



27 December 2024

ASTI – BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
BAC Resolution No. 24-12-305-EPA

DECLARATION OF THE BIDDER WITH LOWEST CALCULATED RESPONSIVE BID
AND RECOMMENDING AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY
AND INSTALLATION OF LOCAL TRANSPORT - UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (UP)
LOS BAÑOS / INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(IRRI) SECONDARY 1GBPS (EARLY PROCUREMENT ACTIVITY)

Purchase Request No.	:	INNOVATE-24-09-19856 INNOVATE-24-10-20113
Date of Purchase Request	:	06 September 2024 10 October 2024
Invitation to Bid No.	:	24-10-5050
Solicitation No.	:	24-10-5050
PhilGEPS Reference No.	:	11418711
Approved Budget for the Contract	:	₱6,449,455.17

WHEREAS, the Republic Act (RA) No. 9184, otherwise known as the “Government Procurement Reform Act”, provides that all procurement of the national government, its departments, bureaus, offices, and agencies, including state universities and colleges, government-owned and/or controlled corporations, government financial institutions and local government units, shall, in all cases be conducted in accordance therewith and its 2016 revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR);

WHEREAS, on **29 August 2024**, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) - Advanced Science and Technology Institute (ASTI) Head of Procuring Entity (HoPE), approved the **Indicative Annual Procurement Plan (APP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025**;

WHEREAS, one of the purposes of the approval of said Indicative APP for FY 2025 is to ensure the timely delivery of goods, implementation of infrastructure projects, and rendition of consultancy services of the DOST-ASTI, through Early Procurement Activities (EPA) consistent with the Government Procurement Policy Board Resolution No. 14-2019 dated 17 July 2019 where Procuring Entities are encouraged to start procurement activity short of award;

WHEREAS, EPA is the conduct of procurement activities, from posting of the procurement opportunity, if required, until the recommendation of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) to the HoPE as to the award of the contract, for goods to be delivered, infrastructure projects to be implemented and consulting services to be rendered in the following fiscal year, pending approval of the respective funding sources;

WHEREAS, the DOST-ASTI BAC received the following Purchase Requests (PRs), together with market studies:

- 1) PR No. **INNOVATE-24-09-19856** dated **06 September 2024**; and
- 2) PR No. **INNOVATE-24-10-20113** dated **10 October 2024**.

WHEREAS, the said PRs were consolidated into one (1) procurement opportunity, to be awarded per lot, with a procurement project titled, **“Supply, Delivery, and Installation of Various Local Transports (Early Procurement Activity)”**, with a total Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) amounting to **Six Million Four Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Five Pesos 17/100 Only (₱6,449,455.17)**, broken down as follows:

LOT NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	QTY.	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL AMOUNT / ABC
1	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Manila Primary 100Mbps	9	Month	₱20,160.00	₱181,440.00
2	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Cebu 30Mbps	9	Month	₱10,080.00	₱90,720.00
3	Local Transport - National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) Binondo 100Mbps	9	Month	₱20,000.00	₱180,000.00

4	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) South Road Cebu 2Mbps	9	Month	₱8,900.00	₱80,100.00
5	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) School of Health Sciences (SHS) Leyte 2Mbps	9	Month	₱8,900.00	₱80,100.00
6	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Pampanga 5Mbps	9	Month	₱12,622.13	₱113,599.17
7	Local Transport - MK2 Data Center 5Gbps	9	Month	₱155,792.00	₱1,402,128.00
8	International Private Line (IPL) - United States of America (USA) 1Gbps	9	Month	₱364,952.00	₱3,284,568.00
9	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Manila Secondary 100Mbps	9	Month	₱26,000.00	₱234,000.00
10	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños / International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Secondary 1Gbps	9	Month	₱78,400.00	₱705,600.00
11	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Bonifacio Global City (BGC) 10Mbps	9	Month	₱10,800.00	₱97,200.00
GRAND TOTAL					₱6,449,455.17

WHEREAS, on **21 October 2024, 09:00 AM**, a Pre-procurement Conference was held online via Microsoft Teams Application with the DOST-ASTI BAC, DOST-ASTI BAC Secretariat, and end-user representatives in attendance, to determine the readiness of the procurement project;

