



**RETURN BIDS TO:**

**RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:**

Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des soumissions -  
TPSGC

11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier

Place du Portage, Phase III

Core 0B2 / Noyau 0B2

Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5

Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

**SOLICITATION AMENDMENT  
MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION**

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise  
indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation  
remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire,  
les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

**Comments - Commentaires**

**Vendor/Firm Name and Address**

Raison sociale et adresse du  
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

**Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution**

Land Projects and Communication System Support  
Division/Div des projets terrestres et support de  
systèmes de communication

11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier

8C2, Place du Portage, Phase III

Gatineau

Québec

K1A 0S5

<b>Title - Sujet</b> CORE NETWORK SUSTAINMENT SERVICES	
<b>Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation</b> W8486-228517/A	<b>Amendment No. - N° modif.</b> 004
<b>Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client</b> W8486-228517	<b>Date</b> 2023-01-25
<b>GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG</b> PW-\$\$RA-059-28901	
<b>File No. - N° de dossier</b> 059ra.W8486-228517	<b>CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME</b>
<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> <b>at - à 02:00 PM</b> Eastern Standard Time EST <b>on - le 2023-02-14</b> Heure Normale du l'Est HNE	
<b>F.O.B. - F.A.B.</b> <b>Plant-Usine:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Destination:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other-Autre:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à:</b> Ellingham, Brendan	<b>Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur</b> 059ra
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> (873) 354-2211 ( )	<b>FAX No. - N° de FAX</b> ( ) -
<b>Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction:</b> <b>Destination - des biens, services et construction:</b>	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

<b>Delivery Required - Livraison exigée</b>	<b>Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée</b>
<b>Vendor/Firm Name and Address</b> <b>Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur</b>	
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> <b>Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur</b>	
<b>Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm</b> <b>(type or print)</b> <b>Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/</b> <b>de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

**DUE TO AN EXTREMELY TIGHT TIMELINE, CANADA CANNOT AFFORD TO PROVIDE PROLONGED CLOSING DATE EXTENSIONS. WE REQUIRE BIDDER'S UTMOST COOPERATION TO SUBMIT THEIR BIDS BY THE SOLICITATION CLOSING DATE.**

**The purpose of this amendment is to:**

1. Publish revised Annex F - REV1 - Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria
2. Modify SYSTEMS ENGINEERING PLAN - Reference to DLCSPM-SEP-2021: Add para 7.2.7
3. Publish answers to Bidders' questions.

**The following shall form part of this RFP:**

**1. Annex F - Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria.**

**DELETE:**

In its entirety.

**INSERT:**

Annex F - REV1 - Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria.

**2. Reference to SYSTEMS ENGINEERING PLAN - DLCSPM-SEP-2021:**

**INSERT:**

**7.2.7**      The handover of design from Product to Sub-System and/or Sub-System to System is critical as it ensures that the Sub-System or Product that was built conforms to the design specified and can be integrated into the System or SoS.

**Note: The wording in *green font* denotes the changes in the reference document**

---

**The following questions and answers were published under previous Amendments.**

**Q1: RFP Reference Annex F – Compliance Matrix – Appendix F1 – Mandatory Evaluation Criteria – MT 7 - And Appendix A4 – CDRL and DID.**

Can Canada confirm whether or not any internal Indigenous resources that Bidders hire to perform the LC4ISR Applications work will count towards the 5% Target for Total Estimated Contract Value for Goods and/or Services to be sourced from Canadian indigenous firms? The Indigenous Participation Plan outlined in Appendix A4 to Annex A, DID 100.006 states that Bidders are required to provide their Human resources strategy on retaining Indigenous peoples for the performance of the Work, however, it is unclear if Indigenous peoples hired as part of these efforts would count towards the 5% Target.

**A1:** No, any indigenous resources hired will not count towards the 5% target.

**Q2: RFP Reference Annex F – Compliance Matrix – Appendix F1 – Mandatory Evaluation Criteria – MT 7 - And Appendix A4 – CDRL and DID.**

Can Canada confirm whether Skills Development and Training activities with Indigenous peoples counts towards the 5% Target for Total Estimated Contract Value for Goods and/or Services to be sourced from Canadian indigenous .

