

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

“ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HUBS (AI-Hubs) ACROSS PAKISTAN”

Date of issue: July 26, 2026

National Artificial Intelligence Advancement Initiative (NAAI)

Ministry of Information Technology & Telecom Government of Pakistan

Ref. No: 1-2/2025-IT/NAAI/ADIM/AI-HUB/01

**Ministry of Information Technology &
Telecom (MoITT)**

**7th floor, Kohsar Block, Pak Secretariat
Islamabad**

www.moitt.gov.pk

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HUBS (AI-HUBS) ACROSS PAKISTAN

1 Background and Context

The Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT), Government of Pakistan, is leading the country's digital transformation by developing a secure, future-ready digital and emerging technologies ecosystem.

As part of the implementation of the National AI Policy, particularly the strategic direction outlined under Section 5.3 (AI Hubs (Institutional Infrastructure)), the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT) has launched the **National Artificial Intelligence Advancement Initiative (NAAI)**, a flagship national initiative aimed at accelerating AI adoption and ecosystem development across Pakistan.

One of the key components of **NAAI** is the establishment of a nationwide network of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Hubs across major cities of the country. The AI Hubs will be explicitly designed to serve regional needs and nurture an AI innovation ecosystem. In alignment with the National AI Policy, the establishment and operation of these AI Hubs shall support the implementation of a multi-stakeholder governance framework to promote responsible, inclusive, and ethical AI development by engaging academia, industry, government, startups, researchers, and other relevant stakeholders in AI innovation, research, commercialization, and implementation.

Through NAAI, these AI Hubs will serve as central platforms for developing AI talent, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, and enabling the commercialization of AI-driven solutions consistent with the strategic objectives of the National AI Policy.

2 Purpose of this RFP

Through this Request for Proposal (RFP), MoITT intends to engage, through the *Single Stage-Two Envelope procurement procedure*, a single successful bidder, either as an individual legal entity or as a Joint Venture (JV), consortium, or other legally permissible arrangement, represented by a designated Lead Bidder, to design, establish, operate, and sustain seven (7) AI Hubs across Pakistan in Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, Quetta, Muzaffarabad, and Gilgit.

The selected bidder will be responsible for developing fully equipped facilities and running comprehensive programs that promote innovation in AI for AI product development, and startup growth. The hubs will include:

- Fully equipped facilities (office space, internet, furniture, fixtures etc.)
- Startup incubation and coaching support
- AI-focused curriculum and training programs
- Collaboration spaces and multimedia facilities
- Linkages with incubators, accelerators, and VC networks

The overarching mission of the AI Hubs is to bridge practical AI applications by bringing together startups, academia, government, and industry to address national challenges in the following thematic areas, but not limited to:

- Healthcare
- Agriculture
- Education
- Fintech
- Public sector governance
- Smart and sustainable cities
- Any other related Area

The successful bidder shall induct, incubate, and support two (2) cohorts of twenty (20) startups per year at each AI Hub. Across the seven (7) AI Hubs, this shall result in the incubation of a total of 280 startups annually and 560 startups over the two-year project period. In addition, the successful bidder shall organize two (2) AI Hackathons and four (4) AI Awareness Sessions across Pakistan within the given duration of project.

Similarly, the selected bidder will also be responsible to administer through a transparent competitive mechanism, the non-dilutive seed grants disbursements to 150 AI startups for which funding will be provided by MoITT.

Interested bidders are invited to submit detailed proposals showcasing their technical, managerial, and operational strengths to support this national initiative.

3 Scope of Work

The successful bidder will be responsible for the **end-to-end development, operationalization, and long-term sustainability** of seven (7) AI Hubs, supporting four (4) AI startup cohorts comprising a total of 560 startups over the two-year project period.

In addition, the successful bidder shall develop and implement a transparent and merit-based mechanism for the nationwide call, evaluation, selection and disbursement of grants to 150 AI startups under MoITT's Non-Dilutive Seed Grant Program, and organize four (4) AI Awareness Sessions and two (2) AI Hackathons. The scope includes:

3.1 AI Hub Design and Infrastructure Development

- Establish seven (7) AI Hubs with allied facilities (minimum suggested 5,000 sq. ft.).
- Provide essential infrastructure, including:
 - Fully equipped facilities including office space, high speed internet connectivity, operational infrastructure, furniture, fixtures and all allied facilities
 - Multimedia equipment (audio/video systems)
 - Dedicated session hall and collaboration rooms
 - Workspace for 20 AI startups
 - Mentorship/coaching rooms
 - Video conferencing and hybrid meeting setups

