees or in accordance with the contractual clauses reached. Invoices must be detailed, specified, and itemized, accompanied by a description of the services provided, as previously approved by the DDEC. In addition, it shall be noted that no public servant of the contracting entity is a party or has interest on the profits or benefits product from the contract, regarding the invoice. If it does have interest in some part on the profits or benefits of the contract, it must specify that a waiver has been mediated.

The DDEC shall request from the Selected Proposer all the necessary information related to the invoiced expenses, to verify them, before ordering the release of payment.

The Selected Proposer will deliver the original invoice to the DDEC as per the terms of the contract. Such invoice must be properly completed and certified by the Selected Proposer. Upon receipt, the designated office within the DDEC will process it for certification, in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code of Puerto Rico, following the standards and regulations established by enforcement agencies of the Government of Puerto Rico.

Thank you for your interest in participating in the DDEC federal funded programs for the economic growth of Puerto Rico.

15. Contact Information

All inquiries regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to:

Email: propuestas@ddec.pr.gov

Subject Line: Questions - Semiconductor Supply Chain Integration RFP

Questions must reference the relevant section and page number. Responses will be provided to all proponents via addendum.
