

<b>TENDER DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF A REPUTABLE INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING, AND MAINTENANCE OF A 40MBPS PRIMARY FIBER INTERNET CONNECTION AND 20MBPS WIRELESS FAILOVER LINE, WITH MPLS VPN NETWORK FOR A PERIOD OF THIRTY-SIX (36) MONTHS</b>
<b>TENDER NO:</b>	<b>AGRISETA/2023/03</b>
<b>BRIEFING SESSION</b>	<b>15 JUNE 2023</b>

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:**

**1. Question:**

MPLS and Internet connectivity:

Do you want two lanes? One running MPLS, the other one running the Internet and terminating at different service provider pops?

**Response:**

The internet traffic should not be shared between AgriSETA and a service provider.

We do not want our traffic to be part of your internet traffic, our internet connectivity should have a dedicated internet service, we are not looking for two separate routes. The internet traffic should not be shared between AgriSETA and a service provider.

**2. Question**

How many sites does AgriSETA have that require connectivity to the data centre? If it is just one site, we don't provide the MPLS.

Should pricing be provided for the additional sites?

1. Future prospects indicate regional offices, and we therefore want you to cater for that requirement. AgriSETA should be able to connect to those sites easily, the internet solution provided must be scalable to accommodate future remote sites or growth.

Furthermore, it should be note that there will be a data hosting service provider that will be onboard in three to five months' time and secure internet line and to this connectivity must be factored in and provided for.

2. We are looking at doing back-up replication and some of the services require an MPLS or SDWAN. E.g., Data hosting (hosting sites) by a different service provider where secure internet connectivity must be provided.
3. The price for the additional sites should be added but effected upon on onboarding of the new sites.

### **3. Question:**

Does it mean that if a reference letter is not dated, and is not on a company letterhead, it will not be considered?

### **Response:**

Yes, the letter will not be considered as each and every point and requirement that is stipulated on the criteria is important and must be fully met. Technology advances on a daily basis and the service provider's references must therefore be current and relevant.

### **4. Question**

The request for internet services was re-issued more than once, what is the reason for that?

### **Response:**

This is the first tender process after the two Request for Quotations failed due to bidders not meeting the functionality score, some of the reasons were:

CVs of Project managers not clearly articulating or indicating the relevant required experience of implementing the same service, CVs not being adequate, no qualifications and certificates for Project Managers not being attached.

As this is an area of work that requires specific capability and technical expertise, it is an important component of the submission.

### **5. Question**

Does the Project manager include the account manager and engineers?

### **Response:**

A project leader will be designated as project manager for this project.

A Project team is a separate team from the project leader with a minimum of three CV/s which constitutes the minimum number of people in the team, in order to score the requisite points.