

Procurement of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure Geoportal

FB No: MD-PSA-242290-GO-RFB

list of clarifications requested by Bidders and answers provided by the Purchaser

#	Chapter/Page	Requirement	Query	Answer
1	RFB	Experience and technical capacity states the following 'It should have been in operation for at least 5 years with an important part of its business being the provision of Information Technology (IT) Systems, including software and services.'	If the Bidder is a joint venture, can a JV member that has been less than 5 years in operation be a prime member?	This requirement must be met by all JV partners. Please refer to SECTION III - EVALUATION AND QUALIFICATION CRITERIA, 5.4.1 General Experience, which contains all the criteria that the Purchaser shall use to evaluate Bids and qualify Bidders.
2	RFB	Experience and technical capacity: - The bidder must have demonstrated experience as a prime supplier, management contractor, JV member[1] in conducting: at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years, with a value equivalent of at least USD 150,000.00, that has been successfully and substantially completed, OR at least two (2) contracts within the last three (3) years, with a cumulative value equivalent of at least USD 200,000.00, that have been successfully and substantially completed, AND at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years that is similar to the proposed Information System, i.e. Geospatial systems, AND at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years, developed based on the proposed Open-Source Solution.	Can the Bidder for the required references/experiences use references from all joint venture members who cumulatively fulfill the above requirements?	Please refer to SECTION III - EVALUATION AND QUALIFICATION CRITERIA, 5.4.1 General Experience, which contains all the criteria that the Purchaser shall use to evaluate Bids and qualify Bidders.
3		Parallel with the NSDI Geoportal implementation project there is an open procurement process for 'Consultant to develop national NSDI data standards for priority data themes and data model'	Can the Bidder bid on both procurements or there is some kind of basis for a disqualification?	There are no restrictions on participation as long as the Bidder/Consultant has the required capacity and meets all evaluation criteria under both procurement processes, and if no other restrictions are mentioned in the parallel procurement process you mention.
4		The Bidder should provide audited financial statements and balance sheets for the last three complete financial years demonstrating the soundness of the Bidder's financial position and demonstrating that it has the financial resources necessary to handle the requirements of the proposed Contract	Do annual financial statements and balance sheets produced according to the national Moldovan standards and confirmed by the Financial Statements Service of the National Bureau of Statistics count as audited financial statements?	Yes, they do.
5	RFB	The bidder must have demonstrated experience as a prime supplier, management contractor, JV in conducting: 1) at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years, with a value equivalent of at least USD 150,000.00, that has been successfully and substantially completed, OR 2) at least two (2) contracts within the last three (3) years, with a cumulative value equivalent of at least USD 200,000.00, that have been successfully and substantially completed, AND 3) at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years that is similar to the proposed Information System, i.e. Geospatial systems, AND 4) at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years, developed based on the proposed Open-Source Solution.	There are a set of criteria listed on page iii in the Request for bid and later on page 56, the information provided, however is not exactly the same an AND is missing in the second part. This caused some confusion so please confirm that our understanding is correct, that because of the OR connection, as long as criteria 1 is fulfilled we do not need to provide further evidence of the the other three points.	<u>The requirement must be read as provided in the RFB.</u> This means that the Bidder shall meet either requirement 1 or 2, or both of them, AND requirements 3 and 4. The bidder must have demonstrated experience as a prime supplier, management contractor, JV in conducting: 1) at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years, with a value equivalent of at least USD 150,000.00, that has been successfully and substantially completed, OR 2) at least two (2) contracts within the last three (3) years, with a cumulative value equivalent of at least USD 200,000.00, that have been successfully and substantially completed, AND 3) at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years that is similar to the

