

**SPECIAL BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (SBAC)
NATIONAL FIBER BACKBONE – PHASE 1**

PRE-BID CONFERENCE

Design, Build, Establishment for the National Fiber Backbone – Phase 1

BCDA Lobby Hall

BCDA Corporate Center, 2/F, Bonifacio Technology Center, BGC, Taguig City

26 February 2021

Minutes of Meeting

Present:

Special Bids & Awards Committee:

Chairperson	EVP Aileen Anunciacion R. Zosa
Vice Chairperson	Arrey A. Perez (via zoom)
Members	Atty. Gisela Z. Kalalo Eng. Richard Brian M. Cepe (via zoom) Eng. Ryan Paul S. Galura
Provisional Members	Virgil M. Alvarez Atty. Alvin M. Navarro (DICT) Dir. Leo Cipriano L. Urbiztondo (DICT alternate provisional member)

Technical Working Group (TWG):

Coheads	Engr. Mark P. Torres (via zoom) Aristotle E. Guerrero
Members	Engr. Jules O. Aficial (via zoom) Engr. Daniel Carlo M. Fabila Atty. Fernando T. Gallardo, Jr. Stevenson E. Tugas, Jr. Gerber S. Eresmas Eng. Jericho G. Bondoc

Provisional TWG Members (DICT)	Dir. Antonio Edward E. Padre (via zoom) Roy Celeste T. Marzan
---------------------------------------	--

Alternate Provisional TWG Members (DICT)	Venus V. Rivera Marlon O. Biagtan Nelson G. Mamuyac Mary Ruth G. Juico (via zoom) Katherine M. Navarra (via zoom)
---	---

Secretariat:

Head	Melinda M. Docallos
Members	Lohren D. Cabellon Franz F. Cimeni Denise Go (via zoom)

Other attendees from BCDA

Victor C. Luna	Consultant
Samuel D. Breboneria	ICTD staff
Rommel Coronacion	ICTD staff
Samuel Luke M. Galivo	PAD staff
Alvin Andre R. Clemente	OEVP Staff

Other attendees from DICT

via zoom

Franchesca Estacio
USec. Manny Caintic
Mayet Lupig-Alcasid
Atty. Flor Esteban
Guada Fatima Hernandez
Dir. Manuel Anthony Tan
Ping Cortes

Observers

Eunice O. Cabangon	Commission on Audit (via zoom)
Marvin D. Obaob	IASO

Prospective Bidders' Representatives and Guests

Attendees at BCDA-BTC Office

1. Charles Ubaue – SRBC	16. J. Carlo Simon – Converge
2. Ranel Espinosa – SRBC	17. Bob Zhu – Falcon
3. Menchie Agsulio – Livan Trade	18. Leo Tamayo – Trinergy
4. Ronald Enriquez – CTCC	19. Gerald Anthony Lorenzo – A4UTECS Telecom
5. Francis Pigao – CTCC	20. M. Guinod – Maximum Solutions Corp.
6. Lowella Carreon – ZPCDC	21. Marlon Andal – Marlon Andal Const.
7. Mike Makinano – Maximum Data (MDIT)	22. Elena Reyes – Mirae
8. Felix Aguila – Maximum Data (MDIT)	23. Janice Yon – Ines
9. Sandher – SC Mega	24. Archel Faina – Arktek System Builders
10. Lito Hermogenes – SC Mega	25. Elises Goyal – Arktek System Builders
11. Seven Quizon – SC Mega	26. Kris Jimenez – One Commerce
12. Alberto Catangui – iOne	27. Ramon Liu – CASA Systems
13. JB Salcedo – iOne	28. Billy Embalsado – CommTrend
14. Andrea Manila – Huawei	29. Mary May Villanueva – iOne Resources
15. Cong Zhang – Huawei	

Attendees via Zoom

1. Louis N.C. Casambre – Apollo Technologies, Inc.	13. Ramo Ramos – Fibercom
2. Stephanie Reyes – Berinne Systems, Inc.	14. Luke Lao – Highseas Group Co., Ltd.
3. Bhadz dela Cruz – Berinne Systems, Inc.	15. Leon Ang – Highseas Group Co., Ltd.
4. Greg Wong – Blackrock	16. Kit – Singapore ALE PTE LTD.
5. Ben Lee – Ciena	17. Vito – Livan Trade Corporation
	18. Mary Hazel De Guzman – LRA Pacific

6. Arnold Jose Patron – Ciena	19. Francis Baybay – Nera Philippines
7. Kriz Ranoco – Ciena	20. Don Alcantara – Nera Philippines
8. Wilfredo Lopez – Ciena	21. Homer – Nera Philippines
9. Abby De Guzman – Fibercom	22. Miko & Paul Ducusin – Nera Philippines
10. Gel – Fibercom	23. Janna Jorelle Macapinlac – R.D. Policarpio
11. Prim D. – Nera Philippines	24. Mark Cruz – Southern M Builders
12. Rodolfo Pantoja – Nera Philippines	25. Bong Gonzales – Streamtech
26. Joel Nuesca – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	45. Kitto Jacinto – Streamtech
27. Lora Lazaro – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	46. Mike Carig – Streamtech
28. Miko Olarte – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	47. Mike Palisoc – Streamtech
29. Sonny Balbuena – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	48. Ronald Ramos – Streamtech
30. Vicent Tabbing – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	49. TJ Mendoza – Streamtech
31. Maria Teresa Geocaniga – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	50. Darwin Jacinto – Trends & Technologies
32. Jim Bandayrel – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	51. Nerissa delos Reyes – Trends & Technologies
33. Allan Afaible – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	52. Zaidy Serdon – Trends & Technologies
34. Tobs Tobio – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	53. Kenneth Bacosa – Universal Access & Systems
35. Erica Ng – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	54. Adonis Manansala – Universal Access & Systems
36. Abbey Ng – One Commerce Int'l Corp.	55. Alexander Garcia
37. Janno – PLDT	56. Anthony Mejilla
38. Rexel Gongora – PLDT	57. Frederick De Castro
39. Arolin Rementina – PT & T	58. Guada Hernandez
40. Ella Mae Ortega – PT & T	59. Jheng Marzan
41. Jenny Lasala – PT & T	60. JM Ventayen
42. Reiner Klocker – PT & T	61. Josel Dilig
43. Domingo Macapagal – PT & T	62. Juan Miguel
44. Louie Sapiera – PT & T	63. Mark Anthony Castillo

The Pre-Bid Conference for the Design, Build, and Establishment of National Fiber Backbone – Phase 1 (the “Project”) was presided over by SBAC Chairperson Aileen Anunciacion R. Zosa.

1. Call to Order

There being a quorum, Chairperson Zosa called the Pre-Bid Conference to order at 10:38 AM, and mentioned that the Pre-Bid Conference is for the Design, Build, and Establishment of National Fiber Backbone – Phase 1. She apologized to the prospective bidders for the delay since the Pre-Bid Conference should have started at 10:00 AM as scheduled, but explained that the SBAC and DICT had a prior meeting on technical aspects of the Project.

Chairperson Zosa thanked the prospective bidders for attending, and mentioned that the Pre-Bid Conference of the Project is a blended event as there are attending physically at BCDA-BTC Office and others are attending via online.

2. Highlights of the Meeting

- 2.1. The following transpired prior to the TWG’s presentation on the salient points of the Project :

- a. Chairperson Zosa mentioned that in the interest of transparency and competition, she opened the Pre-Bid Conference not just for those who bought the TOR/bidding documents for the Project but also for other interested bidders and parties/stakeholders.
- b. Chairperson Zosa mentioned and emphasized, as the prospective bidders may want to know/ask, that the role of BCDA in the Project is merely the Procuring Entity. She explained that the DICT downloaded the funds for the Project to BCDA for which she thanked DICT. She mentioned that the BCDA and DICT consider the Project, as the whole country considers the same very important.
- c. Chairperson Zosa requested the audience to bear with her as she needs to introduce the SBAC and other people involved in the Project as well as acknowledge the prospective bidders and guests so that their attendance to the Pre-Bid Conference will be recorded accordingly, and especially that BCDA and DICT are government agencies. She then started by introducing herself as SBAC Chairman and also the Executive Vice President (EVP) and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of BCDA. She introduced the SBAC members and mentioned their respective involvements and assignments in BCDA.

Chairperson Zosa acknowledged the presence of the DICT representatives/technical personnel who are also provisional SBAC Members and TWG Members, and mentioned that the BCDA is fortunate of their assistance in the bidding of the Project. She then introduced Atty. Alvin Navarro, who is a provisional SBAC member and who has been very helpful as regards the technical issues and aspects of the Project. Chairperson Zosa also introduced Dir. Leo Cipriano Urbiztondo who is the alternate of Atty. Navarro as provisional SBAC member. She likewise introduced the provisional TWG Members from DICT and requested them to stand up to be recognized as the questions that may be raised by the prospective bidders on the Project will be directed to them.

Chairperson Zosa also introduced the SBAC TWG, Secretariat, and other BCDA personnel involved in the Pre-Bid Conference. She also introduced the Consultant Mr. Vic Luna and mentioned that he is a chemical engineer by profession but expert in business development and small to medium scale industries, and actually a jack of all trades because he is also a consultant for the BCDA EVP and COO.

Chairperson Zosa apologized again to the prospective bidders for going through with introducing the SBAC and other personnel involved in the bidding of the Project, especially that unlike the bidders in BCDA infrastructure projects, they are not BCDA's usual bidders.

- d. Chairperson Zosa introduced DICT Undersecretary Emmanuel Rey "Manny" Caintic and mentioned that he is in charge of the Project. USec. Caintic then acknowledged and thanked the people in BCDA, headed by SBAC Chairperson, and BCDA EVP and COO Zosa, for helping the DICT in bidding out the Project. For everybody's understanding, as he mentioned, he gave a few words about the Project, to wit:
 - o The Project is one of the flagship programs of the DICT and also of President Rodrigo Duterte as he mentioned in his first State of the Nation Address (SONA). It is very important that after five (5) years and towards the tail end of the Duterte administration that the Project will be finished by October 2021. The original timeline of the Project was even before the 2021 SONA.

