

INVITATION TO REGISTER INTEREST AND SUBMIT A DRAFT UNIVERSAL SERVICE PLAN FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NETWORK FACILITIES AND DEPLOYMENT OF NETWORK SERVICE FOR THE PROVISIONING OF PUBLIC CELLULAR SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE TARGETS UNDER THE NATIONAL FIBERISATION AND CONNECTIVITY PLAN 2 (NFCP 2) INITIATIVE

Questions & Answers

A. SUBMISSION OF REGISTRATION OF INTEREST (ROI) & THE DRAFT UNIVERSAL SERVICE PLAN

No.	Questions	Answers
1	Is the registration of interest for this tender needs to be submitted by 3 rd December 2019 OR only to submit after attending tender briefing on 3 rd Dec?	As per the advertisement in MCMC website, the Registration of Interest should be submitted to us on 10th January 2019, 9am-12pm only.
2	Registration of interest requires to be in hardcopy or softcopy?	Submission of the ROI ONLY through hardcopy.
3	We are unable to attend the NFCP2 tender briefing. Can we still proceed to participate in the ROI and USP Draft submission?	Yes, you can proceed to participate in the ROI and USP Draft submission. The briefing slide are available at our website for your reference.

No.	Questions	Answers
4	<p>Can we submit the Registration of Interest (ROI) earlier than 10 January 2020 and can we send representative (not from our company) for the same ROI submission.</p>	<p>Submission of the ROI should reach MCMC on the date, time and venue as per stipulated in the RFP document and RFP notice i.e. 10 January 2019, from 9.00am to 12:00 noon.</p> <p>As for the representative, yes you may do so.</p>
5	<p>Our company possesses a valid NFP (I) license and we are very much interested in partaking in this tender. However, we have only recently attempted to apply for the NSP (I) license and we understand the application and approval process takes a couple of months.</p> <p>As we are required to Register our Interest in the above project on 10th Jan 2020, is it at all possible for our organization to bid for this tender? If we have submitted our application but it is still processing?</p>	<p>As specified in subparagraph 4.1(a) and (b)(i) of the RFP, it is stated that the interested licensee is required to hold valid NFP(I) and NSP(I) licences for a minimum tenure of 5 years. This is the eligibility criteria to participate in this tender, and has been further clarified in the briefing session on 3 December 2019. You are not eligible to participate in this tender.</p>
6	<p>We are the NFP & NSP license holder (2018 – 2028), has recently bought over the company and is very interested to participate to be a Universal Service Provider (USP) for NFCP 2 Initiative.</p> <p>The new management of this entity spearheads by a group of personnel with more than 20 years of experience in telecommunication and technology background and with vast experience especially with previous MCMC's projects.</p> <p>Therefore, we would like to enquire, is the requirement under Section III as marked in blue below, still strictly comply to us? Is there any chance for us to still qualify and participate in this initiative?</p>	<p>As specified in subparagraph 4.1(a) and (b)(i) of the RFP, it is stated that the interested licensee is required to have a minimum 5 years' experience in undertaking the activities specified in the said subparagraph.</p> <p>We are looking at the experience of the entity not the individuals in the entity. We trust this clarifies our position clearly. Based on your explanation, your company is not eligible to participate in this initiative.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
7	<p>Reference is made to the following sections in the NFCP2 invitation to register interest and submit draft universal service plan document :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Section Interpretation page 7 item (r) on the definition of site ii. Appendix 5 page 60 Registration of Interest form iii. Appendix 1 page 28 – 56 List of Locations <p>We would like to seek clarification from MCMC whether the submission of Registration of Interest on 10th January 2020, shall follow the format of either Item 1 or item 2 as per below :</p> <p><u>Item 1 :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cluster No. 01 / Number of Sites: 14 sites / State: Johor • Cluster No. 06 / Number of Sites: 15 sites / State: Kelantan • Cluster No. 28 / Number of Sites: 16 sites / State: Terengganu <p><i>Note : The total sites for each clusters shall match to the number of specified locations as per Appendix 1 OR</i></p> <p><u>Item 2 :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cluster No. 01 / Number of Sites: 18 sites / State: Johor • Cluster No. 06 / Number of Sites: 20 sites / State: Kelantan • Cluster No. 28 / Number of Sites: 22 sites / State: Terengganu 	<p>We have made some amendments to the RFP document including the format of the ROI. Please refer to the Notice of Amendment in our website.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
	<p><i>Note : Reference to item i above, the total sites for each clusters shall include the number of specified locations and the adjacent locations as per Appendix 2 Table A</i></p>	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Is the form as per appendix 5, the only form need to submit? ii) Do we need prepare a copy to acknowledge? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Yes. Kindly refer to the notice of amendment in our website for the amended version of the form. ii) During the submission of the ROI on 10 January 2019 (9am-12noon), you will be required to complete the Acknowledgement Form provided and you will be given a copy of the same.

