



**iThemba LABS**  
Laboratory for Accelerator Based Sciences

**INVITATION TO BID**

**APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER TO SUPPLY AND DELIVER NETWORK SWITCHES AND WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS WITH FIVE (5) YEARS MAINTENANCE SUPPORT TO ITHEMBA LABS.**

<b>Bidder Name:</b>		
<b>Bid Number:</b>	NRF/ ILABS ITSR/33/2024-25	
<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>24 February 2025</b>	
<b>Closing Time:</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	
<b>Bid Box Address</b>	Tender Box, Main Security Gate, iThemba LABS, Old Faure Road, Faure Western Cape, 7131, South Africa GPS coordinates: 34.025°S 18.716°E Dimensions of tender box opening: 300 mm x 20 mm	
<b>Envelope Addressing</b>	On the face of each envelope, the Bid Number and Bidder's Name, Postal Address, Contact Name, Telephone Number and email address mail. Electronic Submission will be accepted ( <a href="mailto:scm1@tlabs.ac.za">scm1@tlabs.ac.za</a> )	
<b>Bidding procedure enquiries are directed in writing to:</b>		<b>Technical information queries are directed in writing to:</b>
Section	Supply Chain Management	
Contact person	Ms Lee-Ann Benjamin / Ms L Gordon	
E-mail address	<a href="mailto:scm1@tlabs.ac.za">scm1@tlabs.ac.za</a>	
<b>PRICE VALIDITY PERIOD FROM DATE OF CLOSURE: 150 days</b>		
<b>Fraud alert!</b> It is common for scammers to call bidders pretending to be NRF's employees and offering to swing tenders your way for a fee. <b>DO NOT FALL FOR IT, IT IS A SCAM!</b> The NRF would never offer payment or any other consideration in return for the favourable consideration of a bid. Please report any suspected acts of fraud or corruption to the following toll-free number - 0800 701 701 or SMS 39772.		

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# INTRODUCTION

## INTRODUCTION TO THE NRF

The National Research Foundation (“NRF”) is a juristic person established in terms of the National Research Foundation Act as amended, Act 19 of 2018 that will contract with the awarded bidder.

The NRF is the government’s national agency responsible for promoting and supporting research and human capital development through funding researchers, provision of the National Research Platforms, and science outreach platforms/programs to the broader community. The NRF provides these services in all fields of science and technology, including natural science, engineering, social science, and humanities.

Please visit the NRF website (<https://www.nrf.ac.za>) for more information.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE Ithemba LABS BUSINESS UNIT

iThemba LABS (Laboratory for Accelerator-Based Sciences) is a multi-disciplinary research laboratory based at two sites in the Western Cape and Gauteng respectively, these provide facilities for:

- Basic and Applied Nuclear Physics Research using Particle Beams
- Research Radiation Biophysics
- The supply of Accelerator-produced Radioactive Isotopes for Nuclear Medicine and Research.

Please visit the iThemba LABS website (<http://tlabs.ac.za>) for more information.

## CONTEXT OF THIS PROCUREMENT NEED

iThemba LABS seeks to appoint a reputable service provider to supply network switches and wireless access points including five (5) years software maintenance support. Our existing network infrastructure is Cisco-based, so any proposed solution must demonstrate seamless integration through a reference document. The goal is to replace our aging Cisco Catalyst 3750 switches and our aging Cisco Wireless Infrastructure, which have reached end-of-life and pose a potential failure risk. Furthermore, the current network infrastructure does not meet the lab's future needs. We require newer, faster technology that will integrate smoothly with our existing Cisco network infrastructure.

### INTERDEPENDENCIES TO OTHER SYSTEMS

1. IThemba LABS has 2 x Cisco Catalyst 9500 switches connected as a Virtual Switching System (VSS) for redundancy. New network switches to connect to Cisco Catalyst 9500 switches core and service various access locations, attaching directly with fibre optic multimode short-range cables and 10G SFP.
2. Campus switches consists of Cisco Catalyst 3650's and 3750's. New switches to replace these aged devices that are currently on the access layer.
3. Firewall is a Fortinet Fortigate 1500D. Our Cisco Catalyst 9500 switches are the core of the network and connect directly to the Fortigate.
4. Cisco Wireless Infrastructure. We have a Cisco Wireless LAN Controller connected to the core and Cisco wireless access points connecting to various access switches.

# PART A – CONTRACT

## DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS

The detailed technical specifications are as follows:

### 1. Hardware Requirements

#### 1.1. Product / Service / Solution

1.1.1 Supply 10 units of 48-Port Network Switches

1.1.2 Supply 50 units of Wireless Network Access Points

All specifications indicate a minimum per component.

#### 2.2 Minimum Requirements for Network Switches

**2.2.1 The network switch solution should at least have the following minimum specification (it is mandatory to meet all of these minimum requirements)**

- Total Network Interfaces GE SFP 48x GE RJ45 and 4x 10GE SFP+ ports Note: SFP+ ports are compatible with 1 GE SFP
- Dedicated Management 10/100 Port 1
- RJ-45 Serial Console Port 1
- Form Factor 1 RU Rack Mount
- Power over Ethernet (PoE) Ports — 48 (802.3af/at)
- PoE Power Budget — 772 W
- Mean Time Between Failures > 10 years
- System Specifications Switching Capacity (Duplex) 176 Gbps
- Packets Per Second (Duplex) 262 Mpps
- MAC Address Storage 32 K
- Network Latency <1 $\mu$ s
- VLANs Supported 4 K
- Link Aggregation Group Size 8

- Total Link Aggregation Groups Up to number of ports
- Packet Buffers 4 MB
- Memory 1GB DDR4
- Flash 256 MB
- ACL 1.5k
- Spanning Tree Instances 32
- Power Required 100–240V AC, 50/60 Hz
- Power Supply AC built in
- Airflow front/side to back

#### **Accessories**

- 20 units of 10GE SFP+ transceiver module, short range 10GE SFP+ transceiver module, short range for systems with SFP+ and SFP/SFP+ slots
- 20 units of SFP LC-LC Multimode 1m
- 6 units of SFP LC-LC Multimode 2m
- 5 units of 1-meter DAC 10G SFP+ and hot-pluggable / stacking kit
- 10 units of AC Power Supplies including 10 units of x 1.8 meter SA version power cords

#### **Software**

- 5 Year Software subscription and Support (Maintenance Support – software updates and patches) for each Network Switch

#### **Installation**

6 months Professional Service after sales:

- Assist with personalized configuration of network switches to meet business requirements
- Assist with optimizing network switches' configuration

iThemba LABS team is proficient in Cisco (All configurations and installations to be done by iThemba LABS). Should the proposed solution be from a different vendor, service provider is responsible for: Network switches to be supplied, configured and installed (successfully integrated with current infrastructure) within two weeks. Provide training (run-through) to iThemba team and handover document.

## **2.2.2 Minimum Requirements**

**2.2.2.1 The wireless access point solution should at least have the following minimum specifications (it is mandatory to meet all of these minimum requirements)**

- Hardware Type Indoor AP (Access Point)
- Number of Radios 3 + 1 BLE (Bluetooth Low Energy)
- Number of Antennas Internal: x4 Dual band Wi-Fi + x4 Tri-band Wi-Fi and Scanning + 1 2.4GHz BLE/ ZigBee + 1 GPS antenna
- Antenna Type and Peak Gain Omni Directional antenna. Dual band: 4.0 dBi for 2.4GHz, 5.6 dBi for 5 GHz Tr-band: 4.0 dBi for 2.4GHz, 6.0 dBi for 5 GHz and 5.7dBi for 6GHz band BLE antenna: 5.1dBi for 2.4Ghz

- Frequency Bands (GHz)\* 2.400–2.4835, 5.150–5.250, 5.250–5.350, 5.350-5.470m 5.470–5.725, 5.725–5.850, 5.925–6.425, 6.425–6.525, 6.525–7, 5.925–6.875, 6.875–7.125
- Radio 1 Capabilities Frequency band: 2.4GHz Channel width: 20/40MHz Modulation: BPSK, QPSK, 64/256/1024 QAM MIMO Chains: 4x4 Service
- Radio 2 Capabilities Frequency band: 5.0GHz Channel width: 20/40/80/80+80MHz Modulation: BPSK, QPSK, 64/256/1024 QAM MIMO Chains: 4x4 Service
- Radio 3 Capabilities Frequency band: 2.4GHz, 5.0GHz, and 6.0GHz Channel width: 20/40/80/160MHz Modulation: BPSK, QPSK, 64/256/1024 QAM MIMO Chains: 4X4 Service (2x2 when Scanning)
- Maximum Data Rate Radio 1: up to 1148 Mbps Radio 2: up to 2402 Mbps Radio 3: Up to 4804 Mbps
- Bluetooth Low Energy Radio Bluetooth scanning and iBeacon advertisement @10 dBm max TX power
- Interfaces x2 100/1000/2500/5000 Base- T-T RJ45, 1 Type 3.0 USB, 1 RS-232 RJ45 Serial Port.
- Power over Ethernet (PoE) 1 802.3bt PoE default or x2 802.3at PoE (Dual PoE current sharing)
- Simultaneous SSIDs Up to 8 per client serving radio (7 if background scanning is enabled)
- EAP Type(s) EAP-TLS, EAP-TTLS/MSCHAPv2, PEAPv0/EAP-MSCHAPv2, PEAPv1/EAP-GTC, EAP-SIM, EAP-AKA, EAP-FAST
- User/Device Authentication WPA™, WPA2™, and WPA3™ with 802.1x or Preshared key, WEP, Web Captive Portal, MAC blacklist and allowlist.
- Per Radio Client Capacity Up to 512 clients per radio (Radio1, Radio2 and Radio3)
- SSID Types Supported Local-Bridge, Mesh, and Tunnel
- Mounting Options Ceiling, T-Rail, and Wall
- Included Accessories Standard Mounting kit for Ceiling, T-Rail and Wall

**Software**

- 5 Year Software subscription and Support (Maintenance Support) for each Network Wireless Access Point

## 2. Bidder Qualifications to qualify to the bid competition

### 2.1. Bidder Document Requirements

- (a) The bidder **must** have a valid registration / accreditation with Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Gold / Platinum or Advanced Partner to provide network infrastructure solutions.
- (b) The bidder **must** provide data sheet of quoted devices.
- (c) The bidder **must** provide evidence substantiating (proposal) how their solution will integrate with our current infrastructure, along with an integration plan in the event that equipment differs from Cisco, including successful implementations..
- (d) Technical staff must have valid vendor certification for the proposed solution.

### 2.2. Bidder Experience and Capability Requirements (only applicable to network switches)

- (a) The bidder **must** have supplied, installed and configured the Network Infrastructure Solution to at least three (3) customers within the last 3 years.
- (b) The bidder **must** provide evidence substantiating how their solution will integrate with our current infrastructure.

## DUE DILIGENCE OF CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

### 1. The bidder provides as a minimum the following documents for conducting due diligence:

- 1.1. This document (SBD 1) signed. (Refer to page 33 & 46)
- 1.2. Bidders Disclosure (SBD 4). (Refer to page 37)
- 1.3. Preference points claim (SBD 6.1). (Refer to page 40)
- 1.4. A resolution granting authority to sign documents on behalf of the company to the signatory on every document in the tender bid where required.
- 1.5. The bidder **must** have a valid registration / accreditation with OEM Gold / Platinum or Advanced Partner to provide network infrastructure solutions.
- 1.6. Minimum of three (3) contactable written reference letters or project completion certificates (dated and signed) with contact details of the clients for similar projects completed within the last three (03) years. (Refer to Reference letter format on page 44).
- 1.7. The bidder **must** provide data sheet of quoted devices (that meets the specifications).
- 1.8. The bidder **must** provide evidence substantiating how their solution will integrate with our current infrastructure, along with an integration plan in the event that equipment differs from Cisco, including references to successful implementations.
- 1.9. Technical staff **must** have a valid vendor certification for the proposed solution.

## CONTRACT PERIOD

The contract is defined once-off supply and installation with 5-year warranty

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

Special conditions amending specific clauses of the general conditions of contract reference the specific clause in the title.

### Project Management

The Research Development and Technical Support department of iThemba LABS Cape Town is responsible for this Tender and subsequent contract.

### Implementation, hand over, and product management

The appointed bidder provides the delivery management as specified in the detailed specification. iThemba LABS will issue purchase orders as a project control tool and will monitor the execution of the schedule until the purchase order requirements are received on site.

**Performance Verification (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 8)**

The iThemba LABS appointed project manager is required to verify the performance of this contract with reference to the contract requirements and any other element specified in this contract:

1. The appointed bidder to supply network switches and wireless access points, meeting the specifications under this contract.
2. The appointed bidder provides services to the specification level set in this contract.
3. All performances are verified by the iThemba LABS appointed project manager.
4. Both parties signed off on performance on the verification documentation.
5. The bidder must be capable of supplying and delivering all equipment, peripherals, and accessories within four (4) to ten (10) weeks, following the signing of the purchase order (PO) by both parties.

**5-year 24-hour x 7days Next Business Day (NBD) response warranty and service**

The bidder warrants that it delivers 24-hour x 7 days, NBD response service for the following:

10 x Switches with all their components

50 x Access Points

Support services provide guarantee response times, a “work through” philosophy on critical calls, priority support, direct access to senior consultants when needed, telephone support, email support, remote support, on-site support.

iThemba LABS specifies the following response services as set out below and, for each, specifies in the section “Management of Performance Levels: the performance levels with their penalties:

SWOP OUT SAME MODEL	Initial call response time – 24 hours; Delivery within 48 hours of the agreed delivery date stated in the issued purchase order
Repairs service (considering the logistics route in the purchase order instruction)	Initial call response time – 24 hours; Delivery within 48 hours of the agreed delivery date stated in the issued purchase order

Where service requests are logged, iThemba LABS is advised of the status daily and the contract provider requests confirmation from the iThemba LABS to close the call unless where iThemba LABS has not responded to three requests to close the call the contracted provider closes the call

**Communication (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 31)**

The supplier communicates in writing through regular mail, physical delivery, or email. The supplier states the contract number and purchase order number on communication documentation. The supplier does not act upon any communication without the contract number or must verify such communication with the iThemba LABS project manager prior to acting upon it.