- The Project is considered flagship project because apart from the reforms that the DICT is doing to enable faster internet service in partnership with the existing telecommunication companies (TELCOS), the national broadband will also spur and catalyze growth in areas that are unserved and underserved, on which the DICT will release in its website the entire explanation in the next few weeks.
 - USec. Caintic thanked the prospective bidders for their interest on the Project. He emphasized that the Project is not a “construction project” and the objective of the Project is not just to build the infrastructure but to ensure the smooth and fastest flow of the internet. He mentioned that he is aware that the terms of payment are centered toward a buildout but emphasized again the ultimate objective of the Project which is the smooth and fast flow of the internet. Otherwise, he mentioned that it would be difficult for him to sign any payment for the Project.
 - There are at least 28 NGCP tapping points which means that there are also 28 probabilities of failure. USec. Caintic then cautioned the prospective bidders to ensure that they cover/consider all the possible contingencies, and take the Project seriously because it is not just a buildout project but a piping project for the internet to flow, and this is for everybody’s sake and for the whole government to benefit. He emphasized that the Project is just Phase 1.
 - USec. Caintic mentioned that they want to prove to President Duterte that with the National Broadband, that cheaper internet can be acquired from the USA or from other country in the future who will tap in the Philippines’s Cable Landing Stations. He then cautioned the prospective bidders to align themselves with the right partners, and mentioned that it should not be the margins only that should be considered in this Project but to prove the success of the Project which is the smooth and fastest flow of the internet.
 - He again thanked the prospective bidders who have shown interest in the Project, and cautioned those who will submit their proposals/bid that they should be sure that they can do the Project because the Project is serious and urgent.
 - USec. Caintic thanked again the BCDA people involved in the Project, thanked the leadership of PCEO Vince Dizon, and wished all the best in behalf of Sec. Gregorio Honasan.
- e. Chairperson Zosa thanked USec. Caintic for lending the DICT’s very competent technical people, as she mentioned, to help BCDA undertake the bidding of the Project.
- f. Chairperson Zosa acknowledged the attendance of the prospective bidders’ representatives at BCDA-BTC Office and those via zoom by mentioning their names and the names of the companies they represent.
- 2.2. Chairperson Zosa asked the TWG on who will do the presentation about the Project, to which Mr. Stevenson Tugas replied that he will be the one to do the said presentation. Chairperson Zosa then introduced Mr. Tugas, who is a member of TWG from BCDA.

Mr. Tugas presented and discussed the salient points about the bidding and the Project, to wit:

- 1) The National Broadband Program (NBP) is one of the flagship projects of DICT envisioned to address the growing clamor for a nationwide roll-out of broadband connectivity across the nation;
- 2) The Luzon Bypass Infrastructure Project is a joint project of BCDA and DICT and a component of the National Broadband Plan being implemented by DICT that aims to establish a national backbone to provide interconnectivity to government offices as one of DICT's vital strategies in building and enhancing digital infrastructure in the Philippines, which includes the National Fiber Backbone Project Phase I (NFBP Ph I);
- 3) The Project is a Design and Build which intends to select the most competent and eligible provider of a resilient and cost-effective fiber optic cable backbone and its ancillaries covering the central part of Luzon Island;
- 4) The Project aims to provide internet connectivity to the two National Government Data and other identified priority areas, and cascade optical spectrum to four BCDA ecozones;
- 5) Components of the project and its description , i.e. Fiber Optic Cable Build, Transponder, Optical Transport Network, 100Gbps IP Transit;
- 6) Some of the Eligibility Requirements which Mr. Tugas has clearly described and explained, to wit:
 - The required Single Largest and Completed Contract (SLCC)
 - Manufacturer's Authorization showing/stating that the bidder is an accredited reseller of the following proposed equipment to be supplied:
 - 1) Optical Transport Network System
 - 2) Transponders
 - 3) Fiber Optic Cable
 - 4) HDPE Ducts
 - 5) Generator Sets
 - PCAB License
- 7) The bidding is a two-stage bidding in which the First Stage is the review of the preliminary conceptual designs and track record submitted by the contractor for Components 1, 2, 3 and 4; oral presentation of technical proposal, and the Second Stage is the opening of the financial proposal of each "passed" bidder and shall obtain the correct calculated prices;
- 8) The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) which is sourced from the DICT GAA is PhP1,250,000,000.00;
- 9) Payment Method/Scheme;
- 10) Data/services to be provided by DICT/BCDA are Project Data, access to land property, availability of funds and evaluation of contractor's output;
- 11) The winning bidder/contractor is expected to provide all project documents, to wit:
 - Engineering Plans
 - Detailed Work Plan
 - Technical Documents
 - As-Built Plans and Test Result
 - Reports and Documentation for Maintenance Work
 - Delivery of Technical Documents

The winning contractor shall submit these documents in hard and soft copies (1 copy each for BCDA and DICT stored in external drives) and shall be reviewed and

accepted by DICT. Any changes on the Design documents during the project duration shall be at no charge to DICT;

- 12) Scope of Works wherein all phases until the completion of the project were explained;
- 13) Description, objective and scope of works for the 4 components of the project;
- 14) Installations and Maintenance Work Requirements, i.e. key personnel, tools, equipment, and machinery;
- 15) Project and maintenance vehicles that the winning bidder must provide
- 16) Testing, Commissioning, and Acceptance
- 17) Knowledge transfer and submission of the final project documents, in which the winning bidder must conduct comprehensive local training and knowledge transfer for DICT nominated personnel before the date of acceptance.
- 18) Proposed Design and Construction Schedule
- 19) Warranty, Support, and Service Level Agreement (SLA)

Attached is the presentation of Mr. Tugas for reference purposes.

2.3. **Questions from the Prospective Bidders**

Prior to entertaining questions from the prospective bidders, Chairperson Zosa requested them that, for order sake, they shall go forward/in front, state their names and companies, and their questions. She also requested those attending via zoom to put their questions in the chat box.

- a. Mr. Mike Makinano of MDIT inquired whether the SBAC can adjust the timeline of the bidding considering that it usually takes more than two (2) weeks to get a Special PCAB License.

Chairperson Zosa replied that BCDA can request the assistance of PCAB to prioritize the processing of the bidders' applications for PCAB License. She added that based on BCDA's experience in previous projects, the bidders were able to submit their bids on the scheduled submission because PCAB is very supportive in the bidders' applications for PCAB License, provided that the bidders have submitted the complete requirements.

Mr. Makinano also inquired whether the interested bidders can be allowed to conduct site survey in Cable Landing Stations to have a visual view on what awaits the bidders on site particularly the rocky area/space. He added that they don't need to see all nodes but at least they will be able to see a few sites.

Chairperson Zosa inquired from the operations/technical personnel if the site survey can be arranged, to which Mr. Marlon Biagtan replied that they can grant the request to conduct site survey and can provide the interested bidders the information on the plans as regards the Cable Landing Stations (CLS) and Repeater Stations, but not for NGCP nodes. Ms. Venus Rivera added that they can arrange the site survey for DICT sites like Roces and Subic but not for NGCP nodes because NGCP will not allow the interested bidders to visit the site, NGCP allows only the winning bidder to visit the site.

Mr. Makinano then requested a schedule for site survey. Chairperson Zosa advised that for orderly sake, the site survey should be scheduled for all interested bidders. Chairperson Zosa instructed the TWG to flash on screen the Timetable of Bidding

Activities. She mentioned that the deadline for the requests of clarifications is March 5 and the last day of issuance of Supplemental/Bid Bulletin is March 8.

Mr. Makinano then remarked that the site survey should be before March 5 as they may have more queries/clarifications after the site survey, to which Chairperson Zosa replied in the affirmative.

- b. Mr. Leo Tamayo of Trinergy inquired whether the Project is full underground?

Mr. Nelson Mamuyac replied in affirmative.

Mr. Tamayo also inquired whether the DICT will assist in the Right of Way (ROW) acquisition?

Atty. Alvin Navarro replied in affirmative, and added that President Duterte himself has given instruction during the cabinet meeting that all the activities relating to the National Broadband Program will be expedited, so DICT will support and assist the winning contractor in the ROW acquisition.

- c. A representative from prospective bidder inquired whether G.652.D FOC can be considered?

Ms. Rivera replied that the response to the clarification will be included in the Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

Prior to addressing the clarifications from prospective bidders who attended the Pre-Bid Conference via zoom, Mr. Aristotle Guerrero discussed and explained the Detailed Cost Estimates Form. He explained that the Detailed Unit Price Analysis (DUPA) is replaced with the Detailed Cost Estimates Form. The said Form was not included in the published TOR/Bidding Documents for the Project but will be posted in the BCDA Website together with the Bid Bulletin.

Chairperson Zosa added that, the Detailed Cost Estimates Form takes the place of DUPA so that the bidders will just have to fill in the blanks in the matrix. This is the simplified Form which will help the bidders do away with having mistakes in their DUPA, which has been the cause of the bidders' disqualification in BCDA's previous biddings.

Chairperson Zosa then asked Mr. Guerrero if an editable file of the said Form will be provided to the bidders, to which Mr. Guerrero replied in affirmative.

Upon the instruction of Chairperson Zosa, Mr. Tugas read out the questions in the chat box from prospective bidders who attended the Pre-Bid Conference via zoom.

- d. Mr. Luke Lao of Highseas remarked that eligibility says the bidder needs to have SLCC covering design portion. However, usually design is part of the project and a small portion of the project. According to him the SLCC requirement of 50% of ABC sounds too high. He then inquired whether it's possible to lower or remove the required amount for design portion of the project.

Chairperson Zosa, while the TWG flashed on screen the presentation slide on SLCC, explained that it is not the design cost of a project or contract which is 50% of the ABC that is required. The required SLCC is a design contract for a project with a contract amount of at least 50% of the ABC or Php625M. She further explained

that the bidders can also aggregate which means that the bidder may submit at least two (2) Design Contracts, for projects the combined amount of which should be at least 50% of the ABC or at least Php625M. For example, a bidder may submit a Design Contract for 25kms Fiber Optic Cable (FOC) in the amount of 100M, a Design Contract for Optical Transport Network (OTN) with a project cost of 100M, Design Contract for ICT Network with a project cost in the amount of 425M. The aggregate amount of those contracts or the total amount of the combination of those contracts is PhP625M.

She further explained that if the bidder has a Design Contract only (which means that it is not a Design and Build Contract), it should also have a Civil Works Contract of at least 50% of ABC or at least Php625M. This means that the bidder should submit a Design Contract of a project with a cost of at least 50% of the ABC or at least two (2) Design Contracts for projects with aggregate amount of at least 50% of the ABC **AND** a Civil Works Contract of at least 50% of the ABC or at least two (2) Civil Works Contracts with aggregate amount of at least 50% of the ABC.

She likewise explained that the SBAC is aware that most projects have embedded design already. In such case, the bidder can submit a Design and Build Contract in which the project costs of the design and build shall be considered. She further explained that the bidder can also aggregate or combine the Civil Works Contracts but the total amount of any combined contracts should be at least 50% of the ABC or Php625M. She further explained that the bidder, for example, may have completed Design and Build Contracts of 200M, 300M, and another 200M.

She further explained that the bidder may choose either the first set of the required SLCC which is Design Contract/s for projects with the amount or aggregate amount of at least 50% of the ABC **and** Civil Works Contract/s with the amount or aggregate amount of at least 50% of the ABC , **or** the second one which is Design and Build Contract/s with the amount or aggregate amount of 50% of the ABC.

- e. Mary Hazel De Guzman of LRA Pacific inquired whether the bidder can participate or bid only in one or two scope component/s?

Chairperson Zosa replied in the negative, and explained that it's one system only so it cannot be disintegrated.

- f. Mr. Greg of BRCC inquired on who would give permits for the Cable Entrance Facility (CEF) and works inside NGCP or DICT?

