



**Universal Service Fund**

**(A company setup under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance 1984)**

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**Request For Technical Proposals**

**&**

**Term of Reference (ToR)**

**For**

**Hiring of Technical Auditors for Technical Audit Services  
in USF NGBSD Program**

**(Prequalification for Panel Formation)**

**Tender ID: USF/BSD/NG-BSD/OFC Projects/TAPanel/2026/1**

**Issued at Islamabad**

**10 March 2026**

<b>Universal Service Fund 3rd Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex Agha Khan Road, F-5/1, Islamabad</b>	<b>Tel: 051 9212308-09 Fax: 051 9214261 URL: <a href="http://www.usf.org.pk">www.usf.org.pk</a></b>
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Universal Service Fund (“USF Co”) is a Guarantee Limited Company incorporated under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance 1984 (presently Companies Act 2017) established by the Government of Pakistan through Ministry of Information Technology & Telecom in pursuance of Universal Service Fund Rules, 2006 (“USF Rules”) promulgated by Federal Government of Pakistan in exercise of the powers conferred under clause (ab) of Sub Section (2) of Section 57 of the Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-organization) Act, 1996.

Universal Service Fund (“USF”) initiated Rural Telephony and e-Services, Broadband for Sustainable Development and Next Generation Broadband for Sustainable Development (NG-BSD) Program to provide Voice and Broadband Services in un-served and underserved areas of Pakistan. Multiple projects launched under this program are either completed or under different phases of implementation.

This tender/RFP is being launched in accordance with PPRAs prequalification bidding process to constitute a prequalified panel of technical auditors in USF RTeS/BSD/NG-BSD Program, to verify network, quality of deployed network services i.e. voice and data, customer satisfaction, deployed active and passive infrastructure quantity and quality as defined in the scope of audit and TORs.

After a prequalified panel is constituted the members of the panel will submit financial bids, when and where, called on by USF and successful bidder will enter into a contract with USF to perform technical audit of the assigned tasks.

## 2. Bidding Process

- 1) A panel of Companies/Firms/Consortium will be prequalified after an open competitive, and transparent bidding process in accordance with Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Ordinance, 2002, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines made thereunder.
- 2) At the time of bid submission, the interested bidder shall submit documents as per detailed mentioned in Section 6 of this RFP.
- 3) The bid/proposal to be attached on e-Pak Acquisition & Disposal System (e-PADS), comprising the technical proposal. **The bidder shall ensure that the attachment of bid/proposal on e-PADS is mandatory. Bid/proposals shall not be accepted/entertained via any other medium.**
- 4) Only the “**PROPOSAL**”, uploaded on **e-PADS** shall be opened.
- 5) The proposal shall be marked as “**TECHNICAL PROPOSAL**” in bold and legible letters to avoid confusion.
- 6) USF will expect that the aspirant bidders shall mention true and correct information in their bids, failing which may lead to rejection of bids.
- 7) Evaluation of technical proposals for prequalification of panel members will be carried out, in accordance with evaluation criteria as per Section 7 of this RFP.
- 8) The technical evaluation results will be uploaded on e-PADS.
- 9) After successful completion of process of prequalification, the qualified bidders shall constitute USF panel of technical auditors.
- 10) The qualified bidder shall remain part of USF till de-notified by USF.
- 11) The technically qualified bidder shall be enrolled as pre-qualified technical auditor and shall be eligible to submit financial proposal when and where, called upon by USF. The panel shall be constituted for a term not exceeding three years from the time of constitution of this panel or de-notified or dissolved earlier by USF upon completion of task or otherwise.

However, any member, or the whole panel may be de-notified or dissolved earlier upon successful completion of the task or poor performance or unsatisfactory performance or delay in the contractual timelines, whichever the case may be. The Technical auditors who are part of the previous panel shall complete their pending contractual obligations against signed contracts. They need to apply fresh for this/any new panel.

- 12) Financial Proposals shall be requested by USF from the members of the pre-qualified panel **for which a separate Financial RFP shall be issued by USF**. Financial RFP shall, inter alia, include the scope of work for technical audit contracts.
- 13) The consideration for the award will be given to the bidder with the lowest evaluated quote.
- 14) In case of a consortium, where local and foreign partners are involved, only local Firm / Company can be the consortium leader and incase where all partners are local, the partner who shall submit the bid will be identified as the consortium leader, however, combined experience of all partners shall be considered. The consortium leader shall be the signatory on behalf of consortium and shall be responsible for consortium performance, however, all members of the consortium shall be jointly and individually liable to USF in respect of the performance of the USF contract. Consortium deed/agreement shall be attached/uploaded with Technical Proposal on e-PADS
- 15) The following documents shall be submitted on e-Pads:
  - a) Authorization certificate issued to an authorized representative on company's official letter head duly signed and stamped by CEO along with respective copies of CNICs.
  - b) The Bidder must be on Active Taxpayer List (ATL) (online verifiable) as per the Eligible Bidders (Tax Compliance) Regulations, 2015 and should have a valid NTN and Sales Tax registration. Provided further that the registration with respective Tax Authorities / Boards of the Provinces is mandatory for sales tax purposes where the Bidder has to perform technical audit services.
  - c) Following certificates to be submitted:

In case of Company	Incorporation certificate from Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). Incorporation must be three years old at the time of submission of technical proposal.
In case of Firm/AOP	Form-C issued by registrar of Firms/AOP. It must be three years old at the time of submission of technical proposal.

- d) The Bidder shall provide undertaking on a stamp paper of Rs. 50/-, duly attested by Oath Commissioner to the extent of following:
  - i. That the Bidder has not ever been declared blacklisted by any Government/Semi-Government Office/institutions.

