



Accessibility Procurement Pilot: Call for Proposals (CFP)

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CFP No.: 24062-180181/B

Amendment No.: 002

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Proposal submission details are included in this Call for Proposals document.

This document contains no security requirement.

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This amendment is raised to amend the Call for Proposals, to answer questions posed by suppliers and to update Attachment 1 accordingly.

1. At Annex D – Selection Process for Optional Phases 2 and 3

DELETE:

“2. Centre of Expertise (COE) Panel

The COE Panel (Panel) will be composed of representatives from the Government of Canada. During each Presentation, Panelists will independently evaluate the proposal and assign a score for each criteria in accordance with the Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria identified in article 3 below.

To inform their assessment, Panelists will be provided with a copy of the final Stage 1 Technical Evaluation Score Sheet and technical proposal for each Contractor.

2.1 Question and Answer Session

Following the presentation, the Panel will evaluate the Contractor's presentation by consensus, in accordance with the Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria in article 3, and determine whether clarification of the presentation is required with respect to any of these criteria. If the Contractor achieves a score of less than 100% in any of the Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria, the Panel will request clarification of the presentation as it pertains the criterion(ia) in which the Contractor did not achieve the maximum points.

Panelists will have 10 minutes to collectively select one clarification question for each criteria in which the Contractor did not achieve the maximum points, from the list of clarification questions provided in article 2.1.1 below. The Contracting Authority will provide the clarification question(s) to the Contractor and the Contractor will be provided an additional 20 minutes to prepare and present their clarification(s) to the Panel.

The Contractor may obtain up to 20% of the maximum score for the subject criteria for each criteria that did not initially receive maximum points. Canada will not provide information about any other proposal or any information as to how a Contractor should provide its response. If the Contractor obtains maximum points in all Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria, no clarification questions will be provided.

Following the Question and Answer Session the Panelists will assign a score for each of the Contractor's clarifications in accordance with the point rating scale in article 2.1.2 below.”

INSERT:

“2. Centre of Expertise (COE) Panel

The COE Panel (Panel) will be composed of representatives from the Government of Canada. The Panel will be divided into two sub-Panels. One sub-Panel will evaluate the Innovativeness and Accessibility criteria and the other sub-Panel will evaluate the Scalability and Functionality criteria in article 3 below. During each Presentation, sub-Panelists will independently evaluate the proposal and assign a score for Innovativeness and Accessibility or Scalability and Functionality in accordance with the Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria identified in article 3 below.

To inform their assessment, Panelists will be provided with a copy of the final Stage 1 Technical Evaluation Score Sheet and technical proposal for each Contractor.



2.1 Question and Answer Session

Following the presentation, each sub-Panel will evaluate the Contractor's presentation by consensus, in accordance with the Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria in article 3, and determine whether clarification of the presentation is required with respect to any of these criteria. If the Contractor achieves a score of less than 100% in any of the Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria, the sub-Panel will request clarification of the presentation as it pertains the criterion(ia) in which the Contractor did not achieve the maximum points.

Following the consensus evaluation, each set of sub-Panelists will have 10 minutes to collectively select one clarification question for each criteria in which the Contractor did not achieve the maximum points, from the list of clarification questions provided in article 2.1.1 below. The Contracting Authority will provide the clarification question(s) to the Contractor and the Contractor will be provided an additional 20 minutes to prepare and present their clarification(s) to the Panel.

The Contractor may obtain up to 20% of the maximum score for the subject criteria for each criteria that did not initially receive maximum points. Canada will not provide information about any other proposal or any information as to how a Contractor should provide its response. If the Contractor obtains maximum points in all Stage 3 Point Rated Presentation Selection Criteria, no clarification questions will be provided.

Following the Question and Answer Session each set of sub-Panelists will assign a score for each of the Contractor's clarifications pertaining the criteria they are responsible for evaluating in accordance with the point rating scale in article 2.1.2 below.

2. At Attachment 1 – Questions and Answers:

INSERT:

Q4. Is the Webex being recorded?

A4. Yes, the Webex was recorded for internal purposes only. The transcript will not be made available as all information provided therein was informal and is documented for official purposes within the Call for Proposal as well as in the Questions and Answers provided below.

Q5. Will there be a follow-on procurement process to acquire the production solutions following the successful pilot?