WHEREAS, on **31 October 2024**, the Invitation to Bid and the Philippine Bidding Documents (PBD) for subject procurement were published on the websites of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System and DOST-ASTI, as well as in the latter's conspicuous place reserved for the purpose, consistent with Section 21, Rule VII of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184;

WHEREAS, on **07 November 2024, 09:00 AM**, a Pre-bidding Conference for said procurement was conducted by the DOST-ASTI BAC through videoconferencing via MS Teams, which was opened to prospective bidders, in compliance with Section 22.1, Rule VII of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184;

WHEREAS, two (2) prospective bidders purchased and submitted PBDs prior to the deadline of submission on **19 November 2024, 09:00 AM**, particularly **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** and **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.**;

WHEREAS, during the scheduled Opening of Bids for subject procurement on **19 November 2024, 09:30 AM**, the DOST-ASTI BAC opened the bids of **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** and **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.** in public and in the presence of the bidders' representatives to determine their compliance with the eligibility, technical, and financial requirements specified in the DOST-ASTI PBD. Said Opening of Bids was conducted by the DOST-ASTI BAC through a blended meeting arrangement;

WHEREAS, during the preliminary examination of bids, the DOST-ASTI BAC examined the submitted documents of the above prospective bidders versus a checklist to ascertain if the required documents were all submitted, using a non-discretionary "pass or fail" criterion;

WHEREAS, during the Opening of Bids, **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** and **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.**, were declared "**eligible**" for having submitted complete eligibility and technical requirements. The bids submitted by the two (2) bidders were as follows:

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION	ABC	BID AMOUNT	
			CONVERGE ICT SOLUTIONS, INC.	EASTERN TELECOMMUNICATION PHILIPPINES, INC.
1	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Manila Primary 100Mbps	₱181,440.00	₱95,256.00	₱126,000.00
2	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Cebu 30Mbps	₱90,720.00	₱53,978.00	<u>No Bid</u>
3	Local Transport - National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) Binondo 100Mbps	₱180,000.00	₱95,256.00	<u>No Bid</u>
4	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) South Road Cebu 2Mbps	₱80,100.00	₱25,401.00	<u>No Bid</u>
5	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) School of Health Sciences (SHS) Leyte 2Mbps	₱80,100.00	₱80,100.00	<u>No Bid</u>
6	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Pampanga 5Mbps	₱113,599.17	₱37,800.00	<u>No Bid</u>
7	Local Transport - MK2 Data Center 5Gbps	₱1,402,128.00	₱677,376.00	<u>No Bid</u>
8	International Private Line (IPL) - United States of America (USA) 1Gbps	₱3,284,568.00	₱2,473,430.00	<u>No Bid</u>

9	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Manila Secondary 100Mbps	₱234,000.00	₱95,256.00	₱126,000.00
10	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños / International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Secondary 1Gbps	₱705,600.00	₱287,280.00	₱221,760.00
11	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Bonifacio Global City (BGC) 10Mbps	₱97,200.00	₱97,200.00	<i>No Bid</i>
TOTAL BID AMOUNT (₱)			₱4,018,333.00	₱473,760.00

WHEREAS, the DOST-ASTI BAC conducted a detailed evaluation of the bid of **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** and **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.** pursuant to Section 32 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184, with the following results:

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION	NAME OF BIDDER	BID PRICE AS CALCULATED	RANKING	REMARKS
1	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Manila Primary 100Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱95,256.00	Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB)	
2	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Cebu 30Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱53,978.04	Single Calculated Bid (SCB)	Higher than bid amount as read
3	Local Transport - National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) Binondo 100Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱95,256.00	SCB	
4	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) South Road Cebu 2Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱25,400.97	SCB	Lower than bid amount as read
5	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) School of Health Sciences (SHS) Leyte 2Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱80,100.00	SCB	
6	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP)Pampanga 5Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱37,800.00	SCB	
7	Local Transport - MK2 Data Center 5Gbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱677,376.00	SCB	
8	International Private Line (IPL) - United States of America (USA) 1Gbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱2,473,430.04	SCB	Higher than bid amount as read
9	Local Transport - Court of Appeals (CA) Manila Secondary 100Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱95,256.00	LCB	
10	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños / International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Secondary 1Gbps	Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.	₱221,760.00	LCB	
11	Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Bonifacio Global City (BGC) 10Mbps	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	₱97,200.00	SCB	

