

Notification of Intent to Invite Bids

Method: International Competitive Bidding (ICB)

Augment DCIS NRF Capability Increment 1 NCIA Reference #: IFB-CO-423289-DF-INC-1

Estimated Amount: 61.5 M EUR and Option for 6 M EUR

NOI Closing Date: 21 February 2025

Solicitation Release Date: Anticipated on 28 February 2025

Solicitation Closing Date: Anticipated on 26 May 2025

Contract Award Date: Anticipated on 14 November 2025

Competition Type: ICB Lowest Priced Technically Compliant

The NCIA hereby notifies the NATO Nations of its intent to invite bids for the procurement of Deployable Communications Information Systems (DCIS) for the NATO Response Force to provide access to NATO strategic communication infrastructure and Command and Control capability. This Project "Augment DCIS NRF Capability Increment 1" will deliver the DCIS Points of Presence (DPOP) in support of the large HQ of the NATO Forces.

****Neo eProcurement Registration****

Attention Suppliers,

The NCIA is stepping into a new era of procurement. We have launched an eProcurement tool, Neo, to make our collaborations smoother, faster, and more transparent. If you are keen to do business with us, you will need to register in [Neo](#). This tool will offer suppliers visibility into past, current and upcoming business opportunities, and streamlines the competition cycles, contract awards, and account management.

NCIA Point of Contact

Ole Hubner, Senior Contracting Officer

Email: IFB-423289-DF-INC-1@ncia.nato.int

Annexes:

- A. Summary of Requirements
- B. Distribution List

To : Distribution List

Subject : **Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for Augment DCIS NRF Capability Increment 1**

References :

- A.** AC/4-D/2261 (1996 Edition), NSIP Procedures for International Competitive Bidding
- B.** NATO Investment Committee Decision Sheet, AC/4-DS(2024)0031

1. In accordance with References A through B, the NCIA, as the Host Nation responsible to implement the project in subject, hereby gives notice of its intent (NOI) to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for Augment DCIS NRF Capability Increment 1, hereafter referred to as the "Project".
2. A high-level summary of the Project's technical requirements is set forth in Annex A hereto. These requirements are being refined and will be included in further details as part of the IFB.
3. The reference for this Project is IFB-CO-423289-DF-INC-1, and all correspondence concerning this NOI and subsequent IFB should reference this number.
4. The NCIA plans to issue an IFB using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedure for Lowest Priced Technically Compliant (LPTC) evaluations. A single, firm-fixed price contract is planned for the entire scope of work.
5. Eligibility to participate in the subsequent IFB is declared by national authorities. Hence, qualified and certified companies interested in receiving the IFB for this Project are hereby requested to provide a Declaration of Eligibility (DoE), **sent by their Delegation/Mission** to NATO to the NCIA contracting authority not later than 21 February 2025, which is 36 calendar days after the date of this letter.
 - a. In addition to the certification of the company's security clearances required under this NOI, the DoE should include the following information for each of the nominated companies:
 - Company name
 - Company address
 - Point of Contact (PoC)
 - PoC email address
 - PoC telephone number
 - b. This information is critical to enable prompt and accurate communication with prospective bidders and should be sent electronically to IFB-423289-DF-INC-1@ncia.nato.int.
6. In order to maximize competition the NCIA may, at its discretion, accept nominations after the deadline, so long as the IFB has not been issued. The NCIA may even accept, at its discretion,



nominations after the IFB has been issued under the condition that such late nomination will not be used as the basis to request an extension to the bid closing date.

7. Requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual companies will not be considered.
8. Bidders will be required to declare a bid validity of 12 months from bid closing date. Should the selection and award procedure exceed the bid closing date by more than 12 months, companies will be requested to voluntarily extend the validity of their bids accordingly. Bidders may decline to do so, withdraw their bid and excuse themselves from the bidding process without penalty.
9. National authorities are advised that the IFB package is anticipated to be NATO RESTRICTED. The IFB and the contractual documents could contain references to other NATO documents classified as NATO RESTRICTED.
10. The successful bidder will be required to handle and store classified information up to the level of NATO SECRET. In addition, contractor personnel will be required to work unescorted in Class II Security areas. Therefore, access can only be permitted to cleared individuals. Only companies maintaining such cleared facilities and the appropriate personnel clearances will be able to perform the resulting contract.
11. The NCIA reserves the right to cancel, suspend, or withdraw this NOI at its own discretion and at any time. The NCIA is not liable for any expenses incurred by companies in conjunction with their responses to this NOI and such responses shall not be regarded as a commitment of any kind concerning future procurement of the items or services described herein.
12. Your assistance in this procurement is greatly appreciated.