	SECTION III - EVALUATION AND QUALIFICATION CRITERIA	<p>5.4.2 Specific Experience</p> <p>Participation as a prime supplier, management contractor, JV member in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years, with a value equivalent of at least USD 150,000.00, that has been successfully and substantially completed, OR - at least two (2) contracts within the last three (3) years, with a cumulative value of at least USD 200,000.00, that have been successfully and substantially completed, - at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years that is similar to the proposed Information System, i.e. Geospatial systems, AND - at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years developed based on the proposed Open Source Solution. <p>The successfully completed similar contracts shall be documented by a copy of an Operational acceptance certificate (or equivalent documentation satisfactory to the Purchaser) issued by the purchaser(s).</p>		<p>proposed Information System, i.e. Geospatial systems, AND</p> <p>4) at least one (1) contract within the last three (3) years, developed based on the proposed Open-Source Solution.</p>
6	Section I, ITB, 20.3	If a Bid Security is specified pursuant to ITB 20.1, the bid security shall be a demand guarantee in any of the following forms at the Bidder's option: (a) an unconditional guarantee issued by a non-bank financial institution (such as an insurance, bonding or surety company); In the case of a bank guarantee, the Bid Security shall be submitted either using the Bid Security Form included in Section IV, Bidding Forms or in another substantially similar format approved by the Purchaser prior to Bid submission.	Would bank's form of bid security be acceptable?	If the Bid security is in another substantially similar format it has to be approved by the Purchaser prior to Bid submission
7	Section II, BDS, C. Preparation of Bids	Language for translation of supporting documents and printed literature is Romanian	If supporting documents and printed literature are in English, do they need to be translated in Romanian? If a formal document is written in some other language other than English, can it be officially translated in English?	<p>In case supporting documents and printed literature are in a language different from English, they shall be translated into Romanian. Such documents in English are acceptable.</p> <p>Please refer to ITB 10.1 10.1. The Bid, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the bid exchanged by the Bidder and the Purchaser, shall be written in the language specified in the BDS. <u>Supporting documents and printed literature that are part of the Bid may be in another language provided they are accompanied by an accurate translation of the relevant passages in the language specified in the BDS</u>, in which case, for purposes of interpretation of the Bid, such translation shall govern.</p>
8	Section II, BDS, C. Preparation of Bids - Section I, ITB 21.3	-In addition to the original of the Bid, the number of copies is: 1 (one) hard copy, and 1 (one) copy in digital searchable format on a memory device.... - The original and all copies of the Bid shall be typed or written in indelible ink and shall be signed by a person duly authorized to sign on behalf of the Bidder	Must the copy be only in digital format or paper printed?	the Bidders must submit 2 copies of their bid - one in hard copy and another one in electronic format. So, the submitted bid shall contain an original, a copy and a memory device with electronic copy of the bid
9	Request for bid, ITB, BDS	Additional experts: • Programming Expert • System administration/Network /Security Expert • Documentation Expert • Database Expert • Web/Graphic designer and developer	Do we need to submit filled Candidate Summary forms and signed Code of conducts for additional experts as well, or just for key experts? If not, how do we prove their experience.	the Candidate Summary forms and Code of conduct are only required for the key experts. A confirmation of additionally required expertise shall be confirmed by the Bidder.
10			We would like to take this chance to ask your opinion on whether bids that use commercial off-the-shelf products (COTS) together with open source products instead of using only open source software would be automatically disqualified.	Bidders can propose solutions that use both commercial off-the-shelf products (COTS) together with open source products, taking into account the provisions of Section VII of the Bidding document "The technological stack of the solution (software) being built should take into account the use of open source software versions (both community and enterprise) to the maximum extent possible. If both commercial and open source software are available, an open-source solution should be preferred.