WHEREAS, the DOST-ASTI BAC declared **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** and **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.** as the bidder with Single Calculated Bid (SCB) and Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) through BAC Resolution No. 24-11-261-EPA dated 19 November 2024. Likewise, in the same resolution, the DOST-ASTI BAC Secretariat was instructed by the DOST-ASTI BAC to assist them in conducting post-qualification of said bidders;

WHEREAS, having declared **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.**, as LCB for Lot No. 10 - Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños / International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Secondary 1Gbps, the DOST-ASTI BAC issued a Notice of Post-Qualification on 22 November 2024 and, accordingly, conducted the necessary post-qualification proceedings;

WHEREAS, on **02 December 2024, 9:00 AM**, the DOST-ASTI BAC conducted a post-qualification meeting to discuss the submissions and findings of the DOST-ASTI BAC with the assistance of the DOST-ASTI BAC Secretariat;

WHEREAS, the submission of latest income tax return is required pursuant to Section 34.2 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184. The bidder only submitted its business tax returns filed and paid through the BIR Electronic Filing and Payments System within six (6) months prior to the bid submission date;

WHEREAS, the DOST-ASTI BAC likewise reiterated said requirement in Section III, Clause 20.1 of the DOST-ASTI PBD, specifically:

“20.1 Latest Income and Business Tax Returns, which are filed and paid through the BIR Electronic Filing and Payment System, specifically Income Tax Return and VAT or Percentage Tax Returns. These must be submitted within a non-extendible period of five (5) calendar days from receipt of the bidder of a notice from the DOST-ASTI BAC that it submitted the Single/Lowest Calculated Bid.”

WHEREAS, during the post-qualification meeting, it was found by the DOST-ASTI BAC that **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.** failed to submit its Income Tax Return for Fiscal Year 2023 taxable period;

WHEREAS, the majority of the members of the DOST-ASTI BAC voted to fail **Eastern Telecommunication Philippines, Inc.** for said requirement, thereby making the bidder “**post-disqualified**”;

WHEREAS, the DOST-ASTI BAC declared **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** as SCRB/LCRB for Lot Nos. 1-9 and 11 which was reflected through **BAC Resolution 24-12-278-EPA** dated **02 December 2024**;

WHEREAS, on **27 December 2024, 9:00 AM**, the DOST-ASTI BAC conducted another post-qualification of documents of **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.**, for Lot No. 10 - Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños / International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Secondary 1Gbps, as the second LCB;

WHEREAS, after verification, validation, and ascertainment of all statements made and documents submitted by **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** the DOST-ASTI BAC determined that the submission of said bidder passed all the criteria for post-qualification;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing, WE, the members of the DOST-ASTI BAC hereby RESOLVE, as it is hereby RESOLVED to recommend to the HoPE, the following:

- (1) Declare **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** for the procurement project titled, “**Supply, Delivery and Installation of Local Transport - University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños / International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Secondary 1Gbps (Early Procurement Activity)**” as the **Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid (LCRB)**, with a total bid price amounting to **Two Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Pesos Only (P287,280.00)**;
- (2) Award the contract to **Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.** in the above-mentioned amount upon approval and effectivity of DOST-ASTI funding source/s; and
- (3) Notify all other bidders, in writing, of the DOST-ASTI BAC’s recommendation within three (3) calendar days from the issuance of the resolution recommending the award of the contract, pursuant to Section 37.1.1 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA No. 9184.

DONE in Quezon City this 27th day of December 2024.

ALVIN E. RETAMAR
End-user

NARCISA JUVILYN C. CASTAÑEDA
BAC Member

HAROLD BRYAN S. PALER
BAC Member

MERYL REGINE L. ALGODON, Ph.D.
BAC Member

PHILIP A. MARTINEZ
BAC Member

JEFFREY A. ABOROT
BAC Vice Chairperson

BAYANI BENJAMIN R. LARA
BAC Chairperson

APPROVED/DISAPPROVED

FRANZ A. DE LEON, Ph.D.
Director, DOST-ASTI