**A2:** No, any skill development training activities will not count towards the 5% target.

**Q3: RFP Reference Annex C – SRCL – Section 10a – PERSONNEL.**

Can Canada please provide the Security Classification Guide?

**A3:** Bidders that are interested in submitting a bid should send a written email request to the Contracting Authority to obtain the SRCL Supplemental Guide.

**Q4: RFP Reference Appendix A4 – CDRL and DID - PMP 100.001 10.3**

This section states: For each position, the PMP must identify the name...

We assume the requirement is to provide the name of the role and not the name of the individual filling the role. Please confirm.

**A4:** Correct. At bid closing, only name of the role is required unless the individual is known and can be named by the Bidder. However, if successful, the bidder will revise the PMP to also reflect the name of resource.

**Q5: RFP Reference Part 3 – Bid Preparation Instructions.**

Part 3, 1.3.2 notes that prices should only be contained in Bidder's Financial Bid's. In order to deliver a compliant Section IV: ITB Bid, Bidders must include their Bid price in the Mandatory Requirements Certificate (Mandatory Requirement 4). Canada is requested to confirm that inclusion of financial information in Section IV: ITB Bid is acceptable.

**A5:** It is acceptable and required to provide the Bid Price as part of Section IV - ITB Value Proposition.

**Q6: RFP Reference Annex G – Value Proposition Bidder Instructions – Sub Section 5.6.2.5**

Currently, section 5.6.2.5 of Annex G states that "Any proposed Transaction with a company not meeting the Eligible Donor criteria will be rejected." As written, this could imply that Direct

Transactions with an Eligible Donor could be rejected if the supplier did not meet the Eligible Donor criteria.

The following revised language is recommended in place of section 5.6.2.5: “Any proposed Transaction involving ED contributions from a company not meeting the ED criteria will be rejected”

**A6:** The definition of “Eligible Donor” is provided in Part 7B-ITB Terms and Conditions, Section 1.1.13, and its application is explained in Section 8.1.4. Only those Donors that meet the definition of an Eligible Donor will be accepted as Donors for ITB Transaction purposes. Recipients, as defined in Section 1.1.29, are not required to meet the Eligible Donor definition.

**Q7:** **RFP Reference Annex G – Value Proposition Bidder Instructions - Multiple Sections.**

Referencing Annex G and Annex H (both VP/ITB related), the use of both Bid Price and Contract Price are referenced, in relation to transaction identification.

We suggest that since Contract Price is defined in the ITB/VP terms and conditions, and Bid Price is not, that Contract Price be the sole reference for commitment value in both Annex G and Annex H.

It is recommended that Contract Price be set at a value that more closely aligns with the anticipated value of the future Contract which all bidders can use as a baseline to provide transaction identification against.

**A7:** No change required.

**Q8:** **RFP Reference Annex F – Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria – Appendix F1 – Mandatory Evaluation Criteria – And Appendix F2 – Rated Evaluation Criteria.**

In reference to Appendix F.1 and F.2, Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria - Mandatory Evaluation Criteria (F.1) & Rated Evaluation Criteria (F.2), Canada requests that the Bidders provide their comments in Column L (Bidder's Comments) demonstrating how the bidder will meet the requirements, without cross referencing to other statements in Annex F.

Canada is requested to clarify what information they are seeking for the Bidder's to provide in column L; for instance, is Canada looking to have Bidders confirm that their response to the individual mandatory or rated requirement meets one of the Compliance Methodologies provided (A-D).

**A8:** Yes, that's correct, and additionally, in which part of their bid and on what page the bidder has included the Proof of Compliance to meet the requirement.

**Q9:** **RFP Reference Annex F – Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria – Appendix F2 – Rated Evaluation Criteria.**

Can Canada please explain how management and execution of Design Authority applies to RT2.1.c?

**A9:** Canada acknowledges that configuration management is not a component or factor that needs to be considered by the design authority. However, Canada expects the Design Authority to always consider and ensure successful integration processes.

**Q10:** **RFP Reference Appendix A4 – CDRL and DID – PMP 100.001 – Section 10.13**

Section 10.13 (j) refers to an Audit Closeout Plan.

To which audit is Canada referring?