**Performance Security (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 7)**

An acceptable financial performance bond is required where iThemba LABS pays an upfront deposit over an amount of R 1 million to the same value as any such upfront deposit.

**Packing (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 9)**

Components (where applicable) must be packaged such that they prevent damage during transportation and storage.

**Payment (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 16)**

Payment terms are within 30 working days of receipt of an invoice issued following successful acceptance tests/commission and earlier where the invoices are accompanied by signed iThemba LABS delivery validation documents including proof of performance stating acceptance of quantity, acceptance to specification, and unit pricing in agreement with the contract and any purchase orders issued in terms of the contract.

It is in the interests of the supplier to adhere to these to receive prompt payment. Any losses incurred through exchange rate variations or interest charged on late payment will be charged to the supplier where these costs arose from non-adherence to the above.

**Prices (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 17)**

The price schedule for the items delivered under the contract shall not vary from the prices quoted by the supplier in his bid with iThemba LABS with the exception of any price adjustments authorized in this section.

1.	<b><u>Exceptions:</u></b> Exceptions to the clause are incidental services, changes in Value Added Tax as gazetted, exchange rates and spare parts.
2.	<b><u>Price Adjustment Rules:</u></b> Price adjustments and their corresponding rules for the managing of price risks on the basis of the iThemba LABS and the appointed bidder sharing the risk equally.

Replacement components –iThemba LABS will consider price variations at the anniversary of the contract. The contract bidder provides detail reasons for price variations substantiated by evidence such as manufacturer’s increase letters, verifiable consumer price variations. iThemba LABS enters in negotiation on the submitted price variations. iThemba LABS reserves the right to obtain three price quotes from the market to verify the submitted price variations are within such identified market price ranges.

Additional Parts and Components – iThemba LABS may require, as determined by future operational requirements, additional parts and components. iThemba LABS, in such event, will notify the appointed bidder of such requirements. The appointed bidder provides revised pricing detailing reasons for price variations substantiated by evidence such as manufactured country’s inflation rates, technology refresh rate impacts, verifiable consumer price variations, and verified movement in exchange rates. iThemba LABS enters in negotiation on the submitted price quotation and variation reasons. iThemba LABS reserves the right to obtain three price quotes from the market to verify the submitted pricing are within such identified market price ranges.

Exchange prices – Where the supplied requirements are from overseas, the appointed bidder will state the portion and currency payable overseas separating local costs. iThemba LABS will only consider exchange rate variations on the identified foreign price component. The rate variation is the difference between the current exchange rate and the exchange rate ruling at the date of signing the SBD 7. Exchange rates are obtained from ABSA or for the www.xe.com website. iThemba LABS will verify the submitted exchange rate variation and enter into negotiation with the appointed bidder on the agreed variation.

The supplier is not responsible for custom duties or import taxes associated with any component imported into South Africa.

3. **Ceiling Price Calculation for price competition:** iThemba LABS provides bidding estimates of quantities to allow for the calculation of a bidding price for the contract that allows an equal comparison basis equitable to all bidders for award selection.

4. **Commitment to Appointed Services Provider:** iThemba LABS, through the signed contract, guarantees its procurement of the equipment and service from the appointed party only where the appointed party meets or exceeds the contractual performance levels.

5. **Contract Price Management in terms of the Contract:** iThemba LABS issues written purchase orders authorising the work as required in this contract as addendums to the contract. The purchase orders stipulate quantity, work description, delivery date, and the unit price in accordance with this contract. iThemba LABS, when issuing the written purchase order, guarantees that the funding is available for the value of that purchase order.

7. **Contract Price:** The cumulative value of all purchase orders issued and paid for is the total value of this signed contract at its expiry/completion date.

### Termination for Default (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 23)

In the event of the non-performance as per the agreed contract, iThemba LABS will appoint an alternative provider at the cost of the supplier. The defaulting appointed bidder is obliged to settle the damages/additional costs that iThemba LABS has incurred as result of the non-performance of the supplier.

## **PERFORMANCE LEVEL (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 22)**

If the appointed bidder fails to meet any performance level:

- a) Both iThemba LABS and the appointed bidder shall jointly investigate and report on the root causes of the performance level failure;
- b) Promptly correct the failure and begin meeting the set performance levels;
- c) Advise iThemba LABS as to the extent requested by iThemba LABS of the status of remedial efforts being undertaken with respect to such performance level failure; and
- d) Take preventive measures to prevent the recurrence of the performance level failure.

## **STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE LEVELS**

<b>Performance being Measured</b>	<b>Measurement Methodology</b>	<b>Penalty and Trigger Level</b>
Delivery of the specified services	Both iThemba LABS and contractor jointly check and confirm specifications are met	GCC21 and GCC22
Timeous delivery as per delivery plan	Project completion delay exceeding 4 weeks from the contractual period agreed upon between both parties.	Penalty – 10 % of the specific invoice value
Installation time and delivery	Meets the agreed deadline as per the initial meeting and that the hardware is up.	Where 48 hours exceeded, penalty is 5% of the original invoice value, increasing by 1% per day thereafter.

## **EVALUATION PROCESS**

A multiple stage process, with sub-stages when required, is followed:

**Administrative stage (One):** (CSD registered/SBD's/Returnable document list/datasheet) Compliance with administrative and evaluation requirements as stated in Part A. All bidders that fail to meet these requirements are disqualified from further evaluation.

**Technical stage (Two):** Compliant bidders will be evaluated based on the technical compliance in Part A. This stage may consist of multiple sub-stages as set out in Part A. All bidders that fail to meet the technical minimum are disqualified from further evaluation.

**Price and Specific goals evaluation stage (Three):** Points are scored on the basis of Price as indicated on SBD 6.1 in accordance with the PPPFA 2000 and its 2022 Regulations.

## RETURNABLE DOCUMENT CHECKLIST TO QUALIFY FOR EVALUATION

<u>Returnable Documents</u>	<u>Specification</u>		
(M – Mandatory); (O – Optional)	Submitted	Bid Section Reference	Reference to Bidder's document
<b><u>Bidder Legislative Due Diligence Eligibility</u></b>			
Procurement Invitation (SBD 1), signed and completed.	<b>M</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Pages 33 & 46
Bidder's Disclosure (SBD 4), signed and completed.	<b>M</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 37
Preference Points Claimed (SBD 6.1), signed and completed with BBBEE certificate or sworn affidavit.	<b>O</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 40
Resolution by the Bidder authorizing signatory. If the documents are completed and signed by the Director/Owner/Partner, the resolution is not needed, but if the documents are completed and signed by any other person, then the resolution is required – as per mandatory requirement	<b>M</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 10
<b><u>Bidder Support Due Diligence Eligibility</u></b>			
Proof of valid registration / accreditation with OEM Gold / Platinum or Advanced Partner	<b>M</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 10
The bidder must provide evidence substantiating how their solution will integrate with our current infrastructure, along with an integration plan in the event that equipment differs from Cisco, including references to successful implementations.	<b>M</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 10
Minimum of three (3) Contactable written reference letters (dated and Signed) with contact details of the clients for similar projects completed within the last three (3) years) that meets the minimum threshold (Refer to Reference letter format on page 42)	<b>M</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 10
The bidder <b>must</b> provide data sheet of quoted devices (that meets the specifications)	<b>M</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 10

The bidder <b>must</b> provide vendor certification of technical staff for the proposed solution.	<b>M</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 10	
Reference 1: From:				
Reference 2: From:				
<b><u>Pricing Competition Documents</u></b>				
<b>(M – Mandatory); (O – Optional)</b>	<b>Submitted</b>		<b>Bid Section Reference</b>	<b>Reference to Bidder's document</b>
Pricing (SBD 3.2) in the format provided in this document (separate envelope)	<b>M</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Page 30	

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (GO/NO-GO)

Note: The selection elements listed above are Go/No-Go criteria. Evaluation is done without percentage scoring.

Any Bidder that provides no details (submitted proof) on meeting any of the above-mentioned mandatory requirements will be disqualified from further evaluations.

## BIDDER NEEDS TO KNOW

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF READING EACH PAGE

The bidder warrants by signature in this document that the bidder has read and accepts each page in this document including any annexures attached to this document.

### CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE REGISTRATION

The NRF requests bidders to register on the Central Supplier Database and to include in their bid their Master Registration Number (Supplier Number) in order to enable the NRF to verify the supplier's tax status on the Central Supplier Database.

### CLARIFICATION

If the respondent wishes to clarify aspects of this request or the acquisition process, they write to the contact officials listed under the enquiries section above. The National Research Foundation distributes the response to a clarification request to all respondents that have communicated their intention to bid (i.e. briefing session attendance register) within 2 working days of receipt of the query. The National Research Foundation does not provide the origin of the request to any party.

**RESPONSE PREPARATION COSTS**

The NRF is not liable for any costs incurred by a bidder in the process of responding to this Bid Invitation, including on-site presentations.

**COUNTER PROPOSALS**

No counter proposals are accepted.

**TWO ENVELOPE SYSTEM**

The NRF, in the interests of transparent procurement, utilises the two-envelope system to minimise any form of price bias in the technical selection phase.

- a) All responses must be submitted in two sealed envelopes/boxes; the first envelop/box shall have the technical, and the second envelop/box shall only have the financial response. Bidders must ensure that they do not indicate any financial information in the first envelop/box.
- b) Bidders are required to package their response/Bid as follows:
  - **Envelope 1-part A: Bid Forms and Compliance Response**
  - **Envelope 1-part B: Technical Response (response to scope of work)**
  - **Envelope 2 : Financial Proposal and Bid Submission Form**

**COLLUSION, FRAUD AND CORRUPTION**

Any effort by Bidder to influence evaluation, comparisons, or award decisions in any manner will result in the rejection and disqualification of the bidder concerned.

**FRONTING**

The NRF supports the spirit of broad based black economic empowerment and recognizes that achieving real empowerment is through individuals and businesses conducting themselves in accordance with the Constitution and in an honest, fair, equitable, transparent, and legally compliant manner. Against this background, the NRF condemns any form of fronting. The NRF, in ensuring that bidders conduct themselves in an honest manner will, as part of the bid evaluation processes where applicable, conduct or initiate the necessary enquiries/investigations to determine the accuracy of the representation made in the bid documents. The onus is on the bidder to prove that fronting does not exist, should the National Research Foundation establish and notify the bidder of potential breaches. Failure to do so within a period of 7 days from date of notification will invalidate the bid/contract and may also result in the restriction of the bidder to conduct business with the public sector for a period not exceeding 10 years, in addition to any other remedies the NRF may have against the bidder concerned.

**DISCLAIMERS**

The NRF has produced this document in good faith. The NRF, its agents, and its employees and associates do not warrant its accuracy or completeness. The NRF makes no representation, warranty, assurance, guarantee or endorsements to any provider/bidder concerning the document, whether with regard to its accuracy, completeness or otherwise and the NRF shall have no liability towards the responding service providers or any other party in connection therewith.

## **GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

“B-BBEE” means broad-based black economic empowerment as defined in section 1 of the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act;

“B-BBEE status level of contributor” means the B-BBEE status of an entity in terms of a code of good practice on black economic empowerment, issued in terms of section 9(1) of the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act;

“Bid” means a written offer in a prescribed or stipulated form in response to an invitation by the National Research Foundation for the provision of goods or services, through price quotations, advertised competitive bidding processes or proposals;

“Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act” means the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, 2003 (Act No. 53 of 2003);

“Contract” means the entire bid document inclusive of scope of work, specification, price conditions, price quote table, service delivery conditions, performance conditions with their key performance indicators, and general conditions when attached to the Standard Bidding Document 7 (SBD 7) which has been signed by the awarded bidder and the National Research Foundations;

“EME” means an Exempted Micro Enterprise in terms of a code of good practice on black economic empowerment issued in terms of section 9 (1) of the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act;

“Market Price” means tests to verify the offered prices are market related to the NRF in allowing the bidder to complete the work without risk of performance failure to the NRF and that the price provides the sustainability to the bidder.

“Functionality” means the ability of a bidder to provide goods or services in accordance with specifications including quality that deliver the set levels of performance functionality as set out in the bid documents.

“Proof of B-BBEE status level of contributor” means:

- a. B-BBEE Status level certificate issued by an authorized body or person;
- b. A sworn affidavit as prescribed by the B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice;
- c. Any other requirement prescribed in terms of the B-BBEE Act.

“QSE” means a qualifying small business enterprise in terms of a code of good practice on black economic empowerment issued in terms of section 9 (1) of the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act.

### **Checking Tax Compliance**

iThemba LABS verifies tax status as set out in the SBD 1 through the CSD and, for non-resident respondents, obtains the Confirmation of Tax Obligations letter from the South Africa Revenue Services after submitting their SBD 1 tax questionnaire to South Africa Revenue Services.

### **Award and Contract Signing**

The NRF nominates the bidder with the highest combined score for the contract award subject to the bidder having supplied the relevant administrative documentation.

### **Cancellation of the Bid prior to Award**

The NRF cancels the Bid Invitation prior to making an award where

- a. Due to changed circumstances there is no need for the specified procurement in the document, or
- b. No bids meet the minimum required specification, or
- c. A material irregularity occurred in the bid process, or
- d. Where the price is too low/high in comparison to the pre-bid defined market price range with no bidder prepared to negotiate the price into the determined market price range.

