

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP 20/2020

**THE PROCUREMENT OF THIRD PARTY DATA AND RELATED
SERVICES FROM A CREDIT BUREAU OR A SIMILAR SERVICE
PROVIDER**

RFP MAIN DOCUMENT

SUMMARY, GUIDELINES, CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

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Summary, Guidelines, Conditions and Instructions

The South African Revenue Service (“SARS”) invites suitable qualified service providers (“Bidders”) to submit proposals (“Tenders”) in accordance with the rules set out in this Request for Proposal (RFP) for the:

- The Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
- The Contract will be for a period of three (3) years, with an option to renew the contract for a further period of two (2) periods of twelve (12) months at SARS’ sole discretion, subject to the Bidder’s accepting SARS Terms and Conditions

1 STRUCTURE OF THE RFP PACK

1.1 Structure

This RFP Pack is organised in seven (7) sections consisting of one or more documents in each section.

Section	Description of section contents
1	The Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider for the South African Revenue Service Summary Guidelines Instructions and Conditions for SARS
2	Standard Bidding Documents (SBD’s)
3	Business Requirements Specification (BRS) documents for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
4	Mandatory Response Templates for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
6	Technical Response Template for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
6	Pricing Template for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
7	Software Licence Maintenance and Support Services Agreement for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider

1.2 RFP Pack Contents

Section	Document name	Document filename
1	RFP Main Document	SARS RFP 20/2020 1-1: The Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider for the South African Revenue

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		Service Summary Guidelines Instructions and Conditions
2	Invitation to Bid (SBD1)	SARS RFP 20/2020 2-1 Invitation to Bid (SBD 1)
	Declaration of Interest (SBD 4)	SARS RFP 20/2020 2-2 Declaration of Interest (SBD 4)
	Preference Points Claim Form (SBD 6.1)	SARS RFP 20/2020 2-3 Preference Points Claim Form (SBD 6.1)
	Declaration of Past SCM Practices (SBD 8)	SARS RFP 20/2020 2-4 Declaration of Past SCM Practices (SBD 8)
	Certificate of Independent Bid Determination (SBD 9)	SARS RFP 20/2020 2-5 Certificate of Independent Bid Determination (SBD 9)
	Supplier Cost and Risk Assessment Questionnaire	SARS RFP 20/2020 2-6 Supplier Cost and Risk Assessment Questionnaire
	SARS Oath / Affirmation of Secrecy	SARS RFP 20/2020 2-7 SARS Oath – Affirmation of Secrecy
3	Business Requirements Specification (BRS)	SARS RFP 20/2020 3-1: The Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider Business Requirements Specification
4	Mandatory Response Template for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider	SARS RFP 20/2020 4-1: Mandatory Response Template for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
5	Technical Response Template for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider	SARS RFP 20/2020 5-1: Technical Response Template for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
6	Pricing Template for the The Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider	SARS RFP 20/2020 6-1: Pricing Template for the The Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider
7	Agreement for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider	SARS RFP 20/2020 7-1: Software Licence Maintenance and Support Services Agreement for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider

2 KEY DATES AND ACTIVITIES

The table below lists certain key dates and activities relevant from time of issuance of the RFP up to and until the Closing Date:

No	Description	Start Date/Time	End Date/Time
1.	RFP is published	13 November 2020	15 December 2020 at 11:00 am

2.	Non- Compulsory Briefing Session	23 November 2020 at 11:00	23 November 2020 at 13:00
3.	Bidders to submit written questions	16 November 2020	07 December 2020
4.	SARS response to Bidder's written questions	17 November 2020	09 December 2020
5.	Tenders due (the "Closing Date")	n/a	15 December 2020 at 11:00 am

All dates and times in this RFP are South African Standard Time.

Any time or date in this RFP is subject to change at SARS's discretion. The establishment of a time or date in this RFP does not create an obligation on the part of SARS to take any action or create any right in any way for any Bidder to demand that any action be taken on the date established, or on any other date. The Bidder accepts that; if SARS extends the deadline for RFP submission for any reason, the requirements of this RFP otherwise apply equally to the extended deadline.

3 CONTACT PERSONS

All communications to SARS must be addressed to Tender Office at:

- E-mail: tenderoffice@sars.gov.za
- Tel number: (012) 422 4078 / 081 037 9162

Communications sent by SARS regarding this Tender will only be regarded as official communication if sent from tenderoffice@sars.gov.za, or a communication accompanied by a letter of authorisation signed by the SARS Executive: Procurement.

4 SARS'S REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Introduction

SARS's mandate under the South African Revenue Service Act 34 of 1997 includes the collection of all revenues that are due, ensuring maximum compliance with revenue legislation and providing a customs service that will maximise revenue collection, facilitate trade and protect the borders of South Africa. SARS's vision is to be an innovative revenue and customs agency that enhances economic growth and social development and supports South Africa's integration into the global economy in a way that benefits all citizens. SARS strives to exercise its mandate in an efficient and cost effective manner.

4.2 Overview of SARS's Requirements

Details of the required services are contained in the *SARS Business Requirements Specification (BRS)* document.

5 SARS'S APPROACH TO THIS RFP

5.1 Objectives

SARS's primary objective in issuing this RFP is to conclude one or more service agreements with successful Bidder(s) that will achieve the following:

- 5.1.1 best value for money;
- 5.1.2 the meeting of SARS's current requirements (at a minimum) and providing for flexibility to meet SARS's future needs as they relate to the scope;
- 5.1.3 A successful contractual relationship between the parties that is flexible and high responsive to SARS's changing requirements over the Term;
- 5.1.4 Provision to SARS the services in a manner that is intended to create and maintain a high level of client satisfaction, in line with agreed service levels;
- 5.1.5 Provision of opportunities to small and medium-sized businesses which are compliant with the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment, 2003 (Act No.53 of 2003) its Regulations and Practice Codes.

5.2 Proposed Agreement

Software License and Maintenance and Support Agreement are contained in the Software Licence Maintenance and Support Services Agreement for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider.

6 BIDDING QUALIFICATION

6.1 Introduction

SARS has a detailed evaluation methodology premised on Treasury Regulation 16A3 of the Public Finance Management Act 1 of 1999, which prescribes that SARS's procurement processes be:

- 6.1.1 economical, efficient, fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost effective;
- 6.1.2 consistent with the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act 5 of 2000, read together with the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017;

- 6.1.3 consistent with the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, 2003 (Act No.53 of 2003); and
- 6.1.4 Consistent with the prescripts of National Treasury relating to Supply Chain Management (“SCM”).

In furtherance of this evaluation methodology, the following bidding qualifications set out further in paragraph 9 will apply.

6.2 Central Supplier Database (“CSD”)

- 6.2.1 Service Providers and suppliers who wish to render services to SARS will no longer register at SARS directly. Suppliers will have to register on National Treasury Central Supplier Database (“CSD”) as per National Treasury Circular No 4A of 2016/2017 – Central Supplier Database.
- 6.2.2 National Treasury will maintain the database for all suppliers for Government and its institutions, and all existing and prospective suppliers are requested to register on the CSD by accessing the National Treasury website at www.CSD.gov.za.
- 6.2.3 As part of the bid submission, Bidders are required to submit their CSD registration number with their Tender submission.
- 6.2.4 Transactions concluded with foreign suppliers with no local registered entity may be entered into even if the supplier is not registered on the CSD. Bidders must ensure that the Standard Bidding Document (SBD) 1 is completed in full.

