



## DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Date: November 03, 2023

Ref: RFI/INTEROPERABILITY-SDE/2023-11-03

To: All interested Digital Government Solutions Providers

Subject: Request for Information (RFI) for Interoperability and Secure Data Exchange Platform Solution Partners – for an integrated network information system for the Government and whole of society in Papua New Guinea

The Department of Information Communications Technology (DICT) on behalf of the government of Papua New Guinea Government is issuing this open Request for Information (RFI) in accordance with the **Digital Government Act 2022**<sup>1</sup> and **Data Governance and Data Protection Policy 2023**<sup>2</sup>, for the purpose of identifying and exploring potential solutions for the development of a robust Interoperability and Secure Data Exchange platform for whole of Society for Papua New Guinea.

The purpose of this RFI is to identify and explore potential solutions to establish a secure, reliable, and cost-effective Interoperability and Secure Data Exchange platform for government as a platform secure, enable and coordinate responsible use of, management, protection and governance of data across public and private sectors in Papua New Guinea, as part of its digital transformational journey, as Papua New Guinea propels towards an open, transparent government and data driven economy. Data has become an asset and is fundamental to economic, social and political development. Abuse of data in this interconnected digital age can have significant consequences on the society and or citizens, hence the call for data governance ecosystem, led by government, coordinated and implemented through a secure data exchange platform.

This RFI serves to fulfil the provisions of **Section 31** of the **Digital Government Act 2022**, to develop, operate and maintain a Secure Data Exchange Platform (SDEP) for all public bodies, that shall provide security for all government data stored and shared for digital services delivery and facilitate effective data sharing amongst public bodies. The SDEP shall secure any government sanctioned digital identify verification and authentication services and further serves as the integration point for application programming interfaces (APIs) for consumption of identification, verification and services.

In addition, the Interoperability and SDE platform is an integral component, as layer two (2) stack of the **GOVPNG Technology Stack 2023**<sup>3</sup>, as a trusted mediator and services enabler for digital services.

Further, the SDEP shall form the foundational infrastructure for institutionalizing government Data Governance and Data Protection Authority responsible as call for by the Data government and Data Protection Policy.

### **Scope of the RFI and Information Requested**

The response to RFI at the minimal shall include;

1. **Organisation, capacity and capability:** Brief overview of your Organisation, including profile, history, research and development, capacity and capability and experiences in interoperability and secure data exchange platform development for government and organisations to date. In addition, please include your organisations ownership and management structure, and biodata of its directors and executive management.
2. **Platform Architecture:** Provide an overview of your proposed platform architecture. Describe how your solution ensures data security, privacy, consent management and compliance, once only principle, consistent with international best practices and regulations and standards. Describe how this supports the objectives of PNG Data Governance and Data Protection Policy 2023, PNG Digital Government Act 2022 and the PNG Government Technology Stack 2023. Explain how your solution architecture supports scalability and future growth and innovation in the implementation of PNG Government Technology Stack 2023<sup>4</sup>.
3. **Interoperability, Integration and Data sharing:** Describe how your solution facilitates interoperability with existing government systems, citizens and business. Provide at least 3 use case studies or examples of such implementations.
4. **Security Measures:** Describe the security features and protocols design and implementation into your solution. Explain how your solution safeguards against data breaches and cyber threats, for data in store and data in transits.
5. **Compliance and Standards:** Detail what international standards and best practices your solutions comply international best practices and open standards and the objectives Digital Government Act 2022. Detail how Consent Management and Trust is implemented. Provide information on any certifications or compliance measures achieved.
6. **Cost Effectiveness:** Outline the cost structure of your solution, including initial setup, maintenance, and operational costs. Explain your approach meeting service level agreement (SLAs) and government key performance indicators (KPI), uptime guarantees, disaster recover, data breaches and incident management and response plans. Describe any potential cost-saving measures or efficiencies under these circumstances. Describe post implementation operation support model to lower total cost of ownership whilst meeting established Service Level Agreements (SLAs).
7. **Local capacity building and training:** Describe user and administration systems training and long term in-country and institutional capacity development. Provide sample of training programmes or case studies.

The RFI response shall allow the government to make informed decision on the pathway for the development of Papua New Guinea's Interoperability and Secure data Exchange

capability and how this capability supports the broader Digital Economy development over the next 5 years as guided by the **PNG Medium term Development Plan IV 2023 – 2027<sup>5</sup>, Strategic Priority Area (SPA) 8.1, 6.3 and 2.4.**

### Submission Guidelines

Responses must be submitted in electronic format (PDF or Microsoft Word) via email to: **rfi@ict.gov.pg** by **November 17, 2023, 1600 pm PNG time, (GMT +10).**

Please use the subject line "**RFI Response – INTEROPERABILITY-SDE/2023-11-03**" for your email submission.

The response should not exceed **50** pages, excluding appendices and supplementary materials.

All inquiries and questions regarding this RFI should be directed to Secretary at **rfi@ict.gov.pg** by **November 10, 2023, 1600 pm PNG time, (GMT +10).**

Vendors must disclose any conflicts of interest, current or past contracts with government agencies, and any potential impact on the impartiality of their response.

All information provided in response to this RFI will be treated as confidential.


### Important Note

This RFI is for information and planning purposes only and does not constitute an expressed or implied solicitation or a commitment by the PNG Department of ICT to procure any products or services. Any procurement that may arise from this RFI will be subject to separate solicitations, adhering to the public sector procurement best practices, including transparency, fairness, and competitiveness.

We appreciate your interest and look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

  
Steven Marafaho  
Secretary

<sup>1</sup> Digital Government Act 2022, effective 08th August 2022.

<https://www.ict.gov.pg/Legislation/Digital%20Government%20Bill/Digital%20Government%20Bill%202022%2022.03.22%20Final.pdf>). Implementation of various component are under way.

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<sup>2</sup> Data Governance and Data Protection Policy 2023( <https://www.ict.gov.pg/data-governance-and-protection-policy/>). Note that Policy is in final draft for endorsement, anticipated before end of 2023. A legislation is to follow in 2024.

<sup>3</sup> GOVPNG Technology Stack 2023 (<https://www.ict.gov.pg/dict-unveils-technology-stack-2023-paving-way-for-digital-transformation-in-png/>). The framework was released in June, 2023, and ongoing work is progressing to define detail specifications.

<sup>5</sup> Medium Term Development Plan IV 2023 – 2027 (<https://mtdp.gov.pg/>)