- Marketing and social media support facilities
- Location, Layout, design and accessibility plan of AI Hub established in each of the mentioned cities.
- Induction and training of four (4) cohorts over a period of two (2) years
 - Total AI hubs = 7
 - AI Startups per hub= 20
 - Cohorts = 4 (2 cohorts per year)
 - AI startups incubated= 560 (7 x 20 x 4)

3.2 Strategic Program Management and Innovation Curation

- Design and deliver structured innovation programs including:
 - AI Hackathons (The bidder shall submit a comprehensive AI Hackathon implementation plan outlining the objectives, target participants, thematic focus areas, outreach strategy, competition structure, evaluation & judging criteria and prize structure.)
 - Bootcamps
 - Accelerator and incubation programs
 - Thematic AI challenges aligned with national priorities
- The bidder shall also submit a comprehensive startup support plan covering the objective of the funding program, (KPIs), startup selection and evaluation criteria, 150 non-dilutive seed funding disbursement mechanism and payment milestones, monitoring and reporting framework, mentorship and incubation support, infrastructure and compute resource support, and mechanisms to track startup growth.
- The financial value of 150 non-dilutive seed grants shall be funded separately by MoITT and shall not form part of the bidder's financial proposal. The bidder will be responsible for designing the seed grants framework and providing technical and administrative support for its implementation including outreach, application processing and evaluation of applications and disbursement of grants on behalf of MoITT for which a proper open and transparent mechanism will be decided at the time of award of contract.
- Enable startup growth through:
 - Technical mentoring
 - Business development support
 - Access to testing environments and datasets
- Launch sector-specific programs in priority verticals such as health, agriculture, fintech, education, and public-sector innovation etc.

3.3 Ecosystem Development and Strategic Partnerships

- Build partnerships across:
 - Academia and research centers
 - Local and international technology companies
 - Government organizations
 - Global AI research networks

- Facilitate industry collaboration for market validation, pilot deployments, and commercialization.
- Develop talent pipelines through formal linkages with universities and training institutions.

3.4 Operational Management and Financial Sustainability

- Manage day-to-day hub operations, including facilities, users, and resources.
- Develop a financial sustainability model through:
 - Membership fees
 - Industry partnerships
 - Grants and sponsored programs
 - Commercial training and service offerings
- Implement governance, compliance, and reporting mechanisms aligned with MoITT requirements.
- Establish KPIs, monitoring tools, and impact assessment frameworks.

3.5 Knowledge Management and Capacity Building

- Conduct four (04) AI awareness and outreach sessions throughout project cycle to promote awareness of Artificial Intelligence, emerging technologies, and innovation opportunities among students, professionals, public sector officials, and industry stakeholders featuring National and International experts.
- Implement capacity-building initiatives to enhance AI skills for startups, students, and professionals.
- Publish periodic reports, research insights, and policy recommendations to support national AI ecosystem growth.

Note: The selected bidder shall ensure meaningful representation and participation of women, as well as individuals from rural and underserved communities, throughout the implementation of the project, while promoting inclusivity and contributing to the achievement of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3.6 Tenure of AI Hubs

Initially contract will be awarded for one (1) year and can be extended for another one (1) year. However, the bidder shall submit the financial bid for a period of two (2) years.

The recommended duration allowed for each Startup incubation is maximum up to Six (6) months i.e., The successful bidder shall ensure the successful induction, incubation, and graduation of two (2) cohorts per AI Hub during the first year and two (2) cohorts per AI Hub during the second year, in accordance with the approved incubation framework and graduation criteria.

4 List of Deliverables

The selected bidder shall fulfill requirements for Establishing of AI Hubs as conveyed by MoITT as per agreement.

S.No	Description	Count
1.	Establish and sustain AI Hubs in 7 major cities of Pakistan	7 AI HUBS
2.	Ensure induction, incubation, and graduation of 4 (four) cohorts per AI Hub over two (2) years	Total hubs = 7 Startups per hub= 20 Cohorts = 4 (2 cohorts per year) Total startups= 560 (7hubs x 20startups x 2 cohorts/year x 2 years)
3.	Conduct AI Hackathons	2
4.	Design and Implement a National AI Startup Seed Grant Funding Program to disburse 150 awards to startups	150 Startups funded
5.	AI Workshops/Awareness Sessions	4

- The successful bidder shall establish and operate seven (7) AI Hubs and deliver incubation services to a total of 560 startups over the two-year project period through four (4) cohorts per hub, with each cohort comprising twenty (20) startups.
- In addition, the successful bidder shall design and implement a transparent and merit-based framework for the nationwide call, evaluation, and selection of 150 AI startups for disbursement of grants under MoITT's non-dilutive Seed Grant Program.
- The final approval, award of grants, and determination of grant amounts shall remain the sole responsibility of MoITT.

