Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications Nemanjina 22-26, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

January 25th, 2021

## PROCUREMENT AGENCY'S CLARIFICATIONS No.1

Project title: ICT infrastructure for educational institutions - PHASE 3 Procurement reference: No. EIB-GtP/404-02-220/2020-12

In accordance with ITB 7, the Procuring Agency is providing the following answers to the received requests for clarification of the Bidding Document.

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No.	Question	Answer
1.	This question relates to the requirement 2.3.4 from section II of the tender documentation.  "The Bidder has, in the past 5 (five) years prior to the date of the publication of this Invitation to Bid, procured, deployed and configured wired Local Area Network's in at least 1,000 separate locations under up to 3 (three) successfully completed contracts. The wired Local Area Network, in sense of this requirement, means structured cabling system with at least 10 Ethernet ports."  Since the introduction of category Cat 5e standard in structured cabling systems, which was more than 20 years ago, the methodology of deployment of Local Area Networks has not changed.  Therefore, the time constraint of 5 years for meeting the required 1,000 implemented Local Area Networks in separate locations should be reviewed and amended.  Hereby, we are asking you to consider increasing this time constraint to a minimum of 10 years?	The Procurement Agency has decided to change the requirement 2.3.4.  The changed requirement 2.3.4 from the Section III now reads:  "The Bidder has, in the past 5 (five) years prior to the date of the publication of this Invitation to Bid, procured, deployed and configured wired Local Area Network's in at least 500 separate locations under up to 3 (three) successfully completed contracts. The wired Local Area Network, in sense of this requirement, means structured cabling system with at least 10 Ethernet ports.  In case the bid is submitted by a joint venture (group of bidders), the requirement is fulfilled by all members of the group members cumulatively. This means that one or more members have procured, deployed and configured structural cabling under up to 3 (three) successfully completed contracts, for at least 500 locations combined."  Please refer to Addendum no. 1 to the Procurement Document.
2	This question relates to the requirement 2.3.4 from selection III of the tender documentation.  • The Bidder has, in the past 5 (five) years prior to the date of the publication of this	Please see answer above.

Invitation to Bid, procured, deployed and configured wired Local Area Network's in at least 1,000 separate locations under up to 3 (three) successfully completed contracts. The wired Local Area Network, in sense of this requirement, means structured cabling system with at least 10 Ethernet ports.

The required capacity and capability of a contractor for procuring, deploying, and configuring Local Area Networks increases, more than linearly, with the number of contracts and/or customer increases the complexity for the contractor.

Hereby, we are asking you to remove or expand the limit on the number of contracts and/or customers for this requirement?

This question relates to the ITB 22.1 from section II, deadline for bid submission.

"The deadline for bid submission is:
 Date: February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021
 Time: not later than 11am by local time"

The pandemic situation and holiday seasons around the New Year has lead sever delays and difficulties in bid preparation, communication with suppliers and local authorities' documentation gathering.

Hereby, we are asking you to extend the deadline for bid submission by at least 14 days?

Procuring Agency requires for business capacity number 2.3.1. that the Bidder must have the highest partnership status with the manufacturer of the offered equipment: type 1 switches (4.3.3.1.), type 2 switches (4.3.3.2.), type 3 switches (4.3.3.3), wireless access points (4.3.3.6.), wireless infrastructure centralized management and monitoring system (controller) (4.3.3.7) and network infrastructure monitoring and management system (4.3.3.8.). If the bidder offers equipment from different manufacturers, it must provide certificates from every manufacturer.

As the highest level of partnership implies deep and wide expertise in technological, personnel and business terms as well as engineers with additional training for specified equipment, which gives them the opportunity to grant a high level of computer network security and functional operation with the possibility of detailed analysis and constant improvement, we believe that the complexity and quantity of equipment for items 4.3.3.2. and 4.3.3.8. does not require that the bidder has the status of the highest expert level, but that it is sufficient for

The deadline for receipt of tenders is extended.

Please refer to Addendum no. 1 to the Procurement Document.

The Procurement Agency has decided to change the requirement 2.3.1.

The changed requirement 2.3.1 from the Section III now reads:

"The Bidder has the highest partnership status with the manufacturer of the offered equipment: type 1 switches (4.3.3.1.), type 3 switches (4.3.3.6.) and wireless access points (4.3.3.6.) and wireless infrastructure centralized management and monitoring system (controller) (4.3.3.7). If the bidder offers equipment from different manufacturers, it must provide certificates from every manufacturer.

In case the bid is submitted by a joint venture (group of bidders), the requirement is fulfilled by all members of the group members cumulatively."

Please refer to Addendum no. 1 to the Procurement Document.

the partner to be authorized by the manufacturer
for sales and implementation. For this reason
we consider that the requested capacity is too
rigorous. Please confirm, is it acceptable for the
Procuring Agency that the Bidder is an
authorized partner of the manufacturer of the
offered for items 4.3.3.2. and 4.3.3.8.