**NB: FAILURE TO PROVIDE / OR COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE PARTICULARS MAY RENDER THE BID INVALID.**

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT**

In this document words in the singular also mean in the plural and vice versa, words in the masculine mean in the feminine and neuter, words "department" means organs of state inclusive of public entities and vice versa, and the words "will/should" mean "must".

**The National Research Foundation cannot amend the National Treasury's General Conditions of Contract (GCC). The National Research Foundation therefore appends Special Conditions of Contract (SCC) providing specific information relevant to a GCC clause that requires the addition of Special Conditions in the Special Condition of Contract Section in above in Part A.**

GCC1	<b>Definitions - The following terms shall be interpreted as indicated:</b>
1.1	" <b>Closing time</b> " means the date and hour specified in the bidding documents for the receipt of bids.
1.2	" <b>Contract</b> " means the written agreement entered into between the purchaser and the supplier, as recorded in the contract form signed by the parties, including all attachments and appendices thereto and all documents incorporated by reference therein..
1.3	" <b>Contract price</b> " means the price payable to the supplier under the contract for the full and proper performance of his contractual obligations.
1.4	" <b>Corrupt practice</b> " means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of anything of value to influence the action of a public official in the procurement process or in contract execution.
1.5	" <b>Countervailing duties</b> " imposed in cases where an enterprise abroad is subsidized by its government and encouraged to market its products internationally.
1.6	" <b>Country of origin</b> " means the place where the goods were mined, grown, or produced, or from which the services are supplied. Goods produced when, through manufacturing, processing or substantial and major assembly of components, a commercially recognized new product results that is substantially different in basic characteristics or in purpose or utility from its components..
1.7	" <b>Day</b> " means calendar day.
1.8	" <b>Delivery</b> " means delivery in compliance of the conditions of the contract or order.
1.9	" <b>Delivery ex stock</b> " means immediate delivery directly from stock actually on hand..

1.10	" <b>Delivery into consignees store or to his site</b> " means delivered and unloaded in the specified store or depot or on the specified site in compliance with the conditions of the contract or order, the supplier bearing all risks and charges involved until the supplies are so delivered and a valid receipt is obtained.
1.11	" <b>Dumping</b> " occurs when a private enterprise abroad market its goods on own initiative in the RSA at lower prices than that of the country of origin and which have the potential to harm the local industries in the RSA.
1.12	" <b>Force majeure</b> " means an event beyond the control of the supplier and not involving the supplier's fault or negligence and not foreseeable. Such events may include, but is not restricted to, acts of the purchaser in its sovereign capacity, wars, or revolutions, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions and freight embargoes.
1.13	" <b>Fraudulent practice</b> " means a misrepresentation of facts in order to influence a procurement process or the execution of a contract to the detriment of any bidder, and includes collusive practice among bidders (prior to or after bid submission) designed to establish bid prices at artificial non-competitive levels and to deprive the bidder of the benefits of free and open competition.
1.14	" <b>GCC</b> " mean the General Conditions of Contract.
1.15	" <b>Goods</b> " means all of the equipment, machinery, and/or other materials that the supplier is required to supply to the purchaser under the contract.
1.16	" <b>Imported content</b> " means that portion of the bidding price represented by the cost of components, parts or materials which have been or are still to be imported (whether by the supplier or his subcontractors) and which costs are inclusive of the costs abroad, plus freight and other direct importation costs such as landing costs, dock dues, import duty, sales duty or other similar tax or duty at the South African place of entry as well as transportation and handling charges to the factory in the Republic where the supplies covered by the bid will be manufactured.

## GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

1.17	" <b>Local content</b> " means that portion of the bidding price, which is not included in the imported content if local manufacture does take place.
1.18	" <b>Manufacture</b> " means the production of products in a factory using labour, materials, components, and machinery and includes other related value-adding activities.
1.19	" <b>Order</b> " means an official written order issued for the supply of goods or works or the rendering of a service.
1.20	" <b>Project site</b> ", where applicable, means the place indicated in bidding documents.
1.21	" <b>Purchaser</b> " means the organization purchasing the goods.
1.22	" <b>Republic</b> " means the Republic of South Africa.
1.23	" <b>SCC</b> " means the Special Conditions of Contract.
1.24	" <b>Services</b> " means those functional services ancillary to the supply of the goods, such as transportation and any other incidental services, such as installation, commissioning, provision of technical assistance, training, catering, gardening, security, maintenance and other such obligations of the supplier covered under the contract.
1.25	" <b>Written</b> " or " <b>in writing</b> " means handwritten in ink or any form of electronic or mechanical writing.
GCC2	<b>Application</b>
2.1	These general conditions are applicable to all bids, contracts and orders including bids for functional and professional services, sales, hiring, letting and the granting or acquiring of rights, but excluding immovable property, unless otherwise indicated in the bidding documents.
2.2	Where applicable, special conditions of contract laid down to, cover specific supplies, services or works.
2.3	Where such special conditions of contract are in conflict with these general conditions, the special conditions shall apply.
GCC3	<b>General</b>
3.1	Unless otherwise indicated in the bidding documents, the purchaser shall not be liable for any expense incurred in the preparation and submission of a bid. Where applicable a non-refundable fee for documents may be charged.
3.2	With certain exceptions (National Treasury's eTender website), invitations to bid are only published in the Government Tender Bulletin. The Government Tender Bulletin may be obtained directly from the Government Printer, Private Bag X85, Pretoria 0001, or accessed electronically from <a href="http://www.treasury.gov.za">www.treasury.gov.za</a>
GCC4	<b>Standards</b>
4.1	The goods supplied shall conform to the standards mentioned in the bidding documents and specifications.
GCC5	<b>Use of contract documents and information</b>

5.1	The supplier shall not disclose, without the purchaser's prior written consent, the contract, or any provision thereof, or any specification, plan, drawing, pattern, sample, or information furnished by or on behalf of the purchaser in connection therewith, to any person other than a person employed by the supplier in the performance of the contract. Disclosure made to any such employed person is in confidence and shall extend only as far as may be necessary for purposes of such performance.
5.2	The supplier shall not make, without the purchaser's prior written consent, use of any document or information mentioned in GCC clause 5.1 except for purposes of performing the contract.
5.3	Any document, other than the contract itself mentioned in GCC clause 5.1 shall remain the property of the purchaser and shall be returned (all copies) to the purchaser on completion of the supplier's performance under the contract if so required by the purchaser.
5.4	The supplier shall permit the purchaser to inspect the supplier's records relating to the performance of the supplier and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the purchaser, if so required by the purchaser.
SCC5A	<p><b>Copyright and Intellectual Property</b></p> <p><b>Intellectual property</b> are creations of the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols, names, images used in commerce; and includes copyright (a legal term describing the rights that creators have over their literary and artistic works including books, music, paintings, sculpture and films, to computer programs, databases, advertisements, maps and technical drawings); trademark (a legal term describing a sign capable of distinguishing the goods or services of one enterprise from those of other enterprises); and patents (a legal terms describing an exclusive right granted for an invention providing the patent owner with the right to decide how - or whether - the invention can be used by others).</p> <p><b>Background intellectual property</b> is the intellectual property pertaining to this contract, created, and owned by any of the appointed parties to this contract prior to the effective date of this contract.</p> <p><b>Contract intellectual property</b> is the intellectual property created by the parties to this contract for and in the execution of the contract.</p>

<b>GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT</b>	
	<p>All background intellectual property (existing prior to this contract) invests in and remains the sole property of the appointed parties to this contract. Both parties disclose openly such intellectual property ownership to the parties in writing at the commencement of this contract.</p> <p>The supplier grants the purchaser a fully paid up, irrevocable, and non-exclusive licence to use its background intellectual property for the exploitation of this contract to enable the purchaser to obtain the full benefit of the appointed deliverables for this contract.</p> <p>The parties agree that all right, title, and interest in contract intellectual property created during the execution of this contract vests with the National Research Foundation unless where agreed in writing to a different allocation of the ownership of the contract intellectual property.</p> <p>Both parties to this contract shall keep the intellectual property created during this contract confidential and shall fulfil its confidentiality obligations as set out in this document.</p> <p>The supplier agrees to assist the purchaser in obtaining statutory protection for the contract intellectual property at the expense of the purchaser wherever the purchaser may choose to obtain such statutory protection.</p> <p>The supplier shall procure where necessary the signatures of its personnel for the assignment of its respective contract intellectual property to the purchaser or as the purchaser may direct, and to support the purchaser or its nominee, in the prosecution and enforcement thereof in any country in the world.</p> <p>The supplier irrevocably appoints the purchaser to be its true and lawful agent in its own name, to do such acts, deeds, and things and to execute deeds, documents, and forms that the purchaser in its discretion requires in order to give effect to the terms of this clause.</p>

SCC5B	<p><b>Confidentiality</b></p> <p>Each party shall be careful and diligent as not to cause any unauthorised disclosure or use of the confidential information, in particular, during the consistency of the contract and after termination of the contract. Without the prior consent of the other party, each party will keep confidential and will not:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disclose the confidential information, directly or indirectly, to any person or entity,</li> <li>Use, exploit or in any other manner whatsoever apply the confidential information for any other purpose whatsoever, other than for the execution of the contract and the delivery of the deliverables or</li> <li>Copy, reproduce, or otherwise publish confidentiality information except as strictly required for the execution of the contract.</li> </ol> <p>The parties shall ensure that any employees, agents, directors, contractors, service providers, and associates which may gain access to the confidential information abide by the undertakings in this clause both during the term of their associations with the recipient and after termination of their respective associations with the recipient, notto</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disclose the confidential information to any third party, or</li> <li>Use the confidential information otherwise than as may be strictly necessary for the execution of the contract,</li> <li>The parties shall take all such steps as may be reasonably necessary to prevent the confidential information from falling into the hands of any unauthorised third party.</li> </ol> <p>The undertakings set out in this clause shall not apply to confidential information, which the recipient is able to prove:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Was independently developed or in the possession of the recipient prior to its involvement with the other party;</li> <li>Is now or hereafter comes into the public domain other than by breach of this contract by any of the parties;</li> <li>Was lawfully received by the recipient from a third party acting in good faith having a right of further disclosure and who do not derive the same directly or indirectly from the other party, or</li> <li>Required by law to be disclosed by the recipient, but only to the extent of such order and the recipient shall inform the other party of such requirement prior to any disclosure.</li> </ol> <p>Each party shall within one (1) month of receipt of a written request from the other party to do so, return to the party all material embodiments, whether in documentary or electronic form, of the confidential information including but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All written disclosures</li> <li>All written transcripts of confidential information disclosed verbally and</li> <li>All material embodiments of the contract intellectual property.</li> </ol> <p>The parties acknowledge that the confidential information made available solely for the execution of the contract and for no other purpose whatsoever and that the confidential information would not have been made available to the recipient, but for the obligations of confidentiality agreed to herein.</p> <p>Except as expressly herein provided, this contract shall not be construed as granting or confirming, either expressly or impliedly any rights,</p>
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<h2 style="color: #0056b3; margin: 0;">GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT</h2>	
	<p>licences or relationships by furnishing of confidential information by either party pursuant to this contract.</p> <p>The parties acknowledge that the unauthorised disclosure of confidential information may cause harm to the other party. The parties agree that, in the event of a breach or threatened breach of confidentiality, the other party is entitled to seek injunctive relief or specific performance, in order to obtain immediate remedies. Any such remedy shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any other remedies available at law, including monetary damages.</p>
SCC5C	<p><b>Protection of Personal Information</b></p> <p>The supplier hereby gives the purchaser permission, in terms of the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013, to process, collect, receive, record, organise, collate, store, update, modify, retrieve, alter, consult, use, disseminate, distribute, merge, link, erase or destroy personal information received. By submitting a bid the supplier gives its voluntary explicit consent to the terms of this special condition.</p>
GCC6	<p><b>Patent rights</b></p>
6.1	<p>The supplier shall indemnify the purchaser against all third-party claims of infringement of patent, trademark, or industrial design rights arising from use of the goods or any part thereof by the purchaser.</p>
GCC7	<p><b>Performance security</b></p>
7.1	<p>Within thirty days (30) of receipt of the notification of contract award, the successful bidder shall furnish to the purchaser the performance security of the amount specified in SCC.</p>

7.2	The proceeds of the performance security shall be payable to the purchaser as compensation for any loss resulting from the supplier's failure to complete his obligations under the contract.
7.3	The performance security shall be denominated in the currency of the contract, or in a freely convertible currency acceptable to the purchaser and shall be in one of the following forms:  7.3.1 bank guarantee or an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a reputable bank located in the purchaser's country or abroad, acceptable to the purchaser, in the form provided in the bidding documents or another form acceptable to the purchaser; or  7.3.2 a cashier's or certified cheque.
7.4	The performance security will be discharged by the purchaser and returned to the supplier within thirty (30) days following the date of completion of the supplier's performance obligations under the contract, including any warranty obligations, unless otherwise specified in SCC.
SCC7	The additional terms for performance securities as detailed in SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT on page 9 are applicable.
GCC8	<b>Inspections, tests and analyses</b>
8.1	All pre-bidding testing will be for the account of the bidder.
8.2	If it is a bid condition that supplies to be produced or services to be rendered should at any stage during production or execution or on completion be subject to inspection, the premises of the bidder or contractor shall be open, at all reasonable hours, for inspection by a representative of the purchaser or an organization acting on behalf of the purchaser.
8.3	If there are no inspection requirements indicated in the bidding documents and contract makes no mention, but during the contract period, it is decided that inspections shall be carried out, the purchaser shall itself make the necessary arrangements, including payment arrangements with the testing authority concerned.
8.4	If the inspections, tests and analyses referred to in clauses 8.2 and 8.3 show the supplies to be in accordance with the contract requirements, the cost of the inspections, tests and analyses shall be defrayed by the purchaser.
8.5	Where the supplies or services referred to in clauses 8.2 and 8.3 do not comply with the contract requirements, irrespective of whether such supplies or services are accepted or not, the supplier shall defray the cost in connection with these inspections, tests, or analyses.
8.6	Supplies and services referred to in clauses 8.2 and 8.3 and which do not comply with the contract requirements may be rejected.
8.7	Any contract supplies may on or after delivery be inspected, tested or analysed and may be rejected if found not to comply with the requirements of the contract. Such rejected supplies are held at the cost and risk of the supplier who shall, when called upon, remove them immediately at his own cost and forthwith substitute them with supplies, which do comply with the requirements of the contract. Failing such removal, the rejected supplies shall be returned at the suppliers cost and risk. Should the supplier fail to provide the substitute supplies forthwith, the purchaser may, without giving the supplier further opportunity to substitute the rejected supplies, purchase such supplies as may be necessary at the expense of the supplier.
8.8	The provisions of clauses 8.4 to 8.7 shall not prejudice the right of the purchaser to cancel the contract because of a breach of the conditions thereof, or to act in terms of Clause 23 of GCC.