Sample criteria for startup graduation checklist are given as below. The selected bidder may modify as the checklist as required, after consultation with MoITT.

Evaluation Area	Graduation Checklist / Expected Outcome
Innovation & Uniqueness	Use of AI in a novel, original, or impactful way. Disruption potential in local/global markets.
Market Potential & Scalability	Size of addressable market, customer demand, potential for expansion and replication.
Business Model & Commercialization	Completed Business Model Canvas and Go-to-Market Strategy.
Technical Feasibility	Use of appropriate AI models/tools, technical soundness, data strategy.
Team Strength & Experience	Skills, qualifications, and relevant experience of founders/team members. History of collaboration or Startup work.
Business Model & Sustainability	Revenue model, cost structure, partnerships, monetization plan, and long-term viability.
Social/Strategic Impact	Alignment with national priorities (e.g., health, education, agriculture, fintech, etc.). Contribution to jobs, inclusion, gender, or governance.
Readiness for Investment/Support	Demonstrated commitment, traction (if any), clarity on resource utilization.

- The selected bidder is also required to submit a detailed deliverables plan, workflow and Gantt Chart.
- It is to be noted that the successful bidder shall monitor and report the project's contribution towards the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including measurable outputs and outcomes, as part of the periodic progress reports.

5 Mandatory Eligibility Criteria List

S.No.	Checklist for Mandatory Eligibility Criteria	Yes/No
1.	Proof of Certificate of Incorporation or Registration or equivalent	
2.	Proof of NTN Certificate	
3.	Proof of FBR Sales Tax Certificate	
4.	Proof of FTN certificate /Tax exemption certificate (if applicable)	
5.	Proposal being submitted as consortium/Joint Venture (JV attach consent letter of each partner organization clearly specifying its roles and responsibilities in the project. Letter should be issued by the competent authority of the partner organization.	
6.	Original affidavit (not older than one month at the time of proposal submission) on Stamp Paper(s) of worth PKR 100 or more that Bidder is not insolvent, bankrupt and is not blacklisted or debarred by Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), Government, Semi-Government, Private, Autonomous body or any other international organization.	
7.	Original affidavit (not older than one month at the time of proposal submission) on Stamp Paper(s) of worth PKR 100 or more that the Bidder is an active tax payer and has submitted its tax return for the preceding fiscal year. Tax payer list serial number (downloadable from FBR's website) is also to be mentioned.	
8.	Two separately sealed envelopes: Envelope #1 shall clearly bear the name " TECHNICAL PROPOSAL – ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HUBS (AI-Hubs) ACROSS PAKISTAN " One hard copy of Technical Proposal marked as Original. Bidders are to make sure that Financial Proposal is not part of the Technical Proposal in any form. Envelope # 2 should be the financial proposal with the title " FINANCIAL PROPOSAL – ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HUBS (AI-Hubs) ACROSS PAKISTAN "	
9.	Audited financial statements of the lead bidder for the last three (3) financial years, duly certified by a registered auditor. It must be noted that lead bidder should have the financing capacity of establishment of 7 hubs, 2 cohorts of AI startups, grant/seed fund management, 2 AI hackathons and 4 AI awareness sessions.	
10.	Bid Security of PKR 3 million to be placed in Envelope # 1 along with mandatory documentations.	
11.	CONFLICT OF INTEREST - DISCLOSURE FORM (attached as Annexure-VI)	
12.	It is mandatory for bidders to submit their proposal on EPADS 2.0 https://epads.gov.pk/ . In case a bid is not submitted on EPADS, it will not be accepted by the MoITT in hard form.	

Note: Any proposed subcontracting or outsourcing of activities under this assignment shall be subject to prior written notification to MoITT. The successful bidder shall remain fully responsible for the performance of all subcontracted activities and shall ensure that any subcontractor engaged is not blacklisted by any government or regulatory authority and possesses a sound professional reputation and relevant experience.

6 SUBMISSIONS OF BIDS

Interested bidders are invited to submit proposals, either individually or as a Joint Venture (JV), consortium, or other legally recognized arrangement, for the design, establishment, commissioning, operation, and sustainability of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Hubs across major cities of Pakistan (Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar, Muzaffarabad, Gilgit).

