



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20224

**Basis for Award**

Pilot IRS – Solution Challenge (SC) One:  
DATA Act Improvements

**Background**

The Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act) requires the federal government to generate and follow a plan for improving the integrity of financial and non-financial data related to the contracts it awards. Currently the process for entering and correcting data is highly manual. The purpose of this requirement is to acquire innovative tools to improve the data that is associated with IRS procurement actions, with a focus on the following 3 goals:

- Improve the IRS data which resides in the Federal Procurement Data System - Next Generation (FPDS-NG);
- Limit the amount of manual work required by government personnel in improving the IRS data; and,
- Achieve incremental improvement in IRS data in the near term - the aspirational goal is to improve data no later than 31 December 2019.

The DATA Act Improvements requirement was solicited as Solution Challenge (SC) One under the Pilot IRS program. The purpose of Pilot IRS is to set forth an incremental and modular approach to identify, test, and deploy solutions that support the IRS mission. To align with Pilot IRS' approach, this requirement includes four (4) phases. Each phase will build on the previous one, and funding amounts and durations will increase as phases progress. Funding ceilings for each phase have been established, with the understanding that additional clarity will be established at the end of each preceding phase. In other words, the specifics of the work/cost for Phase 2 will be established as part of the work completed in Phase 1, and the specifics of Phase 3 at the end of Phase 2, at the end of Phase 3, the plan for Phase 4 is delivered.

Five (5) contracts will be awarded in support this requirement. Depending on the results and mission priorities, the IRS will decide to fund all, some, or none of the contracts at each phase. The phases and applicable not to exceed (NTE) amounts and durations are outline below:

- Phase 1 - Proof of Concept and Return on Investment (NTE \$25K / 30 days)
- Phase 2 - Prototypes, Testing, and Pilot/Initial Deployment (NTE \$75K / 60 days)
- Phase 3 - Scaled Deployment (NTE \$150K / 90 days)
- Phase 4 - Full Deployment (NTE \$3M / 4.5 years)

**Period of Performance:**

Based on the durations above, the anticipated Period of Performance for Phases 1 – 4 are as follows:

- Phase 1 / Base Period: 09/30/2019 – 10/29/2019
- Phase 2 / Option Period 1: 10/30/2019 – 12/29/2019
- Phase 3 / Option Period 2: 12/30/2019 – 03/29/2020
- Phase 4.0 / Option Period 3: 03/30/2020 – 09/29/2020

- Phase 4.1 / Option Period 4: 09/30/2020 – 09/29/2021
- Phase 4.2 / Option Period 5: 09/30/2021 – 09/29/2022
- Phase 4.3 / Option Period 6: 09/30/2022 – 09/29/2023
- Phase 4.4 / Option Period 7: 09/30/2023 – 09/29/2024

**Shopping Cart/Requisition:**

Shopping Cart No. 5000076858 will be used to fully fund the thirty (30) day Phase 1/base period for five (5) contracts NTE \$25,000.00 each. The total Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 funding obligated for this requirement is \$125,000.00 (5 contracts x \$25,000 each).

**Type of Contract:**

Five (5) Firm-Fixed-Price contracts will be awarded via the open market under FAR 13.5.

**Solicitation:**

Request for proposal (RFP) number 2032H5-19-R-00014 was issued via FedBizOpps under the Pilot IRS platform on 8/23/2019 with a closing date of 09/04/2019. The solicitation instructed vendors that up to six (6) Firm-Fixed-Price awards would be made as a result of the solicitation to the contractor(s) whose offer represents the best value to the Government. Comparative evaluations in accordance with FAR 13.106-2(b)(3) were used to determine the best value based on: Technical (capability of the solution to meet the primary goals), Past Performance, and Price. For price evaluation purposes, the total evaluated price included all 4 Phases (i.e. the base period and all option periods).

Forty-two (42) proposals were received in response to the solicitation from the following vendors; three (3) of which were either untimely or non-compliant (indicated in **bold**):

Per the instructions in the solicitation, proposals were evaluated in 2 stages. Stage 1 included evaluation of the vendors written proposal (no more than 10 pages in length). Based on the written submissions, the IRS selected vendors to participate in Stage 2 of the evaluation process – Oral Presentations.

**Technical Evaluation:**

The thirty-eight (38) proposals that were compliant and submitted timely were provided to the technical team to be evaluated against the criteria in the solicitation. Based on comparative evaluations in accordance with FAR 13.106-2(b)(3), the technical team identified the following eleven (11) vendors as having a more advantageous technical proposal when compared against the other proposals that were received:

[REDACTED]

These 11 vendors were asked to participate in Stage 2 of the evaluation process – Oral Presentations, held on September 17, 2019. During the 30-minute individual presentations, vendors responded to questions from the IRS and presented on their general technical approach, to include discussion on Phase 2-4 approaches, ROI, and funding levels.

Based on further comparison of the 11 vendors who participated in Oral Presentations, the technical evaluation team determined that the following 5 vendors (in no particular order) provided the most advantageous technical approach and recommended them for award:

[REDACTED]

**Price Evaluation:**

The 38 compliant and timely submitted price proposals were evaluated for completeness, accuracy, and to determine if the prices submitted were Fair and Reasonable. The total evaluated price included all 4 Phases (i.e. the base period and all option periods). In accordance with FAR 13.106, all price proposals were determined to be Fair and Reasonable based on adequate price competition, with an average price of approximately \$3,150,000.00. In addition, the solicitation stipulated NTE amounts for each phase, which equal a total NTE amount of \$3,250,000.00 over a duration of five (5) years covering all phases/options. The NTE amounts were also used to normalize pricing amongst vendors who included unpriced assumptions, such as software licensing and other direct costs. The NTE amounts are as follow:

- Phase 1 - Proof of Concept and Return on Investment (NTE \$25K / 30 days)
- Phase 2 - Prototypes, Testing, and Pilot/Initial Deployment (NTE \$75K / 60 days)
- Phase 3 - Scaled Deployment (NTE \$150K / 90 days)

- Phase 4 - Full Deployment (NTE \$3M / 4.5 years)

Due to the phased approach of this procurement, vendors who receive awards will submit revised proposals at the end of each phase; therefore, the NTE amounts will be used for award purposes.

**Past Performance & Responsibility:**

Past performance for the thirty-eight (38) vendors who submitted compliant and timely responses to the solicitation were evaluated in accordance with FAR 13.106-2. All vendors were found to have experience related to their proposed solution.

The five (5) vendors recommended for award were further reviewed and determined to be responsible based on having the necessary experience and technical skills to successfully support this requirement. The determinations were supported by a search of the SAM website, which verified the vendors' active registration status without any exclusions. In addition, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) was reviewed and did not reveal any misconduct from the recommended contractors. Tax checks were performed as well, and the proposed vendors were not found on the most recent tax delinquency list.

**Best Value Determination:**

Based on the above information, and in accordance with comparative evaluations under FAR 13.106-2(b)(3), it has been determined that the following 5 vendors represent the best value to the Government:

The MIL Corporation  
Summit2Sea Consulting, LLC  
Avineon, Inc.  
ResonantLogic, LLC  
ASI Government, LLC

A Firm-Fixed Price contract NTE \$3,250,000.00 is recommended to be awarded to each of the 5 vendors for a total duration of five (5) years if all options are exercised.

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**Brady Gariano**  
**Contract Specialist**

Marcela A. Almeida Digitally signed by Marcela A.  
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**Marcela Almeida**  
**Contracting Officer**