6.3 Bidding Qualification

- 6.3.1 Prospective Bidders who cannot, or do not, satisfy all of the conditions contained in paragraphs 6.3.1.1 to 6.3.1.3 should not submit bid proposals. If a Bidder is found not to meet any one of the requirements listed in paragraphs 6.3.1.1 to 6.3.1.3 then that Bidder’s Tender will be rejected without any further consideration, at SARS’s sole discretion.
 - 6.3.1.1 SARS is only interested in organisations that take accountability for service delivery.
 - 6.3.1.2 A Bidder must be a South African entity (Company, Close Corporation, Sole Proprietor or individual) or have a local branch office in South Africa.
 - 6.3.1.3 No bid may be awarded to a Bidder whose tax matters have not been declared by the SARS to be in order. The Bidder’s attention is further drawn to the requirement that the successful Bidder must ensure that it remains compliant with all South African Tax and Customs laws and regulations throughout the

Term, and a failure to do so will be a material breach of the Agreement.

- 6.3.1.4 The Bidder must comply with all applicable legislation in the Republic of South Africa in the performance of its daily activities, including but not limited to labour legislation and bargaining council agreements, health and safety regulations and environmental laws.
- 6.3.2 Subject to sub-paragraph 6.3.3 below, SARS will disqualify any Bidder who either itself or any of whose members (save for such members who hold a minority interest in the Bidder through shares listed on any recognised stock exchange), indirect members (being any person or entity who indirectly holds at least a 15% interest in the Bidder other than in the context of shares listed on a recognised stock exchange), directors or members of senior management, whether in respect of SARS or any other government organ or entity and whether from the Republic of South Africa or otherwise ("Government Entity"):
 - 6.3.2.1 engages in any collusive tendering, anti-competitive conduct, or any other similar conduct, including but not limited to any collusion with any other Bidder in respect of the subject matter of this RFP;
 - 6.3.2.2 seeks any assistance, other than assistance officially provided by a Government Entity, from any employee, advisor or other representative of a Government Entity in order to obtain any unlawful advantage in relation to procurement or services provided or to be provided to a Government Entity;
 - 6.3.2.3 makes or offers any gift, gratuity, anything of value or other inducement, whether lawful or unlawful, to any of SARS's officers, directors, employees, advisors or other representatives;
 - 6.3.2.4 makes or offers any gift, gratuity, anything of any value or other inducement, to any Government Entity's officers, directors, employees, advisors or other representatives in order to obtain any unlawful advantage in relation to procurement or services provided or to be provided to a Government Entity;
 - 6.3.2.5 accepts anything of value or an inducement that would or may provide financial gain, advantage or benefit in relation to procurement or services provided or to be provided to a Government Entity;
 - 6.3.2.6 pays or agrees to pay to any person any fee, commission, percentage, brokerage fee, gift or any other consideration, that is contingent upon or results from, the award of any Tender, contract, right or entitlement which is in any way related to procurement or the rendering of any services to a Government Entity;
 - 6.3.2.7 has in the past engaged in any matter referred to in sub-paragraphs 6.3.2.1 to 6.3.2.6 foregoing;

- 6.3.2.8 has been found guilty in a court of law on charges of fraud and/or forgery, regardless of whether or not a prison term was imposed; or
- 6.3.2.9 Is listed on the National Treasury's List of Tender Defaulters or the National Treasury's Database of restricted suppliers.
- 6.3.3 SARS in its sole discretion will be entitled (but not obliged) to exempt, in writing, a Bidder from disqualification in terms of sub-paragraph 6.3.2.7 foregoing. A Bidder that stands to be disqualified in term of sub-paragraph 6.3.2.7 foregoing may, prior to submitting a Tender, approach SARS in writing for an exemption as foresaid, in which event:
 - 6.3.3.1 the Bidder is required to provide SARS with full information to enable SARS to consider such application for exemption; and
 - 6.3.3.2 SARS will not be obliged to consider any such application or to grant any exemption, such consideration or granting of exemption being solely within SARS's discretion.
- 6.3.4 By submitting a Tender, the Bidder represents to SARS that it does not stand to be disqualified in terms of paragraph 6.3.1 foregoing, unless it has otherwise applied for exemption or been exempted in terms of paragraph 6.3.3 foregoing.
- 6.3.5 SARS will reject a Bidder's Tender without any further consideration where that Bidder makes misrepresentation to SARS in its Tender or at any stage during this RFP process.
- 6.3.6 SARS may disqualify a Bidder:
 - 6.3.6.1 whose Tender contains a misrepresentation;
 - 6.3.6.2 in respect of whom any of the members (save for such members who hold a minority interest in the Bidder through shares listed on any recognised stock exchange), indirect members (being any person or entity who indirectly holds at least a 15% interest in the Bidder other than through shares listed on a recognised stock exchange), directors or members of senior management are not in full compliance with all applicable laws relating to taxation in South Africa, in which regard SARS further reserves the right to require the Bidder to submit a valid central supplier database in respect of any one or more such persons;
 - 6.3.6.3 whom SARS considers to be directly or indirectly owned, controlled or managed by persons who are not acceptable to SARS from an ethical, business or governance perspective;
 - 6.3.6.4 who, or whose subcontractor, unlawfully had access to any of SARS's proprietary information or any other matter that may have unlawfully placed that Bidder in a preferential position in relation to any of the other Bidders;

- 6.3.6.5 who fails to comply with any conditions or requirements of this RFP;
- 6.3.6.6 who in SARS's opinion has either materially failed to comply with any of the conditions of any existing or past agreement between such Bidder and SARS or who has performed unsatisfactorily under any such agreement; or
- 6.3.6.7 Who fails to respond as required to written notices given by SARS in connection with its Tender under this RFP.

7 BID PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

- 7.1 Bids must be properly received and deposited in the below mentioned tender box on or before the Closing Date and before the Closing Time at the Tender Submission Office situated at:

SARS Procurement Centre

Brooklyn Bridge

Linton House - Ground Floor

570 Fehrsen Street

Brooklyn, Pretoria

- 7.2 Bid documents may either be posted to The Tender Office - SARS Procurement Department, Linton House, 570 Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn, Pretoria, 0181 OR placed in the tender box at the main entrance at the aforesaid address.
- 7.3 Attendance of the briefing session is **Non- Compulsory**. The Non-Compulsory briefing session will be held via a Zoom (Meeting ID number **249 036 7060** & Meeting password **6wSxGk**).
- 7.4 Tender documents will only be considered if received by the Tender Office before the Closing Date and Closing Time, regardless of the method used to send or deliver such documents to SARS.
 - 7.4.1 Late Tenders will not be accepted.
 - 7.4.2 In this RFP Main Document the terms “shall” and “must” indicate a mandatory requirement. Bidder’s compliance with mandatory requirements is essential. Failure to comply with such requirements may lead to the disqualification of a Bidder. The terms “should” or “may” indicate desirable or advisory requirements. Bidder compliance with such terms may lead to an increase in a Bidder’s technical score.
 - 7.4.3 All Tenders and supporting documentation must be submitted in English.

7.4.4 All costs incurred during the preparation and compilation of a Bidder’s proposal, as well as the delivery of a Bidder’s Tender documents to SARS will be borne exclusively by the Bidder. The Tenders must be valid for a minimum of **180** days from the Closing Date.