<b>GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT</b>	
SCC8	Additional inspection procedures as detailed in SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT on page 9 are applicable.
GCC9	<b>Packing</b>
9.1	The supplier shall provide such packing of the goods as is required to prevent their damage or deterioration during transit to their final destination, as indicated in the contract. The packing shall be sufficient to withstand, without limitation, rough handling during transit and exposure to extreme temperatures, salt, and precipitation during transit, and open storage. Packing, case size and weights shall take into consideration, where appropriate, the remoteness of the goods' final destination and the absence of heavy handling facilities at all points in transit.
9.2	The packing, marking, and documentation within and outside the packages shall comply strictly with such special requirements as shall be expressly provided for in the contract, including additional requirements, if any, specified in SCC, and in any subsequent instructions ordered by the purchaser.
SCC9	Additional packing requirements as detailed in SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT on page 9 are applicable.
GCC10	<b>Delivery and Documentation</b>
10.1	The supplier in accordance with the terms specified in the contract shall make delivery of the goods/services. The SCC specifies the details of shipping and/or other documents furnished by the supplier.

10.2	Documents submitted by the supplier specified in SCC.
GCC11	<b>Insurance</b>
11.1	The goods supplied under the contract are fully insured in a freely convertible currency against loss or damage incidental to manufacture or acquisition, transportation, storage and delivery in the manner specified in the SCC.
SCC11	Professional indemnity insurance cover in accordance with SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT on page 9 is required.
GCC12	<b>Transportation</b>
12.1	Should a price other than an all-inclusive delivered price be required, this shall be specified in the SCC.
GCC13	<b>Incidental services</b>
13.1	The supplier may be required to provide any or all of the following services, including additional services, if any, specified in SCC: 13.1.1 Performance or supervision of on-site assembly and/or commissioning of the supplied goods; 13.1.2 Furnishing of tools required for assembly and/or maintenance of the supplied goods; 13.1.3 Furnishing of a detailed operations and maintenance manual for each appropriate unit of the supplied goods; 13.1.4 Performance or supervision or maintenance and/or repair of the supplied goods, for a period of time agreed by the parties, provided that this service shall not relieve the supplier of any warranty obligations under this contract; and 13.1.5 Training of the purchaser's personnel, at the supplier's plant and/or on-site, conducted in assembly, start-up, operation, maintenance, and/or repair of the supplied goods.
13.2	Prices charged by the supplier for incidental services, if not included in the contract price for the goods, shall be agreed upon in advance by the parties and shall not exceed the prevailing rates charged to other parties by the supplier for similar services.
GCC14	<b>Spare parts</b>
14.1	As specified in SCC, the supplier may be required to provide any or all of the following materials, notifications, and information pertaining to spare parts manufactured or distributed by the supplier: 14.1.1 Such spare parts as the purchaser may elect to purchase from the supplier, provided that this election shall not relieve the supplier of any warranty obligations under the contract; and 14.1.2 In the event of termination of production of the spare parts: 14.1.2.1 Advance notification to the purchaser of the pending termination, in sufficient time to permit the purchaser to procure needed requirements; and 14.1.2.1 Following such termination, furnishing at no cost to the purchaser, the blueprints, drawings, and specifications of the spare parts, if requested.
GCC15	<b>Warranty</b>

## GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

15.1	The supplier warrants that the goods supplied under the contract are new, unused, of the most recent or current models and those they incorporate all recent improvements in design and materials unless provided otherwise in the contract. The supplier further warrants that all goods supplied under this contract shall have no defect, arising from design, materials, or workmanship (except when the design and/or material is required by the purchaser's specifications) or from any act or omission of the supplier, that may develop under normal use of the supplied goods in the conditions prevailing in the country of final destination.
15.3	The purchaser shall promptly notify the supplier in writing of any claims arising under this warranty.
15.4	Upon receipt of such notice, the supplier shall, within the period specified in SCC and with all reasonable speed, repair or replace the defective goods or parts thereof, without costs to the purchaser.
15.5	If the supplier, having been notified, fails to remedy the defect(s) within the period specified in SCC, the purchaser may proceed to take such remedial action as may be necessary, at the supplier's risk and expense and without prejudice to any other rights, which the purchaser may have against the supplier under the contract.
SCC15	The additional warranty requirements as detailed in SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT on page 9 are applicable.
GCC16	<b>Payment</b>
16.1	The method and conditions of payment to be made to the supplier under this contract shall be specified in SCC.

16.2	The supplier shall furnish the purchaser with an invoice accompanied by a copy of the delivery note and upon fulfilment of other obligations stipulated in the contract.
16.3	Payments shall be made promptly by the purchaser, but in no case later than thirty (30) days after submission of an invoice or claim by the supplier.
16.4	Payment will be made in Rand unless otherwise stipulated in SCC.
SCC16	Additional payment terms as detailed in SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT on page 9 are applicable.
GCC17	<b>Prices</b>
17.1	Prices charged by the supplier for goods delivered and services performed under the contract shall not vary from the prices quoted by the supplier in his bid, with the exception of any price adjustments authorized in SCC or in the purchaser's request for bid validity extension, as the case may be.
GCC18	<b>Contract amendment</b>
18.1	No variation in or modification of the terms of the contract shall be made except by written amendment signed by the parties concerned.
GCC19	<b>Assignment</b>
19.1	The supplier shall not assign, in whole or in part, its obligations to perform under the contract, except with the purchaser's prior written consent.
GCC20	<b>Subcontract</b>
20.1	The supplier shall notify the purchaser in writing of all subcontracts awarded under this contract if not already specified in the bid. Such notification, in the original bid or later, shall not relieve the supplier from any liability or obligation under the contract
GCC21	<b>Delays in supplier's performance</b>
21.1	Delivery of the goods and performance of services shall be made by the supplier in accordance with the time schedule prescribed by the purchaser in the contract.
21.2	If at any time during performance of the contract, the supplier or its subcontractor(s) should encounter conditions impeding timely delivery of the goods and performance of services, the supplier shall promptly notify the purchaser in writing of the fact of the delay, its likely duration, and its cause(s). As soon as practicable after receipt of the supplier's notice, the purchaser shall evaluate the situation and may at his discretion extend the supplier's time for performance, with or without the imposition of penalties, in which case the extension shall be ratified by the parties by amendment of contract.
21.3	No provision in a contract shall be deemed to prohibit the obtaining of supplies or services from a national department, provincial department, or a local authority.
21.4	The right is reserved to procure outside of the contract small quantities or to have minor essential services executed if an emergency arises, the supplier's point of supply is not situated at or near the place where the supplies are required, or the supplier's services are not readily available.
21.5	Except as provided under GCC Clause 25, a delay by the supplier in the performance of its delivery obligations shall render the supplier liable

<b>GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT</b>	
	to the imposition of penalties, pursuant to GCC Clause 22, unless an extension of time is agreed upon pursuant to GCC Clause 21.2 without the application of penalties.
21.6	Upon any delay beyond the delivery period in the case of a supplies contract, the purchaser shall, without cancelling the contract, be entitled to purchase supplies of a similar quality and up to the same quantity in substitution of the goods not supplied in conformity with the contract and to return any goods delivered later at the supplier's expense and risk, or to cancel the contract and buy such goods as may be required to complete the contract and without prejudice to his other rights, be entitled to claim damages from the supplier.
GCC22	<b>Penalties</b>
22.1	Subject to GCC Clause 25, if the supplier fails to deliver any or all of the goods or to perform the services within the period(s) specified in the contract, the purchaser shall, without prejudice to its other remedies under the contract, deduct from the contract price, as a penalty, a sum calculated on the delivered price of the delayed goods or unperformed services using the current prime interest rate calculated for each day of the delay until actual delivery or performance. The purchaser may also consider termination of the contract pursuant to GCC Clause 23.
GCC23	<b>Termination for default</b>

23.1	<p>The purchaser, without prejudice to any other remedy for breach of contract, by written notice of default sent to the supplier, may terminate this contract in whole or in part:</p> <p>23.1.1 If the supplier fails to deliver any or all of the goods within the period(s) specified in the contract, or within any extension thereof granted by the purchaser pursuant to GCC Clause 21.2;</p> <p>23.1.2 If the Supplier fails to perform any other obligation(s) under the contractor</p> <p>23.1.3 If the supplier, in the judgment of the purchaser, has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing the contract. h</p>
23.2	In the event the purchaser terminates the contract in whole or in part, the purchaser may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as it deems appropriate, goods, works or services similar to those undelivered, and the supplier shall be liable to the purchaser for any excess costs for such similar goods, works or services. However, the supplier shall continue performance of the contract to the extent not terminated.
23.3	Where the purchaser terminates the contract in whole or in part, the purchaser may decide to impose a restriction penalty on the supplier by prohibiting such supplier from doing business with the public sector for a period not exceeding 10 years.
23.4	If a purchaser intends imposing a restriction on a supplier or any person associated with the supplier, the supplier will be allowed a period of not more than fourteen (14) days to provide reasons why the envisaged restriction should not be imposed. Should the supplier fail to respond within the stipulated fourteen (14) days the purchaser may regard the intended penalty as not objected against and may impose it on the supplier.
23.5	Any restriction imposed on any person by the Accounting Officer / Authority will, at the discretion of the Accounting Officer / Authority, also be applicable to any other enterprise or any partner, manager, director or other person who wholly or partly exercises or exercised or may exercise control over the enterprise of the first-mentioned person, and with which enterprise or person the first-mentioned person, is or was in the opinion of the Accounting Officer / Authority actively associated.
23.6	<p>If a restriction is imposed, the purchaser must, within five (5) working days of such imposition, furnish the National Treasury, with the following information:</p> <p>23.6.1 The name and address of the supplier and / or person restricted by the purchaser;</p> <p>23.6.2 The date of commencement of the restriction</p> <p>23.6.3 The period of restriction; and</p> <p>23.6.4 The reasons for the restriction.</p> <p>These details will be loaded in the National Treasury's central database of suppliers or persons prohibited from doing business with the public sector.</p>
23.7	If a court of law convicts a person of an offence as contemplated in sections 12 or 13 of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, No. 12 of 2004, the court may also rule that such person's name be endorsed on the Register for Tender Defaulters. When a person's name has been endorsed on the Register, the person will be prohibited from doing business with the public sector for a period not less than five years and not more than 10 years. The National Treasury is empowered to determine the period of restriction and each case will be dealt with on its own merits. According to section 32 of the Act the Register must be open to the public. The Register can be perused on the National Treasury website.
SCC23	The additional terms of termination as detailed in SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT on page 9 are applicable.

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GCC24	<b>Anti-dumping and countervailing duties and rights</b>
24.1	When, after the date of bid, provisional payments are required, or anti-dumping or countervailing duties are imposed, or the amount of a provisional payment or anti-dumping or countervailing right is increased in respect of any dumped or subsidized import, the State is not liable for any amount so required or imposed, or for the amount of any such increase. When, after the said date, such a provisional payment is no longer required or any such anti-dumping or countervailing right is abolished, or where the amount of such provisional payment or any such right is reduced, any such favourable difference shall on demand be paid forthwith by the contractor to the State or the State may deduct such amounts from moneys (if any) which may otherwise be due to the contractor in regard to supplies or services which he delivered or rendered, or is to deliver or render in terms of the contract or any other contract or any other amount which may be due to him
GCC25	<b>Force Majeure</b>
25.1	Notwithstanding the provisions of GCC Clauses 22 and 23, the supplier shall not be liable for forfeiture of its performance security, damages, or termination for default if and to the extent that his delay in performance or other failure to perform his obligations under the contract is the result of an event of force majeure.

