Government of Papua New Guinea
National Information and Communications Technology Authority

NATIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY
UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND SERVICE (UAS)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

2026 FIXED BROADBAND PROJECT

LOT 1

PROVISION OF FIXED BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY AND POWER SUPPLY (BCSP)

RFP Reference	Issue Date	Closing Date
UAS26-RFP-FBBL1-BCSP-v3	10 November 2026	04 December 2026, 5:00 pm

Cnr. Frangipani Street and Croton Street, Hohola
PO Box 8444, Boroko, NCD
Papua New Guinea

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SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

NICTA invites proposals from experienced and qualified Internet Service Providers (ISP) and power-system contractors for the design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of fixed broadband connectivity, campus Wi-Fi and sustainable power systems at the Lot 1 sites: Pai Hope Institute, Hela Provincial Administration Buildings - Hela 1 and Hela 2, St Joseph's Tari Secondary School.

Starlink/LEO satellite connectivity is preferred for applicable remote sites, while technically justified alternatives may be proposed. The solution must be complete, secure, maintainable and appropriately sized to the approved connectivity load. The solar component is limited to the broadband and Wi-Fi system; recipient institutions are responsible for powering desktop computers.

1. PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

This is an open and competitive RFP. Bidders must respond clearly to every requirement and submit a complete technical and financial proposal. NICTA may reject a proposal that is incomplete, conditional, materially non-responsive or submitted late.

- Evidence of payment of the mandatory non-refundable K250.00 Bid Document Fee.
- A signed cover letter and bidder contact details.
- A compliance schedule responding to every technical requirement.
- A site-by-site implementation, logistics (including last mile delivery) and mobilization plan.
- A detailed price schedule showing unit rates, installation, taxes/GST, recurrent charges and the total GST-inclusive price, with all logistics and freight absorbed into the main project price.
- Evidence of stock availability or a credible procurement and delivery plan.
- Warranty, support, maintenance and escalation arrangements.
- Company profile, relevant experience, references and key personnel.
- All mandatory registrations, licences, certificates and declarations.

Proposals must be prepared and submitted using the Proposal Template that will accompany this RFP. A guideline for completing the template is also included in the same for reference.

Mandatory Bid Document Fee: **A non-refundable fee of K250.00** must be paid into the **Universal Access Services** Trust Account, **BSP Account No.: 7009664546**. A clear copy of the bank deposit slip or electronic transfer receipt must be attached to the proposal. Failure to provide acceptable evidence of payment may result in the proposal being treated as non-responsive.

Inclusive pricing requirement: All freight, insurance, mobilization, logistics and last-mile delivery costs must be absorbed into the bidder's main project price. No separate or additional logistics claim will be accepted after award. The successful contractor is responsible for delivery to the designated remote sites and for all required installation, configuration, testing and commissioning.

Proposals must be submitted electronically ONLY to uas@nicta.gov.pg by 5:00 pm on 04 December 2026. The email subject must state: Proposal for UAS26-RFP-FBBL1-BCSP-v3. Late proposals may not be considered.

Bid costs: Bidders bear all costs associated with preparing and submitting a proposal.

2. PROJECT PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

The purpose is to establish secure, reliable and sustainable broadband services at the selected sites, supported by the minimum network and power infrastructure necessary for continuous operation of the broadband and Wi-Fi system. The solar solution does not include power for desktop computers or general-purpose institutional electrification. Each recipient is responsible for providing electricity for its computers and other end-user devices.

All equipment provided through this project is intended for the exclusive use of the recipient institution. Upon project completion, the recipient institution will assume full responsibility for the equipment, including its maintenance and operation, subject to the contractor warranty, defects-liability and support obligations in this RFP.

