

No. 30-415/2019-USOF (T)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Communications  
Department of Telecommunications  
Universal Service Obligation Fund

Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001  
Dated: 25.05.2021

**To,**

**All Prospective bidders**

**(Through USOF website and CPP portal)**

**Subject: Addendum-1** regarding Pre bid clarifications in respect of EOI No.- 30-415/2019-USOF(T) dated 20.04.2021 regarding “Empanelment of Agency (ies) for Third Party Audit of Last Mile Access projects under BharatNet”.

Kindly find enclosed herewith replies/clarifications to pre-bid queries raised by some of the prospective bidders as per enclosure issued to the subject EOI. The replies as given in enclosure are also uploaded on Central Public Procurement Portal (CPP portal) as an Addendum for acceptance by bidder(s) during submission of bid.

2. The above shall form an integral part of the EOI document. All other terms and conditions of the EOI shall remain unchanged.

Enclosure: Addendum-1 (Replies/clarifications)

Deputy Administrator (T-II)  
O/o Administrator, USOF  
Room no. 413,  
Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi  
Phone No. 011-23036132  
E-mail: [dat2usof-dot@gov.in](mailto:dat2usof-dot@gov.in)

**Addendum-1: Replies to the queries regarding EOI no. 30-415/2019-USOF(T) dated 20.04.2021 regarding Empanelment of Agency (ies) for Third Party Audit of Last Mile Access Projects under BharatNet**

S.no.	Page no./ Clause	Brief Description of the Clause	Query/ Clarification sought for	Reply
1.	4/ 1: Notice Inviting EOI	Due Date and Time of Submitting EOIs - 18/5/2021 (11:00 hrs)	May we request you to provide 2 weeks extension after the release of pre-bid response for submission of bids so that we can obtain all necessary approvals and submit the best bid from our side.	The bid submission end date has been extended to 08.06.2021/11:00 hrs and the bid opening date has been extended to 09.06.2021/11:30 hrs. The same has already been clarified through CPP portal/USOF website.
2	11/4(vi): Broad Scope of Work of TPA	Verification of bills /certificate of utilization/certificate of commissioning and commencement of services/acceptance testing of equipment as per USOF agreement with the respective implementation agencies.	We understand that these certificates will be issued by System integrators or implementing agencies. Please confirm if our understanding is correct.	The certificates referred to in the clause relate to utilization of funds and the commissioning of services by the project implementing agencies. These certificates would be verified by TPA to check the compliance of the Agreement entered between/among USOF and implementing agencies.
3	12/ 4.2(b): Resource Deployment	TPA will designate one senior official to co-ordinate with USOF. In case TPA does not have their office in locations of States, one senior level personnel should be stationed in those locations for day to day co-ordination activities between USOF and TPA.	With current pandemic situation, we may request that this clause should not be mandatory for location where we do not have local offices and should allow onsite-offsite model. With advent on new technologies & tools we are able to have strict adherence to governance on project management.	The presence of one senior level personnel would be required by the TPA for supervising/managing the <b>physical verification</b> of sites and day-to-day co-ordination activities with the USOF.

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4	12 / 4.2(f): Resource Deployment	Such person shall not be employed again at works site without the written permission of USOF and the persons so removed shall be replaced within a week's time by competent substitutes.	Request you to please allow the bidders 21 days for providing the replacement as it would take time for hiring a new resource/relocation from another engagement	Agreed.
5	13 / 7: Evaluation of Eligibility Criteria	The Sole Bidder/ Lead Bidder (in case of consortium) should have an average annual turnover of INR 20 Crores for the last three financial years (FY 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20)	Basis our past experience, any project of similar magnitude and time span should engage an organisation with minimum 75 crores turnover for sustainability and smooth operations. Request to modify the average annual turnover to minimum 75 crores. Request you to please modify the clause to the below: The Sole Bidder/ Lead Bidder (in case of consortium) should have an average annual turnover of INR 75 Crores for the last three financial years (FY 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20)	As per the EOI.
6	30/4.5: Submission of bids	Bidders are requested to note that they should necessarily submit their financial bids in the format provided and no other format is acceptable. If the price bid has been given as a standard BoQ format with the tender document, then the same is to be downloaded and	Since there is no BOQ to be submitted with the EOI. Request you to please remove the word BOQ from the clause.	The clause is a part of special instructions to bidders for e-tendering and is generic in nature. As no financial bids have been called in the EOI this clause be deleted.