### 3. General Conditions/Instructions

- a) Proposals shall be submitted in English/Urdu language.
- b) The successful bidder will be selected after an open, competitive, and transparent bidding process in view of Rule 20 of the PPRA Rules.
- c) The bidders shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of their respective proposals and USF will, in no case, be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
- d) Bidders are under obligation to understand complete information package/bid documents and address all requirements. USF shall bear no responsibility for any claim or complaint by the Bidders arising from any misreading, misunderstanding, or misinterpretation of the bid documents or information package by the Bidders..
- e) For any clarifications, it is mandated that bidders communicate exclusively as defined in PPRA rules and e-PAK regulations.
- f) USF is the originator of information package/bidding documents, any clarification or interpretation communicated by USF, whether in response to a query or otherwise, shall be deemed final.
- g) Each page of the Technical Proposal shall be stamped and signed by an authorized representative of the Bidder. The representative's authorization shall be confirmed by power of attorney accompanying the proposal on company's official letter head.
- h) USF may reject all bids/proposals or any bid/proposal at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal. USF for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by Bidder(s), amend the bidding document. Any amendment shall be issued in writing through addendum. However, the main source of all such information will be **e-PADS**. The addendum shall be considered part of the RFP/TORs and will be binding on the Bidders.
- i) USF may increase or decrease quantum of work and quantities of items as allowed by PPRA.
- j) The successful bidder for a lot shall be responsible for completing all the tasks as per scope of work mentioned in ToR.
- k) USFCo. upon review and verification of the tasks completed by the TA, will issue a Completion Certificate upon successful acceptance as specified in the Terms of Reference (ToRs).
- l) USF requires that Bidder, under its contract, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of contract and shall not indulge into any of the malpractices mentioned below.
  - i. "Coercive practice": is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence the actions of a party improperly.
  - ii. "Collusive practice": is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence the actions of another party improperly.
  - iii. "Corrupt practice": is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence the actions of another party improperly.
  - iv. "Fraudulent practice": is any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, which knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation.
  - v. "obstructive practice": is deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to the investigation or making false statements to investigators in

order to materially impede USF investigation into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation.

- m) USF will reject the award/cancel the contract if at any stage during the whole process, USF determines that the Bidder has directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, or coercive practices in competing for the contract in discussion.
- n) Once any conflict of interest/disinformation/misinformation/fraudulent practice is noticed or brought to the notice of USF, the contract for Technical audit services with Technical auditor shall be terminated immediately and punitive action shall be initiated against monitoring auditor as defined under contract.
- o) Incomplete or partial bids will be rejected.
- p) Bids which do not comply with the prescribed format and requirements set out by USF shall be rejected.

#### 4. BID SECURITY

- a) At the stage when a bidder is prequalified, and submits a financial proposal against a project, a bid security in the form of a CDR/Pay Order/Demand Draft, in the name of 'Universal Service Fund, of value PKR 100,000/- (Pak Rupees One Hundred Thousand Only) must be submitted in a separate envelope, with the **financial proposal** otherwise the financial bid will be rejected and returned unopened.
- b) Payment of bid security in a form other than that specified in clause 4(a) shall not be entertained and accepted. USF shall return such bids unopened to respective bidders.
- c) Bid Security of Bidders whether successful or unsuccessful shall be returned within fifteen (15) days of signing of the respective contract of project/lot.

## 5. Performance Guarantee & Liquidated Damages

- a) After pre-qualification by USF, the bidder will submit a financial proposal against a project, Performance Guarantee equivalent to ten [10%] percent of the contract value in shape of Irrevocable Bank Guarantee, strictly in accordance with the format attached as Annex A. In case of non-submission within the time stipulated in Letter of Intent (LoI), USF may cancel the LoI and shall proceed accordingly.
- b) The duration of the Performance Guarantee, as submitted by the successful bidder, shall vary from contract to contract and shall primarily be determined by the duration of contract for that particular project between USF and service provider or for any other extended period, as the case may be. Provided further that, if the Technical Auditor (TA) successfully discharges all contractual obligations and meets all requirements set out by USF in the contract before the expiry date of Performance Guarantee, then upon the issuance of completion certificate by USF, the said guarantee can be released early on request of Technical Auditor (TA).
- c) After acceptance of Milestone pre-requisite data, the Technical Auditor (TA) has to certify the Milestone along with all the reports and annexures within thirty (30) days. However, if the TA fails to certify the Milestone or submitted audit report and annexures don't fulfill quality standards set by USF and hence rejected, the delay shall lead to the imposition of Liquidated Damages @ 1% per week of the milestone value till the rectification of such delays and up to a maximum deduction of ten [10%] percent of the Milestone value. Once the maximum is reached, USF shall have the right to en-cash the Performance Guarantee and terminate the Contract.
- d) Moreover, unsatisfactory performance by technical auditor shall lead to the delisting of the TA from pre-qualified panel and may lead to blacklisting.

## 6. Technical Proposal

Technical Proposals to be submitted by the bidder shall be in compliance with the requirements laid down in the RFP and ToR.

The Technical proposal shall be clearly marked with the following:

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**“TECHNICAL PROPOSAL - NGBSD”**

The technical proposal shall include:

- a) A covering letter from the head of the company or an authorized representative of the applicant covering the key features of the technical solution.
- b) The Bidder must have been incorporated at least three (03) years before the date of bid submission. In addition, the Bidder should have proven work experience of at least two (2) years (with a team whose experience should be as specified in Table-1) at national level, in network audit/acceptance, installation, commissioning and testing of; telecom network infrastructure, services and quality of services.
- c) The bidder must provide documentary proof of completed projects as part of technical proposal with references.
- d) The following documentation will be provided as part of the technical proposal:
  - i. Brief company profile.
  - ii. Major areas of expertise.
  - iii. Outline of work experience with references to work/scope on projects, name of the client along with their references and project value in the following format for the last three projects of relevant experience as specified in Table 1 – Evaluation criteria section 1(a), 1(b) and 1(c).

S. No.	[Insert Serial Number of the project reference provided]
Project Title	[Insert title of the project]
Client	[Insert name of the Client]
Client Contact Information	[Insert the Name and Contact details (mobile & official email) of Point of Contact who can be contacted for verification]
Brief Description of the Project	[Brief Description of the project, area of operations, Team details]
Value of the Project	[Insert the value of the project]
Duration of the project	[Insert the duration i.e., total time taken for the completion of the project]
Documentary Evidence	[Attach documentary evidence (acceptance certificate, Reference letter, Purchase Orders, Details of software’s license and testing tools/equipment proposed and Contracts)].

- e) Complete address along with contact details and point of contact of all offices.
- f) CVs of proposed team should be provided. CVs of proposed team should include contact details (mobile number and email), training attended, certifications, relevant work experience and educational details.
- g) Assigned roles and responsibilities of each proposed team member.
- h) Proposed Technical Audit Methodology.
- i) Work plan for the audit execution as per the timelines set in the TOR.

- j) All tools, whether owned or rented, provided by the Bidder(s) must be fully functional, meet the requirement of the audit and have valid licenses. USF reserves the right to inspect and verify. All tools/equipment/software (TEMS, NEMO, (Other DT Tools), MS Office, Map info, CME Tools etc.) used for this assignment should be licensed.
- k) Compliance against each clause and sub-clause of RFP, ToR cross linked with the submitted Technical Proposal, must be attached. Following conventions shall be used in the compliance checklist:
  - i. Fully Complied (FC)
  - ii. Not Complied (NC)
- l) Additional Information which can facilitate USF in evaluation of technical proposals (if any).