3. PROJECT SCOPE

- **3.1 Fixed Broadband Connectivity**
- Validate service availability and undertake a site-specific technical assessment before final design.
- Design, supply, install and commission the broadband link, preferably Starlink/LEO where appropriate, including all mounts, cabling, protection and accessories.
- Provide secure LAN, firewall, routing, indoor Wi-Fi and outdoor hotspot coverage appropriate to each site.
- Configure bandwidth management, content/security controls, user access and remote monitoring.
- Provide a 24-month broadband subscription and disclose all recurrent charges separately.
- Provide performance testing, as-built diagrams, configuration records, asset registers and commissioning certificates.

- **3.2 Power Solution**
- Undertake and submit a site load assessment and detailed electrical/mechanical design for the broadband and Wi-Fi system only.
- Provide a minimum off-grid/hybrid solar solution sized for continuous operation of the approved modem, firewall, router/switching and Wi-Fi equipment.
- Exclude desktop computers and other end-user devices from the solar design load; the recipient must provide their electricity supply.
- Supply solar panels, hybrid inverter, LiFePO4 battery bank, mounting, protection, earthing, cabling, monitoring and all accessories required for a complete installation.
- Use grid or another reliable source where available only where technically justified and approved by NICTA.
- Install, test and commission through appropriately licensed personnel and provide NEA-compliant certification.
- Train nominated site personnel and provide operating manuals, warranties and maintenance instructions.

- **3.3 Logistics Support and Handover**
- Provide end-to-end packing, insurance, freight, mobilization, logistics and last-mile delivery to each remote site, with all related costs absorbed into the main project price.

- Undertake all installation, configuration, testing and commissioning required for a fully operational broadband, network and power solution.
- Coordinate access and implementation with NICTA and recipient representatives.
- Provide at least 12 months defects-liability/support and proposed preventive maintenance arrangements.
- Submit weekly progress reports and immediately escalate risks, delays or proposed design changes.
- Complete formal handover only after NICTA verifies installation, connectivity, coverage, safety, documentation and training.

4.PROJECT TIMELINE

- Proposals must be submitted electronically ONLY to uas@nicta.gov.pg **by 5:00 pm on 04 December 2026.** The email subject must state: Proposal for UAS26-RFP-FBBL1-BCSP-v3.
- Evaluation of proposals will be conducted within two weeks from the deadline of the submission. If additional information or discussions are needed with any bidders during this two-week window, the bidder(s) will be notified.
- The selection decision for the winning bidder will be made two weeks after the evaluation of the proposals. Upon notification, the contract negotiation with the winning bidder will begin.
- Notifications to bidders who were not selected will be done after the completion of the evaluation.
- The bidder must propose a realistic site-by-site programme and complete all works within two months from contract commencement, unless otherwise approved in writing.

5. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

- **Questions must be sent to uas@nicta.gov.pg or reach out to our technical team; Richard Maposia/ Nigel Parampapan on phone: 303200**
- The contractor must submit weekly progress reports and immediately escalate risks, delays or proposed design changes. Site access and implementation must be coordinated with NICTA and recipient representatives.

6. PROJECT BUDGET

- The indicative allocation for the Lot 1 BCSP component is K409,800.00 (GST inclusive), comprising an indicative K46,600.00 for broadband/network and K90,000.00 for power per site. All freight, logistics, mobilization, last-mile delivery, installation, configuration, testing and commissioning costs must be absorbed into the relevant main project price. Bidders must separately identify recurrent subscription charges only.

7. BIDDERS QUALIFICATION

- Bidders must provide the following:

- Attach copy of the deposit slip or transfer receipt with the proposal confirming payment of the **non-refundable K250.00** Bid Document Fee to UAS Trust Account, BSP Account Name: **UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND SERVICE,** Account **No: 7009664546**.

- Financial Bank Statement for the last 6 months
- Current IPA registration and company extract.
- Current IRC Tax Identification Number and tax compliance documentation.
- NICTA ISP licence, or evidence of a compliant joint venture/subcontract arrangement with a licensed ISP.
- Applicable National Energy Authority licences/certifications and nominated licensed electrician.
- Evidence of similar assignments completed within the last five years, including client references and contract values.
- Organizational structure, key personnel, technical capacity and financial capacity.
- Evidence of appropriate insurance and occupational health and safety arrangements.

8. PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criterion	Assessment focus	Weight
Administrative compliance	Bid fee receipt, mandatory registrations, licences, declarations and completeness	Pass/Fail
Technical compliance	Connectivity, network, power design, security, monitoring and site-specific compliance	30%
Experience and capacity	Similar assignments, personnel, resources and references	15%
Implementation and logistics	Site-specific methodology, mobilization, delivery and risk controls	15%
Warranty and support	Warranty, maintenance, response times, training and local support	10%
Financial proposal	Competitive, complete and sustainable total cost; value for money	30%

***NICTA** may undertake due diligence, seek clarifications, verify references, inspect facilities or stock, and negotiate with the preferred bidder. Price is significant but is not the sole basis for award.*

9. CHANGE MANAGEMENT

Any proposed changes to the project scope, schedule, or budget will be submitted in writing and approved by both parties.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidentiality: Information received through this RFP and information submitted by bidders will be handled in accordance with applicable procurement and confidentiality requirements.

11. NICTA RIGHTS TO ACCEPT OR REJECT PROPOSALS

Notwithstanding any provision of this RFP, NICTA may decide at any stage prior to due execution by both parties of the Contract, to accept or reject any Proposal, or to cancel the RFP process, or

reject or disqualify the Proposal of one or more or all proponents, without thereby incurring any liability to any proponent.

NICTA's rights: NICTA may accept or reject any proposal, cancel or amend the RFP, seek clarification, or discontinue negotiations before contract execution without liability to bidders.

Funding condition: Any award or contract commitment is subject to funding availability, internal approval and execution of a formal contract.

ANNEXURE

A. PROJECT SITES

Lot 1 project sites and indicative allocations in Papua New Guinea kina inclusive of GST are set out below. Logistics and delivery costs are included in the main project price.

Site	Province	District	Broadband and network	Power	Total GST incl.
Pai Hope Institute	Hela	Tari-Pori	K46,600.00	K90,000.00	K136,600.00
Hela Provincial Administration Buildings - Hela 1 and Hela 2	Hela	Tari-Pori	K46,600.00	K90,000.00	K136,600.00
St Joseph's Tari Secondary School	Hela	Tari-Pori	K46,600.00	K90,000.00	K136,600.00
LOT 1 TOTAL			K139,800.00	K270,000.00	K409,800.00

The budget is an indicative planning ceiling, not a guaranteed contract value. Bidders must submit competitive, site-by-site pricing. NICTA reserves the right to adjust the final scope subject to evaluation, funding and approval.

Site changes: NICTA reserves the right to verify, substitute, defer or remove a site before contract award or during implementation, subject to applicable approvals and equitable contract adjustment where required.

B. FIXED BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Component	Minimum requirement
Connectivity	Preferred Starlink/LEO satellite service or technically justified equivalent; service availability to be confirmed per site
Minimum service	10 Mbps download / 3 Mbps upload per site; bidder to state committed and expected performance
Availability	Target 99.5% service uptime, excluding approved maintenance and force majeure
Subscription	24 months, with all recurrent charges and renewal costs disclosed
Firewall	Business-grade next-generation firewall with IPS, antivirus, web filtering, application control, SSL inspection and QoS
Router/switching	Gigabit interfaces; sufficient ports and PoE capacity for the final design; backup WAN capability preferred
Indoor access point	Dual-band Wi-Fi 5 or better, enterprise management, minimum coverage verified by survey
Outdoor access points	Dual-band, IP67 minimum, PoE, appropriate high-gain antenna and secure mounting
Hotspot	Minimum 20-30 simultaneous users, secure authentication/voucher capability, load/bandwidth management
Thermal/Hotspot Voucher Printer	Thermal receipt printer compatible with the hotspot voucher management system; capable of printing clear, legible user access vouchers with login credentials. USB, Ethernet or Wi-Fi connectivity as appropriate to the proposed system.
Security	WPA3 where supported; secure administration; unique credentials; configuration backup
Rack and cabling	Lockable communications rack, organized patching, labelled cabling, earthing and surge protection. All structured cabling shall be installed in accordance with **ANSI/TIA-568 and ANSI/TIA-569 standards**. Data cabling shall maintain a minimum separation of at least 100 mm from LV power cabling when installed in parallel. All structured cabling **MUST** be enclosed within appropriate ducting, conduit, or trunking and is **not exposed**. **All network cabling must terminate at a patch panel** in the rack.
Monitoring	Remote/cloud monitoring of link, network devices, uptime and usage; monthly reporting capability
Documentation	As-built design, IP schedule, configuration backup, asset register, test results and manuals