Ms. Venus Rivera replied that the DICT will be the one to process the access permits in NGCP and DICT sites. Chairperson Zosa confirmed with Ms. Rivera whether it is the DICT only whom the winning bidder should talk to on the said access permits, to which Ms. Rivera replied in affirmative.

- g. Ms. Lora Lazaro from One Commerce inquired whether the 60% Filipino interest in a Joint Venture (JV) or Consortium means that the Outstanding Capital Stock of all parties or all members in a JV or Consortium should be 60% owned by Filipino?

Chairperson Zosa replied in the negative, and added that the bidder should just show that the Filipino interest or the percentage of ownership in a JV or Consortium is 60%.

Ms. Lazaro also inquired whether the JV is just contractual or if they need to incorporate?

Chairperson Zosa replied that the JV can be contractual only and the JV doesn't need to be incorporated. She advised the prospective bidders to form a Consortium because only one (1) member in a Consortium is required to comply with the required PCAB License of Category AAA, Large B, which means that the Consortium will submit a Special PCAB License and the required PCAB License of a Consortium member who is the constructor will qualify the Consortium for the said Special PCAB License for the Consortium.

h. Mr. Bong Gonzales from Streamtech raised the following concerns/issues/clarifications:

- 1) He inquired on the purpose of requiring manufacturer's authorization/authorized re-seller. He remarked that this appears to restrict the eligibility of other private sector participants, particularly in the context of the extremely short timetable within which to submit the eligibility documents and the technical/financial bid.
- 2) He inquired whether the authorized re-seller requirement can be complied with by the winning bidder and/or the winning bidder's nominated suppliers assuming the authorized re-seller requirement will be maintained? He remarked that this requirement may be too restrictive if it can be complied with only by the winning bidder, as only those entities who are already authorized re-sellers or who can enter into a consortium with such entities will qualify for the bidding of the Project.
- 3) He inquired whether the BCDA can consider extending the deadline for submission of eligibility documents and the technical/financial bid, considering that the bid documents were only released on February 17 and the complexity of the project. He remarked that the submission of bid requires the participating bidder to (a) submit designs and schedules for the implementation of the project, (b) secure manufacturer's authorization/authorized re-seller accreditation for components of the project, and (c) acknowledge that it has sufficiently conducted site inspection, verification and other activities, all of which will be extremely challenging within the current timetable and during the on-going pandemic.

Chairperson Zosa assured Mr. Gonzales that the issues raised will be taken seriously and that the SBAC will study very well, consult and coordinate with relevant parties on the issues raised. She added that the said issues and concerns shall be addressed fully in a Supplemental/Bid Bulletin. She then mentioned that maybe the DICT representatives can add or say something on the issues raised.

Atty. Navarro remarked that he agreed with the disposition of Chairperson Zosa on the issues raised, and added that the issues raised need an extensive discussion among the technical people involved in the Project to properly cover all the issues raised. He also assured Mr. Gonzales that the technical team will come up with a comprehensive response to the said issues in a Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

i. Mr. Domingo Macapagal from PT & T raised the following issues/concerns/clarifications:

- 1) Mr. Domingo inquired whether they can request the network diagram of the telephone room in the 20 NGCP substations where the DWDM will be installed?

Ms. Venus Rivera replied that the layout for NGCP cannot be provided but the information/details from NGCP to highway can be provided. She added that the estimated size of the room is 30 meters at a maximum.

- 2) Whether they can request for the network diagram of the two (2) CLS and the LA4 with markings where they can connect the DCN?

Mr. Biagtan requested Mr. Macapagal to clarify his query. Mr. Macapagal then explained stating that his query is on the network high level diagram where there are markings, like for example, what are the ports that are currently on site where they can integrate or connect the DCN? What is the high level diagram of the current design in the 2 CLS where they will integrate the transponders.

Mr. Biagtan advised Mr. Macapagal that as regards the diagram, he can find it under the Transponder section of the TOR/Bidding Documents. Mr. Macapagal then replied that it was shown in the presentation but he inquired whether there is ports diagram, to which Mr. Biagtan replied that it is part of the Design and Build that the winning bidder shall render. Mr. Biagtan added that maybe the interfacing points can be provided but the Design and Build shall be provided by the winning bidder/contractor.

Mr. Macapagal remarked that they should know the current environment or situation in the sites in order for them to provide the design. Mr. Marlon then gave an overview of the site stating that the site is just new and almost empty, with only Submarine Line Terminal Equipment (SLTE) installed in there. He added that this query of Mr. Macapagal may be addressed through/during site survey, and asked Mr. Macapagal if it would be fine with him. Mr. Macapagal replied that it would be fine with him and that they will just wait for the site survey schedule.

- 3) They would like to know the exact model of the existing CIENA equipment where they need to integrate.

Mr. Biagtan replied that based on their information it's 6500.

- 4) They would like to know on who will shoulder the cost for the survey in the LA4 USA? How many persons will be joining from DICT and how long?

Mr. Biagtan replied that normally, the cost of site survey is supposed to be shouldered by the winning bidder but with the current situation, maybe the details on where to put/place the equipment will be provided instead.

- 5) They would like to clarify the sites that will be needing the rectifier and power systems and whether they can request for the power system diagram for the said sites for them to assess the needed items per site?

Ms. Rivera replied that only two (2) sites will be needing the rectifier system which are DICT Roces and Relay Station in Sta. Maria, Pangasinan. For the component 3 in OTN, the rectifier system is required for DWDM.

- 6) They would like to know the high level design for the DCN system that the SBAC is looking at as a minimum design.

Mr. Biagtan replied that based on the high level diagram provided in the TOR, the winning bidder shall proposed the DCN solution for the transponder.

- 7) They would like to know the DICT IP Network Diagram for the item 4.4.2.2 - Integration and Peering with DICT IP Network (Vol 2 page 73 of 86).

Ms. Rivera replied that this query shall be addressed in a Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

- 8) They would like to request an editable excel file of the compliance sheet.

Mr. Biagtan replied that the editable excel file of the compliance sheet shall be provided.

- j. On Vol. 1, No. 8 and Volume 2 page 36, Section 2.2 on Transponder Architecture, also Section 2.2.2.1 ("SLTE is prescribing a technology set for transponder"), Mr. Bong Gonzales remarked that since the Facebook Spectrum that will be enabled through the Baler Landing Station can only be enabled using Ciena Transponders, it may appear that only accredited resellers of Ciena can participate in the bidding. He then inquired whether component 2 can be separated and only components 1,3 & 4 will be retained for this bidding?

Mr. Tugas replied that this clarification/concern of Mr. Gonzales shall be addressed in the Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

- k. Mr. Domingo Macapagal inquired on the training required for the key personnel whether it is Instructor Led with Certification or Customized will do. He also inquired on the number of training participants because the TOR indicates only 30/session.

Ms. Rivera replied that the required training is Instructor Led, and the number of training participants is at least thirty (30) since the technical engineers from Visayas and Mindanao shall also be invited to the training.

- l. Mr. Bong Gonzales remarked that Vol. 2, Page 10, Section 6.8.1.b - The first step procedure is a pass/fail criteria, judgement of the concept of approach, etc. seems to be subjective and open to varying interpretations. He then requested the BCDA/DICT to clarify and explain further how the evaluation will be undertaken on an objective basis?

Chairperson Zosa inquired from TWG whether the query of Mr. Gonzales is relating to the presentation on the requirements to be complied by the bidders, to which Mr. Tugas replied in affirmative, and added that the query of Mr. Gonzales is relating on the 2-stage evaluation on the compliance of technical requirements.

Chairperson Zosa explained that the evaluation process shall really be a non-discretionary pass/fail criterion. She added that the SBAC shall make the evaluation as objective as possible, and depending on the specifications that the BCDA and DICT will set.

- m. Mr. Francis Baybay of Nera Philippines inquired whether it is acceptable for SBAC if a partner in a Consortium who is not a constructor / non-construction company and has no PCAB License can act as a lead partner of the Consortium?

Chairperson Zosa replied in affirmative.

- n. Mr. Zaidy Serdon of Trends and Technologies inquired whether the can be provided with the details of the existing Network Management System (NMS) of DICT including its supported integration and management protocols. He added that this will provide vendors a basis on their interoperability compliance for their NMS offering.

Mr. Biagtan replied that the details on the existing NMS are not yet available.

- o. On item 10, (57 drums of 1 km 7 way HDPE Microduct), Mr. Greg of BRCC inquired whether this will be the underground facilities of items 1-8? If yes, he inquired whether the pricing would be supply and install?

Mr. Nelson Mamuyac replied that the pricing would be supply and install.

- p. Mr. Gonzales of Streamtech cited Vol 1, Page 14, Section 4.1 that the Procuring Entity guarantees possession of all sites. He then inquired whether this includes NGCP, and ROW thru government (both national and local) land? He suggested to refer also to Volume 2 Section 8.2 "Access to land property".

He also cited Vol 2, Page 5, Section 5.1 which states that "Acquisition of permits and ROW is for the bidder with assistance of DICT refers to Annex F". He then inquired whether they can request the mentioned Annex F which is not included in the posted bidding documents.

Atty. Navarro assured Mr. Gonzales that the DICT will provide assistance to the winning bidder in the ROW acquisition especially that, as mentioned by Undersecretary Caintic, the Project has the support of President Duterte, and provided that the winning bidder shall initiate the application and submit the requirements for ROW acquisition and other ROW-related permits.

Mr. Gonzales also inquired whether BCDA considers extending or increasing the period of Completion of Works from the current requirement of 200 days?

Chairperson Zosa replied that the SBAC shall respond to this query in a Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

- q. Mr. Homer of Nera inquired whether the Warranty and Support required for OTN/DWDM is five (5) years or two (2) years?

He cited page 85 under Volume 1 document that it mentions five (5) years Warranty and Support for OTN the same page also mentions "During the project deployment and the first two (2) years of the warranty and support, the contractor to provide at no cost to DICT, the three (3) service vehicles preferably 4x4 pickup trucks including but not limited to fuel, insurance and maintenance". He then inquired it is a different Warranty for OTN and Service Vehicles Needed on the same lot component (Optical Transport Network)?

Ms. Rivera replied that the warranty for OTN and transponders is five (5) years while the required warranty for FOC is only two (2) years.

Mr. Homer further inquired whether the requirement for OTN 5 years warranty and maintenance while for vehicles is only 2 years?

Mr. Biagtan replied that the vehicle is part of the warranty and support that the winning bidder will render so there's no warranty required for vehicles but it should be provided by the winning bidder and should be in good running condition.

- r. Ms. Lora Lazaro of One Commerce inquired on what company should comply with the 60% Filipino ownership in a Consortium, assuming there is one (1) Filipino partner and the rest of the partners are foreign companies?

Mr. Tugas replied that it should be the Filipino company.

- s. Mr. Bong Gonzales inquired if they can send additional queries via email apart from the queries raised during Pre-Bid Conference?