No.	Questions	Answers
9	<p>i) We weren't aware of any RFP briefing session, when was it carried out?</p> <p>ii) If none of our rep attended are we able to participate still?</p>	<p>i) The Invitation of Interest has been issued on 15 November 2019 and the briefing session has been carried out on 3 December 2019. All the announcement are in our official website. Please do check the website regularly for latest information.</p> <p>ii) Yes, you can still participate to submit the ROI and the Draft Plan. Please be aware of the closing time and the date for those submissions.</p>
10	<p>All queries and clarifications must be in by December 20th 2019 and any questions will not be entertained after that?</p>	<p>20 December 2019 is the closing date for queries and clarifications for the submission of ROI.</p> <p>For queries regarding the submission of the draft plan, the closing date is 17 March 2020 by 5.00pm. MCMC has the right to not entertain the question after the closing date.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
11	Can you elaborate the penalty impose to the licensee if they fail to submit the proposal?	<p>Pursuant to regulation 6 of the USP Regulation 2002, any Interested Licensee who have registered its interest with the Commission pursuant to the RFP shall submit its draft proposal(s) within the specified time frame – no later than 31 March 2020. A licensee who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence under this Regulations.</p> <p>Pursuant to regulation 39 of the USP Regulations 2002, any interested licensee who commits an offence shall on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding RM300, 000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both.</p> <p>As explained in the RFP briefing session on 3 December 2019, the Interested Licensee may register its interest at any cluster, or at all clusters. Please make sure the cluster(s) submitted in the Registration of Interest form match with the submission of the draft plan(s).</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
12	<p>May I know if MCMC accept CTC signature from our CEO for NFP & NCP License, bank statements and audited accounts.</p>	<p>For the licences (NFP(I) & NSP(I)), yes we accept CTC signature from the CEO. However, for the bank statements and audited accounts, the CTC signature should be from the company's auditor.</p> <p>For recent year bank statement (2019), the company's secretary can sign it.</p>
13	<p>Reference to 5.1, 5.3 and 5.8 Page 18 and 19</p> <p>In 5.3.c stated all pages of "ORIGINAL" shall be dully initialled and affixed with rubber stamp of the interested licensee.</p> <p>5.8 stated no company name is allow in technical proposal.</p> <p>Based on submission format as stated in 5.1, Is 5.3(c) applied to Original copy of technical proposal?</p>	<p>5.3(c) shall only be applicable for the original copy of the financial proposal. Please refer the Notice of Amendment in our website.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
14	<p>Submission of softcopy/CD/thumb drive.</p> <p>Assuming I would like to submit for 3 clusters, can all 3 clusters technical proposal in one CD/Thumb drive and financial proposal in another, or one CD/thumb drive per cluster?</p>	<p>Yes, you may combine the clusters. Please ensure a proper separation to the files for each clusters and that technical and financial shall be in separate CD / thumb drives.</p>
15	<p>Pursuant to clause 4.1 b (i)</p> <p>“The Interested Licensee shall meet the following eligibility requirements:</p> <p>i. Minimum five (5) years’ experience in the installation of network facilities and/or the provisioning of network services for the deployment of public cellular services;.”</p> <p>We would like to know whether we are eligible to submit a Draft of USP for NFCP2 as the company will be 5 years old by the end of 2020 and already has a huge network roll-out in Sarawak especially in providing of international connectivity infrastructure,</p>	<p>As stated in the RFP and explained at the RFP briefing session on 3 December <u>2019</u>, any interested licensee must have a minimum experience of five years, either for the NFP(I) and/or the NSP(I) activity related to the deployment of public cellular services. The RFP is a legally binding document.</p> <p>Since the interested licensee has held both NFP(I) and NSP(I) licences for less than 5 years, it does not fulfil the stipulated criteria of having a minimum of 5 years relevant experience. It is not eligible to participate in this tender exercise.</p>

B. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION & REQUIREMENTS OF THE DRAFT UNIVERSAL SERVICE PLAN

No.	Questions	Answers
1	<p>What is the details Scope of responsibility required to be prepared by the designated USP?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The detailed scope of work for the designated universal service provider(s) is as specified in subparagraph 3.5. (please see page 10-12 of the RFP). • Please read and understand all requirements as explained under Section II – Description of Scope of Work (please see page 9-16 of the RFP).
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Bill of Quantity of the proposed Tower Infrastructure and Transmission 3G and 4G Equipment • Technical Drawing comprises of compound layout, Tower Foot Print, CME layout etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Interested Licensee is to propose the most optimal network design to the Commission. • As specified in subparagraph 3.4 (please see page 10 of the RFP), the Interested Licensee shall propose and provide a customised Bill of Quantity (“BoQ”) to the Commission, which include but is not limited to the compound layout, tower foot print, tower material and height e.g. 76m or 45m and others, by taking into consideration the population

