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Acquisition Directorate
IFBCO115657NBIIIC@ncia.nato.int

NCIA/ACQ/2023/06617
23 February 2023

To: Bidders List and Distribution List

Subject: Invitation For Bid (IFB)-CO-115657-NBIIIC Amendment 4

Provision of NATO Biometrics Identity Intelligence Capability for KFOR

- References:**
- A. [AC/4-D/2261\(1996 Edition\)](#), Procedures for International Competitive Bidding
 - B. AC/4-D(2019)0004 (INV) dated 4 July 2019; Procedure Governing the Use of Basic Ordering Agreements (BOAs) Concluded by the NCI - 2019 Version
 - C. C-M(2002)49 – NATO Security Policy
 - D. NCI Agency NOI NCIA/ACQ/2022/06553, dated 15 March 2022
 - E. NCI Agency IFB NCIA/ACQ/2022/ 07165, dated 16 December 2022
 - F. NCI Agency IFB Amendment 1; NCIA/ACQ/2023/ 06460, dated 10 January 2023
 - G. NCI Agency IFB Amendment 2; NCIA/ACQ/2023/06489, dated 12 January 2023
 - H. NCI Agency IFB Amendment 3; NCIA/ACQ/2023/06547, dated 06 February 2023

Dear Prospective Bidders,

1. The purpose of this Amendment 4 is to:
 - a. Publish Release 3 of IFB Bidders' questions and NCI Agency responses.
2. NCI Agency responses to Bidders' questions received by 13 February 2023 are hereby published with this IFB Amendment 4 as Attachment 1. Previous responses to Clarification Requests have been greyed out for your convenience.
3. Prospective Bidders are advised that the NCI Agency reserves the right to cancel this IFB at any time in its entirety and bears no liability for bid preparation costs incurred by firms or any other collateral costs if bid cancellation occurs.
4. The NCI Agency point of contact for all information concerning this IFB is Mrs. Emira Kapetanovic, Principal Contracting Assistant, who may be reached at IFBCO115657NBIIIC@ncia.nato.int.



NATO Communications
and Information Agency
Agence OTAN d'information
et de communication

www.ncia.nato.int

For the Chief of Acquisition:

Emira Kapetanovic
Principal Contracting Assistant

Attachment(s):

- 1) Responses to Clarification Requests, Release Number 4

Distribution List for IFB-CO-115657-NBIIIC Amendment 4

All Prospective Bidders

NATO Delegations (Attn: Investment Adviser):

ALBANIA
BELGIUM
BULGARIA
CANADA
CROATIA
CZECH REPUBLIC
DENMARK
ESTONIA
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
HUNGARY
ICELAND
ITALY
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBOURG
MONTENEGRO
THE NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
NORTH MACEDONIA
POLAND
PORTUGAL
ROMANIA
SLOVAKIA
SLOVENIA
SPAIN
TÜRKIYE
UNITED KINGDOM
UNITED STATES
BELGIUM MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Embassy (Commercial Attaché)

ALBANIA
BELGIUM
BULGARIA
CANADA
CROATIA
CZECH REPUBLIC
DENMARK
ESTONIA
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
HUNGARY
ICELAND

ITALY
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBOURG
MONTENEGRO
NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
POLAND
PORTUGAL
ROMANIA
SLOVAKIA
SLOVENIA
SPAIN
TÜRKIYE
UNITED KINGDOM
UNITED STATES

NATO HQ

NATO Office of Resources
Management and Implementation Branch – Attn: Deputy Branch Chief
Director, NATO HQ C3 Staff
Attn: Executive Co-ordinator