Mr. Tugas replied in affirmative, and advised Mr. Gonzales to email it to the SBAC Secretariat with email address indicated in the Invitation to Bid.

- t. On item 2.2.6.1, Page 44 under Vol. 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents, Mr. Serdon of Trends and Technologies inquired the OTDR Range for this unit. He added that the OTDR in FOC build was defined with 100-250km whereas the OTDR for Transponder/Muxponder was not indicated/defined.

Mr. Biagtan replied that the same specification as the one provided for the OTDR in FOC Build shall be followed.

- u. Mr. Greg of BRCC inquired on would coordinate with NGCP for the location of the ODF and equipment locations?

Ms. Rivera replied that the DICT will provide the location of the ODF. She added that the DICT personnel will assist the winning bidder to identify the points.

Mr. Greg also inquired on who would provide the specific of the NGCP fiber and are these the fibers to be terminated in the ODF? He added that the ODF 2 x 24 ports to be supplied and installed in the NGCP locations are not included in the BOQ.

Ms. Rivera replied that it is part of the FOC Built Termination and it is included in the complete accessories.

- v. Mr. Louie Sapiera of PT & T raised the following clarifications/concerns:

- 1) Of the 23 DWDM/ROADM NGCP sites, the three (3) sites (San Rafael, Subic, Currimaao) are classified as "fiber-bypass" connections. Mr. Sapiera inquired whether these 3 sites are merely passive fiber bypass or active bypass, i.e., with ILA, or combination? (reference: pp 4,7)

Ms. Rivera replied that the 3 sites mentioned are passive fiber bypass

- 2) Whether the winning bidder can still change the initial network topology, e.g., addition of ILA site(s) in some FOC segment (if required) in the final design? (reference: pp 4,7)

Ms. Rivera replied that it depends on the design of the winning bidder. She added that if there's an adjustment, DICT will evaluate the design and will approve accordingly.

- 3) Since all FOC segments between NGCP and DICT/BCDA sites are UG, what's the purpose of duct and aerial cable supply in the network design? (reference pp 20)

Mr. Mamuyac replied that the area would be the access for the beneficiaries. He added that it would be from manhole to the telecommunication port.

- 4) In addition to SFLU CLS, Baler CLS, and Equinix LA DC, whether they need to supply TRANSPONDER/MUXPONDER system in Sta. Maria DICT site? (reference pp 41)

Mr. Biagtan replied in the negative.

- 5) Please clarify section 2.3.2.1 (first bullet) "must be equipped with additional 200Gbps of spectral capacity between DICT Roces and DICT NGDC3", will this require 200Gbps TRANSPONDER/MUXPONDER at DICT Roces & NGDC3 sites? (reference: pp 49)

Mr. Mamuyac replied in affirmative

w. Mr. Frederick De Castro raised the following queries/clarifications:

- 1) Whether the CD-F is required for single degree node and whether they can propose CF for Phase 1? (Annex B4 Node Design Details)

Ms. Rivera replied that the system should support CDC-F in the near future but based on the deployment, colorless flexible grid should be equipped and it should be upgradable to CDC-F later on.

- 2) He requested clarification on the network diagram of sites Baler CLS, La_Trinidad, Laoag which shows only 1 degree, but in table (AnnexB4) it's a 2 degree node.

Mr. Rivera replied that the Annex B4 shall be revised and shall be included in the Supplemental Bid Bulletin.

- 3) SFLU site is 2 degree node in diagram, whereas in the table (AnnexB4) it's a 1 degree node. Which should we follow in the design? Please clarify.

Ms. Rivera replied that the bidders should follow on what is indicated in the diagram, and added that the Annex B4 shall be revised and included in the Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

- 4) There are 8 sites in RFP (Araneta, Diliman, Balintawak, Baunag, Bolo, Nagssag, Olongapo, RS2) where traffic doesn't have add/Drop in phase-1.

Ms. Rivera replied that there is no add-drop in the mentioned sites.

- 5) Whether it is mandatory to configure the sites CD-F at Phase1?

Ms. Rivera replied in the negative, and added that Phase 1, colorless flexi C-F should be available and should be upgradable to CDC-F.

- 6) Whether CD-F configuration can be considered C-F configuration and later upgrade to CD-F when add-drop is needed?

Ms. Rivera replied in affirmative.

- x. Mr. Zaidy Serdon of Trends & Technologies inquired whether DICT already has a /23 IPv4 and /32 IPv6 IP block, and ASN from APNIC?

Ms. Rivera replied that the DICT has existing ASN but the winning bidder should purchase the IP addresses as required in the TOR/Bidding Documents for the Project.

- y. Mr. Allan Afable of One Commerce cited that under the Compliance Requirements for Transponder, it states that “wavelengths equipment conforms to the specifications as defined in Annex E. He then requested a copy of Annex E.

Mr. Tugas replied that Annex E is not anymore included in the TOR, and advised Mr. Afable to check the specifications under the Transponder.

- z. Mr. Frederick de Castro remarked that relative to the concern of the other prospective bidders on the Transponder, since the Brand is Given which is CIENA, it will be difficult for other bidders if CIENA will not provide equal pricing footing. He then inquired whether the SBAC will consider having this LOT to be of separate tender.

Mr. Biagtan replied that this concern/clarification will be addressed in the Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

- aa. Mr. Allan Afable inquired whether “700Gbps scalable to 2TB” is single channel 700Gbps scalable to 2TB or aggregate capacity of multiple wavelength on a single fiber pair?

This query shall be addressed in the Supplemental/Bid Bulletin.

- bb. Mr. Baybay of Nera inquired on the required service vehicles under purchase or lease agreement, whether it will be acceptable if a bidder will submit an “Affidavit of Undertaking” on the bid submission while waiting for the result of the bid evaluation?

Chairperson Zosa replied that if the equipment is under lease(d), the bidder should submit a Lease Agreement and a Certificate of Availability from the Lessor.

- cc. On 48C fiber in the other locations, for example, NGCP Bacnotan, Mexico, San Esteban (located in page 54 of Volume 1), Mr. Greg of BRCC remarked that they understand that these are already installed and ready to be terminated in the 2x24 core ODF. He added that the bidder needs to test how many fiber core, and inquired whether NGCP shall be the responsible to correct it if it fails? What would be the responsibility or accountability matrix for the usage of these cables?

Ms. Rivera replied that if there’s a defective core or unacceptable result, DICT will coordinate with NGCP if they can provide a different fiber core, or if it can be corrected, NGCP will do the corrections.

- dd. Ms. Lora Lazaro inquired whether a Joint Venture or Consortium needs to be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)?

Chairperson Zosa replied that it is not required that the Joint Venture (JV) or Consortium should be registered with SEC. The bidders who form Joint Venture or

Consortium shall submit a JV Agreement or Consortium Agreement showing who the members are and showing that the Filipino interest is at least 60% and the interest of Foreign company/partner is not more than 40%. It is not likewise required that all JV or Consortium members are all 60% Filipino. Chairperson Zosa mentioned that based on the BAC's experience in BCDA's previous projects, the JV or Consortium can be composed of a fully Filipino owned company and a fully Chinese owned company, as long as the Filipino interest or percentage in a JV or Consortium is at least 60%. So it can be that in a JV or Consortium, one of the partners or there are partners that are fully foreign owned companies but the JV or Consortium Agreement should indicate that the interest of the foreign partner is only up to 40%. She added that the problem would be if a Filipino owned company is a corporation with a foreign share because if this is the case, the Filipino interest should be computed which should be 60%.

- ee. On the manpower requirement of Licensed Electronics and Communications Engineer, Mr. Zaidy Serdon inquired whether it can also be Electronics Engineer?

Mr. Tugas replied in affirmative.

- ff. Mr. Greg of BRCC inquired on the 8 locations for HDPE microduct, whether it would be the DICT specs of 16/12 mm 7 way? He requested the SBAC to check page 55 as it shows OD = 25 +- 0.3mm and ID = 21 +- 0.3 mm, and inquired whether this will be the main duct? He also remarked that the outer sheet indicated is 3.0 mm HDPE.

Mr. Manuyac replied that the specifications for LBI are 7way with 16/12 while the 7way HDPE Microduct is 25/21. He mentioned that there are two (2) microducts and advised Mr. Greg to check the specifications in the TOR/Bidding Documents.

- gg. Mr. Zaidy Serdon inquired whether they can be provided with the layout for Baler Cable Landing Station, Sta. Maria Repeater Station 2 (RS2), and San Fernando, La Union Landing Station so that the vendors will be able to design appropriately the necessary cable tray, cable ladder, and other supporting facilities? (Reference: Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 2.2.2.3 Page 40)

Mr. Biagtan replied that as agreed, the prospective bidders can get the information on the requested layout during site survey.

- hh. Mr. Greg of BRCC inquired on how would they know their consumptions as regards the requirement for the first five (5) years and first two (2) years of the warranty and support for Transponder and FOC, respectively, in which the winning bidder must provide at no cost to DICT, the four (4) service vehicles preferably 4x4 pickup trucks including but not limited to fuel, insurance, and maintenance.

Mr. Biagtan replied that the costings and estimates on the vehicle consumption shall be part of the proposals of the winning bidder.

- ii. Ms. Mary Villanueva of iOne Resources remarked that based on the eligibility requirements, the bidding of the Project is more driven by the contractors because of the PCAB License requirement. She then requested if the focus of the bidding requirements would be on telecommunications and solutions so that there is no requirement for PCAB License and more equipment and solution vendors could qualify.

Chairperson Zosa replied that based on R.A. 9184, the size of the project requires certain threshold in the ABC and the PCAB License is required for the Design and Build project. She added that under R.A. 9184, the procurement mode for the Project is design and build, and she emphasized that the SBAC follows R.A. 9184.

Mr. Guerrero remarked that they can form into JV or Consortium, to which Chairperson Zosa agreed. Chairperson Zosa added that the Project is not a construction project, as mentioned by Usec. Caintic, and involves systems and technology. However, the mode of procurement is design and build that's why it really requires PCAB License which needs to be at a certain category and classification because of the size of the Project.

- jj. Mr. Serdon inquired whether the BCDA/DICT can provide the list of sites which requires Earthing Works due to the lack of time to survey all sites?

Ms. Rivera replied that all sites need Earthing Works.

- kk. On the OTN traffic requirement, from Annex B5 circuit ID 19 to 22 Client rate is 1x50G. Mr. Homer inquired whether this is 5x10G or 1x100G client with 50G bandwidth?

Ms. Rivera replied that the interface of DWDM is 1x100G.

- ll. Mr. Rodolfo Pantoja of Nera inquired whether the bidder can submit an "Undertaking to Procure the Equipment" it wins the bid instead of submitting the proof of ownership for the nominated equipment?