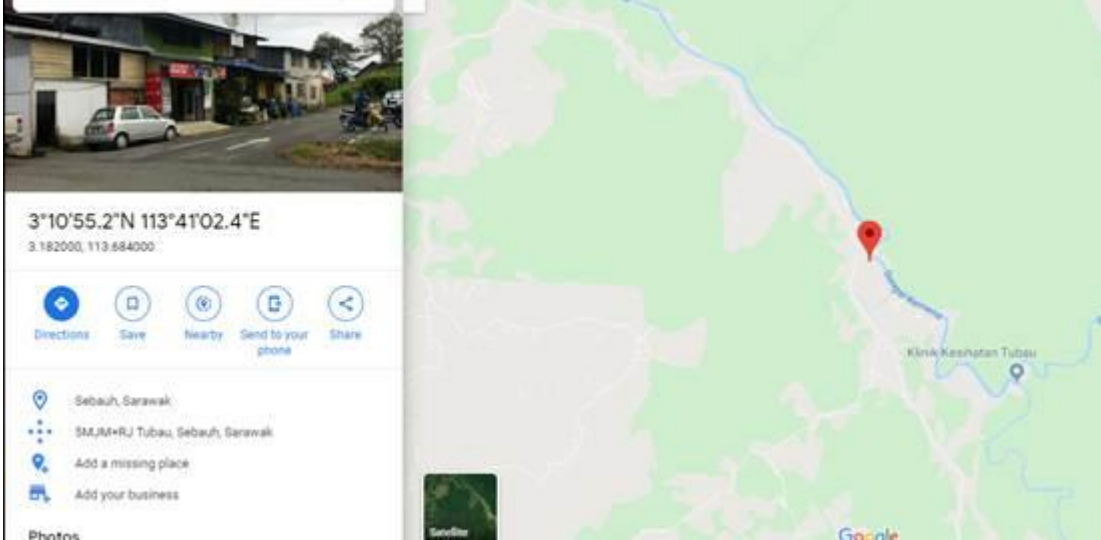
No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>coverage and distribution at all locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The customised BoQ proposed by the Interested Licensee is aimed at having customised solutions that improve the efficiency of the investments made via the USP Fund.
3	<p>Is it possible that the provider could participate in the tender exercise by providing the proposal on the infrastructure only since most of the existing 3G, 4G operator has gained the spectrum license and they also participate in this tender exercise. As looking to T-3 project MCMC has classified the requirement of infra and Network into part 1 and part 2 and this gives more flexible to the tenderer to choose the best requirement based on the capability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the NFCP 2 project, there will be no separation of Part 1 and Part 2. The Commission has decided to combine the scope of work here to be awarded to a single designated universal service provider. This is to ensure that the relevant infrastructure can be deployed faster and in the most cost effective manner. If the Interested Licensee is not eligible to participate in this tender exercise, the Interested Licensee may engage with the successful tenderer(s) / designated universal service provider(s) later, and entered into a commercial arrangement e.g. as a subcontractor.


No.	Questions	Answers
4	Is Profession Engineer endorsement require for site/tower design drawing?	As described in the RFP document - <u>B. Detailed scope of work</u> item no 10, yes, a Professional Engineer (PE) endorsement is required for site/tower design drawing.
5	May I know what the wind survival requirement for the proposed tower is? Do you have a specific requirement on the structure?	<p>MCMC does not specify any specific requirements for the tower structure i.e. for wind survival. However, as specified in subparagraph 15.2 of the RFP, the Designated Universal Service Provider (DUSP) shall be responsible for ensuring the structural integrity of the towers and its ancillaries at all times. The DUSP shall also ensure the safety of the sites and compliance with all relevant laws and guidelines e.g. <i>"Garis Panduan Pembinaan Menara dan Struktur Sistem Pemancar Telekomunikasi di Kawasan Pihak Berkuasa Tempatan 2002"</i> or released thereafter by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.</p> <p>It is advisable for the interested licensees to provide detailed and clear technical feasibility studies e.g. tower structure, microwave LOS, etc. in the draft universal service plan to support its proposals for the Commission to consider. This should be your</p>