SACTREPEUR

Attn: Infrastructure Assistant

NCI Agency – Internal Distribution

NCI Agency – All NATEXs

Attachment 1: Responses to Clarification Requests, Release Number 3

CR#	Bidder's Question	NCIA Response
CR1	Why would the biometrics enrolment devices connect to each other and how?	There is no need to connect the biometrics enrolment devices to each other. The secure landline communication are needed by the personnel to support the workflow between deployment locations.
CR2	How the biometrics enrolment devices will connect to each other without a central system gathering the information coming from those?	See response to T1 above.
CR3	Who will be responsible of the communication' infrastructure?	See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK, Paragraph 2.3. Secure land line of communication will be provided through NCIA.
CR4	Is it only enrolment and person acquisition for prints?	See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK Section 2.1.1 and Section 2.2.1. Various types of print enrollments and latents are required.
CR5	Where will be processed these data? for potential requests?	See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK. Data will be processed either locally on the device or remotely on an ABIS. ABIS is not in the scope of this project.
CR6	What is the format of data coming out from these enrolment devices?	See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK, Paragraph 2.1.1.1.
CR7	Where do we have to send these data coming out from enrolment devices?	See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK Paragraph 2.1.1.44 and Section 2.2.1.29. Data will be disseminated manually through various file transfer methods (e.g. USB, e-mail attachement, web application file upload etc.).
CR8	Can you clarify "Kosovo Police memorandum of offenses and interview packet"?	The "Kosovo Police memorandum of offenses and interview packet" was provided as an example of a document that need to be scanned. There is no requirement to parse specific scanned document other than using the generic Adobe Acrobat Optical Character Recognition (See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK Paragraph 2.1.1.47).
CR9	What do we have to upload from there?	The full scanned document as an attachement to the enrollment.
CR10	Is there any document explaining how is made this interface?	No, parsing of the document is not required.
CR11	Is the Latent Fingerprint Scanner a flatbed scanner?	See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK, Paragraph 3.5. The latent scanner shall be non-invasive, non-contaminative and shall support acquires of latent fingerprints with neither physical contact nor use of chemical agents.
CR12	Does this scanner need to be FBI IQS?	No.
CR13	What is the purpose of this scanner?	See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK, Paragraph 3.5.2.

CR14	Do All these devices have to be in the same Ruggedized case?	Yes. The components of the Identification Scanner/ Reader shall all be in the same ruggedized case with the Office Biometrics Enrolment Equipment. (related to IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK paragraphs 2.1.1.38 and 2.1.1.40).
CR15	Does this Ruggedized case need to deliver power?	No. ruggedised cases are used for transportation and storage. See IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC ANNEX A TO STATEMENT OF WORK, Paragraph 2.1.1.18 and Paragraph 2.2.1.15.
CR16	If yes, for how long the battery will deliver this power?	No, see response to T15 above.
CR17	We do not believe any vendor can deliver as quickly as requested, because the requested hardware is not generally available at this time. Because the biometric hardware products specified require custom engineering and manufacturing, we would require a minimum of 6-9 months to deliver, test and install this equipment. Since the latent print scanner specified requires product assembly and custom SDK integration, we would require a minimum of 6-9 months to deliver, test and install this equipment. So, we require a 12 month delivery time to ensure everything works together. - Can the RFP be modified to allow for a 12-month delivery period?	Through this project we are looking for Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) equipment with no development effort. We have seen that NATO nations operate such COTS components and given the small quantities requested by this project we believe it can be delivered on relatively short timelines. Besides, the requested capability is to be used in operations and there is an operational urgency we need to address as well. All things considered the delivery timeline is now increased from 8 weeks to 16 weeks.
CR18	Budget - We do not believe any vendor can deliver within the suggested budget of 750k euros. The latent print device itself has an OEM cost of about 300k euros, and 6 units are required. (1.8M euros in total). Due to the OEM cost of the latent print scanners specified, we request that the budget for this effort be increased to 5 million Euro. Additionally, a less expensive latent print scanner could be specified. - Can the RFP be modified to increase the budget to 5M Euro?	The scope of work for this project has been authorised as stated in NCIA/ACQ/2022/06553 (NOI). Estimated value of the basic scope of the intended Contract is EUR 750,000. The O&M cost covering years 2-6 is currently not subject to the not-to-exceed cost under CLIN6. Quantity for CLIN 4.1 Latent fingerprint scanner is one (1).
CR19	We do not believe any vendor can source the required devices from NATO Member countries. As certain non-member NATO countries are global leaders in biometric modality technologies, we request that technology sourced and procured from an active NATO Partner country (that are also TAA compliant countries) be allowed. - Can the RFP be modified to allow for sourcing from NATO Partner and TAA compliant countries (not just NATA Member countries)?	Bidding Instructions Section 2.3 remains