## 7. Evaluation Criteria for Technical Proposal

- a) USF will evaluate the technical proposal based on its compliance with this RFP, ToR, evaluation criteria and the scoring mechanism as specified below in Table-1.
- b) Bidders are required to answer queries raised by USF within stipulated timelines, otherwise, USF shall proceed with evaluating bids as per the actual submission and shall not in any case entertain answers to its queries submitted after the specified time.
- c) A proposal shall be rejected during technical evaluation if it does not comply with this RFP and ToR or if it fails to achieve the minimum score as indicated in Table 1 below.
- d) Bidder shall give undertaking on stamp paper that the Team proposed as per Table 1 above, shall be dedicated to the awarded USF project and the same resources shall not be utilized in any parallel ongoing USF project.
- e) USF reserves the right to ask the perspective bidder to demonstrate standard audit tools that are to be used for audit.

**Table 1: Evaluation Criteria**

Category	Weightage	Focus Area
<b>Technical/Solution Quality</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Specific relevant experience of company/firm evaluated based on Projects, durations, scope of work/deliverables and manpower deployed</b>  a. Network audit/acceptance, installation, commissioning and testing of RF, BSS, and TXN works of GSM, WCDMA/HSPA and LTE in national projects (8 Marks for each experience i.e. RF, BSS and TXN)
	<b>20</b>	b. Telecom, CME experience i.e. Civil work of Tower and Telcom room building, Power system Solar/Rectifier/Line conditioner/ Generator and CP installation testing and commissioning.
<b>Vendor Capability (Experience)</b>	<b>16</b>	Audit Methodology - Proposed Technical Audit methodology and work plan for the audit execution as per the timelines set in the TOR.
<b>Service/Support</b>	<b>20</b>	Company owned tools, equipment, software. Demonstrate/prove and commit availability for USF projects.

<p><b>Project Team &amp; Management</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>Qualification and competence of key staff</b></p> <p><b>01 Project Manager:</b> Should possess at least 10 years Work Experience in Audit/Acceptance of Cellular networks (WCDMA, GSM, LTE etc.) (RF, BSS, Transmission, Power, Civil) coordination with civil administration and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs). (3 Marks)  <b>Project Manager is a must, otherwise no score will be granted in this category.</b></p> <p><b>01 Project Management Officer</b> should possess at least 5 years hands-on experience having Documentation, Report writing and presentation Skills in Reporting. (2 Marks).  <b>Project Management Officer is a must, otherwise no score will be granted in this category.</b></p> <p><b>01 Team Lead</b> (5 Years of Cumulative Experience in Management of Audit/Acceptance of Cellular networks) (2 Marks)  <b>1x Telecomm Engineer</b> (BSS, Transmission) (2 Marks)  <b>1x Civil Engineer/Technician</b> (2 Marks)  <b>1x Power Engineer/Technician</b> (2 Marks)  <b>5x Drive Test Engineers</b> (5 Marks)  <b>1x Rigger</b> (2 Marks)  Proposed team members shall have at least 3 Years of verifiable work experience in their relevant fields</p>
<p><b>Total Marks</b></p>	<p><b>100</b></p>	
<p><b>Minimum Score Required to Qualify</b></p>	<p><b>75</b></p>	

## 8. Financial Proposal

1. After prequalification and formation of panel, a **separate Financial RFP** will be issued for Technical audit services of each USF project, to the prequalified eligible bidders, for submission of Financial Proposals on a per-lot basis.
2. A bid security in the form of a CDR/Pay Order/Demand Draft, in the name of 'Universal Service Fund, of value PKR 100,000/- (Pak Rupees One Hundred Thousand Only) is to be submitted in a separate envelope, with the financial proposal otherwise unopened financial proposal shall be returned, and bid will be rejected.
3. The rest of the requirements of financial proposal are part of the Financial RFP that will be shared with pre-qualified bidder for each project. A Pricing Table for the financial proposal is attached as Annex A for the information of the bidder only, to offer a better understanding of the financial proposal and project deliverables.

## 9. Submission, Opening and Receipt of Proposals

The technical proposals shall be submitted as:

- a) The Technical proposal shall be attached and uploaded on e-PADS
- b) The technical proposal shall be prepared without any interlineation or overwriting.
- c) The technical proposal must be attached to e-PADS on or before 11:00 Hours **(PST), (4 April 2026)**.
- d) Technical Proposals shall be opened on the same day at 1130 Hours (PST), in the presence of all the applicants who choose to be present.
- e) The evaluation of technical proposals will be carried out first as per the evaluation criteria given in the RFP. The results of the technical evaluation will be uploaded on e-PADS.

## 10. Award of Contract

- a) The Award shall be offered to the lowest bidder provided the financial proposal submitted by the lowest bidder is successful in evaluation process as well.
- b) A letter of Intent (LoI) will be issued to the qualified Bidder who shall submit Letter of Acceptance (LoA) within Seven (07) days of issuance of the LoI.
- c) The Bidder, to whom LoI has been issued, will have to submit performance guarantee within Twenty-one (21) working days after issuance of LoI.
- d) After submission of the Letter of Acceptance and Performance Guarantee, the contract will be signed within time stipulated in LoI, failing which USF may proceed accordingly.

## 11. Performance Evaluation

- a) USF shall, at its own discretion assess the performance and quality of work done by Technical Auditor.
- b) The assessment of performance and quality of work done by the Technical auditor may include but not limited to the validation of submitted audit reports, accuracy and precision of committed and completed fieldwork, quality of equipment/tools used to conduct project audits and assess quality of services, qualification & experience of Technical Audit team, quality and comprehensiveness of reports, overall project management by the Technical Auditor.
- c) Performance evaluation of Technical Auditors, already awarded audit of USF projects, will be carried out as per below table which will be shared quarterly.