It is highly recommended that the Interested bidders should have:

1. Understanding of the RFP
2. A brief on capacity and capability of the bidder to conduct this assignment
3. Examples of previous similar assignments
4. Legal registration and references

Step by step process for bid submission is given as follows:

- a) A **single-stage two envelope** bidding process will be followed. The technical and financial bids shall be in English language and must be submitted online through EPADS 2.0 (<https://epads.gov.pk/>), (which is mandatory otherwise bid will not be considered). Bid Bond / Earnest money amounting to **Rs. 3,000,000/-** in the shape of Bank Draft / Pay Order shall be in the favor of “Ministry of IT & Telecom” must be delivered with Technical Proposal or dropped at the MoITT office on or before the closing date and time of the bid, *copy of the same must be uploaded on [EPAD 2.0](#)* along with the technical & Financial proposal (as well as in hard copy).
- b) The complete Bid documents shall be submitted online on [EPADS 2.0](#) on or before **Aug 19, 2026 at 02:00 PM**. In addition to this a hard copy of the proposal **must be submitted** to the Ministry in two separate envelopes clearly marked “technical” and “financial” bid.
- c) Proposals should be submitted electronically **ONLY** through [EPADS 2.0](#). For registration and training on [EPADS 2.0](#) or in case of any technical difficulty in using EPADS 2.0, prospective bidders may contact PPRA Team, Director MIS Room No.109, 1st Floor, FBC building Sector G-5/2, Islamabad. Contact Number 051-111-137-237.
- d) The proposals must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions in the detailed RFP along with bid security instrument & Proof of Eligibility documents through [EPADS 2.0](#) latest by **Aug 19, 2026 at 02:00 PM**, and will be opened on the same day at **Aug 19, 2026 at 02:30 PM** at below mentioned address in the presence of vendors/bidders or their authorized representatives who desires to attend the bid opening session.
- e) Note: Hardcopy of the bid and Original Bid Security instrument **MUST BE** submitted to the **designated contact person** before closing hours of the bids submission time.
- f) Only those bids will be entertained who applied through [EPADS 2.0](#) <https://epads.gov.pk/>.
- g) Technical bids only will be opened on the same day at **Aug 19, 2026 at**

02:30 PM at below mentioned address in the presence of vendors/bidders or their authorized representatives who desire to attend the bid opening session online or through physical presence. The financial bids will be opened only of those bidders who qualify in technical proposals evaluation. The opening of financial bids will be notified separately once technical evaluation has been completed. Please note that submission date and time will be strictly adhered, and it will be bidders' responsibility to ensure the submission of bid at given date and time. The last date to submit the bid is after **25** days of RFP advertisement.

- h) The quoted prices must remain valid for acceptance up to **180 days** from the date of its opening. The quoted prices should be in Pak Rupees and inclusive of all applicable taxes.
- i) The prices quoted without any tax remarks will be treated as inclusive of all applicable taxes. Any change in Government duties or taxes shall be borne by the successful company/ Joint Venture/Consortium.
- j) The company/ Joint Venture/Consortium selected for the award the contract shall have to submit 10% of total amount as Performance Bond. The performance bond shall be in the shape of Bank Guarantee/Bank Draft / Pay Order in the favor of "Ministry of IT & Telecom".

6.1 Withdrawal/Modification of Bid

As per rule 19.1 of EPADS 2.0, Before Bid submission deadline, any Bidder may withdraw, substitute, or modify its Bid after it has been submitted through EPADS v2.0. Bids requested to be withdrawn, shall be returned unopened to the Bidders through EPADS v2.0.

6.2 Rejection of Bid

- a) Bids not submitted as per the instructions under clause 6(a&b).
- b) Bid security has not been submitted as per clause 6(a).
- c) Incomplete, conditional, or optional bids will be rejected forthwith.
- d) Bids received after due date & time will not be accepted.
- e) Bids failing to meet the eligibility / evaluation criteria.
- f) Any noncompliance to the terms and conditions of bidding documents.
- g) Company shall be disqualified if financial figures are mentioned in the technical proposal.

6.3 Performance of Bidder

MoITT performance monitoring team will be continuously monitoring the satisfactory delivery of the project.

- a) In case of poor performance or issues in the execution of this RFP, as evaluated by NAAI Project Implementation Unit (PIU), the bidder shall provide the replacement of the same within a week, failing to do so will be considered as an Unattended Complaint.
- b) MoITT will issue a Poor Performance Certificate to project awardees in case of three Unattended Complaints. MoITT reserves the right to confiscate the performance bond of the project awardees in case of issuance of five (05) Poor Performance Certificates.