25.2	If a force majeure situation arises, the supplier shall promptly notify the purchaser in writing of such condition and the cause thereof. Unless otherwise directed by the purchaser in writing, the supplier shall continue to perform its obligations under the contract as far as is reasonably practical, and shall seek all reasonable alternative means for performance not prevented by the force majeure event
GCC26	<b>Termination for insolvency</b>
26.1	The purchaser may at any time terminate the contract by giving written notice to the supplier if the supplier becomes bankrupt or otherwise insolvent. In this event, termination will be without compensation to the supplier, provided that such termination will not prejudice or affect any right of action or remedy which has accrued or will accrue thereafter to the purchaser.
GCC27	<b>Settlement of disputes</b>
27.1	If any dispute or difference of any kind whatsoever arises between the purchaser and the supplier in connection with or arising out of the contract, the parties shall make every effort to resolve amicably such dispute or difference by mutual consultation.
27.2	If, after thirty (30) days, the parties have failed to resolve their dispute or difference by such mutual consultation, then either the purchaser or the supplier may give notice to the other party of his intention to commence with mediation. No mediation in respect of this matter may be commenced unless such notice is given to the other party.
27.3	Should it not be possible to settle a dispute by means of mediation, it may be settled in a South African court of law.
27.4	Mediation proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure specified in the SCC.
27.5	Notwithstanding any reference to mediation and/or court proceedings herein, 27.5.1 The parties shall continue to perform their respective obligations under the contract unless they otherwise agree; and 27.5.2 The purchaser shall pay the supplier any monies due the supplier.
GCC28	<b>Limitation of liability</b>
28.1	Except in cases of criminal negligence or wilful misconduct, and in the case of infringement pursuant to Clause 6; 28.1.1 The supplier shall not be liable to the purchaser, whether in contract, tort, or otherwise, for any indirect or consequential loss or damage, loss of use, loss of production, or loss of profits or interest costs, provided that this exclusion shall not apply to any obligation of the supplier to pay penalties and/or damages to the purchaser; and 28.1.2 The aggregate liability of the supplier to the purchaser, whether under the contract, in tort or otherwise, shall not exceed the total contract price, provided that this limitation shall not apply to the cost of repairing or replacing defective equipment.
GCC29	<b>Governing language</b>
29.1	The contract shall be written in English. All correspondence and other documents pertaining to the contract that is exchanged by the parties shall also be written in English.
GCC30	<b>Applicable law</b>
30.1	The contract shall be interpreted in accordance with South African laws, unless otherwise specified in SCC.
GCC31	<b>Notices</b>
31.1	Every written acceptance of a bid shall be posted to the supplier concerned by registered or certified mail and any other notice to him shall be posted by ordinary mail to the address furnished in his bid or to the address notified later by him in writing and such posting shall be deemed to be proper service of such notice.
31.2	The time mentioned in the contract documents for performing any act after such aforesaid notice has been given, shall be reckoned from the date of posting of such notice

## GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

SCC31	Electronic communication, to the extent it meets the requirements of legal notices, is also permitted.
GCC32	<b>Taxes and duties</b>
32.1	A foreign supplier shall be entirely responsible for all taxes, stamp duties, license fees, and other such levies imposed outside the purchaser's country.
32.2	A local supplier shall be entirely responsible for all taxes, duties, license fees, etc., incurred until delivery of the contracted goods to the purchaser.
32.3	No contract shall be concluded with any bidder whose tax matters are not in order. Prior to the award of a bid, the Department must be in possession of a tax clearance certificate, submitted by the bidder. This certificate must be an original issued by the South African Revenue Services

SCC32A	The "tax certificate" in the second sentence of clause 32.3's refers to the documents specified in National Treasury Instruction Note 9 of 2017/18 applicable to public entities and departments.
GCC33	<b>National Industrial Participation Programme</b>
33.1	The NIP Programme administered by the Department of Trade and Industry shall be applicable to all contracts that are subject to the NIP obligation.
GCC34	<b>Prohibition of restrictive practices</b>
34.1	In terms of section 4 (1) (b) (iii) of the Competition Act No. 89 of 1998, as amended, an agreement between, or concerted practice by, firms, or a decision by an association of firms, is prohibited if it is between parties in a horizontal relationship and if a bidder (s) is / are or a contractor(s) was / were involved in collusive bidding (or bid rigging).
34.2	If a bidder(s) or contractor(s), based on reasonable grounds or evidence obtained by the purchaser, has/have engaged in the restrictive practice referred to above, the purchaser may refer the matter to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties as contemplated in the Competition Act No. 89 of 1998.
34.3	If a bidder(s) or contractor(s), has / have been found guilty by the Competition Commission of the restrictive practice referred to above, the purchaser may, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided for, invalidate the bid(s) for such item(s) offered, and / or terminate the contract in whole or part, and / or restrict the bidder(s) or contractor(s) from conducting business with the public sector for a period not exceeding ten (10) years and / or claim damages from the bidder(s) or contractor(s) concerned.

# PART B - PRICING

## PRICE SPECIAL CONDITIONS (General Condition of Contract Clause No: 17)

Prices (Submit pricing in separate envelope (stand-alone))

The price schedule for the bid under the contract shall not vary from the prices quoted by the service provider in their bid with iThemba LABS with the exception of any price adjustments authorized in this section.

1. **Exceptions:** Exceptions to the clause are incidental services, changes in Value Added Tax as gazetted.
2. **Price Adjustment Rules:** Price adjustments and their corresponding rules for the managing of price risks on the basis of the iThemba LABS and the appointed bidder sharing the risk equally.
3. **Additional Services** – iThemba LABS may require, as determined by future operational requirements, additional services. iThemba LABS, in such event, will notify the appointed bidder of such requirements. The appointed bidder provides revised pricing detailing reasons for price variations substantiated by evidence such as manufactured country’s inflation rates, technology refresh rate impacts, verifiable consumer price variations, and verified movement in exchange rates. iThemba LABS enters in negotiation on the submitted price quotation and variation reasons. iThemba LABS reserves the right to obtain three price quotes from the market to verify the submitted pricing are within such identified market price ranges.
4. **Exchange rate prices** – Where the supplied requirements are from overseas, the appointed bidder will state the portion and currency payable overseas separating local costs. iThemba LABS will only consider exchange rate variations on the identified foreign price component. The rate variation is the difference between the current exchange rate and the exchange rate ruling at the date of signing the SBD 7.1. Exchange rates are obtained from ABSA or for the www.xe.com website. iThemba LABS will verify the submitted exchange rate variation and enter into negotiation with the appointed bidder on the agreed variation.
5. **Ceiling Price Calculation for price competition:** iThemba LABS provides bidding estimates of quantities to allow for the calculation of a bidding price for the contract that allows an equal comparison basis equitable to all bidders for award selection.
6. **Commitment to Appointed Services Provider:** iThemba LABS, through the signed contract, guarantees its procurement of service from the appointed party only where the appointed party meets or exceeds the contractual performance levels.
7. **Contract Price Management in terms of the Contract:** iThemba LABS issues written purchase orders authorising the work as required in this contract as addendums to the contract. The purchase orders stipulate quantity, work description, delivery date, and the unit price in accordance with this contract. iThemba LABS, when issuing the written purchase order, guarantees that the funding is available for the value of that purchase order.

8.	<b>Contract Price:</b> The cumulative value of all purchase orders issued and paid for is the total value of this signed contract at its expiry/completion date.
<b>Submit pricing in separate envelope (stand-alone)</b> <b>SBD 3.2</b>	
9.	<b>Price Quotation Basis:</b> Unit prices are fully inclusive of all applicable taxes, less all unconditional discounts, and all costs to deliver the services and/or goods to the specified iThemba LABS price delivery point in terms of General Conditions of contract clauses 12, 32.1 and 32.2.
	<b>Delivery Site</b> iThemba LABS, Old Faure Road, Faure, Western Cape, South Africa, 7131
10.	<b>Calculating the Bid Price:</b> iThemba LABS provides bidding quantities below to bidders for calculating their bid price that allows for a fair and equal comparison equitable to all bidders for price competition and contract award selection.
10.	<b>Bill of Materials:</b> Any reference to manufacturers' names, trade names, brand names, information and/or catalogue numbers / part numbers listed in a specification or BOM are for information and not intended to limit competition. If tenders are based on equivalent products, please indicate on the tender form the manufacturer's name and part number. Tenderers must submit with proposals datasheets with clear description and/or complete specifications of the equivalent product. iThemba LABS reserves the right to determine acceptance of item(s) as an approved equivalent.

**N.B iThemba LABS reserve the right to accept the whole bid / proposal or part of your submitted bid / proposal or any item or part of any item.**

<b>SBD 3.2 PRICING SCHEDULE (NON-FIRM PRICES)</b>				
Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
1	Network switch	10		
2	Power supply	10		
3	Power cord	10		
4	60 months Software License support (Maintenance Support)– Network Switches	10		
5	SFP transceivers	20		
6	Stacking kit	5		
7	DAC Cable	5		
8	<b>Professional Services (After Sales) for Network Switches</b>	1		

9	<b>Installation and Configuration of Network Switches</b>	1		
10	<b>Training and handover document for Network Switches</b>	1		
11	Wireless access point	50		
12	60 months Software License support (Maintenance Support) – Wireless Access Points	50		
13	SFP LC-LC Multimode 1m	20		
14	SFP LC-LC Multimode 2m	6		
15	<b>Delivery cost</b>	1		
<b>Subtotal</b>				
<b>Value-Added Tax (VAT)</b>				
<b>Final Sum Carried to Form of Offer and Acceptance</b>				

**PRICE ADJUSTMENTS**

**B. PRICES SUBJECT TO RATE OF EXCHANGE VARIATIONS, SUBJECT TO INCOTERMS 2020**

1. Please furnish full particulars of your financial institution, state the currencies used in the conversion of the prices of the items to South African currency, which portion of the price is subject to rate of exchange variations and the amounts remitted abroad.

<b>PARTICULARS OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</b>	<b>ITEM NO</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>CURRENCY</b>	<b>RATE</b>	<b>PORTION OF PRICE SUBJECT TO ROE</b>	<b>AMOUNT IN FOREIGN CURRENCY REMITTED ABROAD</b>
				ZAR=		
				ZAR=		
				ZAR=		
				ZAR=		
				ZAR=		

2. Adjustments for rate of exchange variations during the contract period will be calculated by using the average monthly exchange rates as issued by our commercial bank for the periods indicated hereunder: (Proof from bank required)

<b>AVERAGE MONTHLY EXCHANGE RATES FOR THE PERIOD:</b>	<b>DATE DOCUMENTATION MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THIS OFFICE</b>	<b>DATE FROM WHICH NEW CALCULATED PRICES WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE</b>	<b>DATE UNTIL WHICH NEW CALCULATED PRICE WILL BE EFFECTIVE</b>

# PART C - RETURNS

## INVITATION TO BID (SBD 1)

**Bid Number** NRF/ILABS ITSR/33/2024/25

**Closing date and time** 24 February 2025 @11:00

iThemba LABS recognises the date and time as recorded on its systems for closure purposes

### HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY OF BID REQUIREMENTS

The iThemba Laboratory for Accelerator-Based Sciences (iThemba LABS) is National Facility of the National Research Foundation (NRF) which specializes in atomic particle acceleration based in Faure, Western Cape and Johannesburg Gauteng.

iThemba Labs seeks to appoint a reputable Service Provider to Supply Network Switches and Wireless Access Points with 5 years of maintenance support for its Cape Town site. Our existing network infrastructure is Cisco-based, so any proposed solution must demonstrate seamless integration through a reference document. The goal is to replace our aging Cisco Catalyst 3750 switches, which have reached end-of-life and pose a potential failure risk. Furthermore, these current switches do not meet the lab's future network needs. We require newer, faster technology that will integrate smoothly with our existing Cisco infrastructure, which includes approximately 40 Cisco devices.

**THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WILL BE REQUIRED TO FILL IN AND SIGN A WRITTEN CONTRACT FORM (SBD7.1).**

**Bid response documents are deposited in the tender box situated physically at the below address. Electronic Submission will be accepted ([scm1@tlabs.ac.za](mailto:scm1@tlabs.ac.za))**

**Physical address:**

iThemba LABS, Main Security Gate, Old Faure Road, Faure, 7131

**Tender box opening hours**

08:00 am till 16:30 pm

**GPS Coordinates**

Latitude: 34°1'56" S

Longitude: 18°43'64" E

**Dimensions of tender box opening**

300 mm x 20 mm

**Addressed as follows:**

iThemba LABS Cape Town

Main Security Gate

Old Faure Road

Faure

Western Cape

**7131**

<b>Number of ORIGINAL bid documents for contract signing</b>		<b>2</b>	
<p>Bidders must submit the above sets of original bid documents (including the bidder's response to the specification and the bidder's pricing) in hard copy format (paper document) to iThemba LABS. This serves as the original master set for the legal contract document between the bidder and iThemba LABS. The master set remains at iThemba LABS and has precedence over any other copies in the case of any discrepancies within the other sets of documents. The bidders attach the originals or certified copies of any certificates stipulated in this document to these original sets of bid documents. The signed legal contract constitutes the closure of the competitive bid/tender/request for quotation process and sets out each party's obligations for executing the contract.</p>			
<b>Number of EVALUATION copies</b> (Mark pages as "Evaluation Copy" and number all pages sequentially):		<p>Electronic submissions must be sent to <a href="mailto:scm1@tlabs.ac.za">scm1@tlabs.ac.za</a>. Bids must be submitted in two separate electronic folders, one with the compliance and technical response, and the second with the financial response.</p> <p>The financial response must be password protected. Folders must be titled with the bidder's company name and folder title. Attachments are limited to 25 MB per email. You can also use the link to submit proposals (<a href="http://filesend.nrf.ac.za/">http://filesend.nrf.ac.za/</a>)</p> <p>Bidders are to send an email to <a href="mailto:scm1@tlabs.ac.za">scm1@tlabs.ac.za</a> post submission with the password to their financial envelope.</p>	
<b>TWO ENVELOPE SYSTEM</b>		<b>YES</b>	
<b>PRICE VALIDITY PERIOD FROM DATE OF CLOSURE</b>		150 days	
<b>Bidding procedure enquiries are directed in writing to:</b>		<b>Technical information queries are directed in writing to:</b>	
Section	Supply Chain Management	Section	Research and Development Technical Support
Contact person	Ms L Benjamin / Ms L Gordon	Contact person	Project Manager: Mr. Willie-John Booyesen / Ms. Melanie Robertson
E-mail address	<a href="mailto:scm1@tlabs.ac.za">scm1@tlabs.ac.za</a>	E-mail address	<a href="mailto:Scm1@tlabs.ac.za">Scm1@tlabs.ac.za</a>

