



## INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

09<sup>th</sup> August, 2017

IFB Number: *NITA-U/RCIP/SUPLS/16-17/000004*

Loan/Credit Number: 5635-UG

**Project: Implementation of Missing links on the NBI**

**Description: Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Support of Missing links on the NBI**

1. This Invitation for Bids (IFB) follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for this project that appeared in UNDB online on **3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015**.
2. The Government of Uganda represented by National Information Technology Authority Uganda (NITA-U) **has received a credit** from the **International Development Association** towards the cost of The Regional Communications Infrastructure Program Phase 5 (RCIP V) - Uganda, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this *credit* to payments under the agreement(s) resulting from this IFB: Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Support of Missing Links on the National Backbone infrastructure (NBI).
3. The National Information Technology Authority Uganda (NITA-U) serves as the implementing agency for the project and now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the Supply, Installation, Commissioning and support of the missing links on the NBI.

The Government of Uganda, through NITA – U completed implementation of the National Data Transmission Backbone Infrastructure and e-Government Infrastructure Project (NBI/EGI) Phases I – III by December 2016 whose major aims was to connect all major towns within the country onto an optical fibre cable (OFC) network and to connect Ministries and Government Departments onto an e-Government network.

In order to achieve increased availability in line with international standards, there is a need to lay more fiber (OFC) to cover missing links. This shall result into a self-resilient National Backbone Infrastructure capable of providing 99.9% availability.

The scope of the Missing Links Project shall include the following:

- i. Supply and install 842km of aerial optical fibre cable to extend the coverage of the National Data Transmission Backbone Infrastructure to ten (10) more towns of Moroto, Katakwi, Karuma, Pakwach, Nebbi, Arua, Koboko, Yumbe, Moyo and Adjumani including three (3) boarder points of Mpondwe, Vurra and Oraba.

50km out of the total span of 842km shall be ducted and deployed underground within town areas;

- ii. Construct seven (7) transmission sites in the following towns: Karuma, Nebbi, Arua, Koboko, Moyo, Moroto and Mpondwe;
  - iii. Supply and install OTN equipment that shall provide 100G protected on a single band for the East Ring, 20G protected on two bands for Nile West Ring, 40G protected on four bands for the West Ring, 40G on four bands for Masaka<>Mutukula, Mbarara<>Kabale, Kasese<>Mpondwe links and 20G on two bands for Soroti<>Moroto link.
  - vi. Connect one hundred (100) MDA sites in the 13 towns that are within a 1km radius from the NBI missing links point of presence.
4. Bidding will be conducted using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, edition of 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:

- a) Should have developed and implemented at least two (2) similar projects of not less than 670km preferably in Africa. The Bidder should submit evidence of the projects implemented with 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;
  - b) Should have at least five (5) years of working experience with fibre backbone infrastructure implementations;
  - c) Must demonstrate average annual turnover of USD \$ 20 million for the past three years, i.e. (2013, 2014 and 2015);
  - d) Must provide certification of engagement and 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);
  - e) The bidder MUST submit an undertaking (self -certificate) that their company has no outstanding bankruptcy, judgment, blacklisting or pending legal action that could impair operating as a going concern;
  - f) The bidder must provide experts as listed in ITB6.1 (a) of the Bid Data Sheet.
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from **The National Information Technology Authority – Uganda (NITA-U)** and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from **0900Hrs to 1600Hrs**. A pre-bid meeting which potential bidders may attend will be held on **5<sup>th</sup> September at 11:00am**.
6. A hard copy set of the bidding documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **UGX 180,000** or equivalent to any other freely convertible currency.

The method of payment will be to: the NITA-U Cashier or EFT **bank account number:** 006550058000001, **customer name:** national information technology authority, Uganda (nita-u), **account title:** NITAU local revenue expenditure account, **bank name:** bank of Uganda **swift code:** ugbaugka The document will be picked by the potential bidder from the address given in (8) below. Soft copies shall be provided to bidders who have paid.

7. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **1030Hrs, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Bids need to be secured by a Bid Security. The amount of Bid Security required is USD 336,000.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below at **1040Hrs, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.**
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 and hardware 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.

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