No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>core competency as communications service provider.</p>
6	<p>For 3G and 4G requirement, could you advise if there is specific spectrum that is allowable for this project?</p>	<p>MCMC does not specify any specific spectrum allocation for NFCP 2 initiative. Under this Project, the Designated Universal Service Provider (DUSP) shall propose and optimise the use of the existing spectrum allocation for the provisioning of public cellular services (minimum 3G and 4G), pursuant to the requirements stipulated in the relevant Standard Radio System Plan (SRSP), or guideline(s) issued by MCMC including any revision thereafter. If you are not a radio spectrum holder, please see subparagraph 3.13 of the RFP.</p> <p>The DUSP shall ensure that the site configuration and facilities provided have the capability to provide minimum 3G and 4G services using the relevant band(s) of public cellular network providers in Malaysia, with the capability of providing voice and data services at average speed of 30Mbps via RAN sharing solution. Please refer to the NFCP 2</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>briefing slides for further details on the technical standards.</p>
7	<p>If we wish to participate in Sarawak, is there any restriction of owning the tower or do we need to JV with local company and to obtain the related approval from Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA).</p> <p>Pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Commission Determination on Universal Service Provision (Determination No. 6 of 2002), the ownership of the tower(s) and facilities at the USTs vests with the Designated Universal Service Provider (DUSP) from the inception of this Project.</p>	<p>As clarified in the briefing session on 3 December 2019, pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Commission Determination on Universal Service Provision (Determination No. 6 of 2002), the ownership of the network facilities and network services at the USTs is vested with the Designated Universal Service Provider (DUSP) from the Commencement Date of the Project, unless the designation as the DUSP of the Project has been revoked by the Commission pursuant to the USP Regulations 2002.</p> <p>As specified in subparagraph 3.5 and paragraph 13 of the RFP for NFCP 2, the DUSP shall be responsible to obtain all necessary approvals from the local authority or other relevant authorities e.g. Sarawak Multimedia Authority before commencing the Project. That is your responsibility to undertake and discharge.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers																											
8	<table border="1" data-bbox="293 272 1397 783"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="293 272 338 341">No.</th> <th data-bbox="338 272 1137 341">Key Changes</th> <th data-bbox="1137 272 1397 341">Subparagraph(s) in the RFP which can be referred to</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 341 338 395">1.</td> <td data-bbox="338 341 1137 395">Combined scope of work • No separation of Parts 1 and 2</td> <td data-bbox="1137 341 1397 395"><i>Subparagraph 3.5, page 10-12</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 395 338 464">2.</td> <td data-bbox="338 395 1137 464">Broad definition of site • Means one tower or multiple towers at the specified location, and at any adjacent location(s) to the specified location</td> <td data-bbox="1137 395 1397 464"><i>Interpretation (r), page 7</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 464 338 496">3.</td> <td data-bbox="338 464 1137 496">Average speed of 30Mbps</td> <td data-bbox="1137 464 1397 496"><i>Subparagraph 1.4, page 8</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 496 338 528">4.</td> <td data-bbox="338 496 1137 528">Customised Bill of Quantity (BOQ)</td> <td data-bbox="1137 496 1397 528"><i>Interpretation (d), page 5</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 528 338 560">5.</td> <td data-bbox="338 528 1137 560">Operational Expenditure (OPEX) for 5 years</td> <td data-bbox="1137 528 1397 560"><i>Subparagraph 3.22, page 15</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 560 338 614">6.</td> <td data-bbox="338 560 1137 614">Encourage use of sustainable energy sources • Through commercial power supply or other energy sources</td> <td data-bbox="1137 560 1397 614"><i>Subparagraph 3.3(f), page 10</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 614 338 710">7.</td> <td data-bbox="338 614 1137 710">Self-declaration • Dispensing with reports to facilitate faster project turnaround time and claim(s) processing. • Template for declaration will be the form and format specified by the Commission to the Designated Universal Service Provider(s) [DUSP], in the Notification of Approval.</td> <td data-bbox="1137 614 1397 710"><i>Subparagraph 3.5 (10), page 11</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="293 710 338 783">8.</td> <td data-bbox="338 710 1137 783">Audited income and expense statement for each year according to the International Standards on Auditing (ISA) on a yearly basis, for the entire Operational Period • In order to have objective data to assess the financial viability of the service provisioning at all locations</td> <td data-bbox="1137 710 1397 783"><i>Subparagraph 3.22(c), page 15-16</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="282 836 1424 1023">There is a requirement where there needs to be an audited income and expense report for the entire operational period, does it apply only to the designated USP provider who needs to submit their report, or does the RAN sharing party would also need to submit their report? If the latter, should the RAN sharing party share it directly to MCMC or to the designated USP provider?</p>	No.	Key Changes	Subparagraph(s) in the RFP which can be referred to	1.	Combined scope of work • No separation of Parts 1 and 2	<i>Subparagraph 3.5, page 10-12</i>	2.	Broad definition of site • Means one tower or multiple towers at the specified location, and at any adjacent location(s) to the specified location	<i>Interpretation (r), page 7</i>	3.	Average speed of 30Mbps	<i>Subparagraph 1.4, page 8</i>	4.	Customised Bill of Quantity (BOQ)	<i>Interpretation (d), page 5</i>	5.	Operational Expenditure (OPEX) for 5 years	<i>Subparagraph 3.22, page 15</i>	6.	Encourage use of sustainable energy sources • Through commercial power supply or other energy sources	<i>Subparagraph 3.3(f), page 10</i>	7.	Self-declaration • Dispensing with reports to facilitate faster project turnaround time and claim(s) processing. • Template for declaration will be the form and format specified by the Commission to the Designated Universal Service Provider(s) [DUSP], in the Notification of Approval.	<i>Subparagraph 3.5 (10), page 11</i>	8.	Audited income and expense statement for each year according to the International Standards on Auditing (ISA) on a yearly basis, for the entire Operational Period • In order to have objective data to assess the financial viability of the service provisioning at all locations	<i>Subparagraph 3.22(c), page 15-16</i>	<p data-bbox="1451 357 2040 624">The audited income and expense statement for the Project will apply to the Designated Universal Service Provider (DUSP). The DUSP has the responsibility to get all the required information (<i>please refer to subparagraph 3.22 (c) of the RFP</i>) from the public cellular service providers to MCMC.</p> <p data-bbox="1451 671 2040 975">This is an issue that should be addressed in the agreement the DUSP enters into with the public cellular service providers, should you as a bidder succeed in becoming a DUSP under NFCP 2. Legally, MCMC will hold the DUSP responsible for this information and compliance to this requirement as stipulated in this RFP.</p>
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1.	Combined scope of work • No separation of Parts 1 and 2	<i>Subparagraph 3.5, page 10-12</i>																											
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9	RH Selan : 3.182 113.684 (no clear define perimeter)	<p data-bbox="1451 1075 2040 1378">Under this Project, the lat/long provided in the RFP are meant as reference point only for the Interested Licensee to reach to the specified location(s). It does not act to demarcate the boundary of a location. You may liaise with the relevant local authorities e.g. land and district offices or <i>Jabatan Perancangan Bandar dan Desa</i></p>																											