8 PROPOSAL COMPLIANCE

8.1 The Bidder must ensure that all provisions and instructions in table 1 for the completion and submission of a Proposal are followed in detail. The Bidder’s attention is drawn to the following documents which are required as part of a Bidder’s Tender and which, if omitted, may at SARS’s sole discretion result in that Tender being disqualified:

Table 1: Pre- Qualification

No:	Name of the document that must be submitted	Non-submission may result in disqualification?
1	Invitation to bid – SBD 1	YES – Please complete and sign the supplied pro forma document.
2	Pricing Schedule – 20/2020 6- 1: Pricing Template	YES – Please submit full details of pricing proposals to SARS on RFP 20/2020 6- 1: Pricing Templates
3	Declaration of Interest – SBD 4	YES - Please complete and sign the supplied pro forma document.
4	SBD 6.1 – Preference Point Claim Form	YES – Please complete and sign the supplied pro forma document
5	Declaration of Bidder’s Past Supply Chain Management Practices – SBD 8	YES - Please complete and sign the supplied pro forma document.
6	Certificate of Independent Bid Determination – SBD 9	YES - Please complete and sign the supplied pro forma document
7	SARS’ s Oath of Secrecy	YES – Please complete and sign the supplied pro forma document in the presence of Commissioner of Oaths and initial every page.
8	Supplier cost and risk assessment questionnaire	YES - Please complete and sign the supplied pro forma document.
9	Central Supplier Database System Registration Report from National Treasury	YES – Bidders must register on the Central Supplier Database system and submit the report as confirmation of registration. The

		successful Bidder will be expected to be registered on CSD before contracting.
10	B-BBEE certificate OR Sworn Affidavit OR Companies and Intellectual Property (CIPC) Certificate (whichever applicable according to SBD 6.1)	No– Non-submission will lead to a zero score on B-BBEE.
11	Three (3) most recent Financial Statements	YES – Bidders are required to submit complete sets of audited / reviewed annual financial statements in the name of the bidding entity.

8.2 Question and Answer Process

- 8.2.1 Between the dates given in paragraph 2, SARS will accept questions sent by Bidders by email to the following address: tenderoffice@sars.gov.za. SARS will respond to these questions, provided that SARS will not be obliged to respond to a question should it choose not to do so. Where SARS responds to a question, it will do so by publishing the question and response on the SARS procurement website. The identity of a Bidder who has directed a question to SARS will not be disclosed by SARS in such responses.
- 8.2.2 SARS may issue updated versions of documents issued in the RFP Pack and/or may issue additional documentation to form part of the RFP Pack. Such re-issued or additional documentation will be published on the SARS procurement website. It is the Bidder’s responsibility to visit the SARS procurement website at regular intervals to ensure that the Bidder uses the latest versions of documents in the RFP Pack.
- 8.2.3 Depending on SARS’s assessment of the nature and extent of Bidders’ questions during the Question and Answer process, SARS may schedule additional Non-Compulsory.
- 8.2.4 The SARS’s procurement website must be treated as primary means of communication by SARS to registered Bidders. Communications to registered Bidders made by email are made as a courtesy. In the event of any communication received by the Bidders that is in conflict with communications posted on the SARS procurement website, the SARS procurement website communication will prevail.

9 EVALUATION AND SELECTION

9.1 Process after Closing Date

After the Closing Date in paragraph 2:

- 9.1.1 SARS may request additional information, clarification or verification in respect of any information contained in or omitted from a Bidder's Tender, which SARS may do so either in writing or at a meeting convened with the Bidder for that purpose;
- 9.1.2 SARS may conduct a due diligence on any Bidder or its Subcontractor, which may include interviewing customer references or performing other activities to verify a Bidder's submitted or other information and capabilities (including visiting the Bidder's or Subcontractor's various premises and/or production sites to verify certain stated facts or assumptions), and in which regard, the Bidder will be obliged to provide SARS with all such access, assistance and/or information as SARS may reasonably request. The Bidder shall respond within the timeframes set by SARS, failing which, SARS reserves the right not to consider the Bidder's Tender any further;
- 9.1.3 no material amendment/s may be made to a Tender, unless specifically permitted or requested by SARS;
- 9.1.4 SARS may shortlist Bidders and may request presentations from such short-listed Bidders. All costs relating to the preparation of such presentations will be borne by the Bidders;
- 9.1.5 SARS may enforce whatever measures it considers necessary to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of the contents of the respective Tenders;
- 9.1.6 SARS will evaluate the Tenders with reference to SARS's Evaluation Criteria. SARS reserves the right to employ subject matter experts to assist in performing such evaluations.

9.2 SARS's Pre-qualification Criteria – Gate 0

- 9.2.1 SARS has defined minimum pre-qualification criteria that must be met by the Bidder in order for SARS to accept a Tender for evaluation. In this regard a pre-evaluation verification will be carried out by SARS in order to determine whether a Tender complies with the provisions of paragraphs 6.3 and 8:
 - 9.2.1.1 Where there is a failure to comply fully with any of the pre-qualification criteria, or SARS is for any reason unable to verify whether the pre-qualification criteria are fully complied with, SARS will have the right to either:
 - 9.2.1.1.1 reject the Tender in question and not to evaluate it at all;
 - 9.2.1.1.2 give the Bidder an opportunity to supplement the information and/or

documentation provided by it under its Tender so as to achieve full compliance with the pre-qualification criteria, provided that such information and/or documentation can be provided within a period of 7 (seven) days and is purely administrative in nature;

9.2.1.1.3 In any event, permit the Tender to be evaluated, subject to the outstanding information and/or documentation being submitted prior to the award of the Tender.

9.3 SARS’s Mandatory qualification Criteria- Gate 1

9.3.1 Bidder(s) must submit the documents listed in the tables below. Failure to submit proof of compliance with any of the mandatory requirements will result in the Bidder being disqualified.

TABLE 2- MANDATORY EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF THIRD PARTY DATA AND RELATED SERVICES FROM A CREDIT BUREAU OR A SIMILAR SERVICE PROVIDER

No	Pre- Technical Evaluation Criterion	Disqualification for Non-Compliance	Ref
1.	<p>The Bidder must be currently registered in terms of the National Credit Act (NCA) 34 of 2005 with the National Credit Regulator (NCR).</p> <p>The Bidder must submit a letter from NCR which confirms that the bidder is registered with NCR.</p> <p>If a Bidder is not registered and/or evidence is not provided, the Bidder must be disqualified at this stage of the evaluation process.</p>	Yes	Mandatory Response Template

9.4 SARS’s Technical Evaluation Criteria – Gate 2

Bidder(s) must achieve a minimum threshold of **42 points (70 percent) out of 60 points (100 percent)** for technical evaluations to proceed to Gate 3: Price and BEE evaluations stage.