<b>Performance Evaluation</b>		
<b>S/No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Weight</b>
1	<b>Report Finalization:</b>	30
	Number of Iterations (Each iteration will deduct 5 points)	
2	<b>Recommendation &amp; Feedback:</b>	20
	Each Recommendation will have 05 Marks (e.g., Solution for Drop call rate, congestion, coverage, planning for future projects, complaints etc.)	
3	<b>Technical Audit of USF Co project:</b> 1. Team Responsibility (5 Marks) 2. Technical Team Composition Strength (5 Marks) 3. Understanding of audit requirements and TA Responsiveness during the audit (5 Marks) 4. Technical audit of USF projects as per the proposed audit methodology, work plan, and quality assurance. (5 Marks) 5. Technical report writing and audit documentation (5 Marks)	25
3	<b>Impact Assessment:</b>	10
	Inclusion of success stories (crisp, enriched, with photos and videos) (10 Marks)	
4	Health Safety & Environment (HSE) standards Compliance and Duty of Care	15
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>100</b>
<b>Minimum Score to Qualify</b>		<b>75%</b>

- d) USF shall, at its discretion assess quality of audit and that across-the-board transparency and merit-based has been adhered to. Based on performance evaluation of Technical Auditors as per 11.e above, in case the TA fails minimum qualification score of 75%, the decision shall be formally shared with the Technical Auditor and TA shall not be eligible to participate for a minimum of next 04 upcoming Lots from the date of decision of assessment as granted by USF.

# Term of Reference (ToR)

For

## Technical Auditor Services for USF NG-BSD lots

### 1. Context and Purpose of Technical Auditor Services

Universal Service Fund was established by Ministry of Information Technology and Telecom (MoITT), Govt. of Pakistan to bridge digital divide, establish Information and Communication Technology Infrastructure and to provision metro equivalent Telecom services at affordable rates, to un-served/underserved areas of the country. USF has initiated multiple Programs and projects for provision of Telecom Network Infrastructure, Telecom Coverage and Services to un-served/underserved areas. For the purpose, USF initiated multiple programs for deployment of Telecom Infrastructure and provision of defined Telecommunications Services (hereinafter "USF Services") in un-served and under-served areas of Pakistan (hereinafter "USF areas"). USF Next Generation Broadband for Sustainable Development Program (NG-BSD) is a mainstream program whereby voice and 4G/LTE services are provided to un/underserved rural remote areas. The Projects under the program are implemented by Licensed Cellular Service Providers. After implementation of the network, the infrastructure and services are audited and subsidy payments are released if audit is successful.

Hereby, USF intends to engage a Firm/Company to conduct Technical audits under the terms and conditions of SSA and as per the "Audit Methodology" that is provided in this tender document package.

#### 1.1. Objectives

The objective of Technical Audit is to verify that USF Services with the given quality of service, as defined in Schedule A & B of SSA have been made available in USF Areas as defined in Schedule C of SSA given to registered bidders. For the purpose, the TA shall carry out field audit of Telecom Network consisting of but not limited to Radio Access Network, Backhaul Network, CME (Civil Mechanical Electrical) works, verify BoQ, carry out drive tests to verify Coverage & Quality of services and issue certificates of completion or rejection, force majeure validation, rejection, acceptance etc. by using tools and methods required to verify all of the above.

## 2. Scope of Work

The Technical Audit shall be triggered after the TA accepts the prerequisite data sent with the claim by SP that USF Services are available in at least 25% of the USF areas as defined in Schedule C of SSA along with the provision of Milestone pre-requisite data. TA shall be engaged to undertake the following tasks:

### 2.1. Task 1: Verification and evaluation of Milestone Pre-requisite data

Verify and evaluate milestone pre-requisite data within seven (7) days of receiving the data from USF Co. In case of any shortcomings, the TA will intimate USF Co within seven (7) days regarding accepting or rejecting the milestone offer with reasons in case of rejection.

### 2.2. Task 2: Verification of Milestone Implementation

After acceptance of Milestone pre-requisite data, the verification of Implemented Network and Services along with all the documents and annexures as mentioned in the Audit Methodology has to be completed within thirty (30) days of acceptance of offer of prerequisite Data.

The TA shall:

- 1) Conduct technical audit and evaluate performance of the USF Network and Services in USF areas as specified in Schedule A and Schedule B of the SSA. BTS site configuration and scope of work is summarized and attached with the bidding documents as Annex C.
- 2) Issue certificates or written notices regarding the completion or failure of the Project Implementation Milestones, based on audit methodology after conducting required tests and verifications.
- 3) In case of a Force Majeure event claim by SP, the TA shall determine whether Force Majeure condition exists or not and advise USF on the practical impact of Force Majeure claimed. Furthermore, TA shall recommend the duration of FM as well, however, any such recommendation shall not be binding on USF. Issue certificates or written notices regarding the existence or not of the Force Majeure, after evaluation and approval by USF or in coordination with USF Legal.
- 4) In performing these certification functions, the TA shall undertake the following functions:
  - a. The TA will submit Network and services test results that include but are not limited to verified BoQs, Physical Infrastructure tests and verification of network performance/quality, as per Audit Methodology. These audit reports must reflect that the USF Service provider has met all the quality and quantity obligations of the Schedule A, B and C of the SSA. USF shall reserve the right to accept/reject the audit reports that do not fulfill the above mentioned criteria.
  - b. All re-visits for verification of USF Network (coverage and infrastructure) will be paid as per Price Table against each activity carried out by the TA and within the maximum limit as defined "Project Reverification Cost" of xxxx.
  - c. TA shall submit its final report and certify as whether the MS is accepted or rejected, within thirty (30) days of acceptance of offer of prerequisite Data.
  - d. TA shall be responsible for the evaluation of FM events claimed by the SP and shall submit its detailed report within fifteen (15) working days with all empirical

and verifiable evidence along with recommendations to USF to evaluate and grant/reject the claim.

**Annex A: Pricing Table for NG-BSD Lots (Inclusive of applicable GST)**

Table 2: Annex B: Pricing Table

		Project Cost			Project Re-verification/Re-visit Cost (If Applicable)	
S. No.	Item	Units*	Unit price	Total Price	Reverification /Revisit Units (Maximum 15% increase)	Reverification /Revisit Total Cost
1	Mandatory Mauzas/road segments/Tourist destinations/National roaming (2G, 3G, 4G/LTE)					
2	New BTS + MW (Links) + CME					
3	Repeater site + MW (Links) + CME					
4	Existing Sites/Upgrades					
5	Verification of Power Activities					
6	Fiber Node					
7	Optical Fiber Cable					
8	Visit to SP NOC for verification of 1-7					
				Project Cost		Project Reverification/re-visit Cost
<b>Total Cost (Project Cost + Project Reverification/Re-visit Cost)</b>						
9	FM Verification				Force Majeure Cost	
10	verification of steel, concrete and soil test reports from the institutes/ Departments				Total cost of verification of reports	
11	Final Report				Cost of Final Report	
<b>Total Project Cost (Total Cost (Project Cost + Project Reverification/Re-visit Cost) +Force Majeure Cost + Total cost of verification of reports +Cost of Final Report)</b>						
Detailed BOQ (Annex C) and Mauza Schedule C will be provided to the Pre-qualified Bidders.						
*This count may change.						

