



**L E S O T H O  
C O M M U N I C A T I O N S  
A U T H O R I T Y**

## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

**Provision and Installation of Network Equipment for a Wi-Fi Pilot  
Project for Institutions of Higher Learning  
Centre for Accounting Studies (CAS)**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Lesotho Communications Authority (LCA) has identified 23 institutions of higher learning throughout Lesotho as potential beneficiaries of the WiFi Pilot project. These institutions have a collective population of approximately 24,500. Centre for Accounting Studies (CAS) is part of the institutions that account for 16 percent of the student population.

LCA has established that the institutions are unable to provide Internet access to students for learning and research. Main reason cited by the institutions for the state of affairs was that the cost of bandwidth and/or infrastructure required were prohibitive. It is against this background that LCA decided to pilot a free Wi-Fi access programme for institutions over a three-year period. The programme is meant to supplement, and not replace, internet services that the institutions have contracted or plan to contract in the future. The programme will be continuously evaluated for effectiveness and the need for refinement or continuation after the pilot period.

LCA invites proposals from suitably qualified local service providers to bid for the opportunity to provide and install network equipment at CAS campus.

## 2. TENDER SPECIFICATIONS

The network installation requires two buildings to be connected by fibre through a main backhaul. This will require a mandatory site visit at CAS campus in Maseru.

### 2.1 NETWORK EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATION

Table 1 below provides the network equipment specification items including quantities required as well as the description for each item. Please use Table 1 to cost the network equipment items taking into account the required specifications. As the bidder costs the items listed in Table 1, the order of the listed items should be maintained to facilitate ease of evaluation. ***In the event that the bidder wishes to specify additional item(s) in order to complete the work, the bidder is free to include such item(s) at the bottom of the list in Table 1 without amending the order of items as listed by LCA.***

**Table 1 List of Network Equipment Specification Items**

ITEM	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
Cisco Access points	5	AIR-CAP1602I-E-K9
Access controller Licence	12	<b>Upgrade access controller licenses to 12 licences:</b> The Access Controller is currently licensed with 5 licences and an upgrade is needed to cater for 10 Access Points.
Optical fibre installation	30m	Armed 8-core outdoor fibre
48 port Cisco switch	2	Cisco Catalyst 2960X-48LPS-L
6 U Cabinets	2	
UPS	2	Mecer IVR-2400LBK UPS
Cabling for a computer lab	24	Krone cat 6 RJ 45 Points, and 3m krone cat 6 flyleads
Wireless Cards	25	TP-Link Archer T6E AC1300 PCIe WiFi Card

### **3. TIME FRAMES AND OTHER CONDITIONS**

Bids should be submitted at the LCA address indicated in 5.1 below, on or before the deadline. **No electronic submissions will be allowed.**

Submissions must meet all the conditions indicated below:

- 3.1 The proposal shall indicate the full details of what will be supplied, with at least four (4) references where a similar assignment was undertaken, including contact persons, telephone numbers and physical address and other salient details pertaining to the delivery;
- 3.2 The bidder must submit business profile and relevant certificates:
  - 3.2.1 Copy of current Tax Certificate;
  - 3.2.2 Certified copy of Valid Traders Licence, certified at source;
- 3.3 The bidder must submit names and profiles of 2 key personnel;
- 3.4 Proof of Krone Certification;
- 3.5 In the case of supply of Cisco equipment:

- 3.5.1 A letter (dated not earlier than 1 June 2019) from Cisco as proof of the bidder's "Lesotho based authorized Cisco Partner" status;
- 3.5.2 A letter from Cisco confirming receipt of an order purchase request (emanating from this bidder's specified Cisco equipment) from the bidder on behalf of CAS.
- 3.6 For Cisco Devices, cost should be inclusive of one-year valid Smartnet contract;
- 3.7 LCA shall not be bound to accept the lowest bidder;
- 3.8 Lesotho Tax Laws shall be applicable;
- 3.9 The financial proposal shall clearly state the total bid price in Lesotho Loti (LSL). All prices shall include VAT where applicable;
- 3.10 All bidders must note that payment is made upon completion of the entire project. However, the bidder may propose a payment schedule that is accompanied by a bank guarantee;
- 3.11 A retention of 10% of the total project cost shall apply, which will be payable after expiry of the standard defect liability period of one year;
- 3.12 A compulsory pre-bid/clarification meeting and site visit with representative of CAS will take place at the CAS Campus on the 20 June 2019 at 0900 hours. Responses to the queries raised at the pre-bid meeting and clarifications will be provided in writing by email to all bidders who attended the pre-bid meeting within 3 days after the pre-bid meeting. Bidders should have registered at the main gate of CAS by 08:45 hours, late attendants shall not be accepted into the meeting;
- 3.13 The proposal must be valid for 60 working days from the submission date;
- 3.14 Late submissions shall not be accepted.

#### **4. SUBMISSION FORMAT**

- 4.1. The bidder must submit the original and six copies, clearly marked "**ORIGINAL**" and "**COPIES**";
- 4.2. The bids must be clearly marked "Advertisement for Provision and Installation of Network Equipment for a WiFi pilot Project for Institutions of Higher Learning – CAS". The bid envelope should not bear any identification of the bidder.

## **5. TIME FRAMES AND OTHER DETAILS**

- 5.1 The bids must be submitted at LCA Offices at 30 Princess Margaret Road, Old Europa on or before 4 July 2019 by 12:00 noon. No proposals will be received after the closing time.
- 5.2 The selected bidder will be notified in writing and invited for contract negotiations.
- 5.3 Opening of bid documents will be on the 4 July 2019 at 14:00 hours at LCA premises. Interested bidders are invited for the bid opening at 14:00 hours. Only one representative from a bidder may attend.

## **6. DISCLAIMER**

This RFP does not commit LCA to pay any expenses incurred by the bidder in the preparation of responses to this invitation or for attending meetings, if any at all. LCA reserves the right to cancel or withdraw this request for proposals as a whole or in part without furnishing any reasons and without attracting any liability.

## **7. ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ADDRESSED TO:**

Lesotho Communications Authority  
30 Princess Margaret Road  
Old Europa  
P. O. Box 15896  
Maseru 100  
LESOTHO