## SUPPLIER INFORMATION

<b>Name Of Bidder</b>					
<b>Postal Address</b>					
<b>Street Address</b>					
<b>Telephone Number</b>					
Code		Number			
<b>Cell Phone Number</b>					
Code		Number			
<b>Facsimile Number</b>					
Code		Number			
<b>E-Mail Address</b>					
<b>VAT Registration Number</b>					
<b>Tax Compliance Status</b>	Tax Compliance System PIN			Central Supplier Database No.	MAAA
<b>B-BBEE Status Level Verification Certificate</b>		Tick Applicable Box. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<b>B-BBEE Status Level Sworn Affidavit</b>	Tick Applicable Box. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>[A B-BBEE status level verification certificate/ sworn affidavit (for EMEs &amp; QSEs) must be submitted in order to qualify for preference points for B-BBEE – also refer to the SBD 6.1]</b>					
<b>Are you the accredited representative in South Africa for the goods /services/works offered?</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [If yes enclose proof]		<b>Are you a foreign-based supplier for the goods/services/ works offered?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [If yes, answer the questionnaire below]
Is the entity a resident of the Republic of South Africa (RSA)?					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Does the entity have a branch in the RSA?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the entity have a permanent establishment in the RSA?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the entity have any source of income in the RSA?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the entity liable in the RSA for any form of taxation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If the answer is "No" to all of the above, then it is not a requirement to register for a tax compliance status system pin code from the South African Revenue Service (SARS) and if not registered as per 2.3 below.	
<b>BID SUBMISSION</b>	
1.	Bids must be delivered by the stipulated time to the correct address. Late bid will not be accepted for consideration.
2.	All bids must be submitted on the officially provided forms or in the manner prescribed in the bid document and not retyped
3.	This bid is subject to the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000, the General Conditions of Contract (GCC) with its special conditions of contract, and if applicable, any other legislative requirements.
4.	The successful bidder will be required to fill in and sign a written contract form (SBD 7).
<b>TAX COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS</b>	
1.	Bidder must ensure compliance with their tax obligations.
2.	Bidders are required to submit their unique personal identification number (PIN) issued by SARS to enable the organ of the state to verify the taxpayer's profile and tax status.
3.	Application for tax compliance status (TCS) pin may be made via e-Filing through the SARS website <a href="http://www.sars.gov.za">www.sars.gov.za</a>
4.	Bidders may also submit a printed TCS certificate together with the bid.
5.	In bids where consortia/ joint ventures/ sub-contractors are involved; each party must submit a separate TCS certificate/ PIN/CSD number.
6.	Where no TCS is available but the bidder is registered on the Central Supplier Database (CSD), a CSD number must be provided.
7.	No bids will be considered from persons employed by the state, companies with directors/close corporations connected with the bidder employed by the state.

# BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE SBD 4

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE FORM

Any person (natural or juristic) may make an offer or offers in terms of this invitation to bid. In line with the principles of transparency, accountability, impartiality, and ethics as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and further expressed in various pieces of legislation, it is required for the bidder to make this declaration in respect of the details required hereunder.

Where a person/s are listed in the Register for Tender Defaulters and / or the List of Restricted Suppliers, that person will automatically be disqualified from the bid process.

## 2. Bidder's declaration

2.1 Is the bidder, or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest<sup>1</sup> in the enterprise, employed by the state? **YES/NO**

2.1.1 If so, furnish particulars of the names, individual identity numbers, and, if applicable, state employee numbers of sole proprietor/ directors / trustees / shareholders / members/ partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise, in table below.

Full Name	Identity Number	Name of State institution

2..2 Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have a relationship with any person who is employed by the

<sup>1</sup> the power, by one person or a group of persons holding the majority of the equity of an enterprise, alternatively, the person/s having the deciding vote or power to influence or to direct the course and decisions of the enterprise.

procuring institution?

**YES/NO**

2.2.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....  
.....

2.3 Does the bidder or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise have any interest in any other related enterprise whether or not they are bidding for this contract? **YES/NO**

2.3.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....  
.....

**3 DECLARATION**

I, the undersigned, (name)..... in submitting the accompanying bid, do hereby make the following statements that I certify to be true and complete in every respect:

- 3.1 I have read and I understand the contents of this disclosure;
- 3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found not to be true and complete in every respect;
- 3.3 The bidder has arrived at the accompanying bid independently from, and without consultation, communication, agreement or arrangement with any competitor. However, communication between partners in a joint venture or consortium<sup>2</sup> will not be construed as collusive bidding.
- 3.4 In addition, there have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements with any competitor regarding the quality, quantity, specifications, prices, including methods, factors or formulas used to calculate prices, market allocation, the intention or decision to submit or not to submit the bid, bidding with the intention not to win the bid and conditions or delivery particulars of the products or services to which this bid invitation relates.
- 3.4 The terms of the accompanying bid have not been, and will not be, disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, to any competitor, prior to the date and time of the official bid opening or of the awarding of the contract.
- 3.5 There have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements made by the bidder with any official of the procuring institution in relation to this procurement process prior to and during the bidding process

<sup>2</sup> Joint venture or Consortium means an association of persons for the purpose of combining their expertise, property, capital, efforts, skill and knowledge in an activity for the execution of a contract.

except to provide clarification on the bid submitted where so required by the institution; and the bidder was not involved in the drafting of the specifications or terms of reference for this bid.

- 3.6 I am aware that, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided to combat any restrictive practices related to bids and contracts, bids that are suspicious will be reported to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties in terms of section 59 of the Competition Act No 89 of 1998 and or may be reported to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for criminal investigation and or may be restricted from conducting business with the public sector for a period not exceeding ten (10) years in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act No 12 of 2004 or any other applicable legislation.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION FURNISHED IN PARAGRAPHS 1, 2 and 3 ABOVE IS CORRECT.

I ACCEPT THAT THE STATE MAY REJECT THE BID OR ACT AGAINST ME IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 6 OF PFMA SCM INSTRUCTION 03 OF 2021/22 ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING ABUSE IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SHOULD THIS DECLARATION PROVE TO BE FALSE.

.....	.....
Signature	Date
.....	.....
Position	Name of bidder

# STANDARD BIDDING DOCUMENT (SBD) 6.1

## PREFERENCE POINTS CLAIM FORM IN TERMS OF THE PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS 2022

This preference form must form part of all tenders invited. It contains general information and serves as a claim form for preference points for specific goals.

1.

**NB: BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM, TENDERERS MUST STUDY THE GENERAL CONDITIONS, DEFINITIONS AND DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE IN RESPECT OF THE TENDER AND PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, 2022**

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### 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1 The following preference point systems are applicable to invitations to tender:

- the 80/20 system for requirements with a Rand value of up to R50 000 000 (all applicable taxes included); and
- the 90/10 system for requirements with a Rand value above R50 000 000 (all applicable taxes included).

### 1.2 To be completed by the organ of state

- a) The applicable preference point system for this tender is the **80/20** preference point system.

1.3 Points for this tender (even in the case of a tender for income-generating contracts) shall be awarded for:

- (a) Price; and
- (b) Specific Goals.

### 1.4 To be completed by the organ of state:

The maximum points for this tender are allocated as follows:

	POINTS
PRICE	80
SPECIFIC GOALS	20
<b>Total points for Price and SPECIFIC GOALS</b>	<b>100</b>

1.5 Failure on the part of a tenderer to submit proof or documentation required in terms of this tender to claim points for specific goals with the tender, will be interpreted to mean that preference points for specific goals are not claimed.

1.6 The organ of state reserves the right to require of a tenderer, either before a tender is adjudicated or at any time subsequently, to substantiate any claim in regard to preferences, in any manner required by the organ of state.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

- (a) “**tender**” means a written offer in the form determined by an organ of state in response to an invitation to provide goods or services through price quotations, competitive tendering process or any other method envisaged in legislation;
- (b) “**price**” means an amount of money tendered for goods or services, and includes all applicable taxes less all unconditional discounts;
- (c) “**rand value**” means the total estimated value of a contract in Rand, calculated at the time of bid invitation, and includes all applicable taxes;
- (d) “**tender for income-generating contracts**” means a written offer in the form determined by an organ of state in response to an invitation for the origination of income-generating contracts through any method envisaged in legislation that will result in a legal agreement between the organ of state and a third party that produces revenue for the organ of state, and includes, but is not limited to, leasing and disposal of assets and concession contracts, excluding direct sales and disposal of assets through public auctions; and
- (e) “**the Act**” means the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 (Act No. 5 of 2000).

## 3. FORMULAE FOR PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

### 3.1. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

#### 3.1.1 THE 80/20 OR 90/10 PREFERENCE POINT SYSTEMS

A maximum of 80 or 90 points is allocated for price on the following basis:

$$Ps = 80 \left( 1 - \frac{Pt - Pmin}{Pmin} \right) \quad \text{or} \quad Ps = 90 \left( 1 - \frac{Pt - Pmin}{Pmin} \right)$$

Where

- Ps = Points scored for price of tender under consideration
- Pt = Price of tender under consideration
- Pmin = Price of lowest acceptable tender

### 3.2. FORMULAE FOR DISPOSAL OR LEASING OF STATE ASSETS AND INCOME GENERATING PROCUREMENT

#### 3.2.1. POINTS AWARDED FOR PRICE

A maximum of 80 or 90 points is allocated for price on the following basis:

$$80/20 \quad \text{or} \quad 90/10$$

$$Ps = 80 \left( 1 + \frac{Pt - Pmax}{Pmax} \right) \text{ or } Ps = 90 \left( 1 + \frac{Pt - Pmax}{Pmax} \right)$$

Where

- Ps = Points scored for price of tender under consideration  
 Pt = Price of tender under consideration  
 Pmax = Price of highest acceptable tender

#### 4. POINTS AWARDED FOR SPECIFIC GOALS

- 4.1. In terms of Regulation 4(2); 5(2); 6(2) and 7(2) of the Preferential Procurement Regulations, preference points must be awarded for specific goals stated in the tender. For the purposes of this tender the tenderer will be allocated points based on the goals stated in table 1 below as may be supported by proof/ documentation stated in the conditions of this tender:
- 4.2. In cases where organs of state intend to use Regulation 3(2) of the Regulations, which states that, if it is unclear whether the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system applies, an organ of state must, in the tender documents, stipulate in the case of—
- (a) an invitation for tender for income-generating contracts, that either the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system will apply and that the highest acceptable tender will be used to determine the applicable preference point system; or
  - (b) any other invitation for tender, that either the 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system will apply and that the lowest acceptable tender will be used to determine the applicable preference point system,
- Then the organ of state must indicate the points allocated for specific goals for both the 90/10 and 80/20 preference point system.

**Table 1: Specific goals for the tender and points claimed are indicated per the table below.**

**(Note to organs of state: Where either the 90/10 or 80/20 preference point system is applicable, corresponding points must also be indicated as such.)**

**Note to tenderers: The tenderer must indicate how they claim points for each preference point system and explain the relationship between the B-BBEE level and specific goals**

The specific goals allocated points in terms of this tender (B-BBEE Status Level of Contributor)	Number of points allocated (90/10 system) (To be completed by the organ of	Number of points allocated (80/20 system) (To be completed by the organ of state)	Number of points claimed (90/10 system) (To be completed by the tenderer)	Number of points claimed (80/20 system) (To be completed by the tenderer)

	state)			
1	10	20		
2	9	18		
3	6	14		
4	5	12		
5	4	8		
6	3	6		
7	2	4		
8	1	2		
Non-compliant contributor	0	0		

Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) certificate or sworn affidavit must be submitted to substantiate the points claimed on the above table

**DECLARATION WITH REGARD TO COMPANY/FIRM**

4.3. Name of company/firm.....

4.4. Company registration number: .....

4.5. TYPE OF COMPANY/ FIRM

- Partnership/Joint Venture / Consortium
- One-person business/sole propriety
- Close corporation
- Public Company
- Personal Liability Company
- (Pty) Limited
- Non-Profit Company
- State Owned Company

[TICK APPLICABLE BOX]

4.6. I, the undersigned, who is duly authorised to do so on behalf of the company/firm, certify that the points claimed, based on the specific goals as advised in the tender, qualifies the company/ firm for the preference(s) shown and I acknowledge that:

- i) The information furnished is true and correct;
- ii) The preference points claimed are in accordance with the General Conditions as indicated in paragraph 1 of this form;
- iii) In the event of a contract being awarded as a result of points claimed as shown in paragraphs 1.4 and 4.2, the contractor may be required to furnish documentary proof to the satisfaction of the organ of state that the

claims are correct;

iv) If the specific goals have been claimed or obtained on a fraudulent basis or any of the conditions of contract have not been fulfilled, the organ of state may, in addition to any other remedy it may have –

- (a) disqualify the person from the tendering process;
- (b) recover costs, losses or damages it has incurred or suffered as a result of that person's conduct;
- (c) cancel the contract and claim any damages which it has suffered as a result of having to make less favourable arrangements due to such cancellation;
- (d) recommend that the tenderer or contractor, its shareholders and directors, or only the shareholders and directors who acted on a fraudulent basis, be restricted from obtaining business from any organ of state for a period not exceeding 10 years, after the *audi alteram partem* (hear the other side) rule has been applied; and
- (e) forward the matter for criminal prosecution, if deemed necessary.