TABLE 3- TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

NO	TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERION	DETAILED CRITERIA	SCORE	WEIGHT
1.	VERIFIABLE TRACK RECORD		12	12

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1.1.	<p align="center">Established Operating Capability</p>	<p>The Bidder has extensive experience in managing consumers and business credit information and payment behaviours with an indication of how the consumers manage their credit.</p> <p>SARS seeks to establish the extent to which the Bidder has established operations and has delivered related services to the market over a period of time.</p> <p>The Bidder must provide all documentation to substantiate its claims. Proof of the date on which the Bidder's business commenced operations and a document describing the core nature of the business are required as proof.</p>	<p>The Bidder has been in operation for longer than 7 years- 4</p> <p>The Bidder has been in operation for longer than 5 years- 3</p> <p>The Bidder has been in operation for longer than 3 years- 2</p> <p>The Bidder has been in operation for 3 years- 1</p> <p>The Bidder has been in operation for less than 3 years- 0</p>	<p align="center">4</p>
1.2.	<p align="center">Current Client Base</p>	<p>SARS seeks to establish the size and nature of the Bidder's current client base to which it provides the information services that SARS requires.</p> <p>SARS seeks to establish if the Bidder's clients are primarily in the financial and/or retail sectors and if the client base is of a listed and corporate nature.</p> <p>JSE listed corporate companies in the financial and/or retail sectors will receive more points.</p> <p>The Bidder must provide a list of the names of all their existing corporate clients; an indication if these clients are JSE listed or not; an indication of the sectors these clients belong to and the total number of data records provided during the past financial year to corporate clients in all sectors (JSE listed or not JSE listed).</p>	<p>(The Bidder has > 5 JSE listed corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors. The Bidder has >20 JSE listed corporate clients across all sectors. The Bidder has > 50 corporate clients across all sectors. Total number of data records provided across all sectors exceed 4m.)- 4</p> <p>(The Bidder has > 3 JSE listed corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors. The Bidder has >15 JSE listed corporate clients across all sectors. The Bidder has > 35 corporate clients across all sectors. Total number of data records provided across all sectors exceed 3m.)- 3</p> <p>(The Bidder has > 2 JSE listed corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors. The Bidder has >10 JSE listed corporate clients across all sectors.</p>	<p align="center">4</p>

		<p>NB: SARS reserves the right to verify the provided information.</p>	<p>The Bidder has > 20 corporate clients across all sectors. Total number of data records provided across all sectors exceed 2m.)- 2</p> <p>(The Bidder has JSE 1 listed corporate client in the financial and/or retail sectors. The Bidder has >5 JSE listed corporate clients across all sectors. The Bidder has > 5 corporate clients across all sectors. Total number of data records provided across all sectors exceed 1m.)- 1</p> <p>(The Bidder has no JSE listed corporate client in the financial and/or retail sectors. The Bidder has >1 JSE listed corporate clients across all sectors. The Bidder has > 3 corporate clients across all sectors. Total number of data records provided across all sectors is less than 1m and/or not indicated.)- 0</p>	
<p>1.3.</p>	<p>Current Client References</p>	<p>The Bidder must provide the contact details of its current corporate client base and attach letters of references.</p> <p>SARS seeks to establish the extent to which the Bidder receives good references by major corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors.</p> <p>The bidder must attach reference documentation in order to substantiate its claims. The reference documentation must contain the corporate client's name; the corporate client's sector; name and surname of the contact person; position of the</p>	<p>The Bidder has 5 good references from corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors- 4</p> <p>The Bidder has 3 to 4 good references from corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors- 3</p> <p>The Bidder has 2 good references from corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors- 2</p> <p>The Bidder has only 1 good reference from a corporate client in the financial and/or retail sectors- 1</p>	<p>4</p>

		contact person and contact details of the contact person.	The Bidder has no client reference from corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors- 0	
2.	INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS		4	4
2.1.	Information Requirements	<p>SARS needs a complete overview of both credit related information and contact details for individuals, companies and trusts.</p> <p>The Bidder must specify and clearly indicate if they are able to provide the information requirements as listed in Section 4 of the Business Requirements Specification (BRS).</p> <p>SARS seeks the Bidder that is able to provide most of the required information as listed in the BRS in order to deliver on the all-inclusive data solution.</p>	<p>Bidder has complied above 95% (93 – 98 information fields) with the requirements as set out in Section 4 of the BRS- 4</p> <p>Bidder has complied 90% - 95% (88 – 92 information fields) with the requirements as set out in Section 4 of the BRS- 3</p> <p>Bidder has complied above 85% (83 – 87 information fields) with the requirements as set out in Section 4 of the BRS- 2</p> <p>Bidder has complied 80% - 85% (78 – 82 information fields) with the requirements as set out in Section 4 of the BRS- 1</p> <p>Bidder has complied less than 80% (77 or less information fields) with the requirements as set out in Section 4 of the BRS- 0</p>	4
3.	CREDIT REPORTS, CREDIT RECORDS AND CREDIT SCORING		4	4
3.1.	Credit Reports, Credit Records and Credit Scoring	<p>SARS seeks to establish the comprehensive nature of the Bidder's credit solution.</p> <p>Bidders need to provide full explanations as well as print screens of the credit report examples, credit record examples as well as a further explanation of the credit scoring algorithm function based on risk ratings.</p> <p>Bidders who can show evidence that their credit scoring algorithm is used and relied upon by other clients in the financial and/or retail sectors will receive maximum points for this criterion.</p>	<p>(Bidder provided a detailed explanation and print screens of the credit reports, credit records and the credit scoring algorithm.</p> <p>The Bidder's credit score algorithm and reports are used by at least 3 JSE listed corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors)- 4</p> <p>(Bidder provided a detailed explanation and print screens of the credit reports, credit records and the credit scoring algorithm.</p> <p>The Bidder's credit score algorithm and reports are used by at least 1 JSE listed corporate client in the financial and/or retail sectors)- 3</p>	4

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		<p>References from these clients are also required as evidence. Screenshots should be provided with the initial submissions to SARS. If required, the Bidder may be requested to provide additional demonstrations especially in demonstrating the user-friendliness of the credit related solution. This may include physical presentations to a panel of evaluators and/or a live video conferencing showing a facility where the solution has been implemented and utilised successfully.</p>	<p>(Bidder provided a detailed explanation and print screens of the credit reports, credit records and the credit scoring algorithm. The Bidder's credit score algorithm and reports are used by at least 3 corporate clients in the financial and/or retail sectors)- 2</p> <p>(Bidder provided a detailed explanation and print screens of the credit reports, credit records and the credit scoring algorithm. The Bidder's credit score algorithm and reports are used by at least 1 corporate client in the financial and/or retail sectors)- 1</p> <p>(No detailed explanation and/or print screens were provided and no evidence of any other clients using it was provided)- 0</p>	
4.	DELIVERY OF INFORMATION MECHANISMS		12	12
4.1.	Bulk Data Provision	<p>SARS requires various mechanisms for the delivery of information from the Service Provider.</p> <p>The Bidder must set out its solution for bulk data provision indicating how it will meet the requirements of Annexure 1 of the BRS.</p> <p>SARS seeks to establish the extent to which the Bidder's solution conforms to SARS' minimum requirements for bulk data provision.</p> <p>Bidders who can show that they meet all the requirements and provide comprehensive details regarding its solution that pose no or negligible risk to SARS will receive maximum points.</p> <p>The Bidder must attach documentation in order to substantiate its claims.</p>	<p>(Bidder has fully complied with the requirements. Response generally represents a negligible risk. Functionality complies with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is substantiated)- 4</p> <p>(Bidder has largely complied with the requirements. Response generally represents a low risk. Functionality complies with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is substantiated)- 3</p> <p>(Bidder has complied with the requirements. Response generally represents an acceptable risk.</p>	4