Mr. Tugas replied that an Undertaking to Procure the Equipment is not acceptable. He explained that the bidder should submit the following requirements for equipment:

- If **owned**, supported by proof of ownership and Certification of Availability of Equipment for the duration of the project signed by the bidder;
- If **leased**, supported by Lease Agreement and Certification of Availability of Equipment from the equipment lessor for the duration of the project. The Proof of ownership of the Lessor should be included in the Technical Proposal; and
- If **under purchase agreement**, supported by Agreement to Purchase and Certification of Availability of Equipment from the equipment vendor and the bidder for the duration of the project.

- mm. Mr. Greg remarked that the DICT shall be the one to arrange access passes but it would be the winning bidder who will do the leg work and payments. He then inquired whether these payments are included in the ABC? He also inquired whether the airfare and hotel accommodation of the training participants who will be coming from provinces shall be shouldered by the winning bidder?

Mr. Tugas replied in affirmative.

- nn. Mr. Pantoja inquired whether different and independent payment milestones for each of the four (4) project components shall be allowed?

Chairperson Zosa instructed the TWG to flash on screen the presentation slide on the payment method. Atty. Ronnie Gallardo then explained the payment method which is based on R.A. 9184, as he emphasized, to wit:

- The first payment is the 15% advance payment;
 - The next payment is 20% which is the first billing of the contractor, in which the contractor should have accomplished at least 20% of the Project, and in the said 20%, the contractor should have completed already the detailed design. Regardless of whatever portion of the Project that the contractor has accomplished, the total of which should be at least 20%. This means that before the contractor can be paid of its first billing, the contractor should have accomplished at least 20% of the Project which includes the completion of the detailed design.
 - For example, based on the BOQ and bid submitted, the detailed design is 10% of the total ABC or bid price. Therefore, the contractor should have accomplished an additional 10% of the other portion of the Project, i.e. delivery of equipment, etc. in order for the contractor to get paid of its first billing of 20%.
 - After the first billing, the contractor can already bill on a monthly basis regardless of the percentage of work that it has accomplished. So, for example, if the contractor has accomplished 5% in one month's time, it can bill 5% also for that month.
 - Atty. Gallardo emphasized that based on the contractor's previous billing, there will be a deduction of the 10% retention and 15% advance payment, and taxes shall be withheld.
- oo. Mr. Pantoja remarked that in the proforma Consortium document, the word "Joint Venture" is mentioned. He then inquired the difference between JV and Consortium.

Chairperson Zosa replied that the difference between the JV and Consortium is on the membership and on the PCAB License requirement. Consortium means there is a constructor, a financier, or a supplier. As regards the PCAB License requirement, the Consortium will only submit a Special PCAB License, and the PCAB License of one (1) Consortium member, who is the constructor, which should be compliant with the PCAB License requirement for the Project. The PCAB License of the Consortium member who is the constructor should be "Triple A" or "Quadruple A" and "Large B" for General Building, General Engineering, Electrical Works or Communication Facilities. She further explained that only one of the mentioned license classifications is required, i.e. Large B for General Building, or Large B for General Engineering, or Large B for Electrical Works or Large B for Communications facilities, provided that it is Triple A or Quadruple A and Large B.

On the other hand, for JV, all JV members should have PCAB License, but only one (1) JV member also is required to have the required PCAB License for the Project mentioned above.

Chairperson Zosa added that the same with the required Net Financing Contracting Capacity (NFCC), in which only one (1) of the JV or Consortium members needs to be compliant with the required NFCC. The NFCC of other JV or Consortium members can be negative but there should be at least 1 JV or Consortium member who has compliant NFCC.

2.4. Reminders from the SBAC

1. The prospective bidders can also email to SBAC their questions or request for clarifications, provided it is not later than 5 March 2021.
2. The responses of SBAC to all questions or requests for clarifications raised during Pre-Bid Conference, and queries or requests for clarifications of prospective

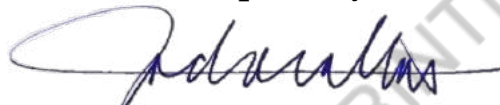
bidders which will be received by SBAC through email shall be issued in an official Supplemental/Bid Bulletin which shall be posted in BCDA website.

3. The prospective bidders should visit the BCDA website regularly to keep them posted with the Supplemental/Bid Bulletin and other advisories that may be issued relating to the Project.
4. The Form for the Detailed Unit Price Analysis is replaced with the Form for Detailed Cost Estimates (see BCDA website for the downloadable forms), to simplify the submission on the requirements of Financial Component. The items in the Detailed Cost Estimates (DCE) should be the same as all items in the Bill of Quantities/Materials (BOQ).

3. Closing

There being no other matter to discuss relative to the Bidding for the Design, Build, and Establishment of National Fiber Backbone – Phase 1, SBAC Chairperson Aileen Anunciacion R. Zosa thanked the prospective bidders for their interest on the Project and their patience and attention during the Pre-bid Conference, and adjourned the meeting at 12:54 PM.

Prepared by:



MELINDA M. DOCALLOS
Secretariat, SBAC for NFBP1

SPECIAL BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (SBAC) FOR NFB – PHASE 1



EVP & COO AILEEN ANUNCIACION R. ZOSA
Chairperson



ARREY A. PEREZ
Vice Chairperson



ENGR. RICHARD BRIAN M. CEPE
Member



ATTY. GISELA Z. KALALO
Member



ENGR. RYAN PAUL S. GALURA
Member



VIRGIL M. ALVAREZ
SBAC Provisional Member

ATTY. ALVIN M. NAVARRO
SBAC Provisional Member
DICT OIC-Assistant Secretary

LEO CIPRIANO L. URBIZTONDO
SBAC Provisional Member (alternate)
DICT Director



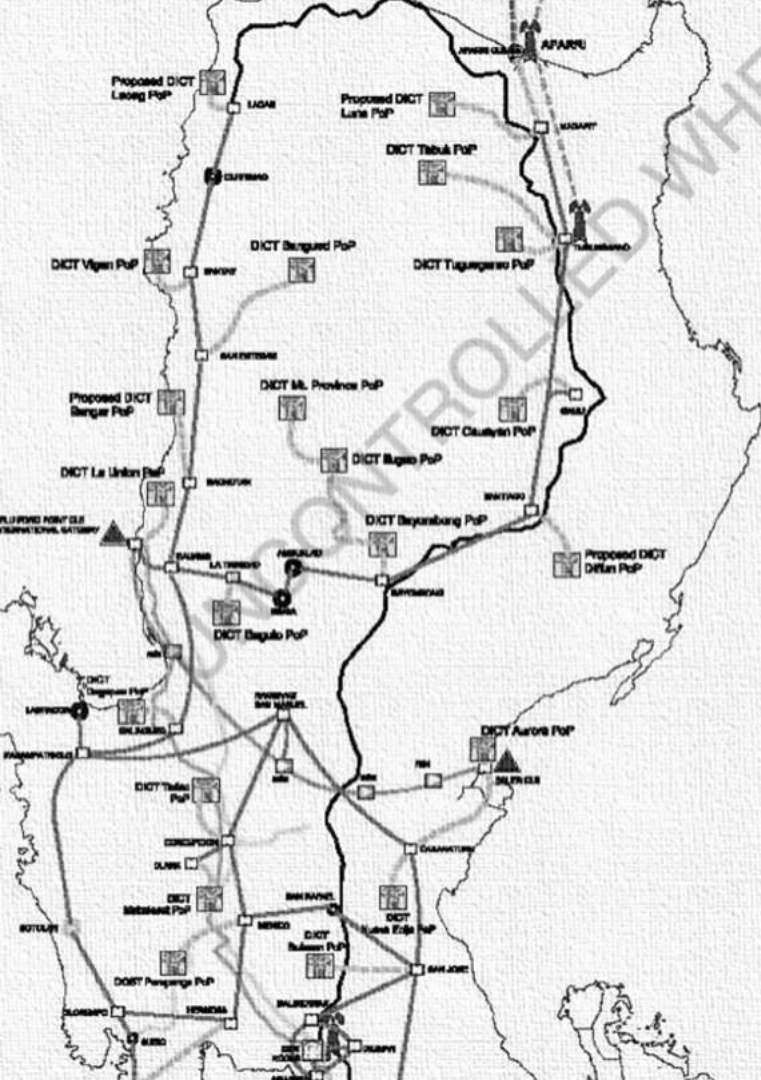
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

DESIGN, BUILD AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL FIBER BACKBONE PROJECT PHASE I

PRE-BID CONFERENCE | 26 FEBRUARY 2021

BACKGROUND

The **National Broadband Program (NBP)** is one of the flagship projects of DICT envisioned to address the growing clamor for a nationwide roll-out of broadband connectivity across the nation.

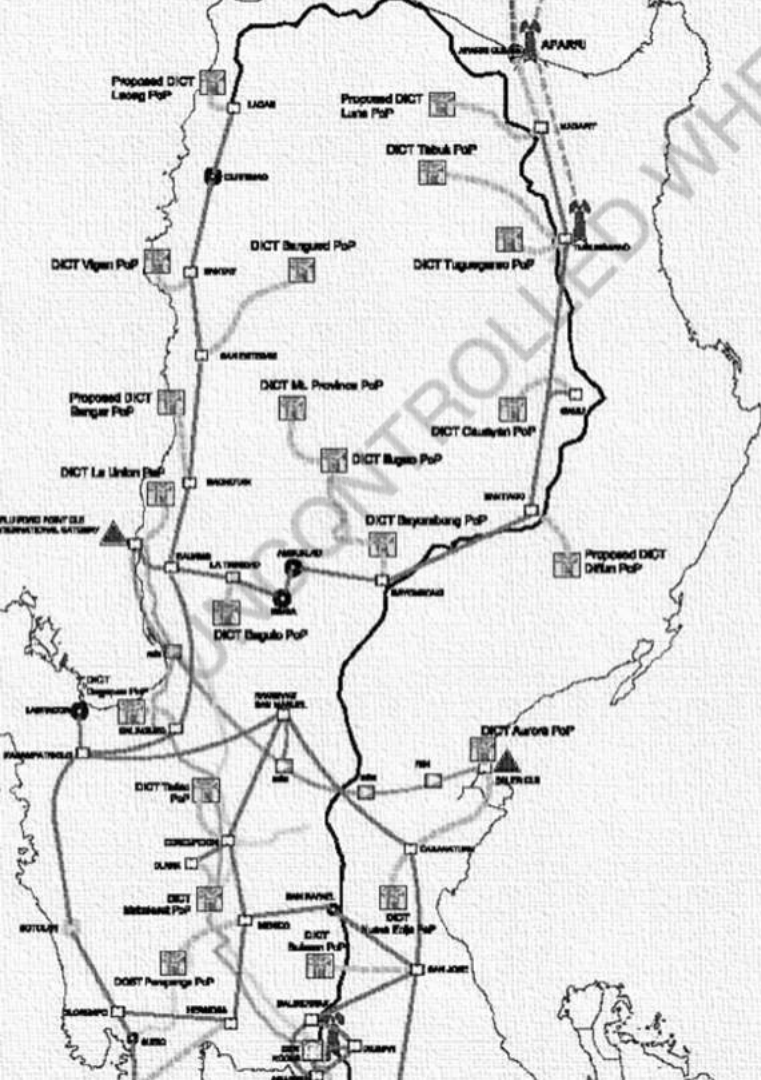


REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY



BACKGROUND

The Project intends to select the most competent and eligible provider of a resilient and cost-effective fiber optic cable backbone and its ancillaries covering the central part of Luzon Island. It aims to provide internet connectivity to the two National Government Data Centers and other identified priority areas, and cascade optical spectrum to four Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) ecozones.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY



BACKGROUND - OBJECTIVE

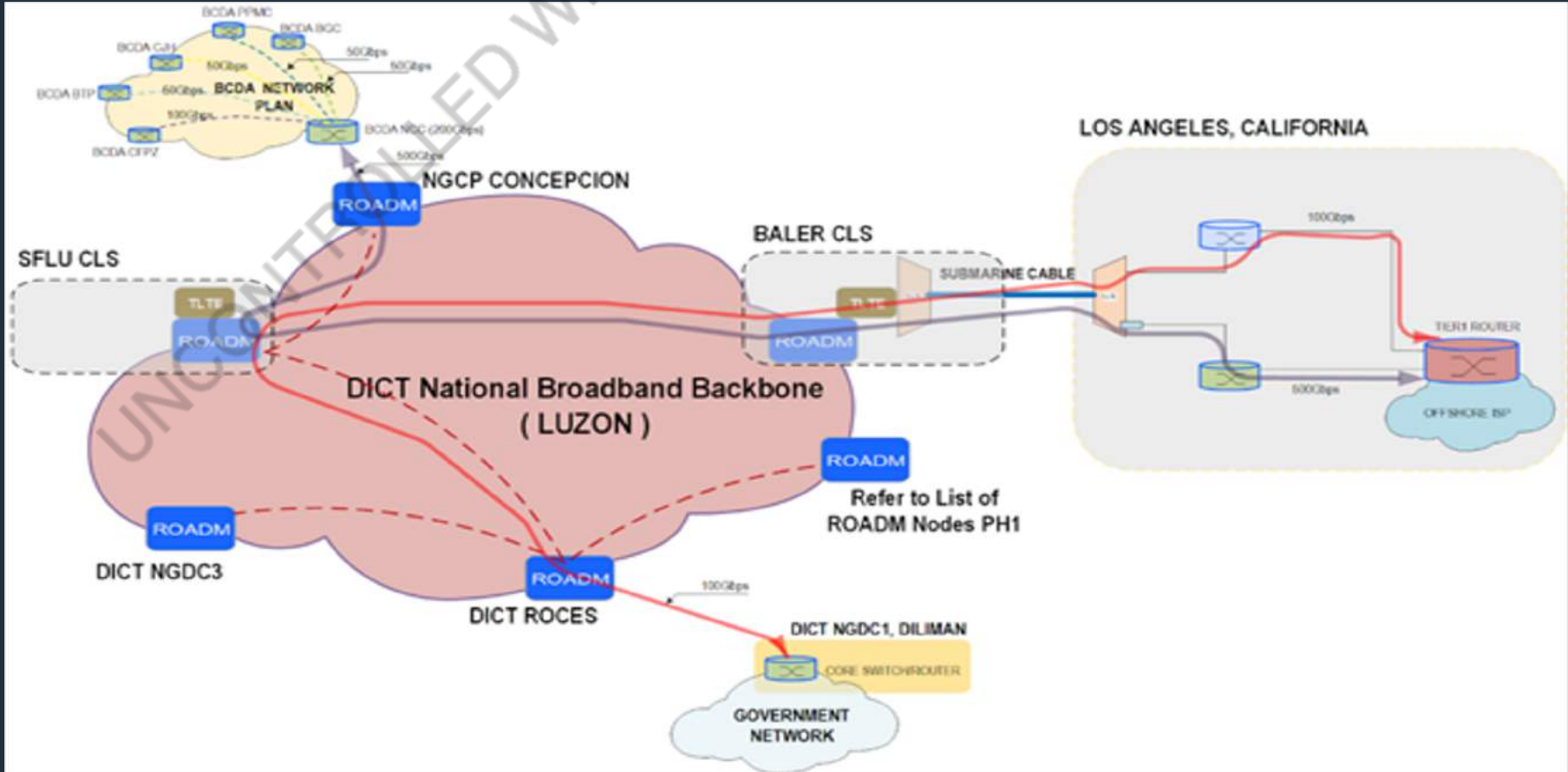
To establish a resilient broadband network connecting twenty-eight (28) nodes in the central and northern parts of Luzon Island through Fiber Optic Cable

To utilize the fiber optic cable of the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) to cascade internet capacity to Regions I, III, CAR, and NCR

To home the 100Gbps internet capacity to the DICT core network in Diliman which will distribute the internet capacity to the 28 nodes in Luzon

To create a network that is scalable and future-proof.

BACKGROUND - HIGH LEVEL DESIGN



CONTRACTUAL FRAMEWORK

DESIGN AND BUILD SCHEME

Pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act (RA) 9184 and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (RIRR), specifically Annex E - Contract Implementation Guidelines for the Procurement of Infrastructure Projects and Annex G - Guidelines for the Procurement and Implementation of Contracts for Design and Build Infrastructure Projects.

Under this scheme, the procuring entity will award a single contract for the engineering design and construction to a single firm, partnership, corporation, joint venture or consortium.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

NO.	PARTICULARS
1	Design, Supply, Build, Delivery, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Acceptance of 7-way HDPE microducts, manholes, handholes, telecommunication poles, air-blown mini fiber optic cable, optical joint enclosures, optical distribution frames, and their corresponding accessories (“ Fiber Optic Cable Build ”)
2	Design, Supply, Build, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning, Integration, Testing, Acceptance of Transponder / Muxponder Equipment System, Power System, Network Management System (NMS), and Data Communications Network (DCN) (“ Transponder ”)
3	Design, Supply, Delivery and Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Integration of twenty five (25) Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM) / Reconfigurable Optical Add-Drop Multiplexer (ROADM) and In-Line Amplifier equipment with three (3) fiber-bypass site connections, Network Management System (NMS), support facilities, materials and services needed at identified NGCP and DICT sites (“ Optical Transport Network ”)
4	Supply, Delivery, Testing, Integration and Acceptance of 100 Gbps IP Transit from Los Angeles, California, USA Internet Service Providers and Service Level Agreement for one (1) year (“ 100Gbps IP Transit ”)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- I. The Bidder should be able to show a Design Contract for a project, within the last ten years, of at least 50% of the ABC (PhP 625,000,000) or at least 2 Design Contracts for projects, within the last ten years, with an aggregate total of at least 50% of the ABC (PhP 625,000,000) involving any or a combination of the following:
 1. Design of Laying down of an aggregate of 25 kms of Fiber Optic Cable with Equipment;
 2. Design of Optical Transport Network;
 3. Design of ICT Network and Telecommunications Facilities.

AND

- I. The Bidder should be able to present a Civil Works Contract for a project within the last ten years, of at least 50% of the ABC (PhP 625,000,000) or at least 2 Civil Works Contract within the last ten years, with an aggregate total of at least 50% of the ABC (PhP 625,000,000) involving any or a combination of the following:
 1. Laying down of an aggregate of 25 kms of Fiber Optic Cables;
 2. Civil Works of roads with provision for underground electrical power or telecom utilities or installation of underground electrical power or telecom underground utilities.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Or, in lieu of I and II:

III. Design and Build Contract for a project, within the last ten years of at least 50% of the ABC (PhP 625,000,000) or at least 2 Design and Build Contracts with an aggregate of 50% of the ABC, involving any or a combination of the following:

1. Laying down of an aggregate of 25 kms of Fiber Optic Cable with Equipment;
2. Optical Transport Network;
3. ICT Network and Telecommunications Facilities
4. Civil Works of roads with provision for underground electrical power or telecom utilities or installation of underground electrical power or telecom underground utilities.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- ❑ Bidder must provide Manufacturer's Authorization that the Bidder is an accredited reseller of the following proposed equipment to be supplied:
 1. Optical Transport Network System
 2. Transponders
 3. Fiber Optic Cable
 4. HDPE Ducts
 5. Generator Sets

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- ❑ A PCAB License of AAA Large B is required for the Project. In case of Consortium, at least one (1) company or partner of the Consortium should have a PCAB license of AAA Large B, and it is the constructor which shall possess the said PCAB License. In case of Joint Venture (JV), a Special PCAB License is required for JV, and all JV partners must secure a PCAB License. For individual companies/bidders, i.e. neither JV nor Consortium, their PCAB Licenses may be submitted during Post-Qualification.

The PCAB License must be in General Engineering, General Building, Electrical Works, or Communication Facilities.

DETAILED EVALUATION

FIRST STAGE

review of the preliminary conceptual designs and track record submitted by the contractor for Components 1, 2, 3 and 4; oral presentation of technical proposal

SECOND STAGE

open the financial proposal of each "passed" bidder and shall obtain the correct calculated prices

APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT

The total Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC), sourced from the DICT GAA, is :

**ONE BILLION TWO HUNDRED
FIFTY MILLION PESOS**

PHP 1,250,000,000.00

Inclusive of supply, delivery, installation of materials and services, warranty, utilities, incidental expenses, VAT, and other government taxes, for the Procurement of Design and Build of the National Fiber Backbone Phase 1.

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected.

PAYMENT METHOD

Deliverable/s	Percentage Due (from Total Contract Price)
Advance Payment	15%
First Billing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery of Final Design• Delivery of Muxponder	20% (less recoupment and retention)
Subsequent Billing/s	Monthly Progress Billing (less recoupment and retention)

As prescribed by RA 9184, the first progress payment under the *Build Phase* of this project may be paid by the Procuring Entity to the Contractor provided **at least 20% of the work had been accomplished** as certified by the Procuring Entity's representative.

DATA/SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY BCDA/DICT

- Project Data
- Access to land property
- Availability of funds
- Evaluation of Contractor's Output

DATA TO BE PROVIDED BY CONTRACTOR

All Project documents must be submitted in hard and soft copies (1 copy each for BCDA and DICT stored in external drives) and shall be reviewed and accepted by DICT. Any changes on the Design documents during the project duration shall be at no charge to DICT.

- Engineering Plans
- Detailed Work Plan
- Technical Documents
- As-Built Plans and Test Result
- Reports and Documentation for Maintenance Work
- Delivery of Technical Documents

SCOPE OF WORKS

Completion by
Q3 2021

Preliminary Works

Surveys and investigations of the site includes, but not limited to, the boundary/route, topographic, cross section, structural/facility and utilities (e.g., power, water, communications lines, etc.), geotechnical investigation and other field surveys/investigations necessary to carry out the Project.

Construction Phase

Delivery, installation, testing, and integration of all equipment and associated deliverables for Fiber Optic Cable Build, Transponder, Optical Transport Network, 100GBps IP Transit components.