7 CORRUPT OR FRAUDULENT PRACTICES BY BIDDER

Any type of corrupt or fraudulent practices or provision of any false information by the bidder will lead to disqualification of the bid and confiscation of the bid security regardless of the price and quality of the product.

8 Evaluation Criteria for RFP

8.1 Technical Evaluation

Subject to meeting the mandatory eligibility requirements, proposals submitted by eligible bidders shall be evaluated in accordance with the technical and financial evaluation criteria specified in this RFP.

The successful bidder shall be responsible for the design, establishment, commissioning, operation, and sustainability of world-class Artificial Intelligence (AI) Hubs across seven (7) designated cities of Pakistan, namely Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, Quetta, Muzaffarabad, and Gilgit. Wherever feasible and subject to MoITT's approval, the successful bidder may leverage the existing National Incubation Center (NIC) network for the establishment and operation of the AI Hubs.

The detailed technical evaluation matrix is given as follows:

S.No	Evaluation Criteria	Score Key	Marks obtained	Max Marks
1	Organizational Experience (registered age) (10 Marks)	More than 10 years = 10 marks		10
		Between 6–10 years = 7 marks		
		between 1–5 years = 5 marks		
	Sub-Total 1			10
2	Financial Capacity (Average annual turnover) (10 Marks)	More than PKR 500 Million = 10 marks		10
		between PKR 200–500 Million = 7 marks		
		between PKR 100–200 Million = 5 marks		
		Less than PKR 100 Million = 2 marks		
	Sub-Total 2			10
3	Relevant Experience in Establishing Innovation & Startup Ecosystems (22 Marks)	No. of Technology/AI Hubs, Incubators, Accelerators, Innovation Labs, etc. established:		9
		• More than 10 = 9 marks		
		• between 5–10 = 7 marks		
		• between 2–4 = 4 marks		
		• only 1 = 2 marks		
		No. of AI/Technology Hackathons Conducted:		7
		• More than 15 = 7 marks		
		• between 8–15 = 6 marks		
		• between 3–7 = 4 marks		
		No. of AI/Technology Workshops/Awareness Sessions conducted:		6

		• More than 50 = 6 marks		
		• Between 20–50 = 4 marks		
		• between 5–19 = 2 marks		
	Sub-Total 3			22
4	AI Startup Program Management, Commercialization and Impact (38 Marks)	No. of AI/Technology Startup Programs executed:		15
		• More than 15= 15 marks		
		• between 7–15 = 10 marks		
		• between than 1-7 = 7 marks		
		Funding/Grants raised by inducted startups:		9
		• Greater than PKR 500 Million = 9 marks		
		• between PKR 100–500 Million = 7 marks		
		• Below PKR 100 Million = 5 marks		
		Startup revenue generation by inducted startups :		9
		• Greater than PKR 500 Million = 9 marks		
		• between PKR 100–500 Million = 7 marks		
		• Below PKR 100 Million = 5 marks		
		Innovation Outputs (Patents, IPs, Technology Transfer, AI Products, Research Commercialization, etc.):		5
		• More than 20 = 5 marks		
		• Between 10–20 = 3 marks		
		• between 1–9 = 1 marks		
	Sub-Total 4			38
5	Key Personnel & Team Competence (35 Marks)	Program Manager		10
		• Relevant experience		
		○ More than 7 years relevant experience = 6 marks		
		○ Between 3-7 years of relevant experience=3 marks		
		• Relevant qualification = 4 marks		
		Startup Ecosystem Specialist		5
		• Relevant experience		
		○ More than 7 years relevant experience = 3 marks		
		○ Between 3-7 years of relevant experience=1 marks		
		• Relevant qualification = 2 marks		
		AI Technical Lead		10
		• Relevant experience		
		○ More than 7 years relevant experience = 6 marks		
		○ Between 3-7 years of relevant experience=3 marks		
		• Relevant qualification = 4 marks		
		Curriculum & Training Specialist		5
		• Relevant experience		
		○ More than 7 years relevant experience = 3 marks		
		○ Between 3-7 years of relevant experience=1 marks		
		• Relevant qualification = 2 marks		

		Grant / Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist		5
		• Relevant experience		
		○ More than 7 years relevant experience = 3 marks		
		○ Between 3-7 years of relevant experience=1 marks		
		• Relevant qualification = 2 marks		
		Sub-Total 5		35
6	Understanding of TORs & Technical Methodology (35 Marks)	Understanding of TORs & Proposed Solution = 10 marks		10
		Execution Methodology (Outreach & marketing, Curriculum, training & mentoring, Startup Selection, Grant Mechanism, Graduation Framework, KPIs, etc.) = 20 marks		20
		AI Hub Layout, Design & Accessibility Plan = 5 marks		5
		Sub-Total 6		35
		Grand Total		150

Note: Each claim should have supporting documents as evidence

8.2 Financial Evaluation

Each bid will be evaluated individually, and the contract shall be awarded independently to the bidder who achieved the maximum points from Total Score and shall be considered a Most Advantageous Bidder.