A5. For the TBS challenge, there are no follow-on procurement processes being considered following the completion of the work described in the Statement of Work included in the CFP. TBS is seeking a solution that can be fully integrated into the existing digital infrastructure listed in the Statement of Work in Annex A. This includes issuance of up to three contracts for up to \$15,000 (applicable taxes and cost reimbursable travel and living expenses excluded) to develop a prototype to be presented to a panel of expertise. The panel will evaluate the prototypes and presentations, and recommend one contract be extended for an additional amount of up to \$305,000 (applicable taxes excluded) to further develop the solution and its support implementation. TBS does not anticipate any follow-on contracts afterwards. The CFP was designed in a way that all of the work associated with this requirement would be done as part of this single contract.

For the PSC challenge, PSC is seeking solutions in the form of prototypes and business documents that will be integrated into a much larger, more complex project to replace the current GC jobs site. The replacement of the entire system could be a procurement or it could be done in-house, this hasn't been determined yet. PSC may decide to get more input from industry through other procurement options or challenges prior to making this decision. PSC is using this challenge as a starting point to



leap frog innovative ideas from industry that will help inform the accessibility-related requirements of the future GC jobs site.

Q6. Have you considered voice-based integration using commercially available voice assistants as part of the accessibility requirements?

A6. For the TBS challenge, all proposed solutions must be open source. Proposed solutions that leverage existing technologies must leverage technologies that are open source and which are compatible with the infrastructure and applications the Open by Default portal is built on. Proprietary solutions will not be considered as part of this particular procurement process. Proposed solutions should consider that individual users with accessibility needs may be using commercially available assistive technologies in accessing online content and documents.

The current PSC system supports home or work provided voice enhancement software that meets WCAG 2.0 standards. Proposed solutions could consider voice-based integration using commercially available voice assistants as long as the proposed solutions are non-proprietary, open-sourced and compatible with the PSC technical environment. The PSC technical environment is detailed on page 69 of the CFP.

Q7. Will the open.canada.ca work be done on the Drupal 7 or 8 version of the site?

A7. The work will be done on Drupal 8.

Q8. Are you looking for a fully built solution rather than advice for those building the site?

A8. For the TBS challenge, we are looking to bidders to fully build a solution. As part of the bid process the prototype is expected to be an early stage prototype but, for the bidder that is selected to proceed beyond the prototype phase, we expect a fully integrated, operational solution by the end of the contract. The Statement of Work in the CFP sets out all of TBS' expectations, including the documentation that we are looking for. We are expecting a solution that is fully debugged, tested and ready to integrate into our system by the end of the contract.

For the PSC challenge, we are not seeking a production-ready solution as a final deliverable. We are seeking prototypes that will help inform the accessibility-related requirements of the future GC jobs site. The final deliverables of this challenge will be requirements in the form final documentation including all the business and system requirements of the solution. The requirements are outlined on page 69 of the call for proposal and will consist of final source code, user stories, use cases, business process flows, personas, and Epics.

Q9. Why is it being limited to one proposal per challenge?

A9. Though bidders are limited to one proposal per challenge, the proposal does not have to be limited to addressing one accessibility area; it could address multiple accessibility issues. There is nothing preventing bidders from including more than one accessibility improvement in their proposal. Furthermore, Bidders are invited to submit a proposal under each challenge.



- Q10. Are the open by default authors given direct access to Drupal/CKAN or is the content imported (i.e. do they use a baked in WYSIWYG (What you see is what you get))?
- A10. No, content originators do not directly access the web interface to release their content. Content on the open by default portal is imported from GCDOCS, the Government of Canada's main document repository and information management tool that was developed by OpenText Corporation. Appendix 1 to Annex A on page 60 of the CFP provides an overview of how the documents flow through the pipeline from GCDOCS to the public portal.
- Q11. When will the GCDOCS code published to GitHub?
- A11. GCDOCS is a proprietary commercial solution that was procured competitively by the Government of Canada. As such Canada cannot release the source code for GCDOCS. All code required to respond to the requirements described in the CFP is available on GitHub. Proposed solutions are not expected to interface with GCDOCS directly, but to interface with the CKAN repository that houses the content on the Open by Default Pilot Portal.
- Q12. For the TBS Challenge, Will the end UI need to provide access to both the original document as well as the modified "more accessible" version? How will this be verified to see that the meaning isn't lost or altered?
- A12. Canada does not specify that the proposed solutions must provide access to the original document as well as the modified document, however bidders are encouraged to address how their proposed solutions will modify or create alternate versions of documents as part of their proposal. We encourage bidders to prioritize user experience of the portal in designing their proposed solution.
- Q13. Assuming that the questions being submitted are also being responded to via addendum. Please confirm.
- A13. See response A4.

All other terms and conditions remain the same.