**x** \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature:

Name:

Designation:

Date:



**Universal Service Fund**

**(A company setup under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance 1984)**

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**Request For Technical Proposals**

**&**

**Term of Reference (ToR)**

**For**

**Hiring of Technical Auditors for Technical Audit Services  
in USF NG-OFNS Program**

**(Prequalification for Panel Formation)**

**Tender ID: USE/BSD/NG-BSD/OFC Projects/TAPanel/2026/1**

**Issued at Islamabad**

**10 March 2026**

<b>Universal Service Fund 3rd Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex Agha Khan Road, F-5/1, Islamabad</b>	<b>Tel: 051 9212308-09 Fax: 051 9214261 URL: <a href="http://www.usf.org.pk">www.usf.org.pk</a></b>
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Universal Service Fund (“USF Co”) is a Guarantee Limited Company incorporated under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance 1984 (presently Companies Act 2017) established by the Government of Pakistan through Ministry of Information Technology & Telecom in pursuance of Universal Service Fund Rules, 2006 (“USF Rules”) promulgated by Federal Government of Pakistan in exercise of the powers conferred under clause (ab) of Sub Section (2) of Section 57 of the Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-organization) Act, 1996.

Universal Service Fund (USF) initiated Next Generation Optical Fiber Network and Services (NG-OFNS) Program to provide high capacity and reliable backhaul and enable access services to telecom infrastructure, public and private institutions and govt. delivery centers. The program targets Carrier Grade IP based Optical Network connectivity of Union Councils and small Towns supporting high data rate/volume clients such as Cellular Service Providers, Long Distance Interconnect/Local Loop Service providers, Public and Private Sector Institutions and Individual Consumers.

This tender/RFP is being launched in accordance with PPRAs prequalification bidding process to constitute a prequalified panel of technical auditors in USF NG-OFNS Program, to verify deployment of optical network both active and passive elements, quality of deployed network and services, as defined in the scope of audit and TORs.

After a prequalified panel is constituted the members of the panel will submit financial bids, when and where, called on by USF and successful bidder will enter into a contract with USF to perform technical audit of the assigned tasks.

## 2. Bidding Process

- 1) A panel of Companies/Firms/Consortium will be prequalified after an open competitive, and transparent bidding process in accordance with Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Ordinance, 2002, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines made thereunder.
- 2) At the time of bid submission, the interested bidder shall submit documents as per detailed mentioned in Section 6 of this RFP.
- 3) The bid/proposal to be attached on e-Pak Acquisition & Disposal System (e-PADS), comprising the technical proposal. **The bidder shall ensure that the attachment of bid/proposal on e-PADS is mandatory. Bid/proposals shall not be accepted/entertained via any other medium.**
- 4) Only the “**PROPOSAL**”, uploaded on **e-PADS** shall be opened.
- 5) The proposal shall be marked as “**TECHNICAL PROPOSAL**” in bold and legible letters to avoid confusion.
- 6) USF will expect that the aspirant bidders shall mention true and correct information in their bids, failing which may lead to rejection of bids.
- 7) Evaluation of technical proposals for prequalification of panel members will be carried out, in accordance with evaluation criteria as per Section 7 of this RFP.
- 8) The technical evaluation results will be uploaded on e-PADS.
- 9) After successful completion of process of prequalification, the qualified bidders shall constitute USF panel of technical auditors.
- 10) The qualified bidder shall remain part of USF till de-notified by USF.
- 11) The technically qualified bidder shall be enrolled as pre-qualified technical auditor and shall be eligible to submit financial proposal when and where, called upon by USF. The panel shall be constituted for a term not exceeding three years from the time of constitution of this

panel or de-notified or dissolved earlier by USF upon completion of task or otherwise. However, any member, or the whole panel may be de-notified or dissolved earlier upon successful completion of the task or poor performance or unsatisfactory performance or delay in the contractual timelines, whichever the case may be. The Technical auditors who are part of the previous panel shall complete their pending contractual obligations against signed contracts. They need to apply fresh for this/any new panel.

- 12) Financial Proposals shall be requested by USF from the members of the pre-qualified panel **for which a separate Financial RFP shall be issued by USF**. Financial RFP shall, inter alia, include the scope of work for technical audit contracts.
- 13) The consideration for the award will be given to the most advantageous bidder .
- 14) In case of a consortium, where local and foreign partners are involved, only local Firm / Company can be the consortium leader and incase where all partners are local, the partner who shall submit the bid will be identified as the consortium leader, however, combined experience of all partners shall be considered. The consortium leader shall be the signatory on behalf of consortium and shall be responsible for consortium performance, however, all members of the consortium shall be jointly and individually liable to USF in respect of the performance of the USF contract. Consortium deed/agreement shall be attached/uploaded with Technical Proposal on e-PADS
- 15) The following documents shall be submitted on e-Pads:
  - a) Authorization certificate issued to an authorized representative on company's official letter head duly signed and stamped by CEO along with respective copies of CNICs.
  - b) The Bidder must be on Active Taxpayer List (ATL) (online verifiable) as per the Eligible Bidders (Tax Compliance) Regulations, 2015 and should have a valid NTN and Sales Tax registration. Provided further that the registration with respective Tax Authorities / Boards of the all Provinces is mandatory for sales tax purposes.
  - c) Following certificates to be submitted:

In case of Company	Incorporation certificate from Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). Incorporation must be three years old at the time of submission of technical proposal.
In case of Firm/AOP	Form-C issued by registrar of Firms/AOP. It must be three years old at the time of submission of technical proposal.

- d) The Bidder shall provide undertaking on a stamp paper of Rs. 50/-, duly attested by Oath Commissioner to the extent of following:
  - i. That the Bidder has not ever been declared blacklisted by any Government/Semi-Government Office/institutions.