The financial bids of only technically qualified bidding companies/ Joint Venture/Consortium will be opened. The pricing shall include all applicable taxes, rates, duties, tolls, fees etc.

The evaluation of financial bids will be calculated as follows:

Evaluation Component	Weightage	Calculation Formula
Technical Evaluation	70%	Weighted Technical Score = (Technical Score Obtained by the Bidder ÷ Highest Technical Score Obtained) × 70
Financial Evaluation	30%	Weighted Financial Score = (Lowest Evaluated Bid Price ÷ Bid Price Offered by the Bidder) × 30
Final Evaluation Score	100%	Final Evaluated Score = Weighted Technical Score + Weighted Financial Score

Note: MoITT will not make **ANY** payments not quoted in the bid. Please use Annexure-II to develop financial proposal. Also the bidder must ensure that no financial information is mentioned in the technical proposal otherwise this will lead to disqualification of the bidder(s).

8.3 Minimum Qualification Threshold

The technical proposals will be evaluated out of a total of 150 marks based on the criteria specified in the Evaluation Grid. To qualify for the opening of the Financial Proposal, a bidder must obtain a minimum technical score of 70% (i.e., 105 out of 150 marks).

Bids scoring less than 105 marks in the technical evaluation shall be declared non-responsive.

Their financial proposals will be returned unopened, and they will be disqualified from the procurement process.

The final contract award will be determined by applying a weightage of 70% to the technical score and 30% to the financial score.

9 Payment Schedule

- a) 20% mobilization advance payment subject to submission of detailed implementation plan.
- b) Remaining payment schedule to be finalized with the successful bidder the time of contract.
- c) The project awardee company/joint venture/consortium lead partner will invoice against the deliverables as per payment schedule on fulfilling all the pre-requisites as per terms and conditions laid down in the agreement between MoITT and the project awardees.
- d) 10% of the total agreed value of the project shall be submitted as a performance guarantee by the Project Awardee at the time of award of contract. The performance guarantee should be in the form of Bank Guarantee/Bank draft/pay order with **validity** at least for one calendar year from the date of its issuance. If project timelines are extended beyond one (01) year due to any reason, the project awardees will be bound to get the performance guarantee extended accordingly.
- e) The performance guarantee will be released as governed by the agreement between MoITT and the project awardees, upon submission of a request from the project awardees and MoITT's completion certification/sign-off document.
- f) The payment modalities will be finalized between MoITT and the successful bidder under the contract.

Bids should be sent to the Ministry of IT & Telecom, Government of Pakistan, **latest by Aug 19, 2026**. Shortlisted applicants may be invited for presentation.

10 Contact Information

For any queries or clarifications:

NAAI-Project Implementation Unit
Ministry of Information Technology & Telecom
7th Floor, Kohsar Block, Pakistan Secretariat, Islamabad
Government of Pakistan
Ph: +92-51-9215348
E-Mail: procurement.nai@moitt.gov.pk

11 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- a. In case the selected bidders do not accept the Purchase Order/Contract, their bid security will be confiscated, and a poor performance certificate will be issued to the vendor.
- b. If there is a difference between the unit price and total price for any items quoted in the bid, the unit price of that/those items shall prevail and the decision of MoITT in this regard shall be final.
- c. Total prices must conform to the individual prices of all the items quoted and delivered.
- d. The quoted prices will be considered inclusive of all overhead costs (seen or unforeseen), required for the successful delivery of the project.
- e. Participating bidders are requested to avoid from all overt & covert activities that shall create any doubt that leads towards ambiguity in the tendering process and tender opening session.
- f. The successful companies/ Joint Ventures/Consortiums will sign Integrity Pact with MoITT (draft attached as Annex-III).
- g. MoITT reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the effected bidder or bidders.
- h. MoITT may terminate the Contract at any time by giving written notice to the bidder if the bidder becomes bankrupt or otherwise insolvent.
- i. If the bidder is unable to fulfill its obligations as mentioned in the work plan and withdraws from the project, MoITT shall terminate the contract by issuing a written notice and shall forfeit the security deposit (bid bond amount).
- j. The successful bidder shall keep all information regarding the bid evaluation confidential until the announcement of the evaluation report under PPRA Rule no. 41 read with Rule No. 35.