Post Construction Phase

The comprehensive training is essential to enable effective operations and maintenance of the Project. The Winning Bidder must conduct the knowledge transfer refers to DICT on the installations done, configurations, circuit provisioning, support levels, and troubleshooting, at a minimum.

Preparation of detailed network design, work plan, work methodology, and technical specifications of the Phase 1 network based on the existing conceptual design which will validate and recommend the best and most strategic placement/installation of the ICT equipment, as well as direct or guide the Winning Bidder where the most cost-effective routes are for the laying of underground FOC in the creation of partial protection loops.

Detailed Design Phase

COMPONENT 1 – FIBER OPTIC CABLE BUILD

Objectives

- ❑ To enable access of broadband internet connections at selected locations for LGUs in the central and northern parts of Luzon by the 3rd Quarter of 2021;
- ❑ To extend and distribute 100Gbps of internet speed to designated DICT POPs;
- ❑ To ensure that the quality and performance of the FOC are compliant with international standards through a series of testing; and
- ❑ To ensure that the micro ducts housing the FOC are durable and free from any leaks.

Scope of Works

- ❑ Air-Blown 144 Core mini-FOC
- ❑ Air-Blown 48 Core mini-FOC
- ❑ 7-Way HDPE Microduct
- ❑ Optical Test Equipment
- ❑ Spare Deliverables

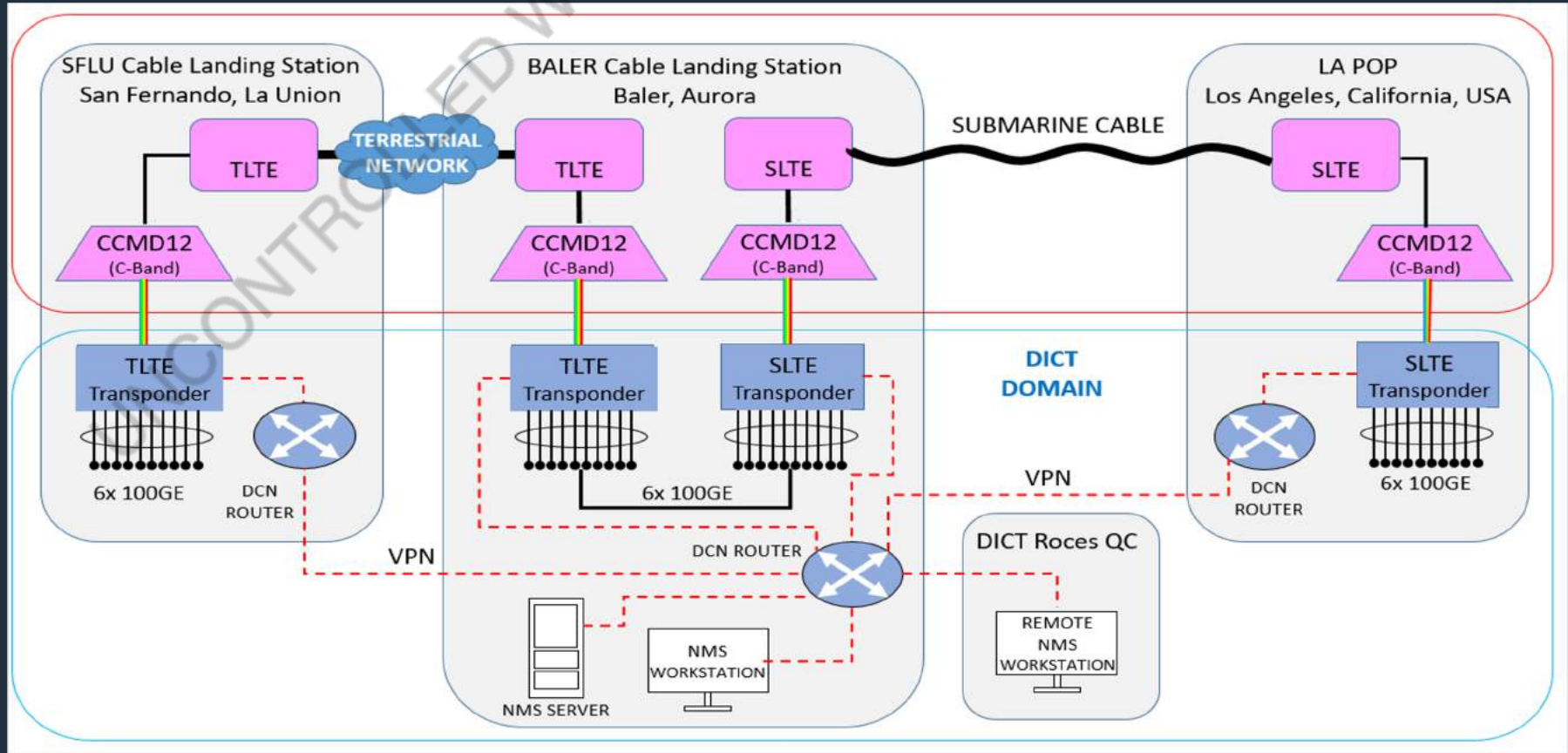
COMPONENT 1 – FIBER OPTIC CABLE BUILD

FOC in segments (approximate lengths) to bridge select NGCP nodes with identified DICT nodes and BCDA's four (4) Ecozones:

	SITE A	SITE B	ESTIMATED TOTAL FIBER ROUTE (KM)
1	NGCP La Trinidad	DICT Baguio	4.8
2	DICT Baguio	BCDA Camp John Hay Management Center	5.23
3	NGCP Bauang	DICT CLS San Fernando, La Union	6.13
4	DICT CLS San Fernando La Union	BCDA Poro Point Management Corporation	2.8
5	NGCP Subic	DICT NGDC 3	6.58
6	DICT Roces	NGCP Araneta	3
7	NGCP Concepcion	BCDA National Government Administrative Center (NGAC)	15.1
8	NGCP Clark	BCDA Clark Freeport Zone	9.8
TOTAL			53.44

It also covers the layout of FOC from the International Cable Landing Station in Baler, Aurora, to the International Cable Landing Station in Poro Point, La Union, with the four (4) Repeater Stations per 50-kilometer interval along the route.

COMPONENT 2 - TRANSPONDERS



COMPONENT 2 - TRANSPONDERS

Objectives

- To transmit the internet capacity from offshore to its termination point at the Optical Transport Network component.
- To create international direct access to cheap internet in mainland USA, which will then be used to distribute the content to DICT's national backbone network down to the government beneficiaries of the Project.
- To install the transponder/muxponder system in Baler cable landing stations, San Fernando Cable Landing Stations, and in the Equinix LA4 Data Center, California USA.
- To ensure that the transponders/muxponder system is monitored around the clock, a working data communication network and its network management system will be commissioned on this scope of work.

Scope of Works

- Transponder / Muxponder System
- Power System
- Hand-Support Subscription
- Network Management System
- Data Communication Network
- Test Equipment Sets
- 1-year
- Spare Deliverables

COMPONENT 3 - OPTICAL TRANSPORT NETWORK

Objectives

- To ensure that the internet capacity is cascaded/distributed to selected provinces under Regions I, III, NCR, and CAR through the designated tapping points

Scope of Works

- DWDM / ROADM Broadband Communication System
- Support Facilities, Materials, Services
- Network Management System
- Spare Deliverables

COMPONENT 3 - OPTICAL TRANSPORT NETWORK

ITEM NO.	NODES	EQUIPMENT	PROVINCES
DICT			
1	DICT Baler CLS	DWDM/ROADM	Quezon
2	DICT SFLU CLS	DWDM/ROADM	La Union
3	DICT NGDC 3	DWDM/ROADM	Zambales
4	DICT Roces	DWDM/ROADM	NCR
5	Repeater Station	DWDM/ROADM	Pangasinan
NGCP			
6	Araneta	DWDM/ROADM	NCR
7	Diliman	DWDM/ROADM	NCR
8	Balintawak	DWDM/ROADM	NCR
9	Bauang	DWDM/ROADM	La Union
10	Balingueo	DWDM/ROADM	Pangasinan
11	Bolo	DWDM/ROADM	Pangasinan
12	Nagsaag	DWDM/ROADM	Pangasinan
13	La Trinidad	DWDM/ROADM	Benguet

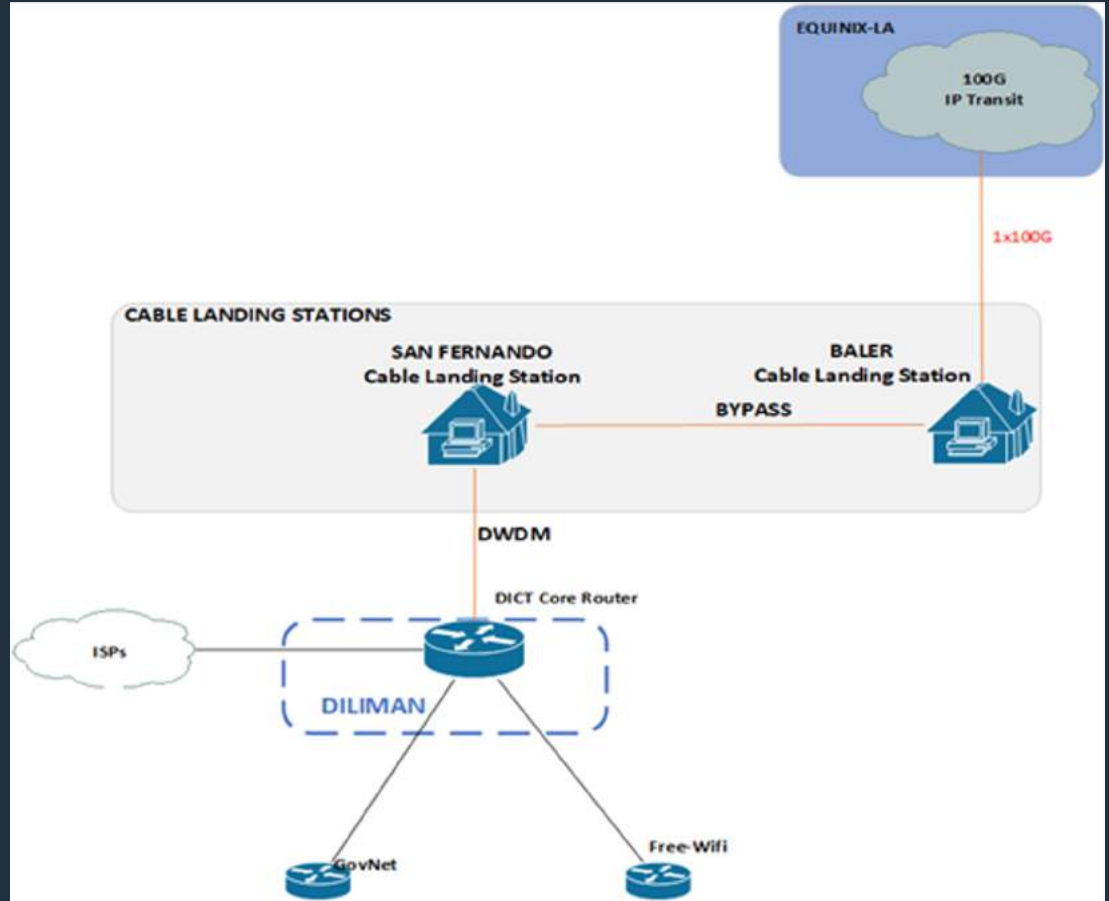
COMPONENT 3 - OPTICAL TRANSPORT NETWORK

ITEM NO.	NODES	EQUIPMENT	PROVINCES
14	Concepcion	DWDM/ROADM	Tarlac
15	Clark	DWDM/ROADM	Pampanga
16	Mexico	DWDM/ROADM	Pampanga
17	San Jose	DWDM/ROADM	Bulacan
18	San Rafael	Fiber-bypass	Bulacan
19	Hermosa	DWDM/ROADM	Bataan
20	Botolan	ILA	Zambales
21	Olongapo	DWDM/ROADM	Zambales
22	Subic	Fiber-bypass	Zambales
23	Cabanatuan	DWDM/ROADM	Nueva Ecija
24	Bacnotan	DWDM/ROADM	La Union
25	San Esteban	DWDM/ROADM	Ilocos Sur
26	Bantay	DWDM/ROADM	Ilocos Sur
27	Currimaos	Fiber-bypass	Ilocos Norte
28	Laoag	DWDM/ROADM	Ilocos Norte