No.	Questions	Answers
	 <p data-bbox="282 858 920 890">Vs Kampung Gembut (clearly defined perimeter)</p>	<p data-bbox="1451 272 2045 496">(JPBD) to identify the perimeter of the boundary. You may also cross check with the list of USTs published by MCMC via its Notifications in 2002, 2004, 2008 and 2011. This information is available in MCMC's website.</p> <p data-bbox="1451 507 2045 699">For the site surveys and your question on 'where to stop', this requires the exercise of judgement from an Interested Licensee based on experience and knowledge, on how best to address the following considerations:</p> <ol data-bbox="1503 746 2045 1321" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1503 746 2045 970">1. Proposing and putting together a proposed network design that is able to provide coverage for the population (by taking into consideration the population distribution) at a particular location; <li data-bbox="1503 1018 2045 1321">2. Cost – the proposed network design must be cost effective. Any proposal(s) to extend the coverage to adjacent location(s) must be at no or minimal cost – this is as specified clearly in Appendix 1 of the RFP. Cost increases must be kept in check, and if significant require a careful and

No.	Questions	Answers
	 <p>Since only the lat long of the UST are given, how do we define the perimeter, since not all kampong have an exact perimeter/border defined in google maps. Example as shown on the left.</p> <p>This is important as most of the USTs in Sabah and Sarawak doesn't have a clear border. If we were to do a site survey, how do we know where to stop?</p>	<p>clear explanation to justify why this is so;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How would the proposed network design contribute to increase population coverage of public cellular services from 95% to 98%; and Meet the average speed of 30Mbps, via RAN sharing solution for minimum four (4) cellular mobile service providers.

No.	Questions	Answers
10	<p>NETWORK DIMENSIONING</p>  <p><input type="checkbox"/> Service Providers need to dimension the network to provide acceptable and uninterrupted service in order to meet the following QoS standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Throughput : Average throughput of 30Mbps per user during all three (3) peak hours defined below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.00 am – 10.00 am • 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm • 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm ii. Latency : Must be not more than 80ms, 90% of the time Must not be more than 280ms, 90% of the time (non-terrestrial backhaul) iii. Subscribers : Target 60% of the subscribers within the identified UST location to get average throughput of 30Mbps at any point of time for minimum of four (4) concurrent mobile cellular operators iv. Signal strength : Average signal strength must be at least -98 dBm, 80% of the time within the coverage area v. Network availability : Must be at least 98% of the time in a year, excluding any scheduled downtime <p>i) Is Spectrum pooling a mandate for those MOCN OLOs to achieve this speed? Can we assume that non-spectrum holder are not eligible for MOCN sharing?</p> <p>ii) Additionally, how do you calculate the 60% subscribers at kampong level?</p>	<p>i) Under this Project, the Designated Universal Service Provider (DUSP) shall propose and optimise the use of the existing spectrum allocation for the provisioning of public cellular services (minimum 3G and 4G), pursuant to the requirements stipulated in the relevant Standard Radio System Plan (SRSP), or guideline(s) issued by MCMC including any revisions made thereafter.</p> <p>If you are not a radio spectrum holder, please see subparagraph 3.13 of the RFP. The DUSP is obliged to work with the radio spectrum holders on this matter. It won't be a party to the RAN sharing per se, but as the DUSP, it has to be capable of getting the agreement with the public cellular service providers.</p> <p>The DUSP shall ensure that the site configuration and facilities provided have the capability to provide minimum 3G and 4G</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>services using the relevant band(s) of public cellular service network providers in Malaysia, with the capability of providing voice and data services at an average speed of 30Mbps via RAN sharing solutions.</p> <p>The technical standards provided in the briefing slides for NFCP 2 serve as a guide for the Interested Licensees to dimension the network or site accordingly.</p> <p>It is advisable for the interested licensees to provide detailed and clear technical feasibility studies e.g. tower structure, microwave LOS, backhaul capacity dimensioning, etc. in the draft universal service plan to support its proposals for the Commission to consider. This should be your core competency as a communications service provider for public cellular services.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>ii) The 60% is determined based on the population cell coverage objective. This requirement is for the DUSP to dimension the resources such as spectrum bandwidth, backhaul capacity and cell coverage for the site(s) in an effort to meet the targets set out in this RFP. The DUSP must provide the necessary technical studies to substantiate its assertions, such as the total number of people to be served within the identified area, the simulated coverage mapping, the necessary bandwidth and backhaul capacity to achieve the 60% target.</p>
11	<p>In order to strengthen our proposal we would like to partner with a company, is an official JV accepted?</p>	<p>The participation should be from a single operator/ service provider who hold NSP (I) and NFP(I) license.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
12	<p>Beside the macro cell BTS solution, is MCMC willing to accept for micro cell or pico cell solution to cover some small villages (e.g. just one long house or few long houses only within the targetted site)? This would greatly optimize the cost per site.</p>	<p>MCMC has not determined any specific requirement for a BTS solution – it is up to the Interested Licensee to propose feasible options in its draft universal service plan submission.</p> <p>In preparing a technical proposal for this Project, it requires the exercise of judgement from an Interested Licensee based on its experience and knowledge, on how best to address the following considerations, by taking into account the dual objectives of cost effectiveness and ensuring the most optimal network design to facilitate adequate service provisioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Proposing and putting together a network design that is able to provide coverage for the population (by taking into consideration the population distribution) at a particular location; ii. Cost – the proposed network design must be cost effective. Any proposal(s) to extend the coverage to adjacent location(s) must be at no or minimal cost – this is as specified clearly in Appendix 1 of the RFP. Cost increases must be kept in check, and

