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**The Ministry of Finance – Accountant General
Department**

**Public tender with prequalification stage number 18/2022
pursuant to regulation 17c of the Mandatory Tender
Regulations**

**Prequalification Stage for RIKMA:
Information System to Provide Access to
Government Big Data for Research and
Development**

Prequalification stage booklet

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Introduction

The special committee headed by the Accountant General Department at the Ministry of Finance together with the headquarters of the national project "Digital Israel" and the Ministry of Science and Technology (hereinafter: "**the Issuer of the Tender**") are issuing the RIKMA tender: a network for promoting data science in Israel (hereinafter: "**RIKMA**") and hereby publish the prequalification stage as part of tender number 18/2022.

The purpose of the services to be supplied pursuant to the tender is to establish a system that would provide access to government big data to users within and outside the government for groundbreaking academic research and the development of technological solutions benefiting society and the economy.

The main services required under this tender are:

- Mapping the databases of government ministries designated as a pilot and assistance with their classification and prioritization;
- Organizing and optimizing the databases and extracting entities and interactions;
- Connecting the various databases of ministries and creating the infrastructure for the connection between the databases of different ministries;
- Installation of the system in each pilot ministry, constant maintenance of the system and overall responsibility for its operation;
- Providing big data access to various ministries and external users from academia and industry;
- Creating a user interface for accessing big data that is open to the public;
- Creating a user interface for managing access to big data;
- Developing a training program for government ministries so that by the end of the project all databases and information are available for regular use, management and operation by government ministries;
- Expanding distribution and providing all services required by the tender to additional government units following the pilot in accordance with the requirements of the Issuer of the Tender.

Participants who pass the prequalification stage will proceed to an additional qualification stage. At the end of the additional qualification stage, the Issuer of the Tender will select the

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winner of the tender. The selected winner will enter into contract (as published in the documents of the additional qualification stage) with the Issuer of the Tender for a period of seven years (hereinafter: "**the Contract Period**"). The Issuer of the Tender may extend the Contract Period by two additional periods of 3 years each. The Issuer of the Tender may also extend the Contract Period by shorter periods of time at its sole discretion and as specified in the detailed request documents.

The tender documents are divided into chapters as follows:

Professional definitions – definition of terms required for the tender;

Chapter 1 – the tender process, participation conditions and winning conditions;

Chapter 2 – proposal booklet, to be submitted by participants in the prequalification stage;

Supplements – documents that participants are required to submit in the prequalification stage.

As part of the tender process, the Issuer of the Tender may choose to publish, at its sole discretion, an English translation of parts of the tender process documents. It should be emphasized that in any case of discrepancy or conflict, the Hebrew version shall prevail.

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Professional definitions

Term	Definition
Private information	As defined in the Privacy Protection Law, 1981: all data regarding a person's personality, personal status, sex life or orientation, health condition, economic status, professional qualification, opinions and faith.
Infringement of privacy	Exposure of private information regarding a person due to information in government databases (whether raw or processed) becoming accessible.
System core	The part of the system that includes its main capabilities. In particular, for the purpose of this tender, the information system core shall include the engine that allows the system to create information that does not infringe on privacy from private information and provide access to it to various users based on an access management mechanism.
Database	As defined in the Privacy Protection Law.
System users	All users of the system including researchers, administrators, technical users, users feeding information into the system and organization managers.
Big data	Data that is not organized according to any specific method, derived from various sources, in large quantity, different formats and different qualities. For the purpose of this tender, big data shall have a minimum volume of 1 TB.
Big data accessibility	Providing access to big data in the system by making them available to users in a monitored environment.
Researchers	Any person interested in making secondary use of private information such as users from the government, public bodies, academy and industry.
Research team or development team	A team of researchers or developers that includes at least one researcher or one developer.

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Term	Definition
Secondary use	The use of information for the purpose of research, analysis, policy, improving decision making procedures, etc. and not for the purpose of directly handling the subject of the information.