CR20	Signature Pads - Is an electronic signature pad desired and/or acceptable as part of the solution?	This question refers to paragraph 2.1.1.9 from 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A. Yes an electronic signature pad is desired and acceptable as part of the solution.
CR21	Login - Is the use of credentials such as username/password, CAC/PIV or SmartID cards, or biometric identification desired and/or acceptable to control access to the device or application?	This question refers to paragraph 2.2.1.2, 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A. There are two aspects here: 1. Unlocking the device - shall be done through a device identification code; 2. Unlocking an application within the device (e.g. enrolment) - shall be done through a personal identification code (so that the operator who enrolled that subject can be tracked).
CR22	Kill Switch - Please provide guidance on the type of software 'kill-switch' that is required? Specifically, what specific actions would warrant the automatic activation of the "kill-switch"?	This question refers to paragraph 2.2.1.25_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A. The kill switch or dead man switch shall be regarded as the mechanism which enables the operator to erase the data instantly/ or in a very short time (up to 3 seconds) in the event of capture or severe injury caused by the adversary during combat operations. This is a manual action initiated by the operator and no automatic activation is required.
CR23	Could you please explain why the estimated quantity is set to 5 ?	Quantity for CLIN 2.4; Installation of the office biometrics enrolment kits, has changed from five (5) to one (1); Quantity for CLIN 2.5; Site test and evaluation/accreditation, has changed from five (5) to one (1). Reference is made to 02_NU_IFB-CO-115657-NBIIC_Book I, Bidding Sheets_Amendment 3. CLIN 2.4 and CLIN 2.5 are referred to as services and quantity one (1) actually means installation and testing at all six (6) deployment locations in KFOR.
CR24	Could you please indicate where the installation of the equipment will be done (NCI HQ or KFOR premises) ?	As per paragraph 1.1.1, NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work, the equipment will be installed in six (6) premises located within KFOR area of operations.
CR25	Could you please explain what is expected in "1.3.1.3. Acquisition of Support Equipment (Reference System)" ?	The reference system includes one Office Biometrics Enrolment Equipment (except the latent print scanner) kit (as per paragraph 3.3.1, NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A) and one Portable Biometrics Enrolment Equipment device. These two items will be held at NCI Agency in order to provide level 2 and level 3 support for the deployed
CR26	What is the procedure to ask questions related to the NR documents information ?	Submit your question(s) using Clarification Request Form. Make reference to SRS without restating NR parameters.
CR27	Can you please clarify the 'office biometric enrollment equipment' can be a table version instead of a laptop? See attached rendering. We currently have Android tablet versions of our Javelin Jump Kit available now. We would need to go back to production for a Windows laptop version of the Javelin Jump Kit, which would result in a 14-weeks lead time.	As per paragraph 3.3.1, NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A, the Office Biometric Enrolment Equipment can include a laptop or a tablet (with external keyboard).

