|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

**Request for Quotation**

**for**

**SDR transceivers, Servers, laptops, etc.**

**Issue 1**

**August 2020**

Prepared by

TEIN\*Cooperation Center

A-708, DMC High-Tech Industry Center

330 Sungam-ro, Mapo-gu

Seoul, 03920

Republic of Korea

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

[1 INTRODUCTION 3](#_Toc11324519)

[2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION 3](#_Toc11324520)

[3 SOLUTIONS TO BE QUOTED 4](#_Toc11324521)

[4 TIMELINE, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION 5](#_Toc11324522)

[5 COMMERCIAL ISSUES 5](#_Toc11324523)

[6 The SELECTION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA 12](#_Toc11324524)

[7 RESPONDING TO THIS RFQ 13](#_Toc11324525)

[ANNEX 1 Eligibility 15](#_Toc11324526)

[ANNEX 2 DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF TENDERERS 16](#_Toc11324527)

[ANNEX 3 Pricing Template 17](#_Toc11324528)

# INTRODUCTION

Asi@Connect is successive project of Trans-Eurasia Information Network (TEIN) 4. The TEIN Initiative was firstly launched at the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) 3 Summit in Seoul in October 2000. It was to use Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to improve research and education collaborations between Asia and Europe and intra-Asia. Asi@Connect project started in September 2016 and will run for 5 years; it is funded by the European Commission (EC), Republic of Korea and other project partners; it is managed by the TEIN\*Cooperation Center (TEIN\*CC) based in Seoul, not for profit organization supported by the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT).

TEIN\*CC is seeking offers for the provision, delivery, installation, and support of SDR transceivers, servers, laptops, etc. We are inviting quotations for the proposed hardware equipment.

Maximum Budget allocated for this procurement is **28,400 Euros (Taxes/VAT Included)**.

This Request for Quotation (RFQ) is required by **23:59 9 October 2020 (UTC+09:00).**.

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## Asi@Connect and TEIN background

The first TEIN interconnection between Europe and Asia was launched in October 2000 and its operational service between Paris and Seoul started in November 2001.

The TEIN2 network operated from January 2006 to December 2008 and connected the national research and education networks of 11 Asia Pacific countries to each other and also with the pan-European R&E network, GEANT.

The TEIN3 phase has continued to develop the pan-Asian research and education network, and in particular, it has extended the network to South Asia. 16 Asia Pacific countries were connected during the period, with over 50M users.

The TEIN2 and TEIN3 projects had been managed by the Delivery of Advanced Network Technology to Europe (DANTE, currently GEANT), a UK based company; with funding from the European Commission (EC) and the Asian partners. The EC has agreed to continue to fund TEIN4 as a further phase during the period 2012 – 2016; and this was managed by TEIN\*CC.

Asi@Connect project stands at the fourth phase of the EC funding support. In terms of network infrastructure, it currently has four (4) Point of Presences (POP), namely in Beijing, Hong Kong, Mumbai, and Singapore. The backbone of the project is composed of International Private Leased Circuits (IPLC) and its largest bandwidth among POPs is 100Gbps. Access links between the Asian NREN[[1]](#footnote-1) partners and Asi@Connect POPs are in the range of 100Gbps to 10Mbps. In addition, several links are provided by other Asi@Connect partners and are managed co-operatively. These circuits make a significant contribution to TEIN and provide access for partners in some instances.

The TEIN/Asi@Connect network is managed by a Network Operations Center based in Hong Kong and run by Tsinghua University in China; it is well used, with traffic levels growing steadily and innovative applications in fields including telemedicine, environmental monitoring and culture heritage being actively promoted.