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Chapter 1 – The Tender Process

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1. The tender process

1.1. Background:

- 1.1.1. In recent years, research concerning big data in areas such as health, welfare, agriculture, education and employment has saved the lives of millions of people and significantly improved the services provided to citizens in all areas of life. However, while big data is intensively utilized in the private sector, the use of public data is still in its infancy and has enormous potential.
- 1.1.2. Making big data accessible is a process in which users are provided with access to big data for the purpose of constructing complex models that allow diagnosis, prediction, and cause and effect analysis (contrary to making integrative data accessible through BI systems that provide users with access only to summary tables and graphs and not to the big data itself). The government accumulates various types of big data, but the most challenging data in terms of accessibility is big data consisting of private information regarding residents, including but not limited to data regarding health, education, welfare, employment, consumption, demography, taxation, law, communication, sport, immigration, religious and cultural services.
- 1.1.3. One of the most significant challenges when conducting research using big data for the benefit of the public is protecting privacy. On the one hand, the more accurate and detailed the data made accessible for research is, the greater the potential risk is that such data would allow users to access private information, infringing on the privacy of citizens. On the other hand, the more obscure and general the data accessible for research is, the more limited is the ability to reach relevant conclusion based on such data and conduct groundbreaking studies.
- 1.1.4. Another challenge related to the privacy problem that makes big data accessibility to users difficult is the difficulty of integrating the databases of different government units. Studies that look for causal relations in the social field usually require an in-depth examination of data from different government areas of activity. However, in order to protect the privacy of

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citizens, any transfer of information between two ministries that involves a privacy risk requires a bureaucratic procedure, and this makes data accessibility for the purpose of in-depth inter-ministerial research difficult. Since each ministry is responsible for a separate professional field, and, therefore, each ministry maintains its own database, a network solution may be very beneficial. This would allow each government ministry to have full control over the data that is under its responsibility and, at the same time, allow user accessibility to inter-ministerial big data.

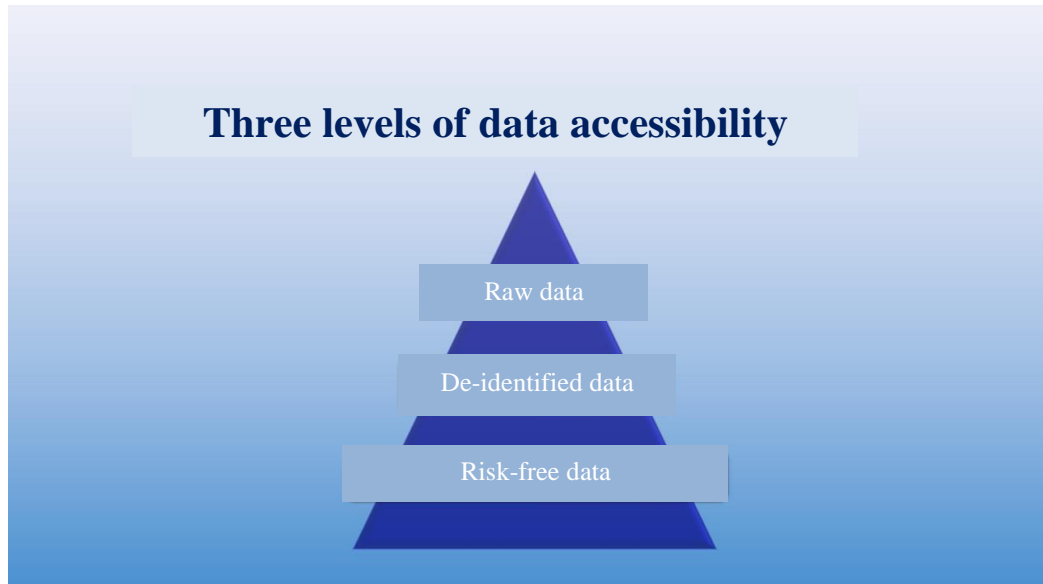
- 1.1.5. The main method used in Israel so far to deal with the privacy challenges involved with data accessibility is De-identification. In this method, personal information is removed from the original data and minor changes are performed to semi-identifying information, in order to minimize the risk of re-identification. This method can be very beneficial, but it is not free from problems. De-identified information may be significantly different than the original information, making research more difficult, and de-identified information can pose risk of Re-identification and Identity Disclosure. Such privacy risks, even if they are small, make the management of de-identified data accessibility complex, requiring detailed risk management for each research request, and, in some cases, convening a dedicated committee for each research request.
- 1.1.6. Recently, research rooms have been established in Israel with a different approach to the privacy challenge that is based on the creation of artificial information describing a fictitious population that shares the same statistical characteristics with the original data and, therefore, allows statistical conclusions regarding the original population. A number of organizations in Israel and around the world determined that, under specific circumstances, it is possible to guarantee that the use of such information does not create re-identification risks for the original population. Access to scientifically viable data that does not pose re-identification risks may revolutionize government data accessibility because of the possibility of making larger quantities of data accessible to a larger variety of users while reducing the bureaucratic burden

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involved with data accessibility. Furthermore, the ability to make inter-ministerial data accessible without associated privacy risks may significantly reduce the bureaucratic efforts involved in the accessibility of inter-ministerial data.