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		<p>to be filled by all the bidders. Bidders are required to download the BoQ file, open it and complete the white coloured (unprotected) cells with their respective financial quotes and other details (such as name of the bidder). No other cells should be changed. Once the details have been completed, the bidder should save it and submit it online, without changing the filename. If the BoQ file is found to be modified by the bidder, the bid will be rejected.</p>		
7	5 /1: Notice Inviting EOI	<p>The bidders have to submit Rs. 2000/- (Rupees Two Thousand only), in the form of a Account Payee non refundable Demand Draft drawn on any Scheduled Bank in New Delhi, in favour of the “Pay &amp; Accounts Officer (HQ), Department of Telecom, New Delhi” payable at New Delhi towards EOI document fee, along with the EOI.</p>	<p>Due to the current COVID 19 and lockdown situation, requesting you to please accept the tender fee through NEFT mode.</p>	<p>The timeline for submission of the bids has been extended till 08.06.2021 considering the current situation and to facilitate the prospective bidders to comply with all the requirements of the EOI.</p>

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8	15/7: Evaluation of Eligibility Criteria	Eligibility Criteria	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Existing Criteria</u></b></p> <p><b>A.</b> The Sole Bidder or any of the consortium member must have an experience of Project management/auditing/monitoring/consulting of at least five (5) projects involving <b>IT Consultancy /Telecom/ IT Advisory</b> in State / Central Government with a value of more than INR 2 Crore each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.</p> <p><b>B.</b> The Sole Bidder should have experience of auditing/monitoring of similar projects in State / Central Government with a value of more than INR 1 Crore each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Request for change/addition in criteria as below</u></b></p> <p><b>A.</b> The Sole Bidder or any of the consortium member must have an experience of Project management/auditing/monitoring/consulting of at least five (5) projects involving <b>IT Consultancy /Telecom/ IT Advisory/ Smart City/Large scale integrated infrastructure projects</b> in State / Central Government with a value of more than INR</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>The modified clause be read as:</u></b></p> <p><b>A.</b> The Sole Bidder or any of the members in case of consortium must have experience of Project management/ auditing/ monitoring/ consulting of at least five (5) projects involving <b>IT Consultancy / Telecom/ IT Advisory/ IT component in smart cities projects</b> in State / Central Government with a value of more than INR 2 Crore each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.</p> <p><b>B. Deleted</b></p>

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			2 Crore each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date. <b>B. The Sole Bidder or any of the consortium member</b> should have experience of auditing/monitoring of similar projects in State / Central Government with a value of more than INR 1 Crore each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.	
9	7/10:Tentative Date/Time schedule	Tentative date/time schedule for various activities is as mentioned below Last Date & Time of Submission of EOI Responses online and Off line documents (18.05.2021 & 19.05.2021)	We request to extend the date of EOI Response submission both online and off line to the first week of June 2021 looking to the present COVID 19 Pandemic	Same response as mentioned in serial no. 1 above.
10	14/7: Eligibility criteria	The Sole Bidder/ Lead Bidder (in case of consortium) should have an average annual turnover of INR 20 Crores for the last three financial years (FY 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20)	We request to enhance the average turnover capacity to 45 Crores for the last three financial years (FY 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20) of the Sole Bidder/ Lead Bidder (in case of consortium) looking to the size of the project.	As per the EOI.
11	15/7: Eligibility criteria	The Sole Bidder or any of the consortium member must have an experience of Project management/ Auditing/monitoring/consultin	It is requested to modify this clause as The Sole Bidder or any of the consortium member must have an experience of Project management/Auditing/monitoring/consulting of at least five projects involving ICT	Same response as mentioned at serial no. 8 above.

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		g of at least five (5) projects involving IT Consultancy /Telecom/ IT Advisory in State / Central Government with a value of more than INR 2 Crore each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.	Consultancy /Telecom/ IT Advisory in State / Central Government with a consultancy fee value not less than INR 1 Crore or Project Cost more than 150 Cr each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.	
12	15/7: Eligibility criteria	The Sole Bidder should have experience of auditing/monitoring of similar projects in State / Central Government with a value of more than INR 1 Crore each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.	It is requested to modify this clause as The Sole Bidder should have experience of PMC/TPI/monitoring of Infrastructure projects of at least five projects in State / Central Government with a consultancy fee value not less than INR 10 Crore or Project Cost more than 1000 Cr each in India in the last five (5) financial years as on EOI submission date.	Same response as mentioned at serial no. 8 above.