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>if significant require a careful and clear explanation to justify why this is so;</p> <p>iii. How would the proposed network design contribute to increase population coverage of public cellular services from 95% to 98%; and</p> <p>iv. Meet the average speed of 30Mbps, via RAN sharing solution for minimum four (4) cellular mobile service providers.</p>
13	<p>Based on our preliminary assessment, our planners found out that there are a few locations in the RFP that already have existing sites/coverage either from existing T3, or CB sites. Below are a few examples of such scenario. Thus,we seek direction with regard to planning :</p> <p>a. If the designated location in RFP already has existing 2G/3G coverage from T3 MORAN, do we :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still build a new-new site with LTE ; or • Upgrade the existing site with LTE. This means there will not be a new structure for that location <p>b. If the designated location in RFP already has existing Maxis or particular OLO site with 3G service from the SP, do we :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still build a new-new site with LTE ; or • Upgrade the existing site with LTE. This means there will not be a new structure for that location 	<p>The objective of NFCP 2 is to provide public cellular coverage (minimum 3G and 4G services) at the identified locations, as shown in Appendix 1 of the RFP.</p> <p>If the existing communications towers (e.g. either commercial or previous USP projects) are able to provide sufficient coverage based on the Interested Licensee’s assessment, yes, the Interested Licensee may propose a replacement to the specified location(s) in the UST under NFCP 2, or at any adjacent location(s) within the same UST in your draft universal service plan submission. There should be no change to the UST, and please justify what is the reason of such proposed replacement.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
	<p>c. If the designated location in RFP already has existing Maxis or particular OLO site with 4G service from the SP, which means the 4G pop coverage objective is met, do we still build a new-new site with LTE ?</p> <p>d. In above overlap scenarios, can we propose a replacement site? If so, does it has to be within the designated UST Name and/or District in the RFP? Or it can be in other suitable locations.</p>	<p>The Commission wishes to emphasise that under the NFCP 2, the provisioning of public cellular services shall be voice and data services on minimum 3G and 4G with an average speed of 30Mbps, via RAN sharing solution to support minimum four (4) public cellular service providers. No upgrading is allowed for existing tower(s) under this initiative - this will be on a different platform e.g. via major contribution (or clawback) under the USP Regulations 2002. The RFP is a legally binding document which is to be adhered to.</p>
14	The payment are on a site basis or cluster basis?	<p>Claims are to be submitted on a per site basis. Claims are to be submitted to the Commission upon the completion of all the tower(s) in a particular site at a specified location. Reference must be made to Appendix 8 of the RFP.</p>
15	The number of microwave hops at remote location has to be two (2) based on past guidelines issued by the Commission. Is there any possibility to put in more than 2 hops?	<p>As a general rule, stipulations in place by the Commission on the number of microwave hops are to be adhered to. An Interested Licensee may however propose more microwave hops if this is more cost effective in terms of service provisioning in the context of this RFP, particularly at remote locations for the Commission to assess and consider.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
16	<p>As the majority of the sites are in remote areas, the backhaul could be either via satellite or microwave and some areas could perhaps deploy fibre. As the traffic in remote area may not be as heavy as in urban areas, is it possible for the majority of the site primarily using microwave backhaul? Will that be allowed? Is there any rule of thumb on the deployment of fibre?</p>	<p>There is no rule of thumb that applies here. The key point is customisation of the solutions based on cost, and ensuring adequate coverage. An Interested Licensee is expected to propose the best solution for adequate coverage (the most cost effective solution) by taking into consideration the population and the distribution of the population at the said location. Information on the socio-economic demography of the population can also be provided. The network design proposed must be optimal.</p>
17	<p>What is the meaning of the ownership of the tower belong to DUSP?</p>	<p>Pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Commission Determination on Universal Service Provision (Determination No. 6 of 2002), the ownership of the network facilities and network service equipment at the universal service targets (areas) are vested with the Designated Universal Service Provider(s) (DUSP) from the commencement date of the Project. However, if the designation of the DUSP(s) is revoked, the DUSP(s) will cease to have any ownership rights on the network facilities and network service equipment.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
18	What is the size of the site?	An Interested Licensee is expected to make suggestions based on its site surveys, by taking into consideration the dual objectives of cost effectiveness and ensuring the most optimal network design to facilitate adequate service provisioning. The Interested Licensee shall customise the Bill of Quantity for each site which includes, but is not limited to the compound layout size.
19	Is shared antenna system allowed?	This is up to the Interested Licensee to suggest. The key point is to ensure that the design caters for a minimum of four (4) public cellular service providers.
20	Is 3G the compulsory component of the proposal submission? Can SP opt for VoLTE?	The services required are minimum 3G and 4G services, as stated in the RFP. The RFP is a legally binding document which is to be adhered to.
21	Did MCMC define which sites to deploy 3G/4G coverage?	<p>All sites are to meet the minimum 3G and 4G services as stated in subparagraph 1.4 of the RFP.</p> <p>An Interested Licensee has to undertake the necessary network dimensioning to ensure 60% of the subscribers within the identified UST location to get average throughput of</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		30Mbps at any point of time, for minimum of four (4) concurrent public cellular service providers.
22	Is there a hidden policy to award the project to multiple DUSP or to single DUSP who provide very competitive offer?	There are no covert policies here. The Commission will assess and evaluate all eligible submissions, and make a decision based on the requirements and key considerations stipulated in the RFP. This is a tender process, and the processes and procedures of a tender exercise will be followed.
23	What is the requirement for the monitoring of the RAN Solutions? Is there a requirement to connect with celcos?	The DUSP(s) will have to discuss this and execute an agreement with each of the public cellular service providers within 120 days of being selected as the DUSP(s). Please refer to subparagraph 3.13 of the RFP which explains this further.
24	What will happen to the sites and the OPEX after 5 years?	The DUSP(s) are required to provide to the Commission with an audited income and expense statement and a report on the revenue, traffic, and detailed operational costs as specified in subparagraph 3.22(c) of the RFP. This data will be used by the Commission to assess the viability of the sites

