

# INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

*Issuing date of the IFB: April 9, 2019*

## **NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING**

*The Republic of Ghana  
Ministry of Communications  
e- Transform Project*

# DESIGN, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF A CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION IN GHANA

*Credit No: IDA 5304-GH*

**IFB No: eTransform/RComp/1.1.3**

1. This Invitation for Bids (IFB) follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for this project that appeared in UNDB issue No WB5553-11/14 of November 4, 2014.
2. The Government of Ghana has received a Credit from the International Development Association toward the cost of *the e-Transform Ghana Project*, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this *credit* to payments under the agreement(s) resulting from this IFB: Design, Installation and Commissioning of a Cloud Infrastructure Solution.

MoC currently oversees the eTransform project, a program of IT investments that the Government of Ghana (GoG) is using to leverage on Information Technology in order to boost economic growth in Ghana. Recent investments in this regard include the development of a state of the art 'National Data Centre' which is under the auspices of NITA.

NITA, as part of the implementation of its National Cloud strategy, seeks to employ the National Data Centre alongside other infrastructural resources, to provide large scale HCI Cloud based solutions which will provide the confidence that Ministries, agencies, local government and Government of Ghana as a whole requires to 'outsource' their technology operations. The implementation of a HCI Cloud Infrastructure Solution is expected to achieve economies of scale across all governmental ministries and agencies as well as other key stakeholders.

The scope of the Cloud Infrastructure solution assignment includes:

- a) Private cloud infrastructure based on HCI including backup, recovery and replication for both the Primary Data Centre and Secondary Data Centre/ Disaster recovery site.
- b) Cloud management and security platform with encryption, risk and compliance management features for both the Primary Data Centre and Secondary Data Centre/ Disaster recovery site.
- c) Data Centre security for both the Primary Data Centre and Secondary Data Centre/ Disaster recovery site.
- d) Data Centre networking for both the Primary Data Centre and Secondary Data Centre/ Disaster recovery site.

- e) Data Centre facilities upgrade for both the Primary Data Centre and Secondary Data Centre/ Disaster recovery site.
3. The **Ministry of Communications (MoC) of Ghana** will serve as the implementing agency for the project, and now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders **for the Design, Installation and Commissioning of a private Cloud infrastructure solution for Government of Ghana.**
4. Bidding will be conducted using the National Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works, and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants January 2011 Revised July 2014 and is open to all Bidders eligible as defined in these Guidelines that meet the following minimum qualification criteria.

The bidder shall demonstrate experience and capacity to analyse existing Cloud infrastructure systems, design and deploy cloud systems in a secure environment.

The bidder is required to present the evidence of:

**a) Experience**

- I. Should have developed and implemented at least two (2) Cloud/Data Centre infrastructure solution systems of comparable scope (order of magnitude of compute, memory and storage requirements). Bidder Should provide details of the relevant project references, letters of Certification (from clients or certified auditors) and contact information (i.e. telephone and e-mail addresses) of client to support the claims of previous experience;
- II. Should have at least 3 years of working experience in ICT especially in developing/design, installation of cloud/data Centre infrastructure solutions.
- III. Should demonstrate average annual turnover of at least twice the quoted bid price over the past three years, i.e. (2015, 2016 and 2017);
- IV. Should provide a certificate of engagement and proof of availability of all the proposed staff for the project signed by the staff (Bidders will be required to use the sample form 3.5.6 and 3.5.6a provided under Section VII Sample Forms in the bidding document)

**b) Technical Capacity:**

- (i) The Contractor shall submit resumes of key personnel to be assigned to the project. These key personnel are expected to include: Project manager;
  - HCI architect / software defined data centre architect or separately network, storage and server architect;
  - Cloud solution architect;
  - HCI solution/ cloud developers (to automate the provisioning of the services);
  - HW engineer to deploy the HW and properly configure it;
  - At least 2 testers, who will test the automated provisioning of the cloud services;
  - At least 2 analysts, who will specify and document the automated provisioning of the cloud services;
  - Cloud security expert;
  - Back-up engineer;
  - Cloud services administration expert, who will provide support services.
- (iii) Shall have offices in Ghana or should furnish an undertaking that in case of being selected and awarded the contract it will set-up an operational office for the **Design, Installation and Commissioning of a Cloud Infrastructure Solution** in Ghana after award of contract.
- (iv) Shall ensure that the work-force is well -distributed through the contractual period taking quality control and timely progress into consideration;
- (v) The prospective Bidder will develop a "full service model" that will enable the seamless provision of Cloud Services (primarily IaaS, PaaS, SaaS) to government entities and other key beneficiaries through Service Level Agreements (SLA) to ensure better quality of service and high availability IT infrastructure and resources.

**c) Financial Capacity**

(i) Shall demonstrate average annual turnover of at least twice the quoted bid price over the past three years, i.e. (2015, 2016 and 2017) as stated above. Bidders are required to submit audited balance sheets and income statements for the last five (5) years through comprehensive financial statements.

(ii) Demonstrate evidence of the firm’s liquidity in the form of cash flow, liquid assets and/or credit lines net of other ongoing commitments at the minimum required amount of USD 5 million.

(iii) Each joint venture member or sub-contractor undertaking a significant portion of work under this contract (20% or greater of the estimated value of the contract) must be financially stable, with gross revenue base of at least US\$2 million annually over the last three (3) years, and liquid assets of at least US \$1 million.

5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information, and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below for purchase of the bidding documents from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A pre-bid meeting with potential bidders will be held on **May 9, 2019**.
6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be **downloaded or emailed free of charge**. Hard copies of the bidding document may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Four hundred Ghana Cedis (GH¢400.00) or one hundred US Dollars (US\$100.00). The method of payment will be cash or bank draft in the name of the Ministry of Communications. The document may be directly collected at the address given below or sent by courier upon specific written request and payment of an additional non-refundable amount for US\$150.00 for overseas delivery costs or GHS200.00 for local delivery costs by the bidder.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before: **10:00 hours GMT on June 6, 2019**. Electronic bidding **will not** be permitted. **All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration. Late bids will be rejected**. Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders’ representatives who choose to attend at the address below at: **10:00 hours GMT on June 6, 2019**.
8. The attention of prospective Bidders is drawn to (i) the fact that they will be required to certify in their bids that all software is either covered by a valid license or was produced by the Bidder and (ii) that violations are considered fraud, which can result in ineligibility to be awarded World Bank-financed contracts.

The addresses for **Purchase and submission of the Bidding Documents** referred to above are:

<b>Address for Purchase of Bid Documents</b>	<b>Address for Submission of Bid Documents</b>
The Chief Director Attn: The Project Coordinator eTransform Project Rooms 39 Fifth Floor, Ministry of Communications Office Complex Abdul Diouf Street, near Kofi Annan ICT Centre of Excellence P.O. Box M.38, Ministries, Accra Ghana Digital Address: GA-079-0539 Email: <a href="mailto:piu.etransform@moc.gov.gh">piu.etransform@moc.gov.gh</a>  <b>URL: <a href="http://www.moc.gov.gh">www.moc.gov.gh</a></b>	The Chief Director Attn: The Project Coordinator eTransform Project Six Floor Conference Room Ministry of Communications Office Complex Abdul Diouf Street, near Kofi Annan ICT Centre of Excellence P.O. Box M.38, Ministries, Accra Ghana Digital Address: GA-079-0539