			<p>Functionality complies only partially with all the aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is only partially substantiated)- 2</p> <p>(Bidder has partially complied with the requirements. Response generally represents an unacceptable risk. Functionality does not comply with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and/or is not substantiated)- 1</p> <p>(Bidder has not complied with the requirements. Response generally represents a high risk)- 0</p>	
4.2.	System To System Transactions	<p>SARS requires various mechanisms for the delivery of information from the Service Provider.</p> <p>The Service Provider must provide SARS with the ability to make specific transactional enquiries directly from SARS's systems to the Service Provider's databases and vice versa over a secure link with secure delivery of the results of the enquiry. The delivery of the information must be secured and encrypted. The Service Provider's solution must propose either Connect Direct or a functional equivalent as per Annexure 1 of the BRS. The Bidder must present a workable solution on a proof of concept (POC) basis to the evaluation team.</p>	<p>(Bidder has fully complied with the requirements. Response generally represents a negligible risk. Functionality complies with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is substantiated)- 4</p> <p>(Bidder has largely complied with the requirements. Response generally represents a low risk. Functionality complies with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is substantiated)- 3</p> <p>(Bidder has complied with the requirements. Response generally represents an acceptable risk. Functionality complies only partially to all the aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is only partially substantiated)- 2</p> <p>(Bidder has partially complied with the requirements.</p>	4

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			<p>Response generally represents an unacceptable risk.</p> <p>Functionality does not comply with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and/or is not substantiated)- 1</p> <p>(Bidder has not complied with the requirements.</p> <p>Response generally represents a high risk)- 0</p>	
4.3.	Web Enquiry Interface	<p>SARS requires various mechanisms for the delivery of information from the Service Provider. Two types of online web-based queries are required by SARS:</p> <p>Enquiries pertaining the contact details of a taxpaying entity; and</p> <p>Enquiries into the credit information of a taxpaying entity.</p> <p>SARS seeks to establish the extent to which the Bidder's solution conforms to SARS' minimum requirements for a Web interface.</p> <p>Bidders who can show that they meet all the requirements and provide comprehensive details regarding its online web solution that will pose little or no risk to SARS will receive maximum points. Documentation and/or print screens must be attached by the Bidder to substantiate its claims to achieve maximum points. The evaluation team could also request Bidders to present their online web portal offerings to them.</p>	<p>(Bidder has fully complied with the requirements. Response generally represents a negligible risk. Functionality complies with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is substantiated)- 4</p> <p>(Bidder has largely complied with the requirements. Response generally represents a low risk. Functionality complies with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is substantiated)-3</p> <p>(Bidder has complied with the requirements. Response generally represents an acceptable risk. Functionality complies only partially with all the aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and is only partially substantiated)- 2</p> <p>(Bidder has only partially complied with the requirements. Response generally represents an unacceptable risk. Functionality does not comply with all aspects of Annexure 1 of the BRS and/or is not substantiated)- 1</p> <p>(Bidder has not complied with the requirements.</p> <p>Response generally represents a high risk)- 0</p>	4
5.	INFORMATION ADEQUACY		12	
5.1.	Data Sources and Currency of Data	The Bidder's data must be collated on a systematic basis from a wide variety of available data source	Bidder has >40 data source providers (both local and international) and evidence is provided of frequent data updates- 4	4

		<p>providers (both local and international) and the personal/credit data must be up-to-date.</p> <p>SARS seeks to establish the extent to which the Bidder's solution draws from a wide set of both local and international data source providers. Bidders who can show that they have an established set of systematic (regular and/or frequent) data updates from a wide set of data source providers will receive maximum points.</p> <p>The Bidder must provide a list to SARS indicating the names of the data source providers (e.g. Department of Home Affairs), descriptions of the type of data (e.g. ID verification data), details on the update frequencies (e.g. daily). In addition, the Bidder must provide details as to the frequency with which the Bidder's data is updated from the data source provider. This documentation must be attached by the Bidder to substantiate its claims in order to achieve maximum points.</p> <p>SARS reserves the right to verify the provided information.</p>	<p>Bidder has >30 data source providers (both local and international) and evidence is provided of frequent data updates- 3</p> <p>Bidder has >20 data source providers (both local and international) and evidence is provided of frequent data updates- 2</p> <p>Bidder has 10 or more data source providers (both local and international) and evidence is provided of frequent data updates- 1</p> <p>Bidder has less than 10 data source providers and/or the data is only updated on an ad hoc basis (not systematically/frequently)- 0</p>	
5.2.	Data Accuracy	<p>SARS seeks to establish the extent to which the Bidder is able to provide accurate and complete data. Bidders who can show and provide evidence that they have the necessary procedures and mechanisms in place to provide accurate and complete data to SARS will receive maximum points.</p> <p>Documentation must be attached by the Bidder to substantiate its claims in order to achieve maximum points.</p>	<p>The Bidder provides standard operating procedures and mechanisms to ensure the accuracy/completeness of the data which pose a negligible risk to SARS- 4</p> <p>The Bidder provides standard operating procedures and mechanisms to ensure the accuracy/completeness of the data which pose a low risk to SARS- 3</p> <p>The Bidder provides standard operating procedures and mechanisms to ensure the accuracy/completeness of the data which pose an acceptable risk to SARS- 2</p>	4

			<p>The Bidder provides standard operating procedures and mechanisms to ensure the accuracy/completeness of the data which pose an unacceptable risk to SARS- 1</p> <p>The Bidder provides no standard operating procedures and mechanisms to ensure the accuracy/completeness of data which pose a high risk to SARS- 0</p>	
5.3.	Data Availability	<p>SARS requires an overview of the availability features of the Bidder's infrastructure. Actual availability figures through the web site and for system to system access for the past 12 months are required. The tracked availability figures must be provided to SARS for substantiation in order to achieve points.</p>	<p>Availability figures above 99.9% for both system and web access- 4</p> <p>Availability figures above 99.8% for both system and web access- 3</p> <p>Availability figures above 99% for both system and web access- 2</p> <p>Availability figures equal or above 98% for both system and web access- 1</p> <p>Availability figures below 98% and/or not tracked- 0</p>	4
6	SEARCHING OPTIONS		4	
6.1.	Searching Options	<p>SARS needs to establish the various searching mechanisms available to SARS personnel that are impacted by this used case.</p> <p>The Bidder must specify and clearly indicate if they are able to provide the searching options as listed in Section 7.2 of the Business Requirements Specification (BRS). SARS requires a tracing and verification capability that allows to search on various data components including but not limited to names, surnames, telephone numbers, address details and e-mail addresses in instances where the ID number or company registration number is not available.</p>	<p>Bidder has provided 6 or 7 searching options as listed and has provided additional options that will be of use to SARS- 4</p> <p>Bidder has provided 4 or 5 searching options as listed and has provided additional options that will be of use to SARS- 3</p> <p>Bidder has provided 2 or 3 searching options as listed and has provided additional options that will be of use to SARS- 2</p> <p>Bidder has provided 1 searching option as listed and has provided none additional options that will be of use to SARS- 1</p>	4