### 3. General Information, Conditions/Instructions

- a) Proposals shall be submitted in English/Urdu language.
- b) The successful bidder will be selected after an open, competitive, and transparent bidding process in view of Rule 20 of the PPRA Rules.
- c) The bidders shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of their respective proposals and USF will, in no case, be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
- d) Bidders are under obligation to understand complete information package/bid documents and address all requirements. USF shall bear no responsibility for any claim or complaint by the Bidders arising from any misreading, misunderstanding, or misinterpretation of the bid documents or information package by the Bidders.
- e) For any clarifications, it is mandated that bidders communicate exclusively as defined in PPRA rules and e-PAK regulations.
- f) USF is the originator of information package/bidding documents, any clarification or interpretation communicated by USF, whether in response to a query or otherwise, shall be deemed final.
- g) Each page of the Technical Proposal shall be stamped and signed by an authorized representative of the Bidder. The representative's authorization shall be confirmed by power of attorney accompanying the proposal on company's official letter head.
- h) USF may reject all bids/proposals or any bid/proposal at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal. USF for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by Bidder(s), amend the bidding document. Any amendment shall be issued in writing through addendum. However, the main source of all such information will be **e-PADS**. The addendum shall be considered part of the RFP/TORs and will be binding on the Bidders.
- i) USF may increase or decrease quantum of work and quantities of items as allowed by PPRA.
- j) The successful bidder for a lot shall be responsible for completing all the tasks as per scope of work mentioned in ToR.
- k) USFCo. upon review and verification of the tasks completed by the TA, will issue a Completion Certificate upon successful acceptance as specified in the Terms of Reference (ToRs).
- l) USF requires that Bidder, under its contract, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of contract and shall not indulge into any of the malpractices mentioned below.
  - i. "Coercive practice": is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence the actions of a party improperly.
  - ii. "Collusive practice": is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence the actions of another party improperly.
  - iii. "Corrupt practice": is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence the actions of another party improperly.
  - iv. "Fraudulent practice": is any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, which knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation.
  - v. "obstructive practice": is deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to the investigation or making false statements to investigators in

order to materially impede USF investigation into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation.

- m) USF will reject the award/cancel the contract if at any stage during the whole process, USF determines that the Bidder has directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, or coercive practices in competing for the contract in discussion.
- n) Once any conflict of interest/disinformation/misinformation/fraudulent practice is noticed or brought to the notice of USF, the contract for Technical audit services with Technical auditor shall be terminated immediately and punitive action shall be initiated against the auditor as defined under contract.
- o) Incomplete or partial bids will be rejected.
- p) Bids which do not comply with the prescribed format and requirements set out by USF shall be rejected.

#### 4. Bid Security

- a) At the stage when a bidder is prequalified, and submits a financial proposal against a project, a bid security in the form of a CDR/Pay Order/Demand Draft, in the name of 'Universal Service Fund, of value PKR 100,000/- (Pak Rupees One Hundred Thousand Only) must be submitted in a separate envelope, with the **financial proposal** otherwise the financial bid will be rejected and returned unopened.
- b) Payment of bid security in a form other than that specified in clause 4(a) shall not be entertained and accepted. USF shall return such bids unopened to respective bidders.
- c) Bid Security of Bidders whether successful or unsuccessful shall be returned within fifteen (15) days of signing of the respective contract of project/lot.

## 5. Performance Guarantee & Liquidated Damages

- a) After pre-qualification by USF, the bidder will submit a financial proposal against a project, Performance Guarantee equivalent to ten [10%] percent of the contract value in shape of Irrevocable Bank Guarantee, strictly in accordance with the format attached as Annex B. In case of non-submission within the time stipulated in Letter of Intent (LoI), USF may cancel the LoI and shall proceed accordingly.
- b) The duration of the Performance Guarantee, as submitted by the successful bidder, shall vary from contract to contract and shall primarily be determined by the duration of contract for that particular project between USF and service provider or for any other extended period, as the case may be. Provided further that, if the Technical Auditor (TA) successfully discharges all contractual obligations and meets all requirements set out by USF in the contract before the expiry date of Performance Guarantee, then upon the issuance of completion certificate by USF, the said guarantee can be released early on request of Technical Auditor (TA).
- c) After acceptance of Milestone pre-requisite data, the Technical Auditor (TA) has to certify the Milestone along with all the reports and annexures within thirty (30) days. However, if the TA fails to certify the Milestone or submitted audit report and annexures don't fulfill quality standards set by USF and hence rejected, the delay shall lead to the imposition of Liquidated Damages @ 1% per week of the milestone value till the rectification of such delays and up to a maximum deduction of ten [10%] percent of the Milestone value. Once the maximum is reached, USF shall have the right to en-cash the Performance Guarantee and terminate the Contract.
- d) Moreover, unsatisfactory performance by technical auditor shall lead to the delisting of the TA from pre-qualified panel and may lead to blacklisting.

## 6. Technical Proposal

Technical Proposals to be submitted by the bidder shall be in compliance with the requirements laid down in the RFP and ToR.

The Technical proposal shall be clearly marked with the following:

**Tender ID: USF/BSD/NG-BSD/OFC Projects/TAPanel/2026/1**

### “TECHNICAL PROPOSAL – NG-OFNS”

The technical proposal shall include:

- a) A covering letter from the head of the company or an authorized representative of the applicant covering the key features of the technical solution.
- b) The Bidder must have been incorporated at least three (03) years before the date of bid submission. In addition, the Bidder should have proven work experience of at least two (2) years (with a team whose experience should be as specified in Table-1) at national level, in network audit/acceptance, installation, commissioning and testing of; telecom network infrastructure, services and quality of services.
- c) The bidder must provide documentary proof of completed projects as part of technical proposal with references.
- d) The following documentation will be provided as part of the technical proposal:
  - i. Brief company profile.
  - ii. Major areas of expertise.
  - iii. Outline of work experience with references to work/scope on projects, name of the client along with their references and project value in the following format for the last three projects of relevant experience as specified in Table 1 – Evaluation criteria section 1(a), 1(b) and 1(c).

S. No.	[Insert Serial Number of the project reference provided]
Project Title	[Insert title of the project]
Client	[Insert name of the Client]
Client Contact Information	[Insert the Name and Contact details (mobile & official email) of Point of Contact who can be contacted for verification]
Brief Description of the Project	[Brief Description of the project, area of operations, Team details]
Value of the Project	[Insert the value of the project]
Duration of the project	[Insert the duration i.e., total time taken for the completion of the project]
Documentary Evidence	[Attach documentary evidence (acceptance certificate, Reference letter, Purchase Orders, Details of software’s license and testing tools/equipment proposed and Contracts)].

- e) Complete address along with contact details and point of contact of all offices.
- f) CVs of proposed team should be provided. CVs of proposed team should include contact details (mobile number and email), training attended, certifications, relevant work experience and educational details.
- g) Assigned roles and responsibilities of each proposed team member.
- h) Proposed Technical Audit Methodology.
- i) Work plan for the audit execution as per the timelines set in the TOR.