- 1.1.7. This tender is being published in light of all this. The main purpose of the tender is to find a network solution for user accessibility to big data for policy making, research and development. A "network solution" in this case is a technological solution allowing the establishment of a network where each point operates independently, and connection between points is made possible through dedicated software interfaces that allow various data types to be transferred as necessary and subject to required authorizations.
- 1.1.8. The establishment of such a network would not change the structure of ownership and responsibility over the data of various ministries. The network would not include a central database. Instead, it would allow users to have access to the information stored by various ministries and perform multi-disciplinary analyses of such information. In this way, users would be able to work with a simple and unified user interface and perform complex queries on multi-disciplinary information distributed between different databases.
- 1.1.9. Since some users may also wish to have access to de-identified or raw information (i.e., information that may raise privacy concerns if accessible) at some point, under restrictions, the suggested system would have to be a system that is capable of making accessible information that constitutes an infringement of privacy (such as de-identified information and raw information that has not been de-identified) in addition to information that does constitute an infringement of privacy, subject to the required authorization. However, it is also necessary for any technological solution to allow access to scientifically viable data that does not constitute an infringement of privacy. The following chart shows the three types of information that would be made accessible as part of the project:

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1.1.10.

Chart 1: the system is intended to provide users with access to three types of data: privacy safe data will be used for analyses that do not require access to less safe data and will allow a wide variety of hypotheses and various academic and industrial studies; de-identified data will be made accessible to users for whom safe data is insufficient for various reasons; and raw data will be made accessible only in cases where de-identified data is insufficient. Access to de-identified data and raw data would require more complex authorization than access to safe data.

1.1.11. The users of such a system would include government ministries and various public bodies that take part in providing access to data, as well as government ministries, government units and public bodies that do not take part in providing data access as part of the project; statutory corporations; subsidiary units; users from various research institutions and the academy; and researchers and developers from various industries. These users may come from Israel or outside Israel. It should be noted that the term "researchers" in this document refers to all system users looking to gain insight from data, including but not limited to academic users, industry users, government users and users from the civic service.

1.1.12. The ability to provide access to scientifically valid information that does not raise risk of privacy infringement is a core capability of the project. However,

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it should be noted that the desired project is not only an algorithmic project, but a full project including the development and maintenance of an information system and the technological accompaniment of the system's work processes. Participants will be selected therefore based on their ability to meet all the challenges involved in such a project.

1.2. **Description of the tender:**

- 1.2.1. The aim of the RIKMA (Network for Promoting Data Science) tender is to establish a system for providing access to government big data to users within and outside the government for the purposes of groundbreaking academic research and the development of technological solutions benefiting society and the economy. The network would connect various ministries without the need to transfer information to a central database and would consist of distributed databases located in different government units and a central researchers' portal to provide users with unified access to the system. From an organizational point of view, each ministry would be free to join or leave the system and would be solely responsible for its information. A central administration would assist with the operation of the network and coordination between ministries.
- 1.2.2. The tender is a Public Tender pursuant to regulation 14b(a) with a prequalification stage, as defined in regulation 17c of the Mandatory Tender Regulations, 1993 (hereinafter: "**the Mandatory Tender Regulations**"). Bidders who pass the prequalification stage will be included in the final bidders' group (hereinafter: "**Approved Bidders**") and will compete in the second stage, the additional qualification stage. Approved Bidders would be able to submit their full tender proposals in accordance with the tender documents published at the additional qualification stage (hereinafter: "**the RIKMA tender**").
- 1.2.3. Below is a visual representation of the tender stages:

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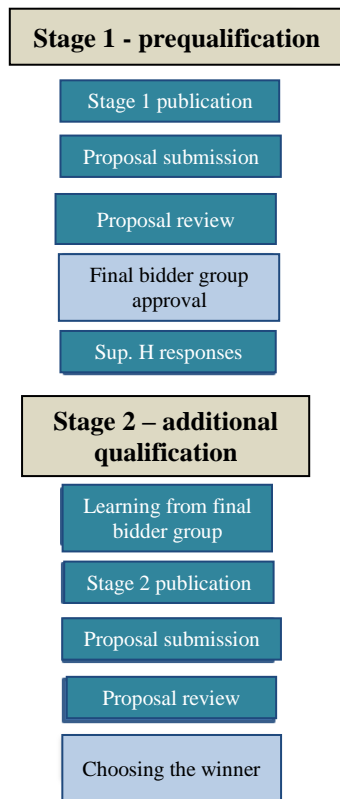


Chart 2: stages of the tender

1.2.4. Stage 1 – prequalification –

1.2.4.1. **Part 1:** the tender is now at the prequalification stage, and at this stage, bidders are required to prove that they meet the minimum requirements specified below and provide additional information as requested by the Issuer of the Tender, and all as specified in this document (hereinafter: "the Prequalification Documents"). Bidders that meet the requirements of this stage will be included in the final bidders' group and will be considered as Approved Bidders.