12 CHANGE OF SCOPE

At any time prior to the deadline for submission of bids, MoITT may, for any reason whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective Bidder, amend the Tender. Amendments will be provided in the form of Addenda to the Tender and will be uploaded on EPADS 2.0. Bidders are therefore requested to keep following the tender details/info on EPADS 2.0 for any such addenda, and it will be assumed that the amendments contained in such addenda will have been taken into account by the Bidder in its bid.

13 BIDDER'S QUERIES

Any queries by the Bidders must be uploaded on EPAD 2.0, at least two (2) working days before the deadline of the bid submission, otherwise MoITT will not be liable to respond.

14 PRE-BID MEETING

A pre-bid meeting will be held **on Aug 7, 2026 at 02:00 PM** to address the queries of intended bidders. The interested bidders must inform in writing via email/letter to contact person, about participation in the meeting at twelve (12) days before. Mode of the meeting will be communicated accordingly.

15 BID SECURITY SUBMISSION AND OPENING ADDRESS

NAAI-Project Implementation Unit
Ministry of Information Technology & Telecom
7th Floor, Kohsar Block, Pakistan Secretariat, Islamabad
Government of Pakistan
procurement.nai@moitt.gov.pk

Annexure-I

Detail of Technical Professionals (Key Personnel & Team Competence)				
Sr.	Name of Professional	Qualification	Total Experience	CV
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

Annexure-II

Form-A

Financial Proposal

S#	Description of activities for each year	Cost	GST (as applicable)	Total PKR (Including GST)
1	Year 1 Lump Sum Cost for the design, establishment, commissioning, and Year 1 operation of seven (7) AI Hubs, including infrastructure setup, curriculum development, outreach, induction & support of two (2) cohorts of twenty (20) startups per hub (total: 280 startups), two (2) AI Awareness Sessions, one (1) AI Hackathon, and development of a Non-Dilutive AI Startup Seed Grant Program framework for grant disbursements to 150 AI startups. (Inclusive of all applicable taxes)			
2	Year 2 Lump Sum Cost for the Year 2 operation and sustainability of seven (7) AI Hubs, including incubation, mentorship, monitoring and evaluation, induction & support of two (2) cohorts of twenty (20) startups per hub (total: 280 startups), organization of two (2) AI Awareness Sessions and one (1) AI Hackathon, and implementation & grant disbursement of the Non-Dilutive AI Startup Seed Grant Program for AI startups. (Inclusive of all applicable taxes)			
Grand Total (PKR)				

Note: Financial proposal must contain head-wise costing details.

Annexure-III

Integrity PACT

(To be submitted on Legal Stamp Paper for successful bidder only)

Tender Number: _____

Date: _____ Tender Value: _____

Tender Title: ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HUBS (AI-Hubs) ACROSS PAKISTAN

[name of bidder] hereby declares that it has not obtained or induced the procurement of any contract, right, interest, privilege or other obligation or benefit from Government of Pakistan or any administrative subdivision or agency thereof or any other entity owned or controlled by it (GoP) through any corrupt business practice. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, [name of bidder] represents and warrants that it has fully declared the brokerage, commission, fees etc. paid or payable to anyone and not given or agreed to give and shall not give or agree to give to anyone within or outside its affiliate, agent, associate, broker, consultant, director, promoter, shareholder, sponsor or subsidiary, any commission, gratification, bribe, finder's fee or kickback, whether described as consultation fee or otherwise, with the object of obtaining or inducing the procurement of contract, right, interest, privilege or other obligation or benefit in whatsoever form from Purchaser, except that which has been expressly declared pursuant hereto.

[The bidder/Contractor] certifies that it has made and will make full disclosure of all agreements and arrangements with all persons in respect of or related to the transaction with the Purchaser and has not taken any action or will not take any action to circumvent the above declaration, representation or warranty / support. [The bidder/Contractor] accepts full responsibility and strict liability for making any false declaration, not making full disclosure, misrepresenting facts or taking any action likely to defeat the purpose of this declaration, representation and warranty / support. It agrees that any contract, right, interest, privilege or other obligation or benefit obtained or procured as aforesaid shall, without prejudice to any other right and remedies available to the Purchaser under any law, contract or other instrument, be voidable at the option of the Purchaser.