- j) All tools, whether owned or rented, provided by the Bidder(s) must be fully functional, meet the requirement of the audit and have valid licenses. USF reserves the right to inspect and verify. All tools/equipment/software such as OTDR, Optical Power Meter, Optical Source, Earth Testing Meter, Sound Meter, Splicers etc. used for this assignment should be licensed.
- k) Compliance against each clause and sub-clause of RFP, ToR cross linked with the submitted Technical Proposal, must be attached. Following conventions shall be used in the compliance checklist:
  - i. Fully Complied (FC)
  - ii. Not Complied (NC)
- l) Additional Information which can facilitate USF in evaluation of technical proposals (if any).

## 7. Evaluation Criteria for Technical Proposal

- a) USF will evaluate the technical proposal based on its compliance with this RFP, ToR, evaluation criteria and the scoring mechanism as specified below in Table-1.
- b) Bidders are required to answer queries raised by USF within stipulated timelines, otherwise, USF shall proceed with evaluating bids as per the actual submission and shall not in any case entertain answers to its queries submitted after the specified time.
- c) A proposal shall be rejected during technical evaluation if it does not comply with this RFP and ToR or if it fails to achieve the minimum score as indicated in Table 1 below.
- d) Bidder shall give undertaking on stamp paper that the Team proposed as per Table 1 above, shall be dedicated to the awarded USF project and the same resources shall not be utilized in any parallel ongoing USF project.
- e) USF reserves the right to ask the perspective bidder to demonstrate standard audit tools that are to be used for audit.

**Table 1: Evaluation Criteria**

Category	Weightage	Focus Area
<b>Technical/Solution Quality</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Specific relevant experience of company/firm evaluated based on Projects, durations, scope of work/deliverables and manpower deployed</b>  a. Network audit/acceptance, installation, commissioning, and testing of Fiber Optic Networks in national projects (8 Marks for each experience)
	<b>20</b>	b. Telecom CME experience i.e. Civil work of Optical Fiber Outside plant, Inside plant, Power system Solar/Rectifier/Line conditioner/ Generator and CP installation testing and commissioning.
<b>Vendor Capability (Experience)</b>	<b>16</b>	Audit Methodology - Proposed Technical Audit methodology and work plan for the audit execution as per the timelines set in the TOR.
<b>Service/Support</b>	<b>20</b>	Company owned tools, equipment, software. Demonstrate/prove and commit availability for USF projects.

<p><b>Project Team &amp; Management</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>Qualification and competence of key staff</b></p> <p><b>01 Project Manager:</b> Should possess at least 10 years Work Experience in Audit/Acceptance of Optic Fiber networks and services, (OFC &amp; ISP/OSP, Civil, Power, Access Network etc.) coordination with civil administration and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) (3 Marks)  <b>Project Manager is a must, otherwise no score will be granted in this category.</b></p> <p><b>01 Project Management Officer</b> should possess at least 5 years hands-on experience having Documentation, Report writing and presentation Skills in Reporting. (2 Marks).  <b>Project Management Officer is a must, otherwise no score will be granted in this category.</b></p> <p><b>01 Team Lead</b> (5 Years of Cumulative Experience in Management of Audit/Acceptance of OFC networks) (2 Marks)  <b>01 Fiber Deployment Engineer</b> (Fiber, ISP/OSP, Transmission, splicing) (5 Marks)  1x Civil Engineer(5 Marks)  1x Power Engineer/Technician (3 Marks)</p> <p>Proposed team members shall have at least 3 Years of verifiable work experience in their relevant fields</p>
<p><b>Total Marks</b></p>	<p><b>100</b></p>	
<p><b>Minimum Score Required to Qualify</b></p>	<p><b>75</b></p>	

## 8. Financial Proposal

1. After prequalification and formation of panel, a **separate Financial RFP** will be issued for Technical audit services of each USF project, to the prequalified eligible bidders, for submission of Financial Proposals on a per-lot basis.
2. A bid security in the form of a CDR/Pay Order/Demand Draft, in the name of 'Universal Service Fund, of value PKR 100,000/- (Pak Rupees One Hundred Thousand Only) is to be submitted in a separate envelope, with the financial proposal otherwise unopened financial proposal shall be returned, and bid will be rejected.
3. The rest of the requirements of financial proposal are part of the Financial RFP that will be shared with pre-qualified bidder for each project. A Pricing Table for the financial proposal is attached as Annex A for the information of the bidder only, to offer a better understanding of the financial proposal and project deliverables.

## 9. Submission, Opening and Receipt of Proposals

The technical proposals shall be submitted as:

- a) The Technical proposal shall be attached and uploaded on e-PADS
- b) The technical proposal shall be prepared without any interlineation or overwriting.
- c) The technical proposal must be attached to e-PADS on or before 11:00 Hours **(PST), (4 April 2026)**.
- d) Technical Proposals shall be opened on the same day at 1130 Hours (PST), in the presence of all the applicants who choose to be present.
- e) The evaluation of technical proposals will be carried out first as per the evaluation criteria given in the RFP. The results of the technical evaluation will be uploaded on e-PADS.

## 10. Award of Contract

- a) The Award shall be offered to the most advantageous bidder provided that the submitted financial proposal qualifies the evaluation process..
- b) A letter of Intent (LoI) will be issued to the most advantageous bidder who shall submit Letter of Acceptance (LoA) within Seven (07) days of issuance of the LoI.
- c) The Bidder, to whom LoI has been issued, will have to submit performance guarantee within Twenty-one (21) working days after issuance of LoI.
- d) After submission of the Letter of Acceptance and Performance Guarantee, the contract will be signed within time stipulated in LoI, failing which USF may proceed accordingly.

## 11. Performance Evaluation

- a) USF shall, at its own discretion assess the performance and quality of work done by Technical Auditor.
- b) The assessment of performance and quality of work done by the Technical auditor may include but not limited to the validation of submitted audit reports, accuracy and precision of committed and completed fieldwork, quality of equipment/tools used to conduct project audits and assess quality of services, qualification & experience of Technical Audit team, quality and comprehensiveness of reports, overall project management by the Technical Auditor.
- c) Performance evaluation of Technical Auditors, already awarded audit of USF projects, will be carried out as per below table which will be shared quarterly.

