



Do.No. N-22018/33/2022-NeGD

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Subject: Clarification and SoP on engagement of empaneled agencies done through Request for Empanelment (RFE) of Consulting Organizations for Implementing Initiatives under Digital India Programme, floated at Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) vide tender DI 2023_DIT_7868262_dated 2 December 2023

Reference to the subject, the queries on the use of empanelled agencies and the request to support the engagement with agencies for digital initiatives were received from some Central Government and State Government organisations and therefore, this clarification is being issued for clarity.

Purpose of Empanelment

The National e-Governance Division (NeGD), an IBD of Digital India Corporation under Ministry of Electronics and IT, Government of India has empaneled reputed consultancy organizations to support the design, development, and large-scale rollout of various Digital India initiatives. These initiatives will align with the India Digital Ecosystem Architecture (IndEA) and the India Enterprise Architecture (IndEA) frameworks. There are three categories of the consulting services as follows:

- **Category A:** Project/ Programme Management and advisory services
- **Category B:** Domain or cross-domain specific architecture for Digital Ecosystem, Enterprise, and Solutions.
- **Category C:** Technology management and adoption of Emerging Technologies

Scope of the empanelment

The Central Government Ministries/Departments, State Government Departments,

public sector undertakings, and their organisation(s) can make use of this empanelment for award of work, for various ICT and related projects undertaken under the Vision & Principles of the Digital India program of the government.

Empanelled Agencies

Based on the received bids, evaluation of the pre-qualification, technical qualification criteria and agreement on the L1 rate discovered for roles identified under each category of the work, the following agencies are empanelled for the aforesaid areas / categories of work.

Agency	Category A: Program Management & Advisory Services	Category B: Cross Domain Architecture for Enterprise Solution	Category C : Adoption of Emerging Technologies
BDO India LLP	Yes	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Cubastion Consulting Pvt. Ltd.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
PricewaterhouseCoopers Private Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ernst & Young LLP	Yes	Yes	Yes
KPMG Advisory Services Private Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Grant Thornton Bharat LLP	Yes	Yes	Yes

Key aspects of the empanelment

1. Scope and Services:

- The empanelled consulting organizations will support ongoing or new projects through consulting services. This includes providing resources for various roles identified for aforesaid three categories of the work.

2. Empanelment Validity:

- The empanelment is valid for 36 months from the award of the Letter of Intent and may be extended for an additional 24 months. The validity is deemed to continue until the completion of any assigned projects, ensuring resource availability throughout the project lifecycle.


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3. Resource Deployment:

- Consultancy firms will deploy their professionals across India, with no travel allowances for the initial posting. However, for time and material-based projects, professionals may be entitled to travel allowances if required to travel from their project sites for project-related work.

This initiative with the broader goals of Digital India, focusing on creating robust digital ecosystems and ensuring that government services are more accessible, efficient, and transparent. The empanelment process seeks to bring in expertise that can drive the successful implementation of these initiatives.

How to Use this empanelment

The process for selecting an agency from the empanelled list for implementing initiatives under the Digital India Programme is outlined in detail (reference section 5.3 of the RFE document - https://d32jqum0n1d64.cloudfront.net/2023/12/RFE_consulting_agencies_21.12.2023.pdf) as follows:

1. Floating a Request for Resource:

- Request For Resource Invitation: A Request for Resource may be floated exclusively among the empanelled agencies. This Request for Resource will include detailed project information, scope of work, job roles, job descriptions, and any additional terms and conditions that are specific to the project, which go beyond those mentioned in the original Request for Empanelment (RFE).
- Proposal Submission: The empanelled agencies will be required to submit proposals, including CVs of the proposed professionals, against the specified criteria mentioned in the Request For Resource.

2. Selection Criteria

- Formation: A Selection Committee may be constituted by the government organisation to oversee the selection process. The Committee may comprise of officials from Programme Division, and Finance Division of the government organisation.
- Evaluation: The committee may screen the submitted CVs, conduct interviews with selected candidates, and finalize the most suitable resources based on the project's requirements.


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3. Issuance of Work Order:

- Finalization: Once the selection is made, a work order will be issued by the government organisation to the chosen agency for the deployment of the selected resources.
- Details: The work order will outline the specific deliverables, timelines, and any additional terms that will govern the project.

4. Payment Structure (as per 7.19 Payment Process of the RFP - https://d32jqum0n1d64.cloudfront.net/2023/12/RFE_consulting_agencies_21.12.2023.pdf):

- A pre-receipted bill, along with certificate of satisfactory performance from the authorized officer of the organization will have to be submitted.
- Payments shall be subject to deductions (as per para 7.9 Termination/withdrawal clause of the RFP) of any amount for which the Agency is liable under the empanelment or RFE conditions. The Price offered by the agency shall be exclusive of GST but inclusive of all other taxes as per the current rate of taxation in force

5. Replacement of Resources:

- Replacement: During the assignment, the substitution of key staff identified for the assignment will not be allowed unless such substitution becomes unavoidable to overcome the undue delay or that such changes are critical to meet the obligation. In such circumstances, the selected Consultant, as the case maybe, can do so only with the prior written concurrence of department/organization and by providing the replacement staff of the same level of qualifications and competence.
- Clause Inclusion: This performance management clause will be explicitly mentioned in the work order.

6. Contractual Terms and Conditions:

- Superseding Terms: Any additional terms and conditions outlined in the contract or work order will take precedence over the terms mentioned in the original empanelment agreement. This allows for flexibility in addressing project-specific needs and conditions.



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Financial Implication

When a government organization directly engages with an empanelled agency, no financial charges are to be paid to NeGD. This means that the direct contractual relationship between the government organization and the empanelled consultancy agency is free from any additional financial obligations to NeGD.

Term & Conditions (Other than T&C mentioned in RFE)

In the event the concerned Government Organization engages the services of the empanelled agency, all the Regulations/ Policies/ Terms and Conditions, in force in the said Organization would apply to the empanelled agency, to the extent applicable.

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