NICTA'S RESPONSE REPORT TO PROJECT PROPOSALS

Universal Access and Services (UAS) Projects 2020

Contents

1. INTRODUCTION

NICTA initiated public consultation and invited project proposals for 2020 from 30th April to 27th May, 2019. As part of the consultation process, NICTA conducted a series of regional public consultation meetings inviting stakeholders including the general public, ICT licensees, businesses, community groups and educational institutions on the "Universal Access and Services (UAS) Projects 2020". The meetings eventuated on the following dates:

- 6th May, 2019 – Southern Region
- 8th May, 2019 – Momase and NGI Regions
- 10th May, 2019 – Highlands Region.

The Public Consultation Meetings were conducted in two (2) sessions; the opening session aimed at providing an overview of NICTA with emphasis to the UAS regime captured in the NICT Act 2009, and the concluding session focused on detailing the implemented UAS Projects to date and the UAS Project 2020 Proposal Form *(Form UAS 002)*. NICTA also had follow-up one-to-one discussions with interested participants.

The initial deadline for submissions was set as 27th May, 2019 and at the request of a project proponent the deadline was extended to 7th June, 2019.

Proposals were received from the following:

1. PNG DataCo
2. Kingku HiTech Training Institute
3. Pius Nolih
4. Siusoft
5. Telikom PNG Kokopo
6. Western Highlands Lutheran Students & Graduates Union
7. Holy Trinity Teacher's College
8. Leonard Hitovea
9. Highcoms Engineering Limited
10. Gabaspot Wi-Fi
11. Kopun Minto Rural Development Association
12. Rosary Secondary School

NICTA also received project proposals prior to the consultation process from the following:

1. Gulf Provincial and Local Level Government
2. Barai Co-operative Society Ltd

All submissions received prior and during the Consultation Process were considered and are available on NICTA's public register.

This report provides NICTA's response to project proposals received from all stakeholders prior and during the consultation.

NICTA also clarifies that no definitive decisions relating to UAS Projects 2020 had been made at the time of the Consultation Process. The Consultation Process, call for proposals from all

stakeholders including the general public, ICT licensees, businesses, community groups and educational institutions for consideration and evaluation by NICTA for UAS Projects 2020.

NICTA noted a total of 82 participants for 2019 regional consultation meetings and thanks all stakeholders who attended and contributed to the consultation process. A list of participants for the consultation meetings is attached at Annex I.

2. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED

The table below summarizes the main points of each submission, together with the responses of NICTA. Where some specific points or language may not be directly addressed, all comments received were considered and have been taken into account.

No.	Submission	Proposed Project	Summary of Proposal	NICTA's Response(s)
1	PNG DataCo Limited	*Infrastructure Construction – Telecommunications Tower*	*The lack of reliable communication services with no mobile coverage within the area of the Kumul Submarine Cable Project Cable Landing Station (CLS) in Popondetta has instigated the request for a communications tower to be constructed. A total population of 2,021 people within Ward 17 & 18 of Oro Bay LLG will benefit from the communications tower once communication services become available.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed location in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 1 Mobile Broadband Network Upgrade and Expansion*
2	Highcoms Engineering Limited	*Infrastructure – Computer Laboratory with Broadband Connectivity*	*Seeking UAS fund to establish computer labs as well as setup computers with broadband services for the following list of 36 public institutions in the Western Highlands Province;* *Education:*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed locations and institutions in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 2 Community and Institutional Broadband Networks; in consultation with the Department of Education and*

| | | | *Anga Primary School, Baisu Primary School, Engnui Primary School, Kelowaghi Primary School, Keltika Primary School, Keluwa Primary School, Nanga Emmanuel Primary School, Ogulbeng Primary School, Rename Primary School, Tiki Primary School, Togoba Primary School and Wimbuka Primary School.* | *the National Department of Health on the proposals.* |
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Health:
Baisu Clinic, Balg Community Health Post, Bukapena Health Centre, Hagen Urban Clinic, Kotna District Hospital, Kumdi Community Health Post, Kwinga Community Health Post, Mitiku Community Health Post, Mukapeng Community Health Post, Nunga Health Centre, Pabrabuk Health Clinic, Paglum Community Health Post, Paiakona Community Health Post, Rabimul Urban Clinic, Susu Mamas Clinic, Tambul District Hospital, Tengatenga Health Center, Tiki Health Centre, Tinsly District Hospital, Tipulga Pena

			Community Health Post, Togoba Health Centre and Wakonom Community Health Post.	
			The main objective of establishing computer labs with broadband services for the primary schools is to develop and instil the basic knowledge and skills in ICT preparing them for higher level institutions.	
			Setting up Computers with Broadband access for the Health centres would assist the medical officers with access to information on different health issues, treatment options with the limited available drugs, medical papers etc...	
3	Holy Trinity Teacher's College	*ICT Application and Content Development*	*Request to fund a simple live streaming and recording setup facility. The college has embarked upon implementing a new Bachelor of Education and Diploma in Teaching (Primary) program, noting digital literacy as an urgent need to cope with the current developments taking place in the ICT industry.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 2 Community and Institutional Broadband Networks and Program 3 ICT Platform for Future Growth.*