<b>Performance Evaluation</b>		
<b>S/No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Weight</b>
1	<b>Report Finalization:</b>	30
	Number of Iterations (Each iteration will deduct 5 points)	
2	<b>Recommendation &amp; Feedback:</b>	20
	Each Recommendation will have 05 Marks (e.g., Solution for Drop call rate, congestion, coverage, planning for future projects, complaints etc.)	
3	<b>Technical Audit of USF Co project:</b> 1. Team Responsibility (5 Marks) 2. Technical Team Composition Strength (5 Marks) 3. Understanding of audit requirements and TA Responsiveness during the audit (5 Marks) 4. Technical audit of USF projects as per the proposed audit methodology, work plan, and quality assurance. (5 Marks) 5. Technical report writing and audit documentation (5 Marks)	25
3	<b>Impact Assessment:</b>	10
	Inclusion of success stories (crisp, enriched, with photos and videos) (10 Marks)	
4	Health Safety & Environment (HSE) standards Compliance and Duty of Care	15
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>100</b>
<b>Minimum Score to Qualify</b>		<b>75%</b>

- d) USF shall, at its discretion assess quality of audit and that across-the-board transparency and merit-based has been adhered to. Based on performance evaluation of Technical Auditors as per 11.c above, in case the TA fails minimum qualification score of 75%, the decision shall be formally shared with the Technical Auditor and TA shall not be eligible to participate for a minimum of next 04 upcoming Lots from the date of decision of assessment as granted by USF.

# Term of Reference (ToR)

For

## Technical Auditor Services for USF NG-OFNS lots

### 1. Context and Purpose of Technical Auditor Services

Universal Service Fund was established by Ministry of Information Technology and Telecom (MoITT), Govt. of Pakistan to bridge the digital divide, establish Information and Communication Technology Infrastructure and to provision metro equivalent Telecom services at affordable rates, to un-served/underserved areas of the country. USF has initiated multiple Programs and projects for provision Telecom/OFC Network Infrastructure, Telecom/OFC Coverage and Services to un-served/underserved areas. For the purpose, USF initiates relevant Projects by entering into Services and Subsidy Agreement (SSA) with USF Telecom Service Providers (SP's) for deployment of Telecom Infrastructure for USF Network and provision of defined Telecommunications/OFC Services (hereinafter "USF Services") in un-served and under-served areas of Pakistan (hereinafter "USF areas"). The Projects under the program are implemented by Licensed Service Providers. After implementation of the network, the infrastructure and services are audited, and subsidy payments are released if audit is successful.

Hereby, USF intends to engage a Firm/Company to conduct technical audits under the terms and conditions of SSA and as per the "Audit Methodology" that is provided in this tender document package.

#### 1.1. Objectives

The objective of Technical Audit is to verify that USF Optical Network and Services with the given quality of service, as defined in Schedule A & B of SSA have been implemented and made available in USF Areas as defined in Schedule C of SSA given to registered bidders. For the purpose, the TA shall carry out field audit of OFC Network consisting of but not limited to ISP/OSP and Optical Fiber Network deployment, Route Length, site civil work, main and alternate power, verify BoQ, carry out OTDR/Power tests to verify section losses and quality of services and issue certificates of completion, snags, force majeure etc. by using formal tools and methods as per USF Audit Methodology.

### 2. Scope of Work

The Technical Audit shall be triggered after the TA accepts the prerequisite data sent with the claim by SP that USF Services are available in at least 25% of the USF areas as defined in Schedule C of SSA along with the provision of Milestone pre-requisite data. TA shall be engaged to undertake the following tasks:

#### 2.1. Task 1: Verification and evaluation of Milestone Pre-requisite data

Verify and evaluate milestone pre-requisite data within seven (7) days of receiving the data from USF Co. In case of any shortcomings, the TA will intimate USF Co within seven (7) days regarding accepting or rejecting the milestone offer with reasons in case of rejection.

## 2.2. Task 2: Verification of Milestone Implementation

After acceptance of Milestone pre-requisite data, the verification of Implemented Network and Services along with all the documents and annexures as mentioned in the Audit Methodology has to be completed within thirty (30) days of acceptance of offer of prerequisite Data.

The TA shall:

- 1) Conduct technical audit and evaluate performance of the USF Network and Services in USF areas as specified in Schedule A and Schedule B of the SSA.
- 2) Issue certificates or written notices regarding the completion or failure of the Project Implementation Milestones, based on audit methodology after conducting required tests and verifications.
- 3) In case of a Force Majeure event claim by SP, the TA shall determine whether Force Majeure condition exists or not and advise USF on the practical impact of Force Majeure claimed. Furthermore, TA shall recommend the duration of FM as well, however, any such recommendation shall not be binding on USF. Issue certificates or written notices regarding the existence or not of the Force Majeure, after evaluation and approval by USF or in coordination with USF Legal.
- 4) In performing these certification functions, the TA shall undertake the following functions:
  - a. The TA will submit Optical Network and services test results that include but are not limited to verified BoQs, Physical Infrastructure tests and verification of network performance/quality, as per Audit Methodology. These audit reports must reflect that the USF Service provider has met all the quality and quantity obligations of the Schedule A, B and C of the SSA. USF shall reserve the right to accept/reject the audit reports that do not fulfill the above mentioned criteria.
  - b. All re-visits for verification of USF Network (coverage and infrastructure) will be paid as per Price Table against each activity carried out by the TA and within the maximum limit as defined "Project Reverification Cost" of xxxx.
  - c. TA shall submit its final report and certify as whether the MS is accepted or rejected, within thirty (30) days of acceptance of offer of prerequisite Data.
  - d. TA shall be responsible for the evaluation of FM events claimed by the SP and shall submit its detailed report within fifteen (15) working days with all empirical and verifiable evidence along with recommendations to USF to evaluate and grant/reject the claim.

**Pricing Table for OFC Lots (Inclusive of applicable GST)**

S. No.	Item	Project Cost			Project Reverification/Revisit Cost (If Applicable)	
		Units*	Unit price	Total Price	Reverification/revisit Units (Maximum 15% increase)	Reverification/Revisit Total Cost
1	New Nodes (TI & Commissioning)					
2	Route Length, Fiber deployment Duct/(Direct Buried + etc. 72/48/24 Fiber + G.655C/G652D)					
3	Existing Nodes (TI & Commissioning)					
4	Splicing Box verification at 10% of Fiber length					
5	BTS Connectivity verification.					
6	Power solution	Solar solution				
		Commercial Grid				
		DG				
		Battery bank Per Node				
7	Rollout/CW	CW for Renovation				
8	Spare parts verification					
9	Visit to SP NOC for verification of 1-6					
<b>Project Cost</b>					<b>Reverification/Revisit Cost</b>	
<b>Total Cost (Project Cost + Reverification/Revisit Cost)</b>						
10	FM Verification				<b>Force Majeure Cost</b>	
11	Final Report				<b>Cost of Final Report</b>	
<b>Total Project Cost (Total Cost (Project Cost + Reverification/revisit Cost) +Force Majeure Cost + Cost of Final Report)</b>						