



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

COUNTRY: MALAWI

NAME OF PROJECT: DIGITAL MALAWI ACCELERATION PROJECT

GRANT NO: IDA-E338-MW

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO CARRY OUT COMPREHENSIVE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND PENETRATION TESTING (VAPT) FOR GOVERNMENT DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

REFERENCE NO.: MW-PPPC-452993-CS-CQS

The Government of Malawi (GoM) has received a grant from the International Development Association (IDA) under the Digital Malawi Acceleration Project (DMAP) to increase access to, and inclusive use of, the internet and improve the Government's capacity to deliver digitally enabled services and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") will conduct a Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT) on Malawi's critical government digital infrastructure to identify, assess, and mitigate security risks. The Consultant is expected to carry out the following tasks:

- (a) Conduct a security risk assessment.
- (b) Perform penetration testing.
- (c) Develop a Risk Mitigation and Remediation Plan
- (d) Deliver Security Training and Knowledge Transfer

The assignment is for a period of thirteen (13) weeks with an estimated level of input of 200-man days for Key Experts. The detailed Terms of Reference (TORs) can be obtained at the following address <https://www.pppc.mw/procurement>; or can also be obtained upon request at the address given below.

The Public Private Partnership Commission (PPPC) now invites eligible qualifying Consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consulting Firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- a) Core business of the firm(s) and years in business; the firm should be well-versed in data centre architecture, cloud environments, and hybrid models and experience in working with different hardware, storage, and networking technologies.
- b) Relevant similar experience, which should specifically include the below:
 - The firm should have not less than 5 years' relevant experience in Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT) projects, especially working with government agencies, finance, telecom, or enterprise environments.
 - The firm should provide references from at least three (3) clients where the bidder provided similar kind of work in the last five (5) years.
 - The firm should be familiar with Cybersecurity Standards & Frameworks such as OWASP Top 10, MITRE ATT&CK Framework, GDPR, NIST Cybersecurity Framework, ISO/IEC 27001 and PCI DSS
- c) The firm should demonstrate having a solid team of professionals in relevant areas as indicated in the TORs. (Provide only the structure of the organization, general qualifications and experience, and number of key staff. Do not provide detailed CV of the staff. Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" dated February 2025 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally be liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant(s) will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 08:00 to 16:30 hours, local time. Detailed terms of reference (ToRs) are available on the PPPC Website, www.pppc.mw/procurement. The ToRs can also be sent to interested consultants by e-mail upon request from the e-mail address indicated below.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by 17th June 2025.

The Chairperson,
Internal Procurement and Disposal Committee,
Public Private Partnership Commission

2nd Floor, Livingstone Towers

Glyn Jones Road

P.O. Box 937

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Tel: +265 1 823 655; Fax : +265 1 821 248 ; E-mail : info@pppc.mw