1.2.4.2. **Part 2:** at this stage, the bidders in the final bidders' group will complete the questionnaire attached to the Prequalification Documents as part of the schedules determined by the Issuer of the Tender and all as defined in this document. Approved Bidders will also be required to present the suggested system in accordance with **Supplement H**, including logging into the system with a DEMO user.

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1.2.4.3. The Issuer of the Tender may require that some or all Approved Bidders present it with additional information, orally or in writing, at its sole discretion, for the purpose of characterizing and consolidating the documents of stage 2 – the detailed request stage. Furthermore, the Issuer of the Tender may conduct professional meetings and workshops with some or all Approved Bidders, in accordance with the guidelines of the Issuer of the Tender and at its sole discretion.

1.2.5. Stage 2 – detailed request

1.2.5.1. The Issuer of the Tender will issue all bidders in the bidders' group approved at the prequalification stage with a request for a detailed design of the solution suggested by each bidder and a price proposal for the project in accordance with the criteria specified in the request. The design will be made in return for payment as determined by the Issuer of the Tender. Following the submission of proposals, the Issuer of the Tender will score each proposal in accordance with the criteria specified in the detailed design request.

1.2.5.2. The Issuer of the Tender will submit the detailed request to Approved Bidders, and Approved Bidders may ask for clarifications regarding the request. The Issuer of the Tender may, at its sole discretion, set additional minimum requirements and standards for the examinations of proposals at this stage. Bidders who do not have any representation in Israel, or experience as integrator, should note that in the second stage of the tender, the Issuer of the Tender may require bidders to have a contract with a corporate that is officially represented in Israel and is experienced as integrator, for the successful implementation of the project.

1.2.5.3. The detailed request documents will include all the requirements and conditions for supplying the requested services, including:

1.2.5.3.1. A mandatory description of the required services, including the system's privacy protection requirements;

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1.2.5.3.2. Additional minimum requirements and standards for the examinations of proposals at this stage, at the sole discretion of the Issuer of the Tender, including minimum requirements and standards pertaining to privacy protection and the scientific validity of accessible data, as well as minimum requirements and standards pertaining the ability of the bidder or a subcontractor on his behalf to perform integration for the project. In addition, the Issuer of the Tender may set additional requirements to prove a foreign bidder meet the minimal administrative requirements for supplying the services;

1.2.5.3.3. A description of the method of implementation, payment terms and milestones for contracting;

1.2.5.3.4. The economic model of the contract and the pricing method of proposals;

1.2.5.3.5. Mandatory technological requirements, including operational flexibility capabilities;

1.2.5.3.6. Key for examination and evaluation of proposals;

1.2.5.3.7. Guidelines regarding the structure of the required detailed response and the products required from the bidder;

1.2.5.3.8. Amount of execution guarantee, as determined by the Tenders Committee;

1.2.5.3.9. A contract with updated supplements;

1.2.5.3.10. The method and process of selecting the winner;

1.2.5.3.11. Any other requirement set by the Issuer of the Tender.

1.2.5.4. The expected schedule for submitting proposals in response to the detailed request will be around 8 weeks from the publication date of the detailed request documents.

1.2.6. Selecting the winner – at the end of stage 2, the Issuer of the Tender will conduct quality checks for submitted proposals in accordance with the model specified in the tender. For each proposal passing the quality check, the Issuer of the Tender will open the price proposals, ensure their validity and rank them. The Issuer of

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the Tender will then weigh the price proposal with the quality score in accordance with the model specified in the detailed request documents and rank the proposals. the Issuer of the Tender will enter into contract with the bidder whose proposal will rank first.

2. Minimum requirements for participating in the tender

Bidders that meet the requirements specified below on the last date for submitting proposals may submit its proposal for the prequalification stage. Bidders will prove that they meet the minimum requirements specified below in accordance with the instructions specified in the proposal booklet (attached to chapter 2).