			It's not just about direct digital literacy benefits from this project, it is also about educating our educators of future leaders of this country. It is our duty to feed them with the right electronic knowledge which will equip them for our leaders of tomorrow.	
4	Kingku HiTech Training Institute	I. Training – ICT Innovation and Technology in Agriculture for Farmers II. Infrastructure – Computer Laboratory	i. The project is focused on training – Farmers especially, women and youths who are lead farmers doing agriculture business to gain basic ICT knowledge. *Agriculture Technology Training* – farmers will be trained to the use of modern technology in farming including use of ICT to boost their farming business. ii. The Project aims to set up a Computer Laboratory with Network Server for Internet connected to the Broadband WIFI Hotspot and printer/copier. A total of 25 computers to be accessed by	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 2 Community and Institutional Broadband Networks and Program 3 ICT Platform for Future Growth.*

			50 farmers for the first batch training.	
5	Rebiamul Primary School	*Infrastructure – Computer Laboratory with Broadband Connectivity and e-Library*	*Seeking UAS funds to establish a computer laboratory with broadband connectivity for an e-library. The project intends to support and improve the issues relating to students and teachers accessing outdated library books to updated information with the e-library.* *The project will benefit both teachers and students as well as the local community through the use of internet. It will also improve communications, research, touch typing, and accurate record keeping of student data records.* *The outcome of the project anticipates all students and teachers to learn the basic skills on touch typing, email, research and communication.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed institution in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 2 Community and Institutional Broadband Networks.*
6	Pius Nolih	*Rural Primary School E-Library*	*Education is often seen as a major contributing factor to the growth and progress of a society. It is the single biggest opportunity any child can have. The project proposed is seeking*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project and the locations in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 2 Community*

			assistance from the UAS fund to provide two remote schools in Manus and Milne Bay Provinces an opportunity learning with up-to-date Academic Materials and general learning content which will also be made available offline. *The basic infrastructure proposed for installation consists of an offline E-Library server, ipads or tablets and a solar power system. The e-library will provide and promote access to updated knowledge and information, which can improve/boost literacy and numeracy skills for elementary/primary school students.*	*and Institutional Broadband Networks.*
7	Siusoft Technologies Limited	*Unified Communication*	*Unified Communication embark to provide ICT Applications and Content, provide Digital Literacy, provide Smart Television, and develop wireless transmission enabling uses of ICT Applications and Content, Digital Literacy, and Smart TV over Internet and non-Internet for everyone in Papua New Guinea.*	*NICTA considers this proposal not meeting the UAS criteria and objectives.*

8	Telikom (PNG) Ltd - Kokopo	*Telecommunication Infrastructure Upgrade and Broadcasting services*	*Request seeking funding from the UAS for the proposed project in Pomio District which consists of objectives with several components:* - *Restore and upgrade 3G-4G mobile network within the District HQ area* - *Expand 3G/4G coverage to the remote/inland oil-palm project/tourism sites* - *Network expansion to cater for business online and monetary transactions* - *Expand TV/Radio coverage to remote areas within Pomio District*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project and location in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Programs 1 Mobile Broadband Network Upgrade and Expansion and Program 4 Expansion of Broadcasting Network Coverage*
9	Western Highlands Lutheran Students and Graduates Union	*Office Equipment and Networking System*	*The project proposed is seeking assistance from the UAS fund to purchase office equipment and the establishment of a local area network for the Union.*	*NICTA considers this proposal not meeting the UAS criteria and objectives.*
10	Gabaspot Wi-Fi	*Infrastructure – Wireless Mesh Network*	*The project seeks funding from the UAS to provide broadband in Gabagaba Village, Central Province.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project and location in the design and selection of specific UAS project under*

				Program 2 Community and Institutional Broadband Networks.
			Some of the objectives of the project include: - *Trigger and enable foundations and organizations setting up, maintaining and spreading communications infrastructures (Local intranets and shared internet connections), especially in rural areas where commercial or public initiatives see no clear benefit of or are unable to setup such structures.* - *To create public consciousness about freedom of information and communication.* - *Improve the existing local social networks by enhancing social and technical communication structures.* - *Spread knowledge of how to set-up a successful*	

			community project through sharing the elements/methodology of running a non-hierarchical community network.	
12	Rosary Secondary School - Kondiu	*Infrastructure – Computer Laboratory with Broadband Connectivity*	*The project proposed is seeking assistance to setup a computer lab with broadband connectivity for the school. The broadband connectivity would also extend via a Wi-Fi network around the school premises and would provide broadband access to the surrounding community.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project and location in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 2 Community and Institutional Broadband Networks.*
12	Kopun Minto Rural Development Association	*Infrastructure – Tower construction*	*The proposal is seeking assistance under the UAS program to construct 3 Telecommunications Towers to provide mobile and broadcasting services in the Jimi District of Jiwaka Province.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project and location in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 1 Mobile Broadband Network Upgrade and Expansion and Program 4 Expansion of Broadcasting Network Coverage.*
13	Gulf Provincial Government	*Infrastructure - Upgrade Mobile and Broadcasting services*	*The project proposal is seeking assistance in funding programs to improve services in relation to mobile communication and broadcasting services within the Gulf Province.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project and location in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 1 Mobile Broadband Network Upgrade and Expansion*

				and Program 4 Expansion of Broadcasting Network Coverage.
14	Barai Co-operative Society Ltd	*Infrastructure – Tower Construction*	*Seeking assistance under the UAS program to construct a telecommunications tower in the Rigo District of Central Province specifically in Barai Village. The project aims to improve mobile communication service in the area.*	*NICTA will take into account the proposed project and location in the design and selection of specific UAS project under Program 1 Mobile Broadband Network Upgrade and Expansion.*

ANNEX I

Attachment: *Consultation Meetings for UAS Projects 2020 Project Proposals - Attendance List*

Consultation
Meetings for UAS Pro