



NATIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

UGANDA DIGITAL ACCELERATION PROJECT – GOVERNMENT NETWORK (UDAP-GOVNET)

LOAN NUMBER: P171305

REFERENCE NUMBER:

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE STUDY OF MOBILE BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT IN RURAL AREAS – LOT 1-50 MASTS SERVING 900 MDA`S AND LOT 2 INSTALLATION OF 80 MASTS FOR VOICE AND DATA IN 13 REFUGEE HOST COMMUNITIES/DISTRICTS

The Government of Uganda represented by the National Information Technology Authority-Uganda (NITA-U) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Uganda Digital Acceleration Project-Government Network (UDAP-GOVNET) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services for the **study of mobile broadband deployment in rural areas – Lot 1-50 masts serving 900 MDA`s and Lot 2 installation of 80 masts for voice and data in 13 refugee host communities/Districts**

The consulting services (“the Services”) include: Study and provide a benchmarking report on the best industrial model and technology for the deployment of mobile broadband, Study and provide an up-to-date detailed report with site names or locations that have challenges of broadband connectivity in rural areas, Study and provide a detailed report on how to determine the best locations to set up telecommunications towers or mast that will serve both ministries, departments, agencies (MDA`s) and Target user groups (TUG`s) in rural areas, Study and provide a detailed report on which type of tower or mast to be used, Study and provide a detailed report on site acquisition process in the tower construction process, Study and provide a detailed report on the site list of Ministries, Departments, Agencies, Target User Groups, and private clients, Study and provide a detailed report on the best technologies, Cost of deployment, operations and maintenance, Business model (leasing, renting, purchase,) Establish mechanisms for collaboration with mobile network operators or tower companies, Study and provide a detailed report on the existing policies on infrastructure sharing as it relates to towers or masts. The consultant should identify environmental risks and mitigation measures, the consultant should identify the risk identification and mitigation strategy on infrastructure sharing and the scope of work for the management model review.

The duration of the assignment will be **6 (six) months** from the date of signing of the contract. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be accessed at <https://www.nita.go.ug>

The National Information Technology Authority - Uganda now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria for the firm’s capability and experience is:

1. Must provide information relating to their capacity and experience demonstrating that they are qualified to undertake this study (documentation, reference of similar services, experience in comparable missions, availability of qualified personnel, etc.)
2. Demonstrate previous experience and expertise in carrying out a feasibility study in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) with at least three (3) assignments of a similar nature in developing Telecommunication infrastructure business plans, and/or development or review of telecom infrastructure deployment or Telecom business strategic planning in the last three (3) years. The consultancy firm should have experience working in Africa or economies of a similar nature.
 - Ability to provide required services.
 - Possession of six (6) years of experience in telecom network service extension.
 - Possession of relevant industrial accreditation and certifications like ISO certification in Health and Safety, Quality Management and Environment Management.
 - Must possess Transactional Tax Clearance from the tax body of the domicile country.
 - Traceable references of three (3) assignments of a similar nature undertaken in the past six (6) years
 - Proof of compliance with the laws of the land.
 - Shall provide audited books of accounts for at least the last three (3) years prepared by a certified accounting firm.
 - Legal documents (e.g Constitutions, agreements, deeds, powers of attorney)
 - The consultant shall demonstrate experience in infrastructure sharing, ICT policy, and environmental risks in relation to infrastructure deployment.
3. The consultant should assemble a team of relevant experts that shall include the following key personnel: Team Leader, Business analyst, Network Specialist, Civil/Structural Engineer, Radio frequency engineer, Demographics Specialist, Quantitative Surveyor, Environment, Health and Safety Specialist, Power Specialist or Electrical Engineer, Site Acquisition & Permitting Specialist, Financial & Economic Analyst

The attention of interested consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s ‘Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers’ July 2016, revised September 2023 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case

of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultants Qualification Selection (CQS) method set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours (Monday to Friday, 08:00 – 16:00 hours Kampala time on working days and from NITA-U website (www.nita.go.ug)).

Expressions of interest (**One Original, one hard Copy, and One soft Copy**) must be delivered in written form to the address below (in person, or by courier or e-mail) by **24th January, 2024**. The packages must be clearly marked **Expression of Interest for “Consultancy Services for study of mobile broadband deployment in rural areas – Lot 1-50 masts serving 900 MDA`s and Lot 2 installation of 80 masts for voice and data in 13 refugee host communities/ Districts**

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