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>and make a decision on how to manage the service provisioning at the sites concerned, namely whether the service provisioning can be commercialised, or if funding from the USP Fund is required.</p>
25	<p>For the access to infrastructure sharing during the operational period, is access only given to the towers or does it include network services? In terms of charges, can the DUSP impose any charges?</p>	<p>Access to Infrastructure Sharing shall be provided on a “first come, first served” basis. All infrastructure deployed by the DUSP(s) shall be capable of serving a minimum of four (4) public cellular service providers.</p> <p>All Interested Licensees are to refer to the Commission Determination on Access List, Determination No. 2 of 2015 (including any revisions made thereafter) and the Commission Determination on the Mandatory Standard on Access, Determination No. 3 of 2016 (including any revisions made thereafter) which are applicable here.</p> <p>During the Operational Period, the DUSP(s) shall not impose any charges to any other service as claims are made from the USP Fund for the operating expenditure.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>Upon the cessation of the Operational Period when no claims are made from the USP Fund for the operating expenditure by the DUSP(s), the latter can impose reasonable charges to cover operational expenditure for access to Infrastructure Sharing.</p> <p>In terms of network services, as stated as the requirements in the RFP, it should be a minimum of four (4) service providers for the provisioning of the service.</p>
26	Should there be any issues with land acquisition with land owners or local authorities, can the areas be substituted?	<p>The DUSP is expected to put in the necessary effort in handling this issue, which is a foreseeable challenge in network and service deployment in some areas. If the issue proves to be insurmountable, only then will an alternative be considered. Challenges of this nature can be escalated to the Commission for assistance. The Commission has been actively engaging with all State Governments on this matter, and a <i>Jawatankuasa Infrastruktur Digital Negeri</i> has been established to discuss and facilitate the resolution of these issues.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
27	Do the USP need to have 5 years of experience for both NFP(I) and NSP(I) licences? What if the licensee has five years of experience as a NFP(I) licensee, but lesser as a NSP(I) licensee?	The licensee may clarify that it holds both licences, but is experienced in which area for a minimum of five years, as per the eligibility requirements stipulated in the RFP.
28	What is the requirement for spectrum? Can the DUSP propose to utilise 700MHz spectrum for this Project?	MCMC responded that this was not the forum to discuss spectrum allocation. The RFP is to be responded to, based on the eligibility criteria and requirements stipulated therein.
29	How can service providers collaborate with each other to participate in this RFP?	The project will be awarded based on MCMC's assessment and evaluation to one party for undertaking the work in its entirety. There is no demarcation between installing network facilities and undertaking service provisioning. The scope of work is combined. The successful bidder(s) however is free to work with and appoint other third parties, as it may find necessary or helpful.
30	Based on previous NFCP workshop and launching, the Minister has announced the NFCP budget is RM21 billion throughout 5 years implementation nationwide. However, the operator or provider shall require to share the implementation cost by 50% while the other half will be coming from MCMC USP Fund.	This is not a platform to discuss NFCP funding. The NFCP 2 project is fully funded via the USP Fund. No commercial models are relevant here, as this is not stated as a requirement in the RFP for this project.

