

Notification of Intent to Invite Bids

Method: International Competitive Bidding (ICB)

Deployable Points Of Presence (DPOP) for Special Operations Component Commands (SOCC)

NCI Agency Reference #: IFB-CO-423328-DPOP-SOCC

Estimated Amount to include O&M: 54M EUR (INV) and Option for CLS 43.4M EUR (CLS)

NOI Closing Date: 6 December 2024

Solicitation Release Date: Anticipated on 19 December 2024

Solicitation Closing Date: Anticipated on 31 May 2025

Contract Award Date: Anticipated on 31 January 2026

Competition Type: ICB Best Value

The NCI Agency hereby notifies the NATO Nations of its intent to invite to bid for the procurement of a new Deployable Communication and Information System (DCIS) for NATO Special Operations Component Commands Headquarters (SOCCs HQ).

*****Neo eProcurement Registration*****

Attention Suppliers,

The NCI Agency 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.

The NCI Agency has begun the move of all procurement activities to Neo in late 2023. Selected business opportunities will be incrementally conducted in Neo. We invite all suppliers interested in these competitions to register in [Neo](#).

NCI Agency Point of Contact

Ole Hubner, Senior Contracting Officer

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NEO eProcurement: <https://neo.ncia.nato.int>

For first time users of the NEO eProcurement tool, please follow the registration steps available [here](#).

Annexes:

- A. Summary of Requirements
- B. Distribution List

To : Distribution List

Subject : **Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for Deployable Points Of Presence (DPOP) for Special Operations Component Commands (SOCC)**

References :

- A. AC/4-D/2261 (1996 Edition), NSIP Procedures for International Competitive Bidding
- B. AC/4-D(2008)0002-REV2, Investment Committee for Procedures and Practices for Conducting NSIP International Competitive Bidding Using Best Value Evaluation Methodology
- C. NATO Investment Committee Decision Sheet, AC/4-DS(2024)0021

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1. In accordance with References A through C, the NCI Agency, 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 Deployable Points Of Presence (DPOP) for Special Operations Component Commands (SOCC), 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-423328-DPOP-SOCC, and all correspondence concerning this NOI and subsequent IFB should reference this number.
 4. The NCI Agency plans to issue an IFB using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedure for Best Value (BV) evaluations. The successful bid for this Project, pursuant to the IFB following this NOI, will be the bid that offers the best value in accordance with predefined evaluation criteria prescribed in the IFB. The top-level criteria weighting will be 60% Technical and 40% Price. 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 NCI Agency contracting authority not later than 6 December 2024, which is 39 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-CO-423328-DPOP-SOCC@ncia.nato.int.
6. In order to maximize competition the NCI Agency may, at its discretion, accept nominations after the deadline, so long as the IFB has not been issued. The NCI Agency 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 part of the IFB package is anticipated to be NATO RESTRICTED. Furthermore, the IFB and the contractual documents could contain references to other NATO documents classified as NATO RESTRICTED and NATO SECRET.
 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 NCI Agency reserves the right to cancel, suspend, or withdraw this NOI at its own discretion and at any time. The NCI Agency 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

Digitally signed by Ole
Hubner
Date: 2024.11.04
16:10:40 +01'00'

Ole Hubner
Senior Contracting Officer

Annex A – Summary of Requirements

Project No. 2021/OCM03352, CPP9A2301

1. Project Objective

This project, Deployable Point of Presence for Special Operations Component Commands (DPOP for SOCC), is aimed to deliver to the NATO Special Operations Force Command (SOCOM) a secure, modular, scalable, deployable and sustainable capability which will provide communication services between deployed C2 Elements, reach back to strategic networks, access to Information Services (IS) at deployed C2 Elements and integrated information sharing with IS services across the static and deployed environments.

The aim of this procurement is as follows:

- Provision of four (4) sets of SOCC DPoPs for operations;
- Provision of a (1) set for training;
- Provision of a (1) set as reference;
- Integration of the SOCC DPOPs within the NATO static and deployable CIS infrastructure;
- Capability to run Purchaser Furnished Applications (Core Services and Community of Interest Services - COI).

Each SOCC DPOP set includes a large node (SOCC HQ) and a small node (SOCC FWD).

2. Scope of Work

The systems to be delivered, hereafter referred to as the SOCC DPOPs, shall give NATO SOF access to NATO's strategic communications infrastructure and provide access to the Community of Interest (CoI) suite of software applications, a range of core CIS services (including Cyber Security services) along with voice and video communications services.

The scope of this procurement encompasses the provision of SOCC DPoPs required to support up to:

- 125 concurrent operational users on three different security domains and will be operationally deployed to remote locations;
- 15 active CIS Support Users including 4 System Administrators;
- 10 SOTG (SOF Task Group HQ) nodes;
- 1 SOPL (Special Operations Planning Liaison Elements) node;
- 1 SOLE (Special Operations Liaison Element) node;

- 3 SOLO (Special Operations Liaison Officer) nodes.

The SOCC DPoP will also provide a detachable capability called SOCC forward (SOCC FWD) required supporting up to:

- 10 concurrent operational users on three different security domains and will be operationally deployed to remote locations;
- 7 CIS Support Users including 2 System Administrators.

The scope of this procurement does not include the provision of SATCOM terminals/services.

3. Period of Performance

The Period of Performance is anticipated to start in Q1 2026 and end in Q3 2028.

4. Technical Constrains

- a) The SOCC HQs for Operations shall be provided by the Contractor in a sheltered configuration in accordance with the requirements detailed in the incoming IFB.
- b) The SOCC FWDs for Operations shall be provided by the Contractor installed in a vehicle to be provided by the Purchaser. All components shall be easily removable from the vehicle and transportable in transit cases in accordance with the requirements detailed in the incoming IFB.
- c) The SOCC HQ and SOCC FWD Training and Reference sets shall be provided by the contractor in racks and installed by the Contractor, with the support of NCIA personnel, inside buildings to be identified by the Purchaser in Western Europe.

5. Warranty

- a) Following acceptance of the Provisional System Acceptance (PSA), the contract will require warranty for any hardware and firmware/software delivered.
- b) The IFB is expected to include an Option for Contractor Logistics Support to be started after the completion of the warranty.

Annex B – Distribution List

NATO Delegations:

Albania	Hungary	Portugal
Belgium	Iceland	Romania
Bulgaria	Italy	Slovakia
Canada	Latvia	Slovenia
Croatia	Lithuania	Spain
Czechia	Luxembourg	The Republic of Türkiye
Denmark	Montenegro	The United Kingdom
Estonia	Netherlands	The United States
France	North Macedonia	
Germany	Norway	
Greece	Poland	

Embassies in Brussels (Attn: Commercial Attaché):

Albania	Hungary	Portugal
Belgium	Iceland	Romania
Bulgaria	Italy	Slovakia
Canada	Latvia	Slovenia
Croatia	Lithuania	Spain
Czechia	Luxembourg	The Republic of Türkiye
Denmark	Montenegro	The United Kingdom
Estonia	Netherlands	The United States
France	North Macedonia	
Germany	Norway	
Greece	Poland	

NCI Agency – All NATEXs