## TEIN\*Co-operation Center

TEIN\*CC is a not-for-profit organization based in Seoul, Republic of Korea. It manages and operates the  
regional Research and Education network, TEIN, and its related activities under the Asi@Connect project. The project is contracted between the EC and TEIN\*CC in 2016. Besides receiving funding support at the maximum of EUR 20M for the five (5) years of project period from the EC, Korean Government and other partners continued to support it financially. TEIN\*CC has full responsibility for the operation of the Asi@Connect, and this will include contracting through this RFQ. All contracts will be between the successful tenderer and TEIN\*CC.

## Rationale behind this procurement tender

TEIN\*CC conducted 4th Call for Proposals for Asi@Connect sub-granted projects in 2019. From the procedure, a project titled ICT Research and Development for Rural/Remote Areas of Pakistan was awarded. It comes from Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science (KICS), University of Engineering and Technology (UET) in Pakistan. The project tries to procure SDR transceivers, Servers, laptops to carry out a feasibility study for developing an ICT infrastructure that could serve the needs of network access and wireless communication in rural areas of Pakistan.

# SOLUTIONS TO BE QUOTED

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

The following guidelines and design rules MUST be followed and answered whilst designing the proposed network and its operation. The technical specifications will become an annex to the resulting contract.

### **Yes/No Questions**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Definition** | **Response by tenderer** | |
| **YES** | **NO** |
| 1 | The equipment is to be delivered to Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science (KICS), University of Engineering and Technology (UET) Lahore, Pakistan. It will be the sole responsibility of the bidder to provide the necessary logistics for delivering the equipment at mentioned location. |  |  |
| 2 | The bidder must possess certification obtained directly from the local distributor confirming its authority to promote, distribute, sale and offer technical services for the manufacturer of the equipment. |  |  |
| 3 | The bidder must provide documentary proof that the manufacturer of the server hardware platform being offered possess certifications issued by accredited registrars for the following international management systems: ISO9001, ISO14001, and ISO13485. The scope of the certifications should cover the design, development, production, distribution and service of computing solutions and data storage equipment/systems for commercial, industrial, and medical applications. |  |  |
| 4 | The bidder must provide hardware warranty (duration mentioned in the BOQ table 5.2.2 below) with advanced parts and next business day replacement service for faulty parts, and/or equipment. |  |  |
| 5 | The bidder must provide one year technical support services available within standard business hours (0900-1700H, Pakistan Standard Time PKT), Monday to Friday, excluding local holidays from the date of completed delivery. |  |  |

### **Confirmatory Questions**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Definition** | **Response by tenderer** | |
| **Confirmed** | **Not-Confirmed** |
| 1 | Quotes received in response to this invitation may be awarded wholly, in part or not at all. |  |  |
| 2 | All expenses relating to the submission of offers are the responsibility of the quote supplier. |  |  |
| 3 | Where it is proposed to subcontract any of the above service items to a third party, this shall be indicated as part of the response. |  |  |
| 4 | The selected tenderer will be required to make firm commitments to such delivery dates as are proposed. |  |  |
| 5 | All offers that are quoted must remain valid for a period of six (6) months following the submission deadline for submission. |  |  |

### **Explanatory Questions**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Definition** | **Response by tenderer** |
| 1 | The proposal shall include specific clauses relating to quality including performance guarantees and guaranteed delivery dates. |  |

# TIMELINE, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION

TEIN\*CC plans to deliver the new proposed hardware and to be ready for operation by **December 2020**. Prospective suppliers are required to quote a delivery lead time from receipt of order.

## Indicative Timeline

Procurement Plan below provides an overview of the key stages and dates in this tender. TEIN\*CC reserves the right to change these dates as necessary, although it will seek to minimise any changes.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Dates** |
| RFQ issue | 10 August 2020 |
| Deadline for completed submissions | 23:59 9 October 2020 (UTC+09:00) |
| Evaluate Submitted proposals | 20 October 2020 |
| Award contract and standstill period (10days) | 30 October 2020 |
| Contract production and finalization | 20 November 2020 |
| Installation and Delivery of equipment | December 2020/January 2021 |

## Delivery and installation of new hardware

Prospective suppliers are required to quote for the delivery and installation service of the equipment.