No.	Questions	Answers
	Thus, for NFCP2 project, what is the commercial model to implement the project together with maintenance for 5 years?	
31	<p>We have understood there are 4 stages on the Capex payment term and Quarterly payment term for maintenance throughout 5 years.</p> <p>The invoice submission for claim from the provider will be treated as a final claim or MCMC will require to verify all invoices together with the provider sub-contractor, vendors and etc.?</p>	<p>The Commission shall verify the written claim(s) submitted by the Designated Universal Service Provider(s) pursuant to the USP Regulations, prior to making any payments, and the verification made by the Commission shall be final. In this regards, the Commission may request relevant document e.g. invoices as part of the Commission's exercise to substantiate the claim(s).</p>
32	Who will manage the assets (Tower, Power supply and 3G/4G systems) at year 6th onwards?	<p>Pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Commission Determination on Universal Service Provision (Determination No. 6 of 2002), the ownership of the network facilities and network service equipment at the universal service targets (areas) are vested with the Designated Universal Service Provider(s) (DUSP) from the commencement date of the Project. However, if the designation of the DUSP(s) is revoked, the DUSP(s) will cease to have any ownership rights on the network facilities and network service equipment.</p> <p>After the Operational Period (year six onwards), the DUSP can impose reasonable charges to cover the operational expenditure</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		for access to the Infrastructure Sharing on commercial basis.
33	The investment by the provider to provide minimum of 30Mbps bandwidth at each tower will be inclusive of new cabin, fibre cabinet between the provider Point of Interconnect (POI) towards the proposed tower. Can we include this investment in total project cost?	Yes, based on the proposal(s) submitted to the Commission, all network service equipment provided is claimable and can be included in the total project cost, provided that it is necessary and required for the provisioning of public cellular services at the specified location in the UST.
34	The bandwidth 30Mbps at each tower will be shared by 4 operators or the provider shall provide 30Mbps bandwidth for each operator?	MCMC has not determined any specific requirement for each service provider – it is up to the Interested Licensee to propose feasible options and bandwidth allocation in its draft universal service plan submission. Under this Project, the Designated Universal Service Provider (DUSP) is to propose and optimise the use of the existing spectrum allocation for the provisioning of public cellular services (minimum 3G and 4G), pursuant to the requirements stipulated in the relevant Standard Radio System Plan (SRSP), or guideline(s) issued by MCMC, including any revisions made thereafter.

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>The technical standards provided in the briefing slides for NFCP 2 serve as a guide for the Interested Licensees to dimension the network or site accordingly.</p> <p>The DUSP shall ensure that under this project, 60% of the subscribers within the identified location will get average throughput of 30Mbps at any point of time, for minimum of four (4) concurrent mobile service providers.</p> <p>The 60% is determined based on the population cell coverage objective. The DUSP should dimension the resources involved - such as spectrum bandwidth, backhaul capacity and cell coverage for the site(s) in an effort to meet the targets set out in the RFP, and the explanation provided at the briefing session. The DUSP must provide the necessary technical studies to substantiate its assertions, such as the total number of people to be served within the identified area, the simulated coverage mapping, the necessary bandwidth and backhaul capacity to achieve the 60% target.</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
35	<p>The requirement is to cater maximum of 4 operators at each tower and the operators will be the customer to the provider for 5 years contract period. What is the pushing factor or enforcement by the MCMC if operators have decided not to take up the services?</p>	<p>Radio spectrum is a scarce resource which is meant for the purposes of providing public cellular services in this context. As such, the Commission is of the view that deciding to not be present at selected areas as radio spectrum holders is simply not acceptable. The Commission can always reconsider the allocation of radio spectrum and take legal and regulatory measures if necessary.</p>
36	<p>Refer to slide 13: Scope of work Technical Specifications 2/2 - Concept of a site in this RFP - Explanation No 4 on Kg Padang(adjacent to Kg Gembut)</p> <p>" 4. May submit proposal(s) to extend coverage to adjacent location at minimal or no cost"</p> <p>In this example for the proposed Capex to build tower, can we claim on the setting up the additional towers against the USP fund, as it is unlikely that the coverage can be extended at no cost.</p>	<p>Yes, you can claim for the additional tower(s) from the USP Fund, provided that your proposal is accepted. As explained during the briefing session, the interested licensee may propose to extend coverage to adjacent location(s).</p> <p>In preparing a technical proposal for this Project, it requires the exercise of judgement from an Interested Licensee based on its experience and knowledge, on how best to address the following considerations, by taking into account the dual objectives of cost effectiveness and ensuring the most optimal network design to facilitate adequate service provisioning. For example, towers which are of a lower height, use of fibre backhaul or locating the towers</p>

No.	Questions	Answers
		<p>strategically to optimise the coverage are sensible options to consider.</p> <p>The party that proposes the lowest cost(s) with the most optimal network design will have an advantage.</p>
37	<p>As for example if there is multiple tower locations within the UST site area, (UST site FC2_001 is inclusive of FC2_001A, FC2_001B, & FC2_001C)</p> <p>Just to clarify for claim purposes does it cover per tower location or per UST site area (which consist of multiple tower locations)?</p>	<p>Claims are to be submitted on a per site basis. Claims are to be submitted to the Commission upon the completion of all the tower(s) in a particular site at a specified location. Reference should be made to Appendix 8 of the RFP.</p>
38	<p>Could you help to confirm on my understanding that; in one cluster, we need to do all sites - which means we cannot drop several sites in one particular cluster?</p>	<p>Yes, if awarded you must do all sites listed for that cluster.</p>
39	<p>With regards to the submission of Draft USP, may I know if site / structure layout in AutoCAD drawing is compulsory for this submission?</p>	<p>Yes, this would be helpful to support your submission for the technical proposal on the proposed network design, for the Commission's assessment.</p>