11	Section IV, Bidding forms	Form CCC- Summary sheet: Current contract commitments/Work in progress	Do the contracts, that need to be listed on this form, have to be those with similar subject/services, or they can be current contracts in general?	All current contracts and those that have recently been awarded (ref. There is a note included in the Form which states "Bidders and each partner to an Joint Venture bid should provide information on their current commitments on all contracts that have been awarded, or for which a letter of intent or acceptance has been received, or for contracts approaching completion, but for which an unqualified, full completion certificate has yet to be issued")
12	Section IV, Bidding Forms, 3.4 Supply and Installation Cost Sub-Table 1 & 3.5 Recurrent Cost Sub-Table 1 - Warranty Period; Section VII, Purchaser's Requirements, F.Service specifications - recurrent cost items & System inventory table (supply and installation cost items)	F. SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS – RECURRENT COST ITEMS, 5.1 Warranty Defect Repair, 5.2 Technical Support, 5.3 Requirements of the Supplier's Technical Team	In Section IV, Bidding Forms, in 3.4 Supply and Installation Sub-Table 1 have listed warranty as item which should be separately priced, while in Section VII, Purchaser's Requirements, F. Service specifications - recurrent cost items in 5.1 Warranty defect repair is specified that bug fixing activities in warranty period are part of recurrent cost. If this is not mistake, could you please give us more explanation which warranty costs are included in recurrent cost items and which in Supply and Installation Sub-Table?	"Warranty" and "Warranty defect repair services" must be treated separately. According to the provisions of GCC 29.5 "if any defect as described in GCC Clause 29.1 should be found... the Supplier shall promptly, in consultation and agreement with the Purchaser regarding appropriate remedying of the defects, and at its sole cost , repair, replace, or otherwise make good (as the Supplier shall, at its discretion, determine) such defect as well as any damage to the System caused by such defect". Warranty defect repair services are treated as recurrent costs, nevertheless, Section VII. Requirements of the Information System, F. SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS – RECURRENT COST ITEMS, 5.1.1.1. refers once again to warranty services "if the software does not perform as warranted". The term "warranted" shall be treated as defined under GCC 29.1 "The Supplier warrants that the System, including all Information Technologies, Materials, and other Goods supplied and Services provided, shall be free from defects ...". No defect repair services are otherwise defined and requested, that is why the only recurrent costs are those for Technical Support.
13	Section VII, Purchaser's Requirements, F.Service specifications - recurrent cost items & System inventory table (supply and installation cost items)	5.2.1.2 Technical Assistance: During the warranty period it is expected that if the Purchaser needs support regarding one of the modules for maintenance or further development this will be supported with a minimum of once every 3 months.	In Section VII, Purchaser's Requirements, F Service specifications - recurrent cost in 5.2.1.2 is stipulated that technical assistance will be activated a minimum of once every 3 months, while in same section in System inventory table is written as quantity of 16 days. For clarification purposes, could you please confirm that purchaser requires in total 16 man/days of Technical Assistance during warranty period? If this is not right conclusion please clarify what kind of assignments can be expected as part of this Technical assistance so that each bidder can take into account same effort. Can You please clarify and define expected effort in man/days since otherwise it is very hard to make any estimation.	The expected effort is as provided in the <i>SYSTEM INVENTORY TABLE (RECURRENT COST ITEMS)</i> , i.e. 16 days
14	Section VII, Purchaser's Requirements, F.Service specifications - recurrent cost items	5.3.1 The Supplier MUST provide a technical team to cover the Purchaser's anticipated Post-Operational Acceptance Technical Assistance Activities Requirements (e.g., modification of the Information System to comply with changing legislation, standards and regulations) with the roles and skill levels that are specified below.	Could you please confirm that 5.3.1 is availability request, not cost request?	It refers to availability
15	Section I, ITB 17.2. b) Section II, BDS 35.4 Section III, Evaluation and qualification criteria, 2.	17.2. b) Prices for Recurrent Costs are all-inclusive of the costs of necessary Goods such as spare parts, software license renewals, labor, etc., needed for the continued and proper operation of the Information System and, if appropriate, of the Bidder's own allowance for price increases ITB 35.4: Discount Rate (I) for net present value calculations of recurrent costs (if any) is ten (10) percent per annum. 2. (b) Recurrent Costs - The recurrent costs will be evaluated according to the principles given hereafter, including the cost of recurrent cost items for the initial period of operation stated below, based on prices furnished by each Bidder in Price Schedule Nos. 3.3 and 3.5.	If recurrent costs will be evaluated, how many years will be taken into evaluation?	One year, which is the warranty period duration 12 months, as recurrent costs are requested for this period

16	Sec on VII – Purchaser's Requirements	F. Service Specifications – Recurrent Cost Items	For warranty period it is stated that "The warranty period will cover a minimum of one year and the problems will be solved on-site if needed. ". Please clarify if remote access to environment will be provided and also clarify in which situations problems need to be solved on site. This information is necessary for estimating warranty costs.	Remote access to environment for supplier will be provided for warranty period. It is expected and preferred that the activities during the warranty period will be carried out remotely to the maximum extent possible. Since the system will be hosted on the M-Cloud platform, the access rules for the Supplier will be defined by a protocol that will have to be in accordance with the rules prescribed by the institution in charge of the M-Cloud platform. If Supplier will not be able to fulfil required warranty obligations remotely in that case problems need to be solved on site.