**A10:** The audit would pertain to all matters and activities subject to this project.

**Q11:** RFP Reference Appendix A2 – Standards and References – Section 1.1 DLCSPM Standards – DLCSPM-SEP-2021 and references to DLCSPM-SEP-2021 throughout the SOW

The copy of the SEP provided to Bidder is referred to as the System Engineering Plan (reference AMD 1) and is dated December 2022.

Can Canada confirm that all references to "DLCSPM SEP 2021" throughout the full RFP package is in fact the "System Engineering Plan\_RFP Release" file, publication date December 2022.

**A11:** Correct. The term "DLCSPM SEP 2021" used throughout the full RFP package is the PDF file titled "System Engineering Plan \_ RFP Release", publication date December 2022.

---

**The following questions and answers are being published under this Amendment**

**Q12:** RFP Reference Annex F – Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria – Appendix F2 – Rated Evaluation Criteria.

RT - 1.2 asks the bidder "How their referenced integration experience relates to the APPLICATIONS requirements column titled "Services" when sorted by "Sub-System Integration" listed in the DLCSPM-SBSRM-2001 standard...".

Could Canada provide the **DLCSPM-SBSRB-2021\_Unclassified.pdf** file in native Excel format so that the bidder can sort and filter the spreadsheet on the columns as suggested?

**A12:** Yes, the document will be provided to bidders upon request only.

**Q13:** RFP Reference Annex F – Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria – Appendix F2 – Mandatory Evaluation Criteria.

MT 2.1 states "The SEMP must be based on DLCSPM standard, DLCSPM-SEP-2021 listed in Appendix A2 – Standards and References and must be in accordance with CDRL 200.001 and DID 200.001. Bidders must address all requirements of the DID in their proposed SEMP."

The DID 200.001 states "The SEMP must contain as a minimum the following information aligned with the major headings of Canada's SEP".

Can Canada clarify if it means that the SEMP must have the same major sections as the SEP (i.e. Introduction, Land C4ISR Capability Overview, Engineering Process, Governance, ..., Fielding Process, In-Service Support)? If it is the case:

1. Can Canada confirm that the sub-sections can be different? And
2. Can Canada clarify if the SEMP must also include and consider the sections marked as "To Be Developed" in the SEP (i.e. 10. Fielding Process and 11. In-Service Support)?

**A13:** The SEMP must include the major section outlined in DID 200.001. The content, including sub-sections, is to be based on the DLCSPM-SEP-2021

1. Sub-sections in the SEMP are to be identified by the bidder; and
2. No, however, bidders are encouraged to suggest responses.

**Q14:** **RFP Reference Annex F – Compliance Matrix and Technical Bid Evaluation Criteria – Appendix F2 – Rated Evaluation Criteria – RT 2.1c.**

The 75% Rating Scale states "Bidder demonstrates an integration process; AND Bidder demonstrates how the integration processes aligns with the SEP; AND Bidder demonstrates how it will manage the minimum product versions."

The 100% Rating Scale states "Bidder demonstrates an integration process; AND Bidder demonstrates how the integration processes aligns with the SEP; AND Bidder demonstrates how it will manage the expected product versions."

Can Canada clarify what is meant by minimum and expected product versions in the context of this requirement?

**A14:** This information can be found in the DLCSPM-SEP-2021.

**Q15:** In APPENDIX F2 - RATED EVALUATION CRITERIA, the Rating Scales of RT-2.4 referred to "principles of life-cycle management". Please could Canada define or clarify what is meant by principle in the context of this requirement? Examples would be appreciated.

**A15:** The Bidder's response is to be based on the "their own experience and best practices", including any industry standards that the Bidder currently uses or proposes to use.

**Q16:** In APPENDIX F2 - RATED EVALUATION CRITERIA, RT 2.4 states, "...the life-cycle management of Products to be developed under the resulting contract." Based on the Full Engineering Process (v2.3) depicted in DLCSPM-SEP-2021, Appendix 2, product life-cycle management extends from "Start" to "Fielding." Can Bidders assume that the LC4ISR Full Engineering Process depicted in Appendix 2 of DLCSPM-SEP-2021 reflects the complete product life-cycle management expected for the contract. If not, please what other elements are missing from the life-cycle management of Products during the contract.

