



Acquisition Directorate  
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NCIA/ACQ/2020/6332  
17 February 2020

## Notification of Intent

**Project Title:  
Technical Refresh of BALKANS IT Infrastructure**

**IFB-CO-15049-BITI**

**Total Estimated Value:  
CUR 1896 EUR 9,229,565  
EUFOR EUR 2,997,363  
CUR 1911 EUR 1,441,900 – costed and evaluated option**

Crisis Response Operations Urgent Requirements (CUR) 1896-2017 and CUR 1911-2019 as a costed and evaluated option will perform the technical refresh of the Balkans Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure replacing obsolete hardware and unsupported software across 3 network classifications at 15 locations that support NATO and EUFOR missions in the BALKANS Joint Operations Area (JOA), MONS (BE) Be and NAPLES (IT).

**Contracting Officer:** Mr. Graham Hindle

E-mail: [graham.hindle@ncia.nato.int](mailto:graham.hindle@ncia.nato.int)

To : Distribution List

Subject: **Notification of Intent to Invite Alliance Operations and Missions International Competitive Bids for the Project IT Assets Lifecycle Replacement / IT Infrastructure Upgrade - IFB-CO-15049-BITI**

- References:
- A. AC/4-D/2261 (1996 Edition)
  - B. AC/4-D/2261-ADD2 (1996 Edition)
  - C. C-M(2002)49
  - D. AC/4-D(2011)0009-FINAL dated 25 July 2011 - Alliance Operations and Missions NSIP Procurement Regulations.
  - E. AC/4(PP)D/27887-ADD1, BC-D(2019)0210 (INV) dated 21 Oct 2019
  - F. AC/4-DS(2019)0027 (INV) dated 18 Dec 2019

1. In accordance with Ref. A through E, notice is given of the intent of the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCI Agency), as the Host nation for the project to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for the Technical Refresh of BALKANS IT Infrastructure.
2. The project will implement the evaluated scope of CUR 1896. The project will also include the equipment to meet the requirements of CUR 1911 as a costed and evaluated option.
3. Attached to this letter (Annex A) is a summary of the project's requirements. These requirements are being refined and detailed as part of the preparation of the proposed contract.
4. The reference for the Invitation for Bid is IFB-CO-15049-BITI, and all correspondence concerning the IFB should reference this number.
5. The estimated investment cost for the services and deliverables included within the scope of the intended contract is EUR 13,668,828 No Life Cycle support is foreseen in the basic scope. Funding for this project is provided by the Investment Committee at 29 and by EUFOR.
6. The NCI Agency has been authorised to use the Alliance Operations and Missions (AOM) International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedure, lowest price technically compliant bid. The successful bid, pursuant to the IFB following this NOI, will be that bid which is the lowest price and technically compliant. It is planned to place a single contract for the entire scope of work.
7. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of Reference A, the following information is provided for the information of the Nations.
8. The formal IFB is planned to be issued in Q2 2020 with Contract award in Q3 2020. No partial bidding shall be allowed.

9. National Responsible Authorities are kindly requested to provide Declarations of Eligibility (DoE) to the NCI Agency, not later than 16 March 2020, of qualified and certified companies that may be interested in receiving an Invitation for Bid for this project. In addition to the information required by Annex 1, Section 5.2, Eligibility, of the procedures at Reference D, the DoE should include the following information for each of the nominated companies:
- a) Official company name and address that would be included on a contract.
  - b) Company point of contact, telephone number and e-mail address.
  - c) Mailing address, if different from the address in (a) above, to be used for any IFB materials that would need to be sent via regular postal mail.

