

Notification of Intent to Invite Bids

Method: International Competitive Bidding (ICB)

COTS IT Hardware and Associated Support – Server and Storage Equipment

NCI Agency Reference #: IFB-CO-422191-e-FIT

Not To Exceed ceiling amount of: 60,000,000 EUR

NOI Closing Date: 25 August 2023

Solicitation Release Date: Anticipated on 18 September 2023

Solicitation Closing Date: Anticipated on 30 October 2023

Contract Award Date: Anticipated on 26 February 2024

Competition Type: ICB Lowest Priced Technically Compliant

The NCI Agency hereby notifies the NATO Nations of its intent to invite bids for the procurement of IT server and storage equipment and associated support.

The NCI Agency is seeking to establish a framework agreement serving as the preferred vehicle for commercial IT on an “as needed” basis. A single award firm-fixed price Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract is planned.

****Neo eProcurement Registration****

Attention Suppliers,

The NCI Agency is stepping into a new era of procurement. We have launched an eProcurement tool, Neo, to make our collaborations smoother, faster, and more transparent. If you are keen to do business with us, you will need to register in [Neo](#). This tool will offer suppliers visibility into past, current and upcoming business opportunities, and streamlines the competition cycles, contract awards, and account management.

The NCI Agency will be moving all procurement activities to Neo by the end of 2023. Until then, selected business opportunities will be incrementally conducted in Neo. We invite all suppliers interested in these competitions to register in [Neo](#)

NCI Agency Point of Contact

Natalia Wojciak, Contracting Officer

Email: IFBCO422191EFIT@ncia.nato.int

Annexes:

- A. Summary of Requirements
- B. Distribution List

To : Distribution List

Subject : **Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for COTS IT Hardware and Associated Support – Server and Storage Equipment**

References :

- A.** AC/337-D(2016)0014 dated 16 March 2016
- B.** BC-D(2018)0004 – Final dated 29 January 2018

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1. In accordance with References A and B, the NCI Agency, as the Host Nation responsible to implement the requirement in subject, hereby gives notice of its intent (NOI) to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for COTS IT Hardware and Associated Support – Server and Storage Equipment.
 2. A high-level summary of the technical requirements is set forth in Annex A hereto. These requirements are being refined and will be included in further details as part of the IFB.
 3. The reference for this requirement is IFB-CO-422191-e-FIT, and all correspondence concerning this NOI and subsequent IFB should reference this number.
 4. Funding obligation shall occur at the time a task order is placed against the IDIQ contract.
 5. The NCI Agency plans to issue an IFB using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedure for Lowest Priced Technically Compliant (LPTC) evaluations. A single, firm-fixed price contract is planned for the entire scope of work. The period of performance of this contract will be five (5) years.
 6. Eligibility to participate in the subsequent IFB is declared by national authorities. Hence, qualified and certified companies interested in receiving an IFB for this Project are hereby requested to provide a Declaration of Eligibility (DoE), **sent** by their Delegation/Mission to NATO to the NCI Agency contracting authority not later than 25 August 2023, which is 35 calendar days after the date of this letter.
 - a. The DoE should include the following information for each of the nominated companies:
 - Company name
 - Company address
 - Point of Contact (PoC)
 - PoC email address
 - PoC telephone number
 - b. This information is critical to enable prompt and accurate communication with prospective bidders and should be sent electronically to IFBCO422191EFIT@ncia.nato.int.

7. In order to maximize competition the NCI Agency may, at this discretion, accept nominations after the deadline, so long as the IFB has not been issued. The NCI Agency may even accept, at its discretion, nominations after the IFB has been issued under the condition that such late nomination will not be used as the basis to request an extension to the bid closing date.
8. Requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual companies will not be considered.
9. Bidders will be required to declare a bid validity of 6 months from bid closing date. Should the selection and award procedure exceed the bid closing date by more than 6 months, companies will be requested to voluntarily extend the validity of their bids accordingly. Bidders may decline to do so, withdraw their bid and excuse themselves from the bidding process without penalty.
10. National authorities are advised that the IFB package is anticipated to be NATO UNCLASSIFIED.
11. The NCI Agency is not liable for any expenses incurred by companies in conjunction with their responses to this NOI and such responses shall not be regarded as a commitment of any kind concerning future procurement of the items or services described herein.
12. Your assistance in this procurement is greatly appreciated.

For the Chief of Acquisition:

Natalia
Wojciak

Digitally signed
by Natalia
Wojciak
Date: 2023.07.21
15:39:43 +02'00'

Natalia Wojciak
Contracting Officer

Annex A – Summary of Requirements

1. Project Objective

- a. The Enterprise Frequent and Swift Transaction (e-FAST) Contracts Programme is an NCIA Strategic Sourcing Initiative to offer best in class NATO-wide contract vehicles to quickly meet requirements for common goods and services.
- b. Within the Programme the NCI Agency is seeking to establish a framework agreement for server and storage equipment, duly named e-FIT.

2. Scope of Work

- a. The e-FIT IT equipment IFB will establish one IDIQ Delivery Order Contract for IT Server and Storage Equipment for use at a NATO Enterprise Level and allows for multiple funding sources such as NSIP, MB, and 3rd Party purchases.
- b. The Proposed Contract will provide equipment to all authorized NATO Command Locations in Europe, North America and Türkiye; as well as, to any eligible Third Parties or any Nation which has requested the NCI Agency to function as Host Nation.
- c. The Proposed Contract is envisioned to include various performance options, in terms of volume discounts against published Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) commercial pricelist/commercial catalogue pricing, expedited deliveries, and support.

3. Rapid Procurement Vehicle

- a. Rapid Procurement Vehicles, such as IDIQ, are NATO-wide contract vehicles to quickly meet requirements for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) goods and services with the aim to maximize competition and value for money. They are uniquely designed to drive standardization, acceleration of project delivery, flexibility and benefits of volume-based discounts, while providing a quick turnaround solution to overcome service or equipment deficiencies at all levels.
- b. The IDIQ will set forth the broad requirement and will provide an overarching set of terms and conditions.
- c. The resulting lowest price, technically compliant bid would be awarded the relevant contract to complete the work detailed in the SoW through individually placed task orders. There is no guarantee of any work through the IDIQ framework.