

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

HIRING OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PROVISION OF BVS BASED SERVICES FOR BISP BENEFICIARIES

Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) was established under BISP Act 2010 to provide financial assistance to the poorest segments of the society in Pakistan. It is the largest public sector social safety net in the country. Currently, it is providing financial assistance to 5.7 million female beneficiaries that have valid CNICs and have been identified through the National Socio-Economic Registry (NSER). BISP is making quarterly payments of Rs.5,000/quarter to each eligible beneficiary, throughout Pakistan as part of its Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) initiative. The amount of quarterly payment and the number of beneficiaries may be re-determined in an evidence-based manner through a public policy decision, at any time by the Government. In addition, BISP also runs the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) initiative, as part of which poor families get cash benefits of Rs 750/quarter conditional to the enrollment of their children in schools and attendance compliance verification. BISP has the mandate and the potential to initiate other similar conditional cash transfer initiatives. Currently, both the UCT and the CCT draw on the NSER of 2010. The NSER is being updated through a new national poverty survey.

2. BISP hereby invites eligible Financial Institutions/FIs (Scheduled Banks and Microfinance Banks approved by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)) duly registered with the Government, Income Tax and Sales Tax Departments and working as *“Payment agencies through Branchless Banking system; with the sub-partner agreements with Super Agents/ Agents and Sub Agents as defined in SBP’s Framework for Branchless Banking Agent Acquisition and Management, besides BVS ATM network”* to show their interest for providing the required Biometric Verification System (BVS) based services for BISP beneficiaries as described in the **Instructions for the Financial Institutions**. Proofs of said registrations are required to be provided/ established in Expression of Interest (EOI) Responses/Applications. The Financial Institutions which are duly registered with Provincial Sales Tax Department can also apply in the selection process. However, upon award of contract if selected, the Financial Institution shall be required to get themselves registered with Federal Board of Revenue/ ICT Sales Tax Department.

3. The eligible Financial Institutions are required to demonstrate/provide requisite information to prove their qualification/eligibility to perform the assignment. In this regard, prescribed standards which have been mentioned in the **Instructions for the Financial Institutions** may be downloaded from the websites www.ppra.org.pk or www.bisp.gov.pk/procurement where this Request for EOI (REOI) is also available. The prescribed parameters for evaluating the EOI responses are as under:-

- a) The Financial Institution should at-least have BBB rating (long term rating from accredited credit rating agency(ies), which are recognized by SBP). **[Max. Score = 10]**.
- b) Experience of handling large scale cash disbursement projects including Government to Person (G2P), Person to Person (P2P) and humanitarian cash transfer projects/ programmes at national/provincial levels. Details should include the geographical spread, value of disbursements, number of beneficiaries and payment modes used. **[Max. Score = 30]**.
- c) Details of existing and prospective distribution channel/ network. This should include Branch Network, BVS ATMs, BVS enabled Super Agents/ Agents/Sub Agents/Touch Points and/or any alternate payment modes/touch points including purpose built campsites/special disbursement centers/setups. It should also include any

existing/planned interoperable disbursements platform capabilities and any SBP approved innovative payments process and technology. [Max. Score = 30].

- d) Real-time customized report back capability with utmost transparency. Flexibility as well as development and delivery capacity for MIS and Complaint Management Systems and their integrations between FI and BISP. [Max. Score = 30].

4. Areas for which services of Financial Institution(s) are being sought through this Request for EOI (REOI) shall be divided into clusters. A Financial Institution for each cluster, will be selected through **“Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method”** in accordance with the procedures set out in the Procurement of Consultancy Services Regulations, 2010 issued by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority, (as amended from time to time) which can be perused at the website: www.ppra.org.pk/legal_documents/regulations.

5. Expression of Interest response in accordance with the instructions provided in the EOI & instructions to Financial Institutions, must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by post) by or before **1100 hours on 18th January, 2019**, which shall be opened on the same day at **1130 hours** in the presence of the representatives of Financial Institution(s) who may choose to be present.

The assignment title of the assignment should be clearly written on the front of the envelope or in the subject line.

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