

**Replies to Bidder's Queries (Batch-2)**  
**Project IDs: BSD/Lot14-N.Waziristan/2018**

24-Apr-18

S.No	Queries	Document Ref:	USF Response
1	Fiber Dependency: North Waziristan is an area where telecom infrastructure is not available and there shall be a need for optic fiber back haul. USF is in parallel working on awarding fiber rollout scope in FATA so as part of design preparation should we assume, that fiber shall be laid by a fiber company under USF fiber lot and service provider for BSD/Lot14 – North Waziristan shall be able to use it?	RFA	USF has launched a project (OFC FATA Package-1) for catering backhaul requirements in FATA. Fiber availability will be dependent on the results of this project. Project implementation timeline for OFC FATA Package-1 is 2 years. Bidders are advised to plan accordingly.
2	Project completion timelines: The project duration as per information pack is to achieve first milestone in 9 months and to complete the project in 24 months however this area has recently been cleared by security forces and there is a major migration of people in this area after the operation. This poses a challenge in terms of local governance, lack of property documents and major dependency on local infrastructure which can potentially delay the ramp up of the project in terms of mauza hunting, site acquisition, relevant NOC etc. In this respect it is requested to USF to extend the project timelines to 36 months with first milestone offering in 15 months.	Schedule D of draft SSA (Annex-6 of RFA)	No amendment is deemed necessary. Compliance with the said clause is mandatory.
3	Performance Bond: Please clarify the criteria/percentage against/at which the Performance Bond will be reduced.		Please refer to clause 6.02 (b) which states: "(b) The amount of the Performance Bond shall be 40% of the total USF Subsidy to be paid to the USF service provider. The Performance Bond will be maintained for the entirety of the implementation Phase of the project. However during the monitoring phase, the Performance Bond shall be proportionately reduced each year, subject to satisfactory monitoring reports of the project. ...."
4	We need to know if there is any handset subsidy that USF is considering as 3G technology is mandatory.	Schedule A & B of draft SSA (Annex-6 of RFA)	Handset subsidy is not included in this BSD Lot.
5	If through On Ground survey on Google earth findings we are unable to see substantial population at a certain Mandatory Mouza, will USF consider changing the mandatory status.	Schedule C of draft SSA (Annex-6 of RFA)	As mentioned in disclaimer in Schedule C, The X and Y coordinates are intended to assist the bidders. It is upto the bidder to ascertain the correctness of the coordinates. The mauzas/Dehs may also have scattered inhabitation and there may be some mauzas without population as well. Bidders should plan their network keeping in view scattered nature of mauzas. Bidders are required to serve all the mandatory mauzas mentioned in Schedule C of the draft SSA. Alternate Mauza can only be provided by USF once after field survey it has been verified that no population is available at provided GPS coordinates or nearby locations.

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6	Data services are currently blocked in FATA, if the situation remains the same or re-occur after award of USF what will be the way forward.	Schedule A & B of draft SSA (Annex-6 of RFA)	Please refer to Clause 20.4 of RFA which states: Service providers are required to plan their network to provide USF services as per RFA requirements. Further Service providers are required to provide services as per rules, regulations and requirements of PTA.
7	Is it Mandatory to go in to all 3 areas (N. Waziristan, FR Bannu & FR Lakki), or can we be selective in the 3 locations.	Schedule C of draft SSA (Annex-6 of RFA)	It is mandatory to bid for complete lot on turnkey basis. Partial bidding is not allowed.
8	What is the primary coverage layer (either 2G or 3G).	Annex-5 of RFA	USF is technology neutral. Bidders can propose any technology for providing USF services. Bidders are required to provide separate coverage prediction plots for all the technologies used to provide USF services.
9	What technologies predictions are required (2G/3G/4G)	Annex-5 of RFA	Separate coverage prediction plots of all the technologies (e.g. 2G, 3G and/or 4G) proposed to provide USF services will be required.
10	Please clarify following statement is it referring to per user. f) Applicants 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.	Annex-5 of RFA	Data rate of 256 Kbps per user is required for 1% of the 60% of total population of each Mandatory Mauza.
11	Kindly provide Mauza polygons on which coverage is to be provided.	Schedule C of draft SSA (Annex-6 of RFA)	USF has already shared GPS coordinates of all the mauzas with registered bidders. Bidders are requested to plan the network by using all possible sources including Google earth, field surveys etc. to identify populated areas of these mauzas. Service providers are required to provide coverage only to the populated areas of these mauzas as per USF requirements and not the whole area of the mauza. Official exact polygons for these mauzas are not available.
12	Also please suggest following 2 highlighted categories of Mauza, do they fall in mandatory category ? there are 56 Moza in such category and will impact our plan majorly.  Within 10 Km of International Border Within 2 Km of International Border	Schedule C of draft SSA (Annex-6 of RFA)	Please refer to Bidder's are required to cover mauzas "Within 10Km of International Border" on best effort basis only by following the relevant PTA SoP. Bidders are not required to cover Mauzas "Within 2 Km of International Border" as per relevent PTA SoP.