



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Communication and IT (MCIT)
Digital CASA**



**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)**

Country: Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Project: Digital CASA Afghanistan Project
Project ID: P156894
Grant No: IDA-D2820
PP Ref. No.: Component 2
Assignment Title: Assessment of Current Status of Afghanistan Cyber Emergency Response Team (CERT)
Reference No.: MCIT/DC-EGOV/2019/C-2
Date of Issuance: May21,2019
Date of Closing: June08, 2019

1. BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has received Project Grant/Fund from the World Bank for implementation of Digital CASA Afghanistan Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds to hire a qualified Consultancy Firm to provide Advisory Services to MCIT, to carry out Assessment of Current Status of Afghanistan Cyber Emergency Response Team (CERT) of Information Security Directorate of MCIT.

This Consultancy Support will be provided to MCIT at Kabul, under the Digital CASA Afghanistan Project.

The aim of the Digital CASA Afghanistan Project is: (i) to strengthen the Regional and expand National level broadband connectivity based on Optical Fiber Networks; (ii) to boost up digital society and economy through e-Governance initiatives and (iii) to prepare an enabling environment and Regulations for the growth of ICT Sector in Afghanistan. The project will do so by: (a) expansion and strengthening of broadband connectivity in Central Asia and South Asia Regions; (b) expansion and strengthening of national broadband connectivity in Afghanistan; (c) Commissioning of a Network called “Govnet” to connect most of the Government Offices at Central and Provincial Government levels in Afghanistan; (d) Automation of citizen-centric services through e-Governance initiatives of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan; (e) framing up of Regulations, Policies, Strategies and Procedures for growth of ICT Sector of Afghanistan. To contribute towards achievement of some of the above-mentioned objectives of Digital CASA Afghanistan Project, MCIT has decided to avail the consultancy services of a Consultancy Firm to carry out Assessment of current status of Afghanistan (CERT).

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Assessment of Cyber Emergency Response Team in Afghanistan (AF-CERT) objective is to provide comprehensive report on current AF-CERT maturity level and areas of improvement, including actionable plan with estimated budgets. Consultant must assess AF-CERT maturity level as per SIM3 or alternative internationally recognized CSIRT assessment model. Assessment of the current Afghan Cyber Space should lead with recommendations to the next stages: a) Enhancement of AF-CERT (operational framework, essential incident handling service as per international best practices); and b) Operational Capacity Development for AF-CERT.

3. SCOPE OF SERVICE:

Assessment of Cyber Emergency Response Team in Afghanistan (AF-CERT) must include:

Consultant must assess AF-CERT maturity level as per SIM3 or selected alternative internationally recognized CSIRT assessment model. The model must cover Processes, Organization, People, and Tools Dimensions.

Assessment interviews with relevant stakeholders must be performed and suggested improvement plan must be aligned as per stakeholders' expectations.

For further information on the scope of the services, you can access the full ToR with a request to Mr. Walid Nooriby valid.noori@digitalcasa.gov.af cc: fawad.anwarzai@digitalcasa.gov.af , Khyber.seddigi@mcit.gov.af

Ministry of Communication and IT now invites eligible international and national 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.

4. The shortlisting criteria are:

- i) The International Consultancy Firm must have at least 3 (three) years of experience in Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRT) development.
- ii) Firm must have experience of successful CSIRT buildouts or 2 similar scope assignment at least in 2 (two) countries in last 5 years, each contract value shall be minimum USD 50,000 Fifty Thousand US Dollars; customer references must be provided.
- iii) Firm must have an Annual Turn Over of USD 70,000 Seventy Thousand US Dollars in any year of the last 5 years; Documents must be provided.

5. A consultant firm will be selected through **Consultant's Qualification Based Selection (CQS)** following open-international market approach method as defined in World Bank Regulation for selection and employment of consultants July, **2016**, Revised November **2017** and August **2018**. Any further information required, can be

obtained at the address below from Saturday to Wednesday during office hours, [i.e. **0900** to **1500** hours].Electronic queries will also be entertained.

6. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, by mail, or by e-mail) by **June08, 201915:00Hrs (Kabul Local Time)**.

7. Attention:

Mr. Walid Noori

Senior Procurement Specialist

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