..... <b>SIGNATURE(S) OF TENDERER(S)</b>	
<b>SURNAME AND NAME:</b>	.....
<b>DATE:</b>	.....
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	..... ..... ..... .....

# REFERENCE LETTER FORMAT FOR BIDDER

<b>Referee Legal Name:</b>			
<b>Company:</b>			
<b>Bid Number:</b>	NRF/ILABS ITSR/33/2024/25		
<b>Bid Description:</b> SUPPLY NETWORK SWITCHES AND WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS WITH FIVE (5) YEARS OF MAINTENANCE SUPPORT TO Ithemba Labs Cape Town			
Describe the service/work the above bidder provided to you below			
Criteria/Risks	Below requirements	Meets requirements	Exceeds requirements
Quality of rendered services as measured against your service level			
Satisfied with work done			
How did that manage the 23x7 Hot swap of equipment			
Professionalism			
Completion times			
Technology up to date			
Project management			
Is the service provider reliable?			
Service delivery scheduling and implementation			
Overall Impression	Other comments		
Approximate value of contract			
Would you use the provider again?			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Completed by:</b>			
<b>Signature:</b>			
<b>Company Name:</b>			
<b>Contact Telephone Number:</b>			
<b>Date:</b>			

NB: The above reference letter format is optional. service provider/bidder may use their own template as long as the information therein is in line with the one specified in the “**Due diligence of capacity and capability**” or “**Returnable documents**” tables.

## BID SIGNATURE (SBD 1)

I hereby undertake to supply all or any of the goods, works, and services described in this procurement invitation to the NRF in accordance with the requirements and specifications stipulated in this Bid Invitation document at the price/s quoted. I confirm that I have satisfied myself as to the correctness and validity of my offer/bid in response to this Invitation, cover all my obligations and I accept that any mistakes regarding price(s) and rate(s) and calculations will be at my own risk. My offer remains binding upon me and open for acceptance by the NRF during the validity period indicated and calculated from the closing time of Bid Invitation. I accept full responsibility for the proper execution and fulfilment of all obligations and conditions devolving on me in terms of this Bid Invitation as the principal liable for the due fulfilment of the subsequent contract if awarded to me.

I declare that during the bidding period did not have access to any NRF proprietary information or any other matter that may have unfairly placed our bid in a preferential position in relation to any of the other bidder(s).

The following documents are deemed to form and be read and construed as part of this offer / bid even where integrated in this document:

- a) Part A
- b) Part B – Price Schedule
- c) Part C including annexures in support of the bid

I confirm that I am duly authorised to sign this offer/ bid response.

<b>NAME (PRINT)</b>	
CAPACITY	
SIGNATURE	
DATE	

# ANNEXURE A - ELECTRONIC BID SUBMISSION – GUIDELINE FOR BIDDERS

This document serves the purpose of providing the bidder with guidelines and prescripts on how to submit their bids to the NRF via e-mail.

**Conditions for electronic submissions:** This section does not apply to soft copies requested on manual submissions. It applies when email submissions are permitted. In circumstances where they are advisable, the business unit needs to ensure that they have appropriate controls and processes in place, such as:<sup>3</sup>

- Valid process of ensuring that bidder's electronic signatures complies with legislation such as The Electronic Communications and Transactions Act, 25 of 2002 (the ECT Act),
- System records exact time and date of submission in a manner that provides appropriate probity to stakeholders such as auditors,
- System to prevent unauthorised access and system to show if infringement,
- System of authorised persons to set / change dates for opening data received,
- System allows simultaneous communication,
- System of record-keeping meets legislative requirements such as The National Archives and Records Service of South Africa Act (Act. No. 43 of 1996, as amended).

## PRESCRIPTS

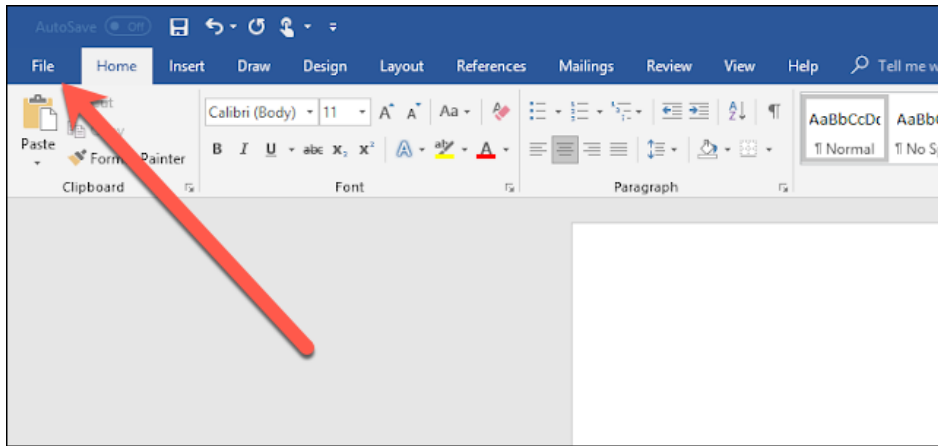
- All files must be submitted in pdf format unless otherwise stated.
- Pricing submission (including any SBDs where bidder's price is quoted) must be password protected and submitted as a separate file.
- **One Envelope system**, the process regarding a Double Envelope system below is **not** required.
- **Two envelope system:** All bidders document must be submitted to the email address specified on the NRF bid document and however the password to the password protected pricing file must be submitted as a separate file and emailed as specified in the bid document.
- The NRF email size limit is 20MB, bidder must ensure that their submission is no bigger than this limit.
  - Your files must be Zipped to ensure that your submission is in line with the email size limit
- Timeline for submitting password to NRF
  - The password for pricing file must **not** be submitted before the bid closes.
  - The password may be submitted 1 minute after bid closure **and no later than 2 days post bid closure**. Failure to submit within 2 days may lead to bid being unable to be evaluated thus rendering them unresponsive.
- The subject of your email quote verbatim the bid name in the exact words provided in the NRF bid document.

## GUIDELINES

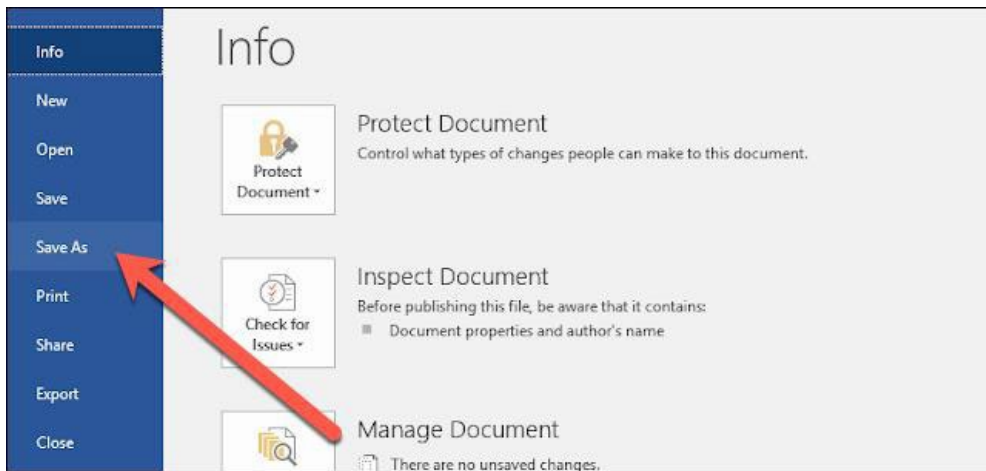
### Converting to pdf

- If you have the desktop version of Microsoft Word, the easiest way to convert your document to PDF is right in Word itself.
- Open the document you want to convert, and then click the "File" tab.

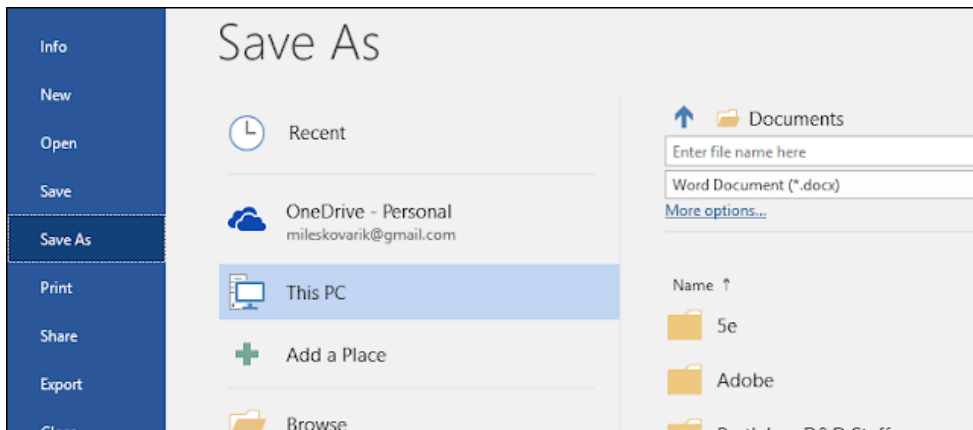
<sup>3</sup>SANS 10845-1 paragraph 4.7



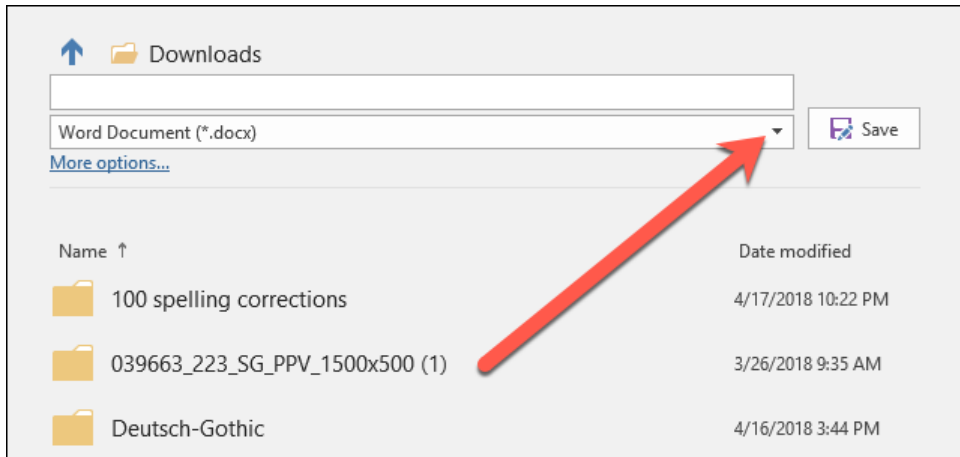
- On the backstage screen, select “Save As” from the list on the left.



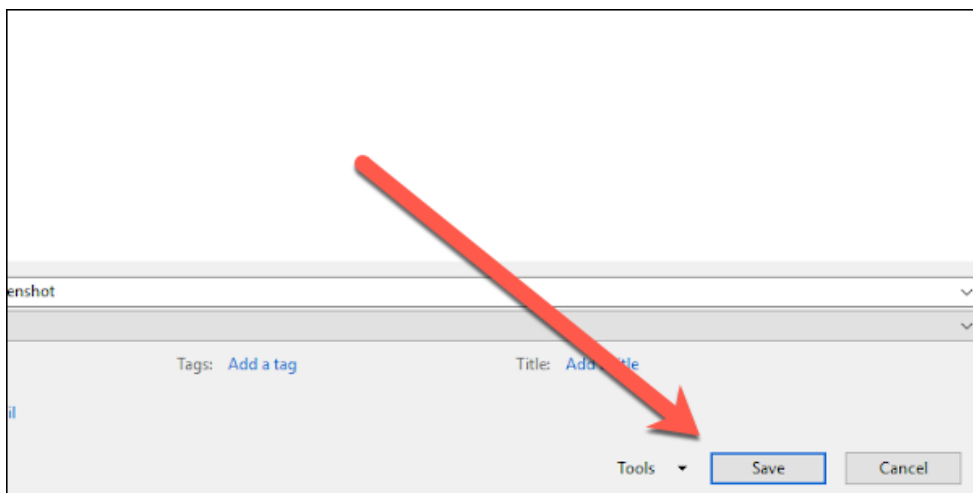
- On the Save As screen, select where you would like the PDF to be saved (OneDrive, This PC, a particular folder, or wherever).



- Next, click the dropdown arrow on the right side of the “Save as type” box, and select “PDF (\*.pdf)” from the dropdown menu.



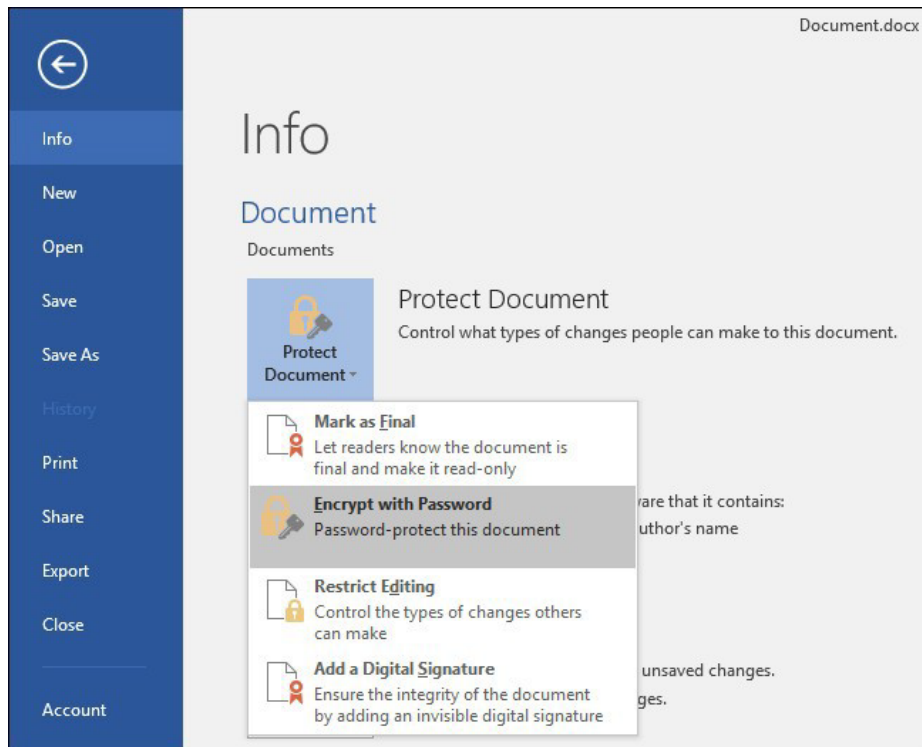
- If you want to, you can change the filename at this time. When you're ready, click the "Save" button.