**A16:** No, the life-cycle management process depicted in the SEP does not reflect the full product life-cycle management. As such, Canada is seeking industry expertise, best practices and methods for product life-cycle management.

Bidders are advised that the SEP remains a living document that will be continuously enhanced and evolved with the assistance of the successful bidders via their response and future collaborations. For this reason, Canada is seeking industry expertise, best practices and methods for product life-cycle management.

This said, the Bidder's response should be based on the version released to bidders as part of this RFP process. Bidder are encouraged to include any enhancements and recommendations to be proposed by the Bidder in the System Engineering Management Plan.

As stated in the introduction section of the SEP, the purpose of the SEP "This SEP provides the guidance required for all stakeholders to deliver a cutting edge Land C4ISR capability. This SEP demands all stakeholders work collaboratively under the guidance of Land C4ISR Integrated Product Teams (IPTs)."

***All other terms and conditions of the RFP remain unchanged.***

W8486-228517 – LC4 ISR – CORE NETWORK SUSTAINMENT SERVICES				
ANNEX F - REV1 - COMPLIANCE MATRIX AND TECHNICAL BID EVALUATION CRITERIA				
APPENDIX F1 - MANDATORY EVALUATION CRITERIA				
A	B	C	D	E
Item Number	Evaluation Requirements for Core Network Solicitation	Proof of Compliance	Proposal Reference(s)	Bidder's Comments
MT 1	<b>Proven Experience</b>			
MT 1.1	Bidders must submit references to <b>three</b> separate projects that demonstrate proven experience necessary to provide the services specified in Annex A for the provision of Core Network Sustainment Services. Bidders must provide Proof of Compliance for the following:	A		
MT 1.1.1	Each referenced project must have been completed or must be currently ongoing within the following sectors not limited to Canada: a. The Defence sector; b. The Public Safety sector; or c. The Telecommunications sector.	A		
MT 1.1.2	Each referenced project must have been completed within the last <b>eight</b> years or must still be ongoing as of the solicitation publishing date.	A		
MT1.1.2 a.	At least <b>one</b> of the <b>three</b> referenced projects must either; i. be a minimum of 5 years duration, if it has been completed Or ii. it has been awarded within the last five years from the publishing date of this solicitation, if it is still ongoing	A		
MT 1.1.3	At least <b>two</b> of the <b>three</b> referenced projects must have been delivered or are currently being delivered through the use of any industry recognized agile delivery model. Bidders must identify the agile delivery model used for the referenced projects.	A		
MT 1.1.4	At least <b>two</b> of the <b>three</b> referenced projects must each have a minimum value of <b>\$75M</b> (CAD) excluding taxes.	A		
Note	<b>Bidders are strongly encouraged to reference Appendix A1 – Glossary and Abbreviations to assist in their response.</b>			
MT 2	<b>Proposed System Engineering Management Plan</b>			
MT 2.1	Bidders must submit their proposed System Engineering Management Plan (SEMP). The SEMP must be based on DLCSPM standard, DLCSPM-SEP-2021 listed in Appendix A2 – Standards and References and must be in accordance with CDRL 200.001 and DID 200.001. Bidders must address <b>all</b> requirements of the DID in their proposed SEMP.	B		
MT 3	<b>Proposed Quality Management Plan</b>			
MT 3.1	Bidders must submit their proposed Quality Management Plan (QMP) in accordance with CDRL 400.002 and DID 400.002. Bidders must address <b>all</b> requirements of the DID in their proposed QMP.	B		
MT 4	<b>Proposed Project Management Plan</b>			
MT 4.1	Bidders must submit their proposed Project Management Plan (PMP) in accordance with CDRL 100.001 and DID 100.001. Bidders must address <b>all</b> requirements of the DID in their proposed PMP.	B		
MT 5	<b>Core Work</b>			
MT 5.1	Bidders must propose Core Work Personnel (CWP), as deemed necessary by the Bidder, to deliver the Core Work listed in Annex A:	C		
MT 5.1.1	Annex A – Core Management Work; and	C		
MT 5.1.2	Annex A – Core Engineering Management Work.	C		
MT 5.2	Bidders must clearly justify the following for each section listed above in 5.1:	C		
MT 5.2.1	Which personnel and total number of personnel will be provided as deemed necessary by the bidder; and	C		
MT 5.2.2	Roles and responsibilities of proposed personnel.	C		
Note	<b>Bidders, at their own discretion, must decide the make-up of their proposed CWP. Bidders' proposed CWP consists of its proposed personnel as deemed necessary to deliver the Core Work.</b>			
MT 6	<b>Diversity and Inclusion Plan</b>			
MT 6.1	Bidders must submit a Diversity and Inclusion Plan with their bid. The Diversity and Inclusion Plan must contain details of bidders' proposed recruitment strategy that must address the following:	D		
MT 6.1.1	The proposed recruitment strategy must target recruitment of diverse groups, which, as a minimum, must include indigenous persons and, gender diverse people. The Government of Canada GBA+ considers many other identity factors, like race, ethnicity, religion, age and mental or physical disability.	D		
MT 6.2	The proposed Diversity and Inclusion Plan must address the following in detail:	D		
MT 6.2.1	In which capacity will the new personnel from diverse groups or persons with disability be employed?	D		
MT 6.2.2	How does the Bidder intend to increase the number representation of diverse groups within its organization or persons with disability?	D		
MT 6.2.3	Does your company have an internal Diversity and Inclusion development program(s) including career development and training or in partnerships with a Co-op program(s) within Canadian Universities and/or Colleges:  a. If yes, describe your program(s) or your involvement with Canadian Universities and/or Colleges.  b. If no, how do you intend to develop a program(s) or partnership?	D		
MT 6.3	GBA+ Data Collection Analysis Initiatives:  Bidders must provide information with respect to ongoing efforts to ensure that gender, diversity, and inclusion considerations are integrated in the development and renewal of your organization recruitment and retention plans, policies, programs, and services.	D		
Note	<b>Associated helpful Links:</b> <i>i. Gender-based Analysis: Gender-Based Analysis - Canada.ca</i> <i>ii. Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+): <a href="https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en/gender-based-analysis-plus.html">https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en/gender-based-analysis-plus.html</a></i>  <b>The above links are provided for information purpose only, and any content found within those links will not have any direct bearing on the bid evaluation process.</b>			
MT 7	<b>Indigenous Participation Plan</b>			