COMPONENT 4 - 100Gbps IP TRANSIT

Objective

To connect the end-users of the NBP network, e.g. GovNet beneficiaries, Free Public Wi-Fi Program beneficiaries, LGUs, to the internet.



COMPONENT 4 - 100Gbps IP TRANSIT

Scope of Works

- ❑ Maintenance and support of 100 Gbps IP transit, acquiring IPv4/IPv6 Addresses, Autonomous System Number (ASN) to APNIC, and cross-cable connection to DICT Equipment for 12 months in Equinix LA4, Los Angeles, California, USA
- ❑ Handle the APNIC application, processing, securing, and sourcing out IP Address Version 4 & 6 (IPv4 & IPv6) for IPv4 Addresses /22 (or equivalent) one thousand twenty-four (1,024) Public IP addresses and IPv6 Addresses /32 sixteen million seven hundred seventy-seven thousand two hundred sixteen (16,777,216) of /56 subnets Public IP addresses and an Autonomous System Number (ASN);
- ❑ Shoulder any incurred APNIC transfer, taxes, and other charges in completing and acquiring IPv4/IPv6.

INSTALLATIONS AND MAINTENANCE WORK REQUIREMENTS

MANPOWER

KEY PERSONNEL	MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS	MIN. QTY.
<p>Project Manager Will serve as the focal person/team leader of the project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Preferably a licensed Electronics and Communications Engineer.<input type="checkbox"/> With at least three (3) years of experience in the design, engineering, installation, testing, commissioning, operation, and maintenance of any or combination of the following telecommunications infrastructure;<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fiber optics and/or optical transport network system;- Network Management System;- IP/MPLS network and Network Security System<input type="checkbox"/> With at least two (2) years of experience in the implementation of underground utilities and/or support facilities of a telecommunications network;<input type="checkbox"/> With at least three (3) years of managerial experience in the build and/or O&M of telecommunications infrastructure;<input type="checkbox"/> Bidder must submit proofs (Resume, Licenses, Certificates, etc.).	1

INSTALLATIONS AND MAINTENANCE WORK REQUIREMENTS

MANPOWER

KEY PERSONNEL	MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS	MIN. QTY.
Senior Telecommunications Engineers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Supervises, skilled, hardworking, and with at least three (3) years of experience in the installation, testing, commissioning, operation, and maintenance of any or combination of the following telecommunications infrastructure;<ul style="list-style-type: none">- DWDM/ROADM and EDFA/ RAMAN equipment- Network Management System- Core/P/PE Router and Network Security System<input type="checkbox"/> Bidder must submit proofs (Resume, Licenses, Certificates, etc.)<input type="checkbox"/> Must be a licensed Electronics and Communications Engineer.	5
Safety Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Must be a graduate of at least any four (4) year technical course with BOSH/COSH qualification certificate (Certificate of Completion).<input type="checkbox"/> Must have at least two (2) years of experience as safety officer in the construction of telecommunications / ICT network infrastructure.	1

INSTALLATIONS AND MAINTENANCE WORK REQUIREMENTS

Tools, Equipment and Machinery

- ❑ The Winning Bidder must provide to DICT NBP Project Management Office the list of a complete inventory of tools, equipment, and machinery for review and project management references.
- ❑ The Winning Bidder must ensure the availability of appropriate and sufficient inventory matrix per site to properly execute installation works and deliver the project within the timeline of the Project.
- ❑ The Winning Bidder must certify that this equipment shall be used exclusively for the project. If the equipment is owned by a 3rd party contractor, the Winning Bidder must show a lease contract for the duration of the project citing exclusive use of the machines.

Tools, Equipment, Machinery
Cable Plough / Trenching Machine
Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) Machine
Crane / Boom Truck
Fiber Blowing Machine and Air Compressor
Arc Fusion Machine
Optical Spectrum Analyzer
Bit Error Rate Test Analyzer
Optical Time Domain Reflectometer
Optical Power Meter / Optical Light Source

PROJECT AND MAINTENANCE VEHICLES

The Winning Bidder must provide service vehicles in good working condition for each DICT team, such as three (3) units for Optical Transport Network Component and four (4) units for Fiber Optic Cable Build Component, immediately after the issuance of Notice to Proceed to mobilize personnel and necessary tools and materials that will be used in the installations and maintenance of the project's ICT equipment, outside plant, and support facilities in the duration of the project and contract. This shall be effective for the duration of the Project.

TESTING, COMMISSIONING, AND ACCEPTANCE

- ❑ The Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) must be witnessed and accepted by five (5) DICT personnel and must be completed within five (5) calendar days.
- ❑ The Winning Bidder must conduct system reliability testing, commissioning, and acceptance within thirty (30) calendar days upon completion of installation works.
- ❑ The Winning Bidder must comply with the approved test plan for all hardware and software to be delivered and installed.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL PROJECT DOCUMENTS

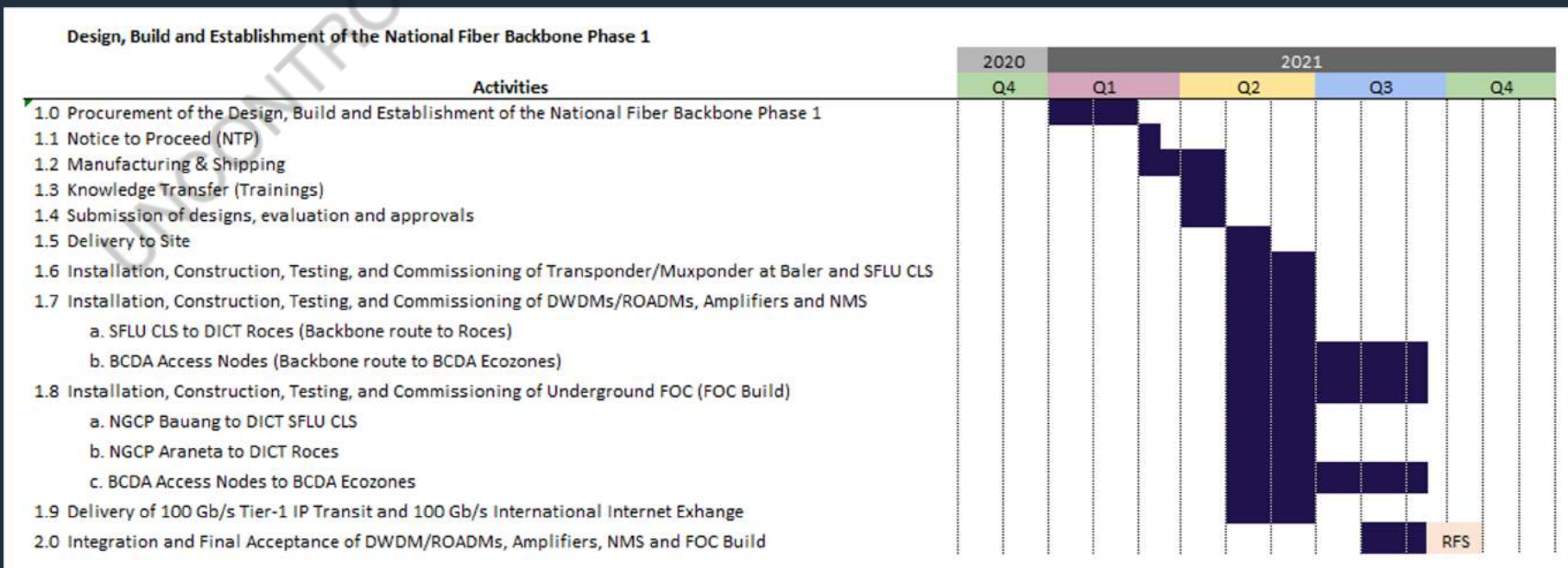
The Winning Bidder must conduct comprehensive local training and knowledge transfer for DICT nominated personnel before the date of acceptance.

Training Prerequisites

- The Winning Bidder must provide a training plan/syllabus within the prescribed period for approval by DICT specifically, within thirty (30) calendar days upon receipt of the notice to proceed (NTP).

PROPOSED DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The Project shall be completed in no longer than **two hundred (200) calendar days**, including all activities of the Project such as the delivery of the installation, hardware and equipment, and proof of airtime service subscription at the address/es specified by the Procuring Entity.



WARRANTY, SUPPORT AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

Transponder Component

The Winning Bidder shall provide five (5) years warranty and support

Optical Transport Network Component

The Winning Bidder shall provide five (5) years warranty and support for DWDM/ROADM, amplifier, and its components.

Fiber Optic Cable Build Component

After the completion and acceptance of the FOC segments, the two (2) years warranty and maintenance support will commence.

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT (SLA)

SERVICE ITEM		BASIC SUPPORT	
Helpdesk		24 hours x 7 days a week	
Emergency Service		24 hours x 7 days a week	
ALARM SEVERITY LEVEL	CRITICAL	MAJOR	MINOR
Response Time (After receipt of advice)	Within 1 hour	Within 8 Business hours	Within 24 Business hours
Restoration Time (Exclude travel time)	Within 6 hours	Not Applicable (non-traffic affecting)	Not Applicable (non-traffic affecting)
Progress Update Time (Escalation)	Update every 1 hour	1 update every day	1 update every week
Resolution Time	15 Business Days	45 Business Days	90 Business Days
Root Cause Analysis (RCA Report)	Within 1 calendar day after final resolution time		



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY



Thank you.

UNCONTROLLED WHEN I