17	Section I, ITB, 23.1	The deadline for Bid submission is: Date: September 30, 2021	Taking into account scope and complexity of the whole tender documentation, in order to prepare a technically responsive bid and taking into consideration answers that we would receive, we would kindly ask the Purchaser to postpone the submission deadline for 14 days.	the request has been addressed through amendment 2 to the bidding document
18		The Recurrent Costs (R) are reduced to net present value and determined using the defined formula	Question: Can you please explain how this formula effects on final price	the recurrent costs are reduced to net present value only for evaluation purposes, without affecting the final price bid by the bidders
19		(b) Experience and technical capacity that "The successfully completed similar contracts shall be documented by a copy of an Operational acceptance certificate (or equivalent documentation satisfactory to the Purchaser) issued by the purchaser(s)."	Is it acceptable that this document is Delivery acceptance document that is translated on English language?	The Bidders can provide copies of such acceptance documents which are in their original language accompanied by an accurate translation of the relevant passages in English. <i>Am amendment to the bidding document BDS to ITB 10.1 has been made (ref. Amendment 2).</i>
20		1.3.2.2 Specific Overall System Requirements for Metadata Portal (Modules 1), requirement ID 1b1	Does this mean that system needs to provide functionality that metadata sets will be on other systems and proposed system needs to have functionality to use those metadata sets through API/Services. If yes, how many of those metadata sets are there and what kind of API/Services they have. Or this requirement is for harvesting data from other sources?	Harvesting metadata from other sources is required.
21		1.3.2.2 Specific Overall System Requirements for Metadata Portal (Modules 1), requirement ID 1c22	In the list we see only 2 different modes, so can you please explain is there four different modes and if yes what are other 2 modes or this is typo and there are only 2 different modes? <i>The bidder has been asked to be more specific.</i> The Bidder specified In requirement 1c22 is defined: The data shall generally be viewed in <i>four different modes</i> , and there are <i>listed only 1. Map and 2. Metadata</i> . As we can see there are only 2 different modes listed, but in description is stated in four (4) different modes. So we don't know which info is correct, 2 or 4 modes and if it is 4 what are 2 other modes that are missing on the list.	There are 2 different modes (Map and Metadata).
22	Section VII	Purchaser's Requirements - it is stated that The following requirements shall also be satisfied by the modules: ... • It shall be possible to re-use any module in other applications in the ALRC	Can you elaborate general idea on reusability of modules in other applications in the ALRC. What these modules need to provide so that you can re-use them in other applications? Some API for integrations or something else?	API or/and web services which are documented in detail in order that modules can communicate/integrate with other modules and to have possibility to re-use them for other system.
