

Notification of Intent to Invite Bids

Method: International Competitive Bidding (ICB)

TOPFAS Application Suite NFM Upgrade NCI Agency Reference #: IFB-423253-TOPFAS-NFM

Choose an item.: 2.3M Euro

NOI Closing Date: 4 June 2024

Solicitation Release Date: Anticipated on 15 July 2024

Solicitation Closing Date: Anticipated on 16 September 2024

Contract Award Date: Anticipated on 6 December 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 software engineering services to upgrade TOPFAS Application Suite due to the NATO Force Model (NFM).

****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.

NCI Agency Point of Contact

Sara G.C. STEPHENS, Senior Contracting Officer

Email: IFB-423253-TOPFAS-NFM@ncia.nato.int

Annexes:

- A. Summary of Requirements
- B. Distribution List

To : Distribution List

Subject : **Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for TOPFAS Application Suite NFM Upgrade**

References : **A.** BC-D(2018)0004-FINAL, BC Budget Procurement Guidance

1. In accordance with References A, the NCI Agency, as the Host Nation responsible to implement the project in subject, hereby gives notice of its intent (NOI) to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for TOPFAS Application Suite NFM Upgrade, hereafter referred to as the “Project”.
2. A high-level summary of the Project’s 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 Project is IFB-423253-TOPFAS-NFM, and all correspondence concerning this NOI and subsequent IFB should reference this number.
4. 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.
5. Eligibility to participate in the subsequent IFB is declared by national authorities. Hence, qualified and certified companies interested in receiving the 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 4 June 2024, which is 35 calendar days after the date of this letter.
 - a. In addition to the certification of the company’s security clearances required under this NOI, 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 IFB-423253-TOPFAS-NFM@ncia.nato.int.
6. In order to maximize competition the NCI Agency may, at its 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.

7. Requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual companies will not be considered.
8. 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.
9. National authorities are advised that the IFB package is anticipated to be NATO UNCLASSIFIED. However, the IFB and the contractual documents could contain references to other NATO documents classified as NATO UNCLASSIFIED.
10. The successful bidder will be required to handle and store classified information up to the level of NATO RESTRICTED. In addition, contractor personnel will be required to work unescorted in Class II Security areas. Therefore, access can only be permitted to cleared individuals. Only companies maintaining such cleared facilities and the appropriate personnel clearances will be able to perform the resulting contract.
11. The NCI Agency reserves the right to cancel, suspend, or withdraw this NOI at its own discretion and at any time. 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:

Sara G.C. STEPHENS
Senior Contracting Officer

Annex A – Summary of Requirements

Project No. 2025 follow-on of ACO019872 (Actual Project no. TBD)

1. Project Objective

TOPFAS is NATO's modern suite of software applications, consisting of desktop applications, server-hosted or web applications, and integrated services, in support of the NATO Crisis Response Process. Each application within the TOPFAS Application Suite serves a distinct purpose and offers specific capabilities to multiple, distinct communities of interest.

At the NATO Summit in Madrid in June 2022, and confirmed at the Vilnius Summit in July 2023, the leaders agreed to define the NATO Force Model (NFM) that will deliver an allied response at much greater scale and readiness than the current NATO Response Force, which it will replace.

TOPFAS has been going through upgrades to accommodate changes due to NFM defined under Work Packages 1 and 2, mainly in the TOPFAS Readiness Reporting Tool (RRT), and partly in the Operations Planning Tool (OPT), and ORBAT Management Tool (OMT) of the TOPFAS Application Suite. Additionally, interfaces with LOGFAS have been attuned. These upgrades are due to be delivered in Q4 2024.

The objective of this project is to implement the remaining upgrade requirements defined under Work Packages 3 and 4, until mid-2026.

2. Scope of Work

Software development for the TOPFAS NFM Project will mainly include the following:

- Improve OPT/OMT integration with RRT and eFGMT for SOR and ORBAT information, following updated insights from Work Package 2 and the evolving doctrine;
- Make TOPFAS multi-plan and increase its multi-domain capability;
- Migrate eFGMT to Angular to solve technology obsolescence issues;
- Upgrade OPT to allow re-planning based on force contributions;
- Establish interoperability with NMAD (NATO Maritime Availability Database) and with similar databases for Land and Air;
- Upgrade RRT to interface with NCOP and additional improvements;
- Upgrade TOPFAS-LOGFAS interfaces.

The Statement of Work (SOW) will include:

- Project management;
- Software design, development, testing, and integration;

- Validation and verification;
- Deployment, installation, and activation;
- Training development and delivery.

Annex - Software Requirements Specification of the SOW will allocate the functional and non-functional requirements to Work Packages 3 and 4.

3. Period of Performance

The Project is expected to start on 1 January 2025 and end on 31 July 2026.

Following Contract Award, the delivery of the initial baseline defined under Work Package 3 is expected in December 2025 (PSA), followed by a final baseline defined under Work Package 4, in July 2026 (FSA).

The awarding of the Work Package 4 part of the contract will be contingent on the performance of the contractor in delivering Work Package 3.

4. Agile Methodology

The contract will follow the agile software development methodology with two-week long sprints.

5. Technical Constraints

The contractor shall use the MS Azure development environment in NATO Software Factory.

Software engineering aspects of the Project will be specified in the IFB.

6. Warranty and O&M Support

Following acceptance of the final operational delivery, the contract will require one-year warranty for any software delivered.

Operation & Maintenance support is not in the scope of this project, but will be covered by existing TOPFAS lifecycle O&M services.

Annex B – Distribution List

NATO Delegations:

Albania	Greece	Poland
Belgium	Hungary	Portugal
Bulgaria	Iceland	Romania
Canada	Italy	Slovakia
Croatia	Latvia	Slovenia
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	Sweden
Estonia	Montenegro	The Republic of Türkiye
France	Netherlands	The United Kingdom
Finland	North Macedonia	The United States
Germany	Norway	

Embassies in Brussels (Attn: Commercial Attaché):

Albania	Greece	Poland
Belgium	Hungary	Portugal
Bulgaria	Iceland	Romania
Canada	Italy	Slovakia
Croatia	Latvia	Slovenia
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	Sweden
Estonia	Montenegro	The Republic of Türkiye
France	Netherlands	The United Kingdom
Finland	North Macedonia	The United States
Germany	Norway	

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