CR28	<p>Please clarify the 'Latent Fingerprint Scanner' requirement. Is this a palm scanner or a latent print capability (photographing a dusted fingerprint from a TEO/SSE item) in the mobile kit and office kits?</p> <p>If the IFB is referencing a palm scanner, is that just 1 x unit or one per office kit?</p>	<p>'Latent Fingerprint Scanner' is a separate item from the office or mobile kit, as per paragraph 3.5_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A. The latent print scanner is expected to photograph and lift latent finger prints form different object/ surfaces. It is an office type equipment.</p> <p>There is only one Latent print scanner requested through this project.</p>
CR29	<p>Is the objective only the hardware or should it be delivered with compliant NATO STANAG 4715 Biometrics data, Interchange, Watchlisting, and reporting, Edition 2 software application?</p>	<p>As per paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.2.1 from 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A, the objective of the project is to have the hardware with software application compliant with NATO STANAG 4715 Biometrics data, Interchange, Watchlisting, and reporting, Edition 2.</p>
CR30	<p>PBEE, what are the required technical specifications?</p>	<p>The technical specification of the PBEE are mentioned in paragraph 2.2 in 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work Annex A.</p>
CR31	<p>What is the content of the expected Support Equipment?</p>	<p>Answer provided at CR 25.</p>
CR32	<p>Document scanner – what are the required technical specifications?</p>	<p>As per paragraph 1.3.1.4, 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work, the requirements for the document scanner are - the ability to scan, digitize and upload into the OBEE different types of paper documents (e.g. Passport, IDs, Memorandum of offenses).</p>
CR33	<p>Latent Fingerprint scanner – what are the required technical specifications?</p>	<p>See paragraph 3.5 in 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work, Annex A.</p>
CR34	<p>peripheral modalities – what are the required technical specifications for those peripheral modalities</p>	<p>See paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 in 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work, Annex A.</p>
CR35	<p>Palm scanner – do we make the right assumption, that in the OBEE there is a fingerprint sensor and a Palmprint scanner?</p>	<p>Yes, as per paragraph 3.3 from 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work, Annex A.</p>
CR36	<p>What is meant with an additional kit?</p>	<p>By additional kit (paragraph 1.3.2.7 from 07_NU_IFB_CO-115657-NBIIIC_Book II, Part IV, Statement of Work) it is meant the OBEE component of the support equipment (reference system), indicated at paragraph 1.3.1.3 of the same document. The description of support equipment (reference system) is provided at CR25.</p>
CR37	<p>Could you please explain the meaning of "Authoritative database" and what database is expected to be connected with ? Would you have any example of business case to share to better understand the requirement ?</p>	<p>An authoritative database is seen in this project as a official database holding biometrics enrolments. For example, a national database can be seen as an authoritative database. A example of a business case is when a person applies for a job in a NATO base and during the screening and vetting process, his/her biometric data is compared against a national database.</p>

CR38	Knowing the fact that the suitcase plus the battery will approach the 20Kg, and the laptop + palm scanner have a considerable weight, would you allow the suitcase + additional equipment to go over than 20Kg ?	The preferred solution is to split the equipment over multiple suitcases and maintain the 20Kg limit per suitcase.
CR39	We understand that "submit" is an outgoing matching request or an outgoing insertion request. Can you confirm ?	That is correct.
CR40	As the "Identification" function is mandatory, we understand that an identification is a 1:N matching against local database (including watchlist) and with no database insertion. Can you confirm ?	Identification function is mandatory and is understood as 1:N matching. Database insertions will be performed through the "submit" function.
CR41	As the "verification" function is mandatory, we understand that a verification is a 1:1 matching against local database (including watching list) based upon a unique ID such as the UUID (Universal Unique Identifier). Can you confirm ?	That is correct, the verification function is a 1:1 matching. Metadata information such as name or UUID can be used in this context.
CR42	On the PBEE, we understand that there are 4 expected procedures : The Normal enrollment, the Rush enrollment, The Identification and the Verification. Can you confirm ?	Correct.
CR43	Would you consider a PBEE of 2kg, excluding the ruggedized casing and adapters ?	No, 1.5Kg is already at the limit given the operational requirements.
CR44	Considering the limitation of manufactured items of equipment inside NATO countries, and more specifically IT components, would you consider an equipment assembled in a NATO country ?	Identifiable Sub-assemblies shall be manufactured or assembled in NATO Country only. This requirement does not go to the level of components.
CR45	Can you explain the use case of a physical keyboard for the PBEE ?	It does not necessarily have to be a physical/ external keyboard, it can be an internal keyboard (e.g. similar to tablets), but it needs to have backlight and touchpad with mouse functionalities.