23	Section VII	Purchaser's Requirements - C. SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS – SUPPLY & INSTALL ITEMS - 2.3 System Integration (to other existing systems) is stated that System Integration (to other existing systems) will be done on several levels: ... • Additional integration with the other existing IT systems will be done using API and REST/SOAP services	Can you please explain this requirement. Does the proposed system needs to have API and REST/SOAP services and other systems will integrate with proposed system through API or other systems have API and REST/SOAP services that will be used for integration? Also, how many systems are there to integrate with and is it possible to get REST/SOAP specification for those systems so that we can know how many work needs to be done to be able to deliver this requirement?	Proposed system needs to have API or/and REST/SOAP services, which are documented in detail, in order to communicate/integrate with other systems. In case that integration with other existing systems will be done during implementation it will include max. two existing systems and further details will be communicated during inception phase.

24			Can you confirm that in the case of open source software the Bidder is not obligate to provide Manufacture's Authorization and has to provide copies of the relevant open source license instead?	Please refer to the provisions of SECTION III, 5.7 (iii) In the case of open source software, the Bidder must identify the software item as open source and provide copies of the relevant open source license(s)
25			Regarding Supporting documents, is it possible to deliver them in copies or they have to be in original? The bidder has been asked to clarify what is meant by supporting documents in its query: By supporting documents we meant certified translations of Excerpt from the Court Register and Operational acceptance certificates. Is it acceptable that the documents and their translations are copies of originals or do we need to deliver them in original form (bounded with notary guarantor)? Some of documents (for example Excerpt from the Court Register) are issued only in digital form, so is it acceptable just to print them out, as they have QR code on it?	copies of such documents are acceptable, nevertheless, the original of the bid and its copies shall be signed by a person duly authorized to sign on behalf of the Bidder
26			Is it possible to deliver financial reports in local language with translation in English?	The Bidders can provide copies of such documents wich are in their original language accompanied by an accurate translation of the relevant passages in English. Am amendment to the bidding document BDS to ITB 10.1 been made (ref. Amendment 2).
27		Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 10:30 a.m. local time, October 15, 2021. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below on 10:30 a.m. local time, October 15, 2021.	Does it mean that the offers can only be send physically by land mail or there is a possibility to send it via email?	The electronic submission of bids has been allowed through Amendment 4 to the bidding document, which allows bidders to submit bids even on official holidays in Chisinau.
28			Given the situation with a non-working day, we can see potential problems with submitting the bid on time. Taking into account the time required to submit a bid, could you please extend the deadline for submission of bids for a minimum of 7 days?	
29			As we are bidder from different country, we are not familiar with Moldova holidays. As we saw in Section VII Table of holidays and other non working days, there is holiday in Chisinau on 14th October. Could you please confirm this. And what are working hours of you agency?	
30		Section VII - Requirements of the Information System, C. Service Specifications – Supply & Install Items, 2.7 Requirements of the Supplier's Technical Team sub-point 2.7.1.8 Minimum of total 40 working days of physical presence at ALRC premises in Chisinau, Moldova for experts is required during contract duration period (Project preparation phase, Development and Installation phase and Transition and Commissioning phase). All associated costs shall be covered by the Supplier.	Taking into account the situation with COVID19 and the inability to anticipate possible future situations where measures could relate to travel bans or closures, and to prevent the spread of the infection we highly recommend to reconsider the physical presence of total 40 working days at ALRC premises. Additionally, the costs of fixed 40 working days at the ALRC location significantly increases the costs of service provision for all suppliers that are not locally present. Whit this requirement the Suppliers operating outside Moldova are put in disadvantage for the competitive offer. Taking into account all this, we propose to exclude the total of 40 working days of	This request has not been accepted by the Purchaser. The requirement remains unchanged and mandatory: Minimum of total 40 working days of physical presence at ALRC premises in Chisinau, Moldova for experts is required during contract duration period (Project preparation phase, Development and Installation phase and Transition and Commissioning phase). All associated costs shall be covered by the Supplier.