		The Bidder must also provide detail on other searching options in addition to the listed ones if available.	Bidder has not provided any searching option and none additional option that will be of use to SARS- 0	
7.	DATA MANAGEMENT AND INTERFACING		4	
7.1.	Data Management and Interfacing	<p>SARS seeks to establish the extent to which the Bidder's solution conforms to SARS's requirements. The Bidder must confirm that the requirements regarding the data interfacing as set out in Section 7.3 of the BRS and Annexure 1 of the BRS are met and provide further details regarding the way in which data will be managed and interfaced by SARS. Bidders who can show that they meet all the interfacing requirements and provide comprehensive details regarding its solution that pose little or no risk to SARS will receive maximum points.</p> <p>Documentation must be attached by the Bidder to substantiate its claims in order to achieve maximum points. SARS may also request the Bidder to provide additional demonstrations, presentations, and/or a POC to demonstrate their proposed offering.</p>	<p>(Bidder has fully complied with the requirements as set out in Section 7.3 of the BRS and Annexure 1 of the BRS. Response generally represents a negligible risk to the achievement of the desired outcomes to SARS)- 4</p> <p>(Bidder has largely complied with the requirements as set out in Section 7.3 of the BRS and Annexure 1 of the BRS. Response generally represents a low risk to the achievement of the desired outcomes to SARS)- 3</p> <p>(Bidder has complied with the requirements as set out in Section 7.3 of the BRS and Annexure 1 of the BRS. Response generally represents an acceptable risk to the achievement of the desired outcomes to SARS)- 2</p> <p>(Bidder has partially complied with the requirements as set out in Section 7.3 of the BRS and Annexure 1 of the BRS. Response generally represents an unacceptable risk to the achievement of the desired outcomes to SARS)- 1</p> <p>(Bidder has not complied with the requirements as set out in Section 7.3 of the BRS and Annexure 1 of the BRS. Response generally represents a high risk to the achievement of the desired outcomes to SARS)- 0</p>	4

8.	GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE		4	
8.1.	Governance Compliance	<p>SARS seeks to ensure the successful Bidder will adhere to all applicable governance requirements as set out in Sections 7.9 to 7.11 of the BRS. The Service Provider must confirm if they conform to ISO/IEC 27001 (Information Security Management System), ISO/IEC 27002 (Controls), ISO/IEC 27005 (Information Security Risk Management) and the prescribed King codes on good governance. The Bidder must demonstrate how they will adhere to generally accepted information security practices and procedures. The Bidder must also confirm if information security awareness is performed within their organisation and must provide an overview of information security governance policies, standards and processes. Bidders must provide a detailed description on how they will fully comply with the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 and the relevant regulatory requirements, i.e. the European Union’s (EU) General Data Protection Regulations. Bidders must provide proof of how the POPI policy has been internalised and operationalised internally.</p> <p>NB: If the Bidder decides to sub-contract, the sub-contractor should comply with all of the above specifications.</p>	<p>Bidder has fully complied with all the governance requirements as set out in Sections 7.9 to 7.11 of the BRS- 4</p> <p>Bidder has largely complied with the governance requirements as set out in Sections 7.9 to 7.11 of the BRS- 3</p> <p>Bidder has complied with the governance requirements as set out in Sections 7.9 to 7.11 of the BRS- 2</p> <p>Bidder has only partially complied with the governance requirements as set out in Sections 7.9 to 7.11 of the BRS- 1</p> <p>Bidder has not complied with the governance requirements as set out in Sections 7.9 to 7.11 of the BRS- 0</p>	4
9.	TRAINING AND SUPPORT		4	
9.1.	Training and Support	<p>SARS needs to establish if the Bidder is capable of offering a comprehensive training and support service to SARS. The Bidder must provide all training and support offerings on how to ensure continual successful operation of the solution. A full description of all relevant training offerings and of non-classroom training options e.g. eLearning,</p>	<p>(Bidder has fully complied with the training and support requirements as set out in Sections 7.12 and 7.13 of the BRS.</p> <p>Response generally represents a negligible risk to the continual successful operation of the solution)- 4</p>	4

		<p>webinars via WebEx are required. A list and examples of all relevant training guides/user manuals must also be provided as well as a full description on all available end user support functions.</p>	<p>(Bidder has largely complied with the training and support requirements as set out in Sections 7.12 and 7.13 of the BRS. Response generally represents a low risk to the continual successful operation of the solution)- 3</p> <p>(Bidder has complied with the training and support requirements as set out in Sections 7.12 and 7.13 of the BRS. Response generally represents an acceptable risk to the continual successful operation of the solution)- 2</p> <p>(Bidder has only partially complied with the training and support requirements as set out in Sections 7.12 and 7.13 of the BRS. Response generally represents an unacceptable risk to the continual successful operation of the solution)- 1</p> <p>(Bidder has not complied with the training and support requirements as set out in Sections 7.12 and 7.13 of the BRS. Response generally represents a high risk to the continual successful operation of the solution)- 0</p>	
	Total		60	

The points obtained for technical evaluation must be a minimum of **42 points (70 percent) out of 60 points (100 percent)**. Bidders who obtain less than **42 points (70 percent) out of 60 points (100 percent)** will be declared non-responsive and therefore disqualified to proceed for further evaluations on Gate 3: Price and BEE evaluations stage.

9.5 SARS's Pricing and B-BBEE Evaluation – Gate 3

9.5.1 In this stage of the evaluation, Tenders that have qualified after the technical

evaluation will be evaluated in terms of the 90/10 preference points system under section 2 of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000, read with the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017.

Criterion	Points
Price	90
B-BBEE status	10

Gate 3, Stage 1 – Price Evaluation (90 points).

Adjudication Criteria	Points
Price Evaluation $P_s = 90 \left(1 - \frac{P_t - P_{\min}}{P_{\min}} \right)$	90

Where

- P_s = Points scored for price of bid under consideration
 P_t = Rand value of bid under consideration
 P_{\min} = Rand value of lowest acceptable bid

Gate 3, Stage 2 – BBEE Evaluation (10 points)

The checklist below indicates the B-BBEE documents that must be submitted for this Bid, failure to submit will result in scoring zero for B-BBEE.

Adjudication Criteria	Points
A duly completed Preference Point Claim Form: Standard Bidding Document (SBD 6.1) and a B-BBEE Certificate	10

CLASSIFICATION	Codes	SUBMISSION REQUIREMENT
Exempted Micro Enterprise (EME)	Below R10 million p.a.	A sworn affidavit or CIPC Certificate.
Qualifying Small Enterprise (QSE)	Between R10 million and R50 million p.a.	Certified Copy of B-BBEE Rating Certificate from a South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) accredited rating agency.

		A sworn affidavit – Entities with black ownership greater than 51%.
Large Entity (LE)	Above R50 million p.a.	Certified Copy of B-BBEE Rating Certificate from a SANAS accredited rating agency.

Failure on the part of a Bidder to submit a B-BBEE Status level of contributor together with the Bid will lead to disqualification.

Bidders who do not claim preference points will be scored zero for B-BBEE but cannot be excluded from the Tender process.

Use and acceptance of Affidavits

Please note that sworn affidavits must be signed by the Bidder's representative and attested to by a Commissioner of Oaths.

SARS reserves the right to request that Bidders submit their black ownership and turnover information in support of their sworn affidavits.

Joint Ventures and Consortiums

A trust, consortium or joint venture (including unincorporated consortia and joint ventures) must submit a consolidated B-BBEE Status Level Verification Certificate for every separate Tender.

Tertiary Institutions and Public Entities

Public entities and tertiary institutions must also submit B-BBEE Status Level Verification Certificates together with their Tenders.