MT 7.1	Bidders must submit with their bid, their proposed Indigenous Participation Plan (IPP) in accordance with CDRL 100.006 and DID 100.006. The bidder must detail the extent to which they will support the government's overall target of 5% of the Total Estimated Contract Value for Goods and/or Services to be sourced from Canadian indigenous firms and delivered to	B		
Note	<p><b>The Procurement Strategy for Indigenous Business (PSIB) is the Government of Canada's policy to support Indigenous businesses with access to procurement opportunities.</b></p> <p>This policy can be referenced at: <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada.html</a> <a href="https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032802/1610723869356">https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032802/1610723869356</a></p>			
Proof of Compliance	Compliance Method			
A	Bidders, with their bid, must submit references of its previous project/s to substantiate Proven Experience, or where applicable, experience gained through its parent, subsidiaries or other affiliates, or its subcontractors. Bidders, with their bid, must also submit a certificate to demonstrate that cooperation agreement(s) to access Proven Experience are in place with the Team Member at the time of bid submission. See the definition of Team Member in PART 4 – EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND BASIS OF SELECTION of the RFP.			
B	Bidders must submit their proposed plan in accordance with the identified DID with their bid.			
C	Bidders must submit their proposed plan to meet Core Work with their bid.			
D	Bidders must submit their proposed Diversity and Inclusion Plan with their bid.			
<p><b>Note 1 - Reference MT 1.1.4: For evaluation purposes, if a bidder needs to submit the contract value in any other currency than Canadian dollars, then the Bidder must convert the contract value in Canadian dollars as per Bank of Canada's daily average exchange closing rates published on the Core Network solicitation publishing date. Bidders must provide the foreign currency amount, date and the conversion rate used in their bid submission for verification purposes by the bid evaluation committee.</b></p>				
<p><b>Note 2: MT 6 - Diversity and Inclusion Plan is only a Mandatory Requirement and thus will not be rated.</b></p>				
<p><b>Note 3: Bidders interested in submitting a bid should send an email to the Contracting Authority requesting to receive Annex F in its native format (Excel).</b></p>				







[illegible]