For the Chief of Acquisition:

Ole Hubner
Senior Contracting Officer

Annex A – Summary of Requirements

Project No. 2017/0CM03141, CP9A0149

1. Project Objective

The Project “Augment Deployable Communications and Information Systems (DCIS) Capabilities to meet Emergent Requirements ” will deliver DCIS Points of Presence (PoP) in support of the large HQs of the NATO. This project, hereafter referred to as “project Dragonfly”, will complement and interoperate with the current generation of DCIS PoPs, in support of data, video and voice communications between deployed elements and the static HQs of the NATO Command Structure (NCS).

2. Scope of Work

The scope of this IFB includes the procurement, design, integration and the testing and validation of Dragonfly nodes with existing DCIS assets and with the wider DCIS Enterprise, including the Mission Anchor Function (MAF). The Dragonfly project shall deliver Core Nodes and Remote Nodes, including supporting non-CIS elements. Each Dragonfly DCIS PoP (or DPOP) consists of one Core node with up to two Remote nodes attached. Core Nodes host all the Information Services (including cross-domain gateway services) and provide wide area network connectivity, both within theatre and for reach back into the Mission Anchor Function (MAF). They act as communications hubs for the Remote Nodes. Remote Nodes will have dual purpose: 1) Providing hosted users of the NFS with direct access to NATO DCIS services hosted in the Core Nodes; 2) Acting as nodes of the federated Mission Network (MN), providing connectivity to mission partners through Network Interconnection Points (NIP). For the purposes above, Remote Nodes will deploy in the vicinity of the Core Node locations, at line of sight (LOS) distance, collocated with the supported NFS HQ or mission partner PoP. Remote Nodes will reach to their parent Core Node over High Capacity LOS radio links (HCLOS) or fiber, or will directly connect to the MAF if isolated, over SATCOM. Core Node infrastructure and users will be hosted in a shelter. System administrators in charge of the configuration and operation of the DCIS PoP, as well as helpdesk operators, will be hosted in a separate tent (to be provided as PFE). Remote Nodes will not necessarily be hosted in an environmentally and power conditioned environment (e.g. they may be placed outside national tents or shelters). For that reason they will require their own environmental and power conditioning capability. Core Nodes will be implemented as the combination of the following systems (or CIS modules): 1) Core Network Modules (CNM), with WAN connectivity provided over terrestrial L1 or L2 lines (TDM or Ethernet) or Purchaser-furnished SATCOM bearers, and metro-area connectivity provided over fiber or HCLOS radio links; 2) Information Services Modules (ISM); 3) User Access Modules (UAM); Each Core Node will have three instances of each of the CIS modules above, as many as security classifications are to be supported (NU, NS and MS). Core Nodes will include a HCLOS radio system, for local/metro area connectivity to their Remote Nodes. Contract encompasses the delivery, integration and validation of applications, operating systems and licenses (hosted in the ISM) for the provision of: 1) Infrastructure Services: Authentication services (Active Directory),

Domain Name Services (DNS), Windows Internet Name Services (WINS), Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP), Time services, Certificate services, File and Printer services, Back-up and Restore services;2) Core Services: Informal Messaging, Database, Document Collaboration and Web Services;Furthermore, the project will deliver and integrate applications and licenses in support of:1) Service Management and Control services, integrated with the current network and service management and control infrastructure of the Dragonfly. 2) Security Services: Boundary Protection, Access Control for servers and user workstations, Anti-virus and Anti-malware, Auditing, Network and Host Intrusion Protection, and Patch management. Conversely, the implementation of the ISM will seek conformance with the design principles conveyed by the DCIS CUBE Architecture Definition Document and its Annexes.

3. Period of Performance

- a. The Period of Performance is anticipated to start in Q4 2025 and end in Q2 2028. It is important to note that this timeline represents the anticipated duration of the Project, and adjustments may be made as per the requirements of the solicitation process and subsequent contractual agreement.

4. Warranty and O&M Support

- a. Following acceptance of the final operational delivery, the contract will require warranty for any system and software delivered.

Annex B – Distribution List

NATO Delegations:

Albania
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Czechia
Denmark
Estonia
France
Germany

Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway

Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
The Republic of Türkiye
The United Kingdom
The United States

Embassies in Brussels (Attn: Commercial Attaché):

Albania
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Czechia
Denmark
Estonia
France
Germany

Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway

Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
The Republic of Türkiye
The United Kingdom
The United States

NCIA – All NATEXs