9.6 Financial Statements

Bidders are required to submit a complete set of audited/independently reviewed annual financial statements for three (3) most recent financial periods in the name of the Bidding entity. The financial statement analysis will be conducted on the shortlisted Bidders. Bidder(s) must attain a satisfactory financial position.

The annual financial statements must contain:

- Statement of Profit and Loss and other Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Changes in Equity/Net Assets
- Accompanying Notes

Entities which are trading for less than 3 (three) financial periods should provide:

- A letter detailing the fact, signed by a duly authorised representative of the entity; and
- Any other information or documentation which would provide more clarity on the financial history of the Bidder.

In the event that the subsidiary is the bidding entity and submits the financial statements of the holding company for financial evaluation purposes, the holding company must furnish a Performance Guarantee that is signed by a duly authorised representative of the entity.

In the event of the Bid being in the form of a Joint Venture (JV), the following is required:

- Annual financial statements of the JV; and
- JV legal agreement detailing the percentage ownership of each entity.
- Unincorporated JV's should submit separate financial statements for each party in the JV and a signed JV legal agreement.

NB: SARS retains the right to request further information with regards to the annual financial statements, should the need arise.

9.7 Acceptance of RFP conditions

The Bidder's participation in the RFP process is deemed to constitute acknowledgement and acceptance by the Bidder of the terms and conditions contained in this RFP.

9.8 Reservation of rights

SARS reserves the right in its discretion to:

- 9.8.1 make no award
- 9.8.2 withdraw, suspend or cancel this RFP or the RFP process at any time and without providing reasons;
- 9.8.3 not provide reasons for its rejection or the failure of any Bidder or Tender, save on application and in terms of applicable legislation;
- 9.8.4 change any of its requirements as set out in this RFP by giving Bidders reasonable notice;
- 9.8.5 change any condition, procedure or rule of the RFP by giving Bidders reasonable notice;
- 9.8.6 amend, vary, or supplement any of the information, terms or requirements contained in this RFP, any information or requirements delivered pursuant to this RFP, or the structure of the RFP process;
- 9.8.7 re-advertise the Tender;
- 9.8.8 provide further information in respect of, and modify the provisions of, this RFP at any time prior to the Closing Date by notice to all prospective Bidders;
- 9.8.9 conduct site visits and/or perform audits whenever SARS deems it prudent to do so;

- 9.8.10 undertake further checks on Bidders, which may include information on public record or in the public domain, information contained in internal SARS records or information received from other government institutions;
- 9.8.11 no longer consider a Bidder's Tender where adverse information about the Bidder or its Tender submission has come to the attention of SARS, provided that such Bidder is informed accordingly and invited to comment;
- 9.8.12 to award a Tender based on which Bidder is offering the best value for money, even if such Tender is not the lowest priced Tender;
- 9.8.13 to make the award subject to the successful Bidder entering into a duly signed contract with SARS; and
- 9.8.14 to disqualify a Bidder whose bid contains a misrepresentation or misleading.

9.9 Validity of information

SARS has made reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this RFP. However, neither SARS, nor its employees, officers, advisors or agents will be liable to the Bidder or any third party for any inaccuracy, the omission of any information in the RFP or in respect of any additional information SARS may provide to the Bidder as part of the RFP process.

The Bidder is deemed to have examined this RFP and any other information supplied by SARS to the Bidder and to have satisfied itself before submitting any of its responses as to the correctness and sufficiency of such information.

9.10 Screening and Vetting of Service Provider

Acceptance of this tender/quotation is subject to the condition that both the contracting firm and its personnel providing the service must be screened and cleared by the appropriate authorities to the grade of clearance in line to classified information, intelligence in the possession of SARS and areas designated as National Key points that they may have. Obtaining a positive recommendation is the responsibility of the contracting firm concerned. If the principal contractor appoints a subcontractor, the same provisions and measures will apply to the subcontractor.

9.11 RFP not an offer

This RFP does not constitute an offer to do business with SARS, but merely serves as an invitation to Bidders to facilitate a requirements-based decision process.

Nothing in this RFP or any other communication made between SARS (including its officers, directors, employees, advisors and representatives) is a representation that SARS will offer, award or enter into a contract with the Bidder.

9.12 Preparation Costs

The Bidder will bear all its costs in preparing, submitting and presenting any response or Tender to this RFP and all other costs incurred by it throughout the RFP process. Furthermore, no statement in this RFP will be construed as placing SARS, its employees, advisors or agents under any obligation whatsoever, including in respect of costs, expenses or losses incurred by the Bidders in the preparation of their response to this RFP.

9.13 Conflict of Interest

If at any time the Bidder identifies an actual or potential conflict of interest, the Bidder must immediately notify SARS in writing. SARS reserves the right to exclude the Tender submitted by such Bidder from further consideration unless the Bidder is able to resolve the conflict.

9.14 Indemnity

If a Bidder breaches the conditions of this RFP and, as a result of that breach, SARS incurs costs or damages (including, without limitation, the cost of any investigations, procedural impairment, repetition of all or part of the RFP process and/or enforcement of intellectual property rights or confidentiality obligations), then the Bidder indemnifies and holds SARS harmless from any and all such costs which SARS may incur and for any damages or losses SARS may suffer.

9.15 Precedence

This document will prevail over any information provided during any Briefing Session whether oral or written, unless such written information provided, expressly amends this document by reference.

9.16 Responsibility for sub-contractors and Bidder's personnel

A Bidder is responsible for ensuring that its sub-contractors (if any), personnel (including officers, directors, employees, advisors and other representatives of a Bidder) and personnel of its sub-contractors comply with all terms and conditions of this RFP and in particular the provisions of paragraph 9.17 below. In the event that SARS allows a Bidder to make use of sub-contractors, such sub-contractors will at all times remain the responsibility of the Bidder and SARS will not under any circumstances be liable for any losses or damages incurred by such sub-contractors,

9.17 Confidentiality

Except as may be required by operation of law, by a court or by a regulatory authority having appropriate jurisdiction, no information contained in or relating to this RFP or a Bidder's Tender(s) will

be disclosed by any Bidder or other person not officially involved with SARS's examination and evaluation of a Tender.

No part of the RFP may be distributed, reproduced, stored or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise, in whole or in part except for the purpose of preparing a Tender. This RFP and any other documents supplied by SARS remain proprietary to SARS and must be promptly returned to SARS upon request together with all copies, electronic versions, excerpts or summaries thereof or work derived therefrom.

Throughout this RFP process and thereafter, Bidders must secure SARS's written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to (i) the potential work or activities to which this RFP relates; or (ii) the process which follows this RFP. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in disqualification from the RFP process and civil action.

After the Closing Date, no confidential information relating to the process of evaluating or adjudicating Tenders or appointing a Bidder will be disclosed to a Bidder or any other person not officially involved with such process.

9.18 Intellectual Property

SARS retains ownership of all Intellectual Property Rights in the Tender information documents that form part of this RFP. Bidders will retain the Intellectual Property Rights in their Tender responses, but grant SARS the right to make copies of, alter, modify or adapt their responses, or to do anything which in its sole discretion is necessary to do for reasons relating to the RFP process.

9.19 Limitation of Liability

A Bidder participates in this RFP process entirely at its own risk and cost. SARS shall not be liable to compensate a Bidder on any grounds whatsoever for any costs incurred or any damages suffered as a result of the Bidder's participation in this RFP process.