The quoted prices shall include:

* Delivery to the site of installation on an agreed date set by TEIN\*CC or by mutual understanding. All relevant taxes must be paid by the Bidder.
* Turn-on and commissioning testing of the server and network hardware equipment.

# COMMERCIAL ISSUES

TEIN\*CC would plan to agree contract terms with the successful supplier along the following lines.

## Contractual

### The Nationality and Origin Rule: Participation in tender procedures administered by TEIN\*CC is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons of the EU Member States and the States and territories of Asia Pacific region who are participating in the Asi@Connect program (refer to the Annex 1). And it is also opened to legal persons from no-EU OECD/DAC member countries namely Canada, Switzerland and the United States. Tenderers are requested to provide the name(s) and country/countries of their legal entity/entities that could be used for contracting the Equipment with TEIN\*CC (a Korean based not for profit organization). Tenderers must state, in the quotation, the country of which they are nationals by presenting the usual proof of nationality under their national legislation.

### 

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Name of legal entity** | **Country** |
| Preferred |  |  |
| Others |  |  |

### Application of the Origin rule follows same as that of the Nationality Rule aforementioned. Tenderers must state the origin of supplies and Contractor must present proof of origin to TEIN\*CC no later than when the invoice is presented. The certificate of origin must be made out by the competent authorities of the country of origin of the supplies and must comply with the rules laid down by the relevant Community legislation (i.e. Articles 23 and 24 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 of 12 October 1992).

## Pricing

### **Quotes must be itemised to list the price of all separate elements.**

* 1. Pricing proposals shall each include:
  + Cost to TEIN\*CC for each individual hardware component of proposed solution expressed in terms of the basic cost elements Software (including details of licensing breakdown), if any
  + Cost of Delivery and Installation
  + Annual cost of the Support and Maintenance service, including any levels of service that are available

### Potential suppliers are required to submit their quote for the proposed hardware as described as below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Item** | **Description (Specifications)** | **QTY** | **Delivery Location** |
| 1 | SDR Transceiver | Network Kickstarter Kit comprising radio hardware, antennas, accessories and related software installed for GSM/GPRS/UMTS/EDGE  The proposed platform manufactured by **Range Networks or equivalent**  (<https://rangenetworks.com/>)  OpenBTS development kit containing necessary hardware and software to develop and implement customizable cellular networks for educational and research purposes.  SDR development kit should possess features of software reconfigurability, reprogrammability and allows editing of source code for adding new functionalities and new applications to the OpenBTS-based cellular network. | 4 | KICS-UET, Lahore Pakistan |
| 2 | Computer Server | Core i9 processor, around 3 GHz clock frequency, 8 GB RAM, 1 TB HDD | 2 | KICS-UET, Lahore Pakistan |
| 3 | Laptop | Core i7 processor, around 3 GHz clock frequency, 8 GB RAM, 1 TB HDD | 3 | KICS-UET, Lahore Pakistan |
| 4 | WiFi access point | 4G/5G mobile broadband WiFi Wingle Device, data speed above 100 Mbps | 4 | KICS-UET, Lahore Pakistan |
|  |  |  |  |  |

1. All devices must be compatible with operating voltage and frequency in Pakistan.

### Quotes should say whether VAT or other taxes are included in the cost.

### Quotes must be in EURO (€) currency.

# The SELECTION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation will be composed of three sequential steps, namely administrative compliance, technical compliance and financial evaluation. If a tender cannot meet the administrative and technical compliance explained in 6.1 and 6.2, no further evaluation will be progressed. ***The award criterion applied to administratively and technically compliant tenders is price. Therefore, the successful tenderer is the one submitting the least expensive tender.***

## Examination of the administrative conformity of tenders

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Is tenderer (consortium) nationality[[2]](#footnote-2) eligible?  (Y/N) | Is documentation complete?  (Y/N) | Is language as required?  (Y/N) | Is tenderer's declaration of eligibility signed (by all consortium members if a consortium) in the Annex 2? (Yes/No/ Not Applicable) | Overall decision?  (Accept / Reject) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

A tender is deemed to comply if it satisfies all the above conditions. If a tender does not comply with them, it will be rejected immediately and may not subsequently be made to comply by correcting it or withdrawing the departure or restriction.

