

Replies to Bidder's Queries (Batch-1)
Project IDs: BSD/Lot20-S.Waziristan/2019

25-Feb-19

S.No	Queries	Document Ref:	USF Response
1	Mauza mentioned as " Within 2 km of International Border" & "Within 10 km of International Border" are mandatory or optional?	Schedule C of SSA	As per PTA SOP, construction of sites within 10 Km of international border is not allowed. Also mobile coverage is not allowed within 2kms of international border. As such bidder's can cover mauzas within 10Km of international border" with sites installed outside of this 10 Km buffer zone, on best effort basis. Also, there should be no coverage within 2 Kms of International Border.
2	As per "Schedule C", Mauzas having population less than 100 should be considered or not?	Schedule C of SSA	Mauzas having population less than 100 are optional. Bidders should include only mauzas having population greater than 100 as per schedule C.
3	What is USF view in case Capacity planning is not included in the bid? If after nominal deployment, TCH/PS congestion occurs for some cells, what is the way forward as per USF?	Clause 3(f) of Annex-5 of RFA	Bidder must provide design assumptions and related information to demonstrate that the USF Network is planned to provide coverage (both 2G & 3G) to 60 % of the total population of each Mandatory mauza and to provide Broadband data rate of 256kbps to at least 1% of the 60% of total population of each Mandatory Mauza. Service provider will have to expand the network once congestion occurs.
4	If a mauza has high number of data users, what handset capability percentage need to be considered to support 2G/3G/4G?	Clause 3(f) of Annex-5 of RFA	Broadband coverage requirement is at least 1% of the 60% of total population of each Mandatory Mauza.
5	After area profile visits data shared with USF, would this new data serve as the official testing zone only for USF acceptance?	Schedule C of SSA	As mentioned in disclaimer in Schedule C, The location information (Lat,Long) is intended to assist the bidders. It is up to the bidder to ascertain the correctness of the coordinates and ascertain population. The mauzas/Dehs may also have scattered inhabitation and there may be some mauzas without population as well. Bidders should plan their network based on their collected information and the same will be audited. Bidders are required to serve all the mandatory mauzas mentioned in Schedule C of the draft SSA. The purpose of Area/mouza profiling is to locate/identify the population of mauzas as per schedule C of SSA and services are verified as per schedule A & B of SSA, to serve at least 60 % of the total population of each Mandatory mauza.
6	If multiple mauzas are found to be relocated in post bid visits, this may necessitate all nominal plan to be changed. Would it require the operator to share complete new plan again or only altered sites plan to USF?	Schedule C of SSA	The successful bidder shall be responsible to deploy telecommunication network as per actual mauza locations after their field surveys. The coordinates of Un-served mauza have been included in schedule C for planning purposes of the new telecommunications infrastructure in identified areas. The service provider has to share the altered sites plan/relocated mauzas to USF.
7	Please share DT report samples, USF conducts for mauza verification and acceptance.	Schedule A & B of SSA	USF conducts DT to assess required 100% coverage of the mauza, services to 60% population of the mauza and required data rate to 1% of the 60% population.
8	In mauza profiling, should we consider 5 people per household? What is the guiding principle from USF?	Schedule C of SSA	Population Census Organization guide line are used to consider number of persons per house hold in a given area.
9	Assuming 2 houses in a locality, should we assume 10 population or else? Pls guide.	Schedule C of SSA	The reference population of each mouza identified in the schedule C is provided along with number of houses. PCO guide lines should be used as well
10	Any new proposed BSC/RNC may also be used for non-USF traffic? How would USF ensure this?		New proposed BSC/RNC may be used for non-USF traffic if BSC/RNC have sufficient capacity to cater for additional traffic without effecting quality of USF network.
11	According to the RFA section 13.5, secondary source of power hasn't been specified. Therefore, it is requested to please clarify, in case of grid availability as secondary source, with distributed outage pattern round the clock, can provisioning of generator be exempted?	13.5 of RFA	It is mentioned in the RFA that a secondary source of power should be used as a backup to primary source of power. It should be available all the time to reduce outage. Battery bank/Generators can be used as secondary source of power.
12	With reference to clause 13.5a of RFA document, two energy sources will be planned at existing/upgraded sites. However, renewable energy solution will not be provided at existing/upgraded sites as not mandatory. Is it right?	13.5 (a) of RFA	Yes. Renewable energy solution will not be mandatory for upgrade BTS/Repeater sites.
13	In case of not meeting USF post deployment compliance i.e. PTA QoS KPI's each and every Mauza, what is next way forward?	Schedule A & B of SSA	Mauzas not fulfilling criteria will be considered rejected and SP will ensure to provide the required KPI's in the mauzas. SP will have to maintain the KPI's for the contracted period. These will be monitored for compliance during the life of the project.
14	Is it mandatory to submit Power Requirements in case of Tower share sites for which USF lien is not applicable (no subsidy requested)?	clause 3(d) of Annex-5 of RFA	Yes. It is mandatory to submit the design calculations which include Primary and secondary source of power, number of batteries, offered backup time, required charging time, life time and operating temperature for all buildout/tower share sites.
15	Kindly Confirm the data provisioning in this lot as currently data services are blocked in the surrounding areas by authorities .	Schedule B of SSA	SP will deploy the data infrastructure as per SSA and keep the data services blocked until permission granted by authorities.
16	As per section 2(a) of Schedule B in Annex "6" the data rate mentioned is 256 kbps but no further elaboration is given. It is unclear whether this data rate requirement is in uplink or downlink or both.	Clause 2(a) of Schedule B of SSA	256 Kbps is the data rate for downlink.