Notwithstanding any rights and remedies exercised by the Purchaser in this regard, [the bidder /Contractor] agrees to indemnify the Purchaser for any loss or damage incurred by it on account of its corrupt business practices and further pay compensation to the Purchaser in an amount equivalent to ten times the sum of any commission, gratification, bribe, finder's fee or kickback given by [the bidder /Contractor] as aforesaid for the purpose of

obtaining or inducing the procurement of any contract, right, interest, privilege or other obligation or benefit in whatsoever form from the Purchaser

Authorized Signature & Stamp

Subscribed and sworn to me this_____.

Day of 20_____

Verified by the Notary Public

Annexure-IV

Undertaking for Bidders

(To be Provided on Judicial Stamp Paper)

It is hereby solemnly confirmed that the undertaking is submitted in respect of MoITT's tender titled "ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HUBS (AI-Hubs) ACROSS PAKISTAN".

a. Declaration

It is to certify that I have read, clearly understood, and agreed upon to all the terms and conditions mentioned in the tender documents. Further, I certify that all of the information provided e.g. (certificates, etc.) in our bid is true and accurate and genuine. If at any stage the information provided is found to be false than I/We and my firm shall be held accountable, and our bid shall be rejected.

b. Statement for Non-Blacklisting

I, _____ s/o Mr. _____, Designation
of M/s _____ holding CNIC # _____
_____ hereby confirms that our firm/company is not
blacklisted by any Ministry / Division / Department of the Government
/ Semi government / Autonomous body of Federal or Provincial
Government in Pakistan.

Annexure-V

Format for Performance Security Bond PERFORMANCE BOND GUARANTEE

Date: _____

To: Ministry of IT & Telecom (MOITT)

7th floor Kohsar Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad

SIR,

1. Bank Guarantee Number:
2. Contract/Purchase Order No:
3. Name of Guarantor:
4. Address of Guarantor:
5. Amount of Guarantee in relevant currency:
6. Amount in words:
7. Date of Expiry of Guarantee:

Whereas your good self have entered into Contract/Purchase Order No. with (vendor name with address) of hereinafter referred to as our customer and that one of the conditions of the Contract/Purchase Order is the submission of unconditional Bank Guarantee by our customer to your good self for a sum of (Amount in figure and words). In compliance with this stipulation of contract/Purchase Order, we hereby agree and undertake as under: -

- a. To pay you unconditionally on demand and/or without any reference to our customer an amount not exceeding the sum of Rs/or relevant currency (amount in figure) as would be mentioned in your written Demand Notice.
- b. To keep this Guarantee in force till (expiry date).
- c. That we shall inform your office regarding termination of the validity of this Bank Guaranty one clear month before the actual expiry date of Guarantee.
- d. That with the consent of our customer you may amend/alter any term/clause of contract/Purchase Order or add/delete any term/clause to/from this contract/Purchase Order without making any reference to us. We do not reserve any right to receive any such amendment/alteration or

addition/deletion provided such like actions do not increase our monetary liability under this Bank Guaranty which shall be limited only to Rs/or relevant currency (Amount in figure and words).

e. That the Bank Guarantee herein before given shall not be affected by any change in the constitution of the Bank or Customer/Seller or Vendor. That this is unconditional Bank Guarantee, which shall be en-cashed on sight on presentation without any reference to our customer/seller or vendor. Bank Guarantee will not be released unless No Objection Certificate (NOC) is provided by Headquarter MOITT Procurement Department.

Authorized Signature/Stamp Date

Annexure-VI

Conflict of Interest

CONFLICT OF INTEREST - DISCLOSURE FORM (To be printed on company's letterhead) In compliance of the mandatory requirement mentioned in the RFP for ' _____ ' published by Ministry of IT & Telecom (hereinafter 'MoITT' and/or 'Company'), I hereby confirm:

- ☐ I have no Conflict of Interest to disclose
- ☐ I have a potential Conflict of Interest to disclose and the details are mentioned hereunder:

Summary of Information:

Date Raised		Reference No	
-------------	--	-----------------	--

Personal Information:

Name		Title	
Contact		Company	

Name of Conflict:

Description	
-------------	--

I hereby affirm that the above details/disclosure are true to the best of my knowledge, and no additional information/disclosure exists. In case of any change to the above given information/disclosure, I will promptly notify the Company and complete a new conflict of interest disclosure form which describes the changes.

Signature: _____

Date: _____