## Examination of Technical compliance of tenders

After analyzing the tenders deemed to comply in administrative terms, the technical admissibility of each tender will be ruled on, classifying it as technically compliant or non-compliant, based on the responses of 3.1 Technical specifications above.

## Financial evaluation

The offer with the lowest price shall be awarded a contract. If the chosen tender exceeds the maximum budget available for the contract, the tender procedure will be cancelled, and TEIN\*CC may negotiate with one or more tenderers of its choice, from among those that took part in the tender procedure, if they comply with the selection criteria, provided that the original procurement documents are not substantially altered and the principle of equal treatment is observed.

# RESPONDING TO THIS RFQ

## Documents required for responding to this RFQ

### Tenderers are required to email soft copy of the RFQ responses, at least including below, but not limited to them, to: [**pmt@teincc.org**](mailto:pmt@teincc.org)**.**

* Introduction of the proposer (i.e. company) including size of staffing, turnovers.
* Declaration of eligibility of tenderers in the Annex 2 (one page).
* Specific responses on 3, 4 & 5 above. With regards to quotes please refer to Annex 3.

### The closing date for responding to this RFQ is **23:59** **10 October 2020 (UTC+09:00)**.

## Enquiries

For enquiries, please email to: [pmt@teincc.org](mailto:pmt@teincc.org)

# ANNEX 1 Eligibility

1. Participation in this tender is normally open on equal terms to the following nationals or legal persons:

a) List of countries as below:

* a) a Member State of the European Union;
* b) a Member State of the European Economic Area;
* c) an official candidate country or potential candidate that is a beneficiary of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance, depending on the basic act;

b) Legal persons from Asi@Connect partners countries as follows.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number** | **Country** | **Number** | **Country** |
| 1 | Afghanistan | 13 | Mongolia |
| 2 | Australia | 14 | Myanmar |
| 3 | Bangladesh | 15 | Nepal |
| 4 | Bhutan | 16 | New Zealand |
| 5 | Cambodia | 17 | Pakistan |
| 6 | China | 18 | Philippines |
| 7 | Hong Kong | 19 | Singapore |
| 8 | India | 20 | South Korea |
| 9 | Indonesia | 21 | Sri Lanka |
| 10 | Japan | 22 | Thailand |
| 11 | Laos | 23 | Vietnam |
| 12 | Malaysia | 24 | Chinese Taipei |

c) Legal persons from several non-EU OECD/DAC member countries namely Canada, Switzerland and the United States.

2. Please check TEIN\*CC if the eligibility of your entity is still not clear addressed to [pmt@teincc.org](mailto:pmt@teincc.org). //the end//

# ANNEX 2 DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF TENDERERS

Natural or legal persons are not entitled to participate in this tender procedure or be awarded a contract if they are in any of the situations mentioned in Sections 2.6.10.1 of the Practical Guide (<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/?header_description=DEVCO+Prag+to+financial+and+contractual+procedures+applicable+to+external+actions+financed+from+the+general+budget+of+the+EU+and+from+the+11th+EDF&header_keywords=ePrag%2C+europa>).

**Candidates or tenderers must certify with the responsible person’s signature that they are not in one of the situations listed above – one page of declaration.**

# ANNEX 3 Pricing Template

File Annex 3 is available separately.

1. National Research and Education Network [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. If the tender has been submitted by a consortium, the nationalities of all the consortium members must be eligible [↑](#footnote-ref-2)