9.20 Tax Compliance

No Bid may be awarded to a Bidder whose tax matters have not been declared by the SARS to be in order. SARS reserves the right to withdraw an award made, or cancel a contract concluded with a successful Bidder in the event that it is established that such Bidder was in fact not tax compliant at the time of the award. SARS further reserves the right to cancel a contract with a successful Bidder in the event that such Bidder does not remain tax compliant for the full term of the contract.

No Tender shall be awarded to a Bidder (or any of its members, directors, partners or trustees) whose names appear on the Register of Tender Defaulters kept by National Treasury, or who have been placed on National Treasury's List of Restricted Suppliers. SARS reserves the right to withdraw an

award, or cancel a contract concluded with a Bidder should it be established, at any time, that a Bidder has been blacklisted with National Treasury by another government institution.

9.21 Governing Law

South African law governs this RFP and the RFP response process. The Bidder agrees to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the South African courts in any dispute of any kind that may arise out of or in connection with the subject matter of this RFP, the RFP itself and all processes associated with the RFP.

10 INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A RESPONSE TO THIS RFP

This paragraph details the instructions to Bidders for preparing a Tender response to this Tender. These instructions must be followed in detail to ensure that the information contained in the Bidder's Tender is correct, complete and well structured. All Tenders must comply with the requirements and instructions as set out in the RFP. Bidders must ensure that information and documentation supplied can be easily understood and thus, evaluated in a fair and consistent manner. Should a Tender be received that is not in the correct format, SARS reserves the right to reject the entire Tender or portions of the Tender depending on the extent of the deviation from the format described in this RFP Main Document. Information that has not been requested must not be submitted in the Bidder's Proposal.

10.1 Proposal Format

- 10.1.1 The Bidder's Proposal contents are detailed in paragraph 10.2 below.
- 10.1.2 The Bidder's Proposal will consist of a number of Files, where a File consists of an original hardcopy file and a Compact Disc (CD). The CD must be the electronic copy of the original hardcopy file. Where reference is made to a "hardcopy file" this means an A4 ring bound file. Where reference is made to a "CD" this means either a CD or a Digital Versatile Disc (DVD) or memory stick.
- 10.1.3 The Bidder's hardcopies must be printed single-sided.
- 10.1.4 A File must be wrapped and sealed in brown paper and must be labelled with the same text as the hardcopy file and CD.

10.2 Organisation and Contents of a Proposal

10.2.1 File 1- Common File

The Bidder will be required to submit a Common File. This file must contain the following sections, each divided by a file divider in the hardcopy file and each section must be placed in separate directories on the CD electronic copy.

Table 4: Common file organisation and contents

Common File		
Label (on both file cover and CD)		RFP 20/2020 <Bidder Name> Common File
NO:	File divider / Directory name	Content Required
1.	SBDs	<p>Completed Standard Bidding Documents.</p> <p><u>Invitation to Bid (SBD1)</u></p> <p><u>Declaration of Interest (SBD 4)</u></p> <p><u>Declaration of Past SCM Practices (SBD 8)</u></p> <p><u>Certificate of Independent Bid Determination (SBD 9)</u></p> <p><u>Supplier Cost and Risk Assessment Questionnaire</u></p> <p>The original signed documents must be included in the hardcopy file. In the electronic copy the original signed document must be scanned</p>
2	Signed Oaths of Secrecy by the members of the Bidder's bid team.	The Oath of Secrecy SARS RFP 08-2020 2-7 SARS Oath - Affirmation of Secrecy signed by each member of the Bidder's Bid team in the presence
3	CSD registration	Central Supplier Database (CSD) valid at the Closing Date. In the hardcopy file the original document must be included. In the electronic copy the original hardcopy must be scanned
4	Mandatory Requirement response template	A completed template for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provide Mandatory Requirement (as well as the References):

		<p>A printout of the completed and signed template(s) must be included in the hardcopy file.</p> <p>The completed and signed template(s) must be scanned</p>
5	Annual Financial Statements	<p>The Bidder's last 3 (three) years audited annual financial statements.</p> <p>In the electronic copy the original audited annual financial statements must be</p>

10.2.2 **File 2- File NP (Non Pricing Section)**

The Bidder will be required to submit a File NP for the Financial Analysis tool. This file must contain the sections, as set out hereunder; each divided by a file divider in the hardcopy file and placed in separate directories on the electronic copy CD.

Table 5: Non-pricing file organisation and contents

File NP (Non Pricing Section)		
Label (on both file cover and CD)		<p>RFP 20/2020</p> <p><Bidder Name></p> <p>File-NP</p>
NO:	File divider / Directory name	Content Required
1	Technical Responses Template (which mainly include screenshots and/or printout as per the technical requirements)	<p>Business Profile that describes the service offerings, years of experience and capability to deliver and support the Solution to SARS.</p> <p>The bidder should submit the Technical Response template together with the required annexures (which includes but not limited to, reference, screenshot and other requested references).</p>
2	Software License and Maintenance and Support Agreement	<p>The Bidder is required to make changes (where necessary on the attached draft Software License and Maintenance and Support Agreement) and submit a signed agreement with their proposed changes.</p>

10.2.3 **File 3- File P (Pricing and B-BBEE Section)**

The Bidder will be required to submit a *File P*. This file contains one section to be placed in a file divider in the hardcopy file and in a directory on the electronic copy CD with the label set out hereunder.

Table 6: Pricing and B-BBEE file organisation and contents

File P (Pricing and B-BBEE)		
Label (on both file cover and CD)		RFP 20/2020 <Bidder Name> File-P
NO:	File divider / Directory name	Content Required
1	Pricing template	Completed template: A printout of the completed and signed template must be included in the hardcopy file. The completed template must be submitted in Microsoft
2	Preference Points Claim Form (SBD 6.1)	A completed Preference Points Claim Form (SBD 6.1).
3	Bidder's B-BBEE Certificate	The Bidder's B-BBEE certificate, valid as at the Closing Date.

10.3 Example 1

10.3.1 If a Bidder is submitting a Proposal, it would consist of the following:

Table 7: Example contents

File	Documents in the file
Hardcopy response to be submitted in file labelled: RFP 20/2020 <Bidder Name>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Bid Documents • Signed Oaths of Secrecy • CSD registration of the Bidder

<p style="text-align: center;">Common File</p> <p>Electronic response to be submitted in on a CD labelled:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RFP 20/2020-<Bidder Name>-Common</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory Response Templates • Annual Financial Statements
<p>Non-Pricing Section</p> <p>Hardcopy response to be submitted in file labelled:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RFP 20/2020</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><Bidder Name></p> <p style="text-align: center;">File NP</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Non Pricing</p> <p>Electronic response to be submitted on a CD labelled:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RFP 20/2020-<Bidder Name>-NP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Response Template and References for the Procurement of Third Party Data and Related Services from a Credit Bureau or a Similar Service Provider • Signed Software License and Maintenance and Support Agreement with Mark- Ups (if any) • Subcontractors' CSD registration
<p>Pricing Section</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RFP 20/2020</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><Bidder Name></p> <p style="text-align: center;">File P</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pricing and B-BBEE</p> <p>Electronic response to be submitted on a CD labelled:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RFP 08-2020-<Bidder Name>-P</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pricing Response Template • Preference Points Claim Form SBD 6.1 • Bidder's B-BBEE Certificate • Subcontractor's B-BBEE certificate