C. POWER SYSTEM TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Component	Minimum requirement
Design basis	Site-specific verified load for broadband and Wi-Fi equipment only. Desktop computers and other recipient loads are excluded.
Solar array	Monocrystalline array sized by the bidder's verified connectivity load calculation; >=18% module efficiency; 25-year performance warranty preferred
Inverter	Pure sine-wave hybrid inverter, 240 Vac, 50 Hz, appropriately sized for the connectivity system's continuous and surge load; >=95% efficiency preferred
Battery bank	LiFePO4 battery storage sized to sustain the approved connectivity load through low-solar periods; integrated BMS; >=3,000 cycles at 80% DoD
MPPT/charging	Appropriately sized MPPT charge control with remote communications and full protection
Transfer/bypass	Properly rated ATS/manual bypass where grid or generator integration is approved
Protection	DC/AC isolation, Type 2 surge protection or better, correctly rated fuses/breakers, earthing and lightning protection as required
Mounting	Corrosion-resistant, site-appropriate structure designed for local wind and environmental conditions
Cabling	UV-resistant copper cabling, compliant connectors, protected cable routes, labels and termination schedules
Monitoring	Remote monitoring for generation, battery state, connectivity load, alarms and historical data
Compliance	National Energy Act 2021 and applicable NEA requirements; installation and commissioning by licensed personnel
Warranty	Panels: manufacturer standard; inverter/battery: minimum 5 years preferred; workmanship: minimum 2 years

D. ACCEPTANCE DELIVERABLES

- Approved site-specific design and implementation plan.
- Equipment delivery and asset register with serial numbers.
- Installation completion and electrical compliance certification.
- Broadband speed, latency, and stability test results.
- Wi-Fi coverage and hotspot functionality test.
- Hotspot voucher system configuration and demonstration, including voucher creation, thermal printing, validity periods, and successful user login
- Solar generation, battery autonomy, protection and load test results.
- As-built drawings, configuration backup, warranties, manuals and training attendance record.
- Signed site handover and NICTA acceptance certificate.

E. BIDDER PRICE SCHEDULE

Bidders must complete the schedule below. All freight, insurance, mobilization, logistics and last-mile delivery costs must be absorbed into the relevant main project price. Show GST and total GST-inclusive prices, and separately identify the 24-month subscription charges.

Site	Item	Qty	Unit Price	GST	Total (GST incl.)
Pai Hope Institute	Broadband/network incl. delivery, installation, configuration and commissioning	1 lot			
Pai Hope Institute	24-month service subscription	24 months			
Pai Hope Institute	Power system incl. delivery, installation and commissioning	1 lot			
Hela Provincial Administration Buildings - Hela 1 and Hela 2	Broadband/network incl. delivery, installation, configuration and commissioning	1 lot			
Hela Provincial Administration Buildings - Hela 1 and Hela 2	24-month service subscription	24 months			
Hela Provincial Administration Buildings - Hela 1 and Hela 2	Power system incl. delivery, installation and commissioning	1 lot			
St Joseph's Tari Secondary School	Broadband/network incl. delivery, installation, configuration and commissioning	1 lot			
St Joseph's Tari Secondary School	24-month service subscription	24 months			
St Joseph's Tari Secondary School	Power system incl. delivery, installation and commissioning	1 lot			
LOT TOTAL	All costs including GST				