The DoE should be sent by email to the following point of contact:

NATO CI Agency  
Boulevard Leopold III  
1110 Brussels, Belgium  
Attention: Graham Hindle – Senior Contracting Officer  
Tel: +32 (2) 707-8857  
Fax: +32 (2) 707-8770

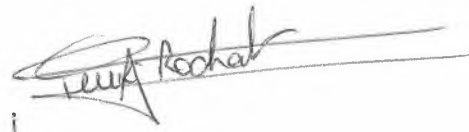
E-mail: [graham.hindle@ncia.nato.int](mailto:graham.hindle@ncia.nato.int)

10. Please note that requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual companies cannot be considered, unless the company has an existing, valid Basic Ordering Agreement (BOA) with the NCI Agency and believe they have the capability to meet the security requirements at paragraph 13 below. Those companies with a valid BOA who wish to be included on the bidders list should submit the same information required in paragraph 9, and also include the BOA number.
11. Bidders will be required to declare a bid validity of twelve (12) months from closing date for receipt of bids, supported by a Bid Guarantee of EUR 300,000 (three hundred thousand Euro). Should the selection and award procedure exceed the Bid Closing Date by more than twelve (12) months firms will be requested to extend the validity of their bids and Bid Guarantee accordingly. Bidders may decline to do so, withdraw their bid and excuse themselves from the bidding process without penalty.
12. National responsible authorities are advised the IFB package is anticipated to be NATO UNCLASSIFIED; however, the bidding and the contractual documents are expected to contain references to other NATO documents classified as NATO RESTRICTED.
13. The successful Bidder will be required to handle and store classified information up to the level of NATO SECRET. In addition, execution of the proposed contract

“NATO SECRET”. Only companies maintaining such cleared facilities and the appropriate personnel clearances will be able to perform the resulting contract.

14. The NCI Agency point of contact for all information concerning this IFB is Mr. Graham Hindle, Senior Contracting Officer, who can be reached at email: [Graham.Hindle@ncia.nato.int](mailto:Graham.Hindle@ncia.nato.int)
15. Your participation in this procurement is greatly appreciated.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF ACQUISITION a.i.



for Graham Hindle  
Senior Contracting Officer

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**Attachment(s):**

Annex A – Summary of the Requirements

## **ANNEX A: SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS**

### **Background**

Crisis Response Operations Urgent Requirements (CUR) 1896-2017 will perform the technical refresh of the Balkans Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure replacing obsolete hardware and unsupported software supporting Communications and Information Systems (CIS). The CIS supports the NATO and EUFOR missions in the BALKANS Joint Operations Area (JOA) and at the supporting headquarters at SHAPE (EUSG) and NAPLES (EUCE).

### **Requirements**

Per CUR1896 requirements, the project scope includes the following activities:

- 1) Replacement of all obsolete communications, IT hardware and unsupported software. Network Equipment (~250 items) Servers and Storage Equipment (~80 items)
- 2) Implementation of technology improvements, such as server virtualisation and Voice over IP (VoIP).
- 3) Re-engineer the existing IT solution architecture to align it with current NATO standards and improve resiliency.
- 4) Implement the IT infrastructure and services needed to host GIS (Geographic Information System) applications.
- 5) For CUR 1911-2019 hardware is included as a costed and evaluated option.

### **Locations in scope**

<b>Location</b>
<b>Pristina</b>
Urosevac
Camp Villagio Italia, Pec
Novo Selo
Pristina

Location
Town, Northern Kosovo
Salitina
Thessaloniki, Greece
Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia
Petrovac, Republic of North Macedonia
Belgrade, Serbia
<b>Butmir, Sarajevo</b>
Bistrik, Sarajevo
Mons
Naples

### Deployment and Transition Model

The new infrastructure and services will be deployed using customer, vendor and NCIA internal recommendations taking into account operational constraints of the locations in scope. Phased approach will be preferred and will be agreed with all relevant stakeholders prior to implementation. FSA for all locations in scope must be achieved no later than May 2022.

- Priority Locations 1: Pristina and Sarajevo
- Priority 2: Skopje, Belgrade
- Priority 3: Other locations

### Deployment Approach

The overall solution will be deployed in the following stages for each location, with the order of deployment defined by the priority list:

- Design

- Procurement, Tempest testing and delivery
- Installation
- Verification and validation (System Test, Security Test and Verification Plan (STVP))
- Training
- Pilot migration
- Verification and validation (System Integration test, go-no-go decision)
- Migration
- Verification and validation (User Acceptance Test)
- Handover and acceptance (Provisional Site Acceptance, Provisional System Acceptance)
- 3 month transition period (old and new solutions run in parallel)
- Online Vulnerability (VA) and EMSEC VA test
- Final delivery Documentation
- Final System Acceptance (FSA) and start of warranty