

ITEM No	QUESTION	BDC RESPONSE
1.	Considering the vast scope of work and importance of this current EOI opportunity, I am of the opinion that all the potential local as well as international bidders should be given appropriate time to prepare their technical proposals at the EOI stage. We are expecting responses to clarification questions by 29th April 2024. And EOI submission deadline ends on 3rd May 2024. Thus, we all would be getting only a week to prepare the technical proposals in a week after getting the clarifications resolved.	Extending the submission date is not viable due to the tight project timelines.
	Hence, I request you and your colleagues to kindly extend the submission date by at least two weeks to 17th May 2024. I am sure that it will benefit all the prospective bidders and it will also allow BDC to get best possible responses and solution offerings. All the bidders will be able to devote time and come up with a solution tailor-made to meet the requirements at BDC rather than submitting a generic response. I once again request you to kindly consider this request and to oblige.	
2.	<ul> <li>Technology selection is always a balancing act. We have several technologies available to us but would like to understand your context a bit better in order to propose better:         <ul> <li>Data Volumes: What volumes of data is BDS expecting the solution to manage today (ignoring growth for now)? Is it:                 <ul> <li>Between 500Gb – 1TB</li> <li>Between 1 TB – 5TB</li> <li>5TB+</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Bidders are requested to propose their solution(s), minimum requirements to meeting the client's requirement.
3.	database size of the systems you've mentioned. <b>Data Residency:</b> My reading of the Botswana privacy regulations is that no privacy sensitive data may be hosted outside of Botswana, I assume that PII data will be required in the solution and in addition I also don't see any of the large cloud platforms with data centres in the country at the moment. Therefore, my conclusion we will have to propose software that can be installed in your datacentre or some other datacentre in BW. Do you concur with this view?	Bidders are required to propose solutions that comply with the Botswana Statutory requirements such as the Data Protection Act of 2018 as a minimum.
4.	<b>Budget:</b> While I understand that this is a competitive process, we need some indication around your software / hardware budget. To give you an idea on costs, a IBM solution would start around 7.5m Pula per year (excluding hardware, services etc) however we can also propose a capable open source alternative and several other solutions at other price points. Is there some way you can give us some idea around your budget? Perhaps even an indication on what the budget was on your ERP project	This is an expression of interest and bidders are requested to propose solutions that meet the client's requirements and no budgetary amounts are requested at this stage.