

RFI FOR SUPPLY AND IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL PAYMENT SWITCH – Questions and answers



QUESTION (verbatim)	RESPONSE
<p>Query - Does the software vendor need to quote for, supply and install hardware or CBL will use local providers to secure hardware ?</p>	<p>The vendor needs to specify hardware requirements, without necessarily providing a cost. The Bank will procure Hardware in consultation with the supplier prior or during implementation. This could be sourced through a local supplier or otherwise</p>
<p>2. Ref Section 5.2.1 Card: Scenario 4 Overview Query - Are other scenarios being considered ?</p>	<p>Only one scenario is being considered, whereby all banks and connect to the national payment switch, which is linked to international gateways</p>
<p>An option would be to defer the ACH platform upgrade and migrate the EFT stream to the new Switch in order to support the sustainability of the new Switch. This alternative should be considered as part of an RFI process. Query - Does this refer to realtime transactions or batch ?</p>	<p>Migration applies to batch based EFT. But instant payments are also being considered for national payment switch</p>
<p>The National Payment Switch should provide the following capabilities to address the drivers and stakeholder needs: Interoperability between the participants within a particular stream, including the existing and emerging e-Money closed loop systems. This is the most important capability that should be provided in the short term as one of the first deliverables of the project and the e-Money stream offers low hanging fruit towards achieving the objectives Query - Does this refer to realtime transactions or batch ?</p>	<p>Yes, this would apply to real time transactions</p>
<p>Ref section 5.3 Implementation expectations, point No. 7 Data conversion from existing systems Query - Does this apply only in the case of migrating ACH Capability ? If not what is expected to be migrated given this is a new</p>	<p>The initial thought was migration of EFT, however a determination has been made that there is no need for migration</p>

service ?	
QUESTION (verbatim)	RESPONSE
1. In the context of the considerable scope covered in the RFI we would like to understand whether the Central Bank of Lesotho will consider an extension on the deadline date of the 24th July 2020 with another 7 to 14 days.?	The Bank believes it has allocated sufficient time for the RFI. Postponing will adversely affect subsequent steps. This could result in the huge delay for the project. Therefore we will keep the closing date as 24 th July 2020. We are even allowing bidders to submit by email in PDF format.
2. Is there an absolute dependency that the total National Payments Switch infrastructure must reside in-country or would an “off-soil” solution that leverage regional infrastructure for all or some of the Switches that make up the National Payments Switch be a consideration?	We prefer the infrastructure to be hosted in country. But we can consider a hosted model as secondary option. Kindly propose both options