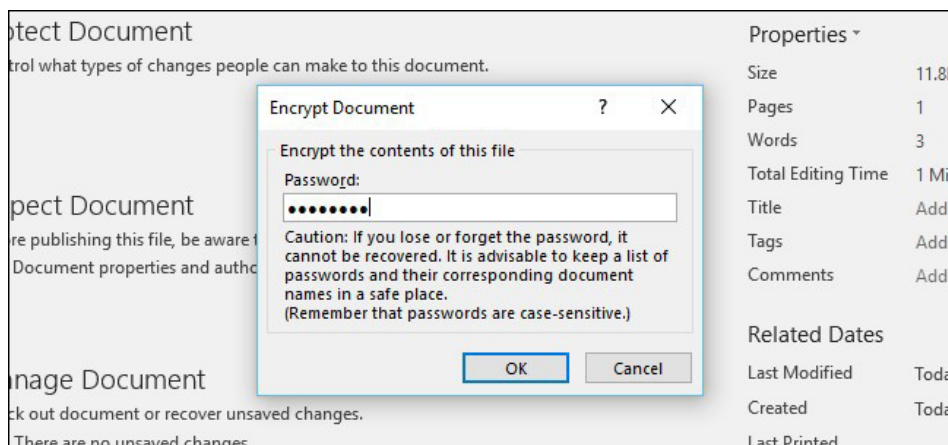
- After saving the PDF, you'll be returned to your Word document, and the new PDF will open automatically in your default PDF viewer.

## Password protecting files

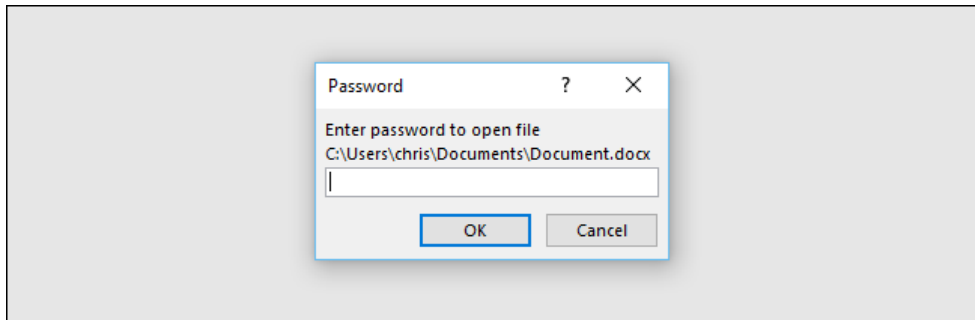
- To password protect an Office document, first open it in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, or Access. Click the "File" menu at the top-left corner of the screen. On the Info pane, click the "Protect Document" button and select "Encrypt with Password."
- The button is only named "Protect Document" in Microsoft Word, but it's named something similar in other apps. Look for "Protect Workbook" in Microsoft Excel and "Protect Presentation" in Microsoft PowerPoint. In Microsoft Access, you'll just see an "Encrypt with Password" button on the Info tab. The steps will otherwise work the same.
- NOTE: If you only want to restrict editing of the document, you can choose "Restrict Editing" here, but as we said, that is not very secure and can easily be bypassed. You're better off encrypting the entire document, if you can.



- Enter the password you want to encrypt the document with. You'll want to choose a good password here. Weak passwords can be easily guessed by cracking software if someone gains access to the document.
- **Warning:** You'll lose access to the document if you ever forget your password, so keep it safe! Microsoft advises you write down the name of the document and its password and keep it in a safe place.



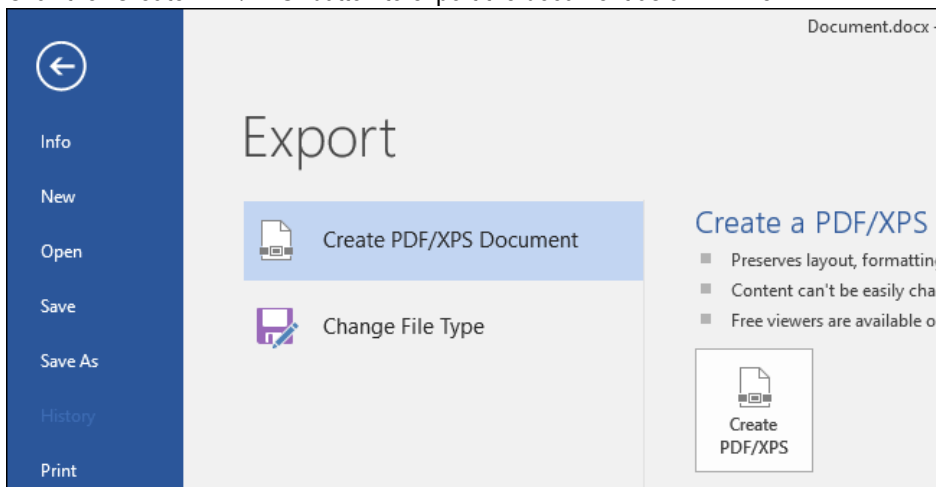
- When a document is encrypted, you'll see the "A password is required to open this document" message on the Info screen. The next time you open the document, you'll see an "Enter password to open file" box. If you don't enter the correct password, you won't be able to view the document at all.



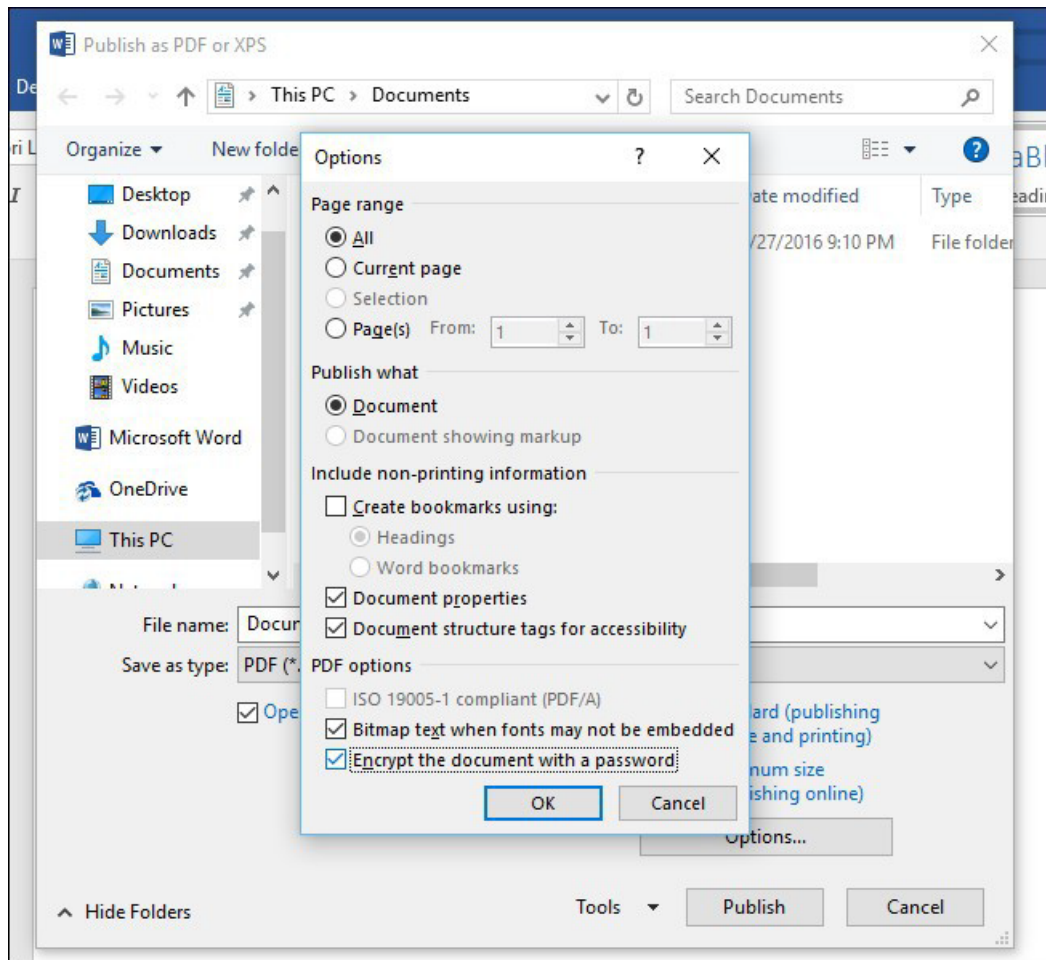
- To remove the password protection from a document, click the “Protect Document” button and select “Encrypt with Password” again. Enter a blank password and click “OK.” Office will remove the password from the document.

## How to Create a Password Protected PDF File

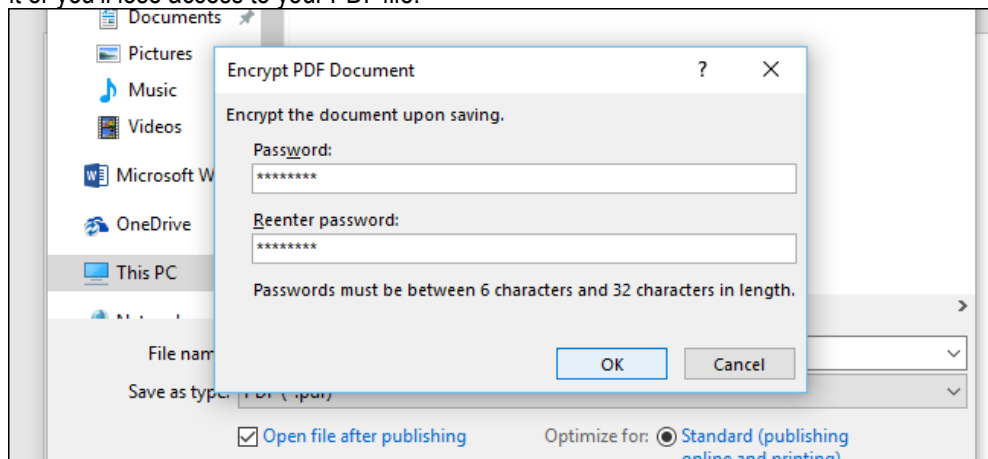
- You can also export an Office document to a PDF file and password protect that PDF file. The PDF document will be encrypted with the password you provide. This works in Microsoft Word but not Excel, for some reason.
- To do this, open the document in Microsoft Word, click the “File” menu button, and select “Export.” Click the “Create PDF/XPS” button to export the document as a PDF file.



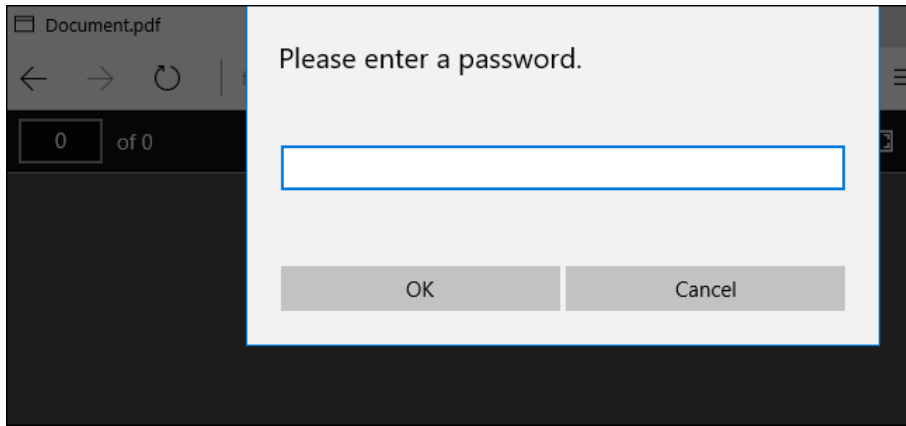
- Click the “Options” button at the bottom of the save dialog window that appears. At the bottom of the options window, enable the “Encrypt the document with a password” option and click “OK.”



- Enter the password you want to encrypt the PDF file with and then click “OK.”
- When you’re done, enter a name for the PDF file and click the “Publish” button. Office will export the document to a password-protected PDF file.
- **Warning:** You won’t be able to view the PDF file if you forget the password. Be sure to keep track of it or you’ll lose access to your PDF file.



- You’ll have to enter the PDF file’s password when you open it. For example, if you open the PDF file in Microsoft Edge—Windows 10’s default PDF viewer—you’ll be asked to enter the password before you can view it. This also works in other PDF readers.



## Zipping your files.

- Put all the files into a new folder
- Right-click on the folder to be sent
- Select "Send To" and then click "Compressed (Zipped) folder"
- The files will start compressing
- After the compression process is complete, attach the compressed file with the extension .zip to your email.

## Keeping passwords safe.

We recommend that you store the password either as a note on a hardcopy document which is then filed or stored safely or a softcopy that is saved in the bid response folder once the bid has been submitted or in line with your document management policy.