2.1. Administrative minimum requirements

- 2.1.1. Bidders will attach the bidder information supplement (supplement A) to their proposals, signed and completed.
- 2.1.2. Bidders must be a corporation registered in Israel or abroad, or self-employed. To prove that they meet this minimum requirement, bidders will attach a confirmation of their registration in the relevant registry in accordance with applicable laws.
- 2.1.3. Bidders registered in Israel must meet the requirements of the Public Bodies Transaction Law. To prove that they meet this minimum requirement, bidders will attach to their proposals:
 - 2.1.3.1. A statement validated by an attorney regarding no previous convictions pursuant to the Foreign Workers Law, 1991 and pursuant to the Minimum Wage Law, 1987, in accordance with the statement attached herein as supplement B;
 - 2.1.3.2. Updated and valid confirmations regarding bookkeeping, tax deduction at source and VAT registration, as required by the Public Bodies Transaction Law, i.e. a confirmation from an authorized official, accountant or tax consultant specifying that the bidder's bookkeeping is in line with the Income Tax Ordinance [New Version] and the Value Added Tax Law,

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1975, or that the bidder is exempt from bookkeeping and reports its income to the tax assessor and reports transactions that are subject to VAT pursuant to the Value Added Tax Law to the Value Added Tax administration; bidders that are registered as a Dealers Association will attach a confirmation of belonging to such Dealers Association as proof of meeting the minimum requirements, including reference to the bidder's authorized dealer / private company number;

The issuing of valid confirmations for Israel bidders will be made by one of the following two ways:

- a. Through the website of the Tax Authority; or
- b. Through the Tax Authority's information systems – for suppliers connected to such systems;

2.1.4. Bidders registered in Israel are required to provide a statement validated by an attorney regarding the employment of workers with disabilities in accordance with the Public Bodies Transaction Law (Amendment no. 10 and Temporary Order), 2016, and the Equal Rights for People with Disabilities Law, 1998, in accordance with the statement attached herein as supplement C.

2.1.5. Bidders cannot hold or be held by another bidder in the tender (holding for this purpose shall mean direct or indirect holding of 25% or more of the means of control, as defined in the Securities Law, 1968), and a single entity cannot hold 25% or more in two bidders. In addition, bidder cannot be a subcontractor of another bidder in the tender in connection with the services required in this tender (however, after winning the tender process, the winning bidder may enter into contract with a bidder that did not win for the purpose of subcontractor services).

2.1.6. If the bidder is a registered in Israel as a non-profit organization, public utility company or charitable trust, it is required to hold an authorization of proper management from the Association Registrar or charitable trust Registrar, as the case may be, for 2022. To prove that they meet this minimum requirement, bidders will attach such authorization to their proposals.

2.2. Professional minimum requirements

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2.2.1. Bidder's professional experience

Bidders are required to meet all of the following conditions cumulatively:

2.2.1.1. The bidder meets one of the following alternative conditions:

2.2.1.1.1. The bidder is a manufacturer of the core of the suggested system and holds the rights to it;

2.2.1.1.2. The bidder is an integrator authorized by the manufacturer of the core of the suggested system to offer its services;

2.2.1.1.3. The suggested system is an open-source product.

2.2.1.2. The bidder has at least two years of experience in the development and integration of information systems for the collection and analysis of big data (and if the bidder is a manufacturer (as specified in sub-section 2.2.1.1.1 above) or an integrator (as specified in sub-section 2.2.1.1.2 above) it has at least two years of experience in development or integration, respectively); if the suggested system is an open source product (as specified in sub-section 2.2.1.1.3 above), the bidder has at least two years of experience in the implementation of open source products.

2.2.2. Professional minimum requirements for the system

2.2.2.1. **Providing access to big data:** the system is a dedicated system capable of collecting, processing and providing access to big data (as defined in the definitions chapter) to users.

2.2.2.1.1. To provide proof of meeting this condition, bidders will attach an "empty table" of data made accessible by the system to users (a table including the names of accessible fields without the actual data), demonstrating that the system provides access to big data at the individual level and not only integrative data or query responses.

2.2.2.2. **Privacy protection:** the system provides access to big data without any infringement of privacy (as defined in the definitions chapter) even when the data is based on private information.

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2.2.2.2.1. To prove that they meet this minimum requirement, bidders must attach the opinion of an external entity confirming that the system provides access to big data without any infringement of privacy (as defined in the definitions chapter) even when the data is based on private information. The provider of such opinion must hold (at least) a doctoral degree in statistics, mathematics or computer science from an academic institute recognized by the Israeli Council of Higher Education or listed in UNESCO's World Higher Education Database (WHED). To clarify, the aforementioned opinion will be used as a personal statement by the bidder to prove that it meets this minimum requirement and will not bind the Issuer of the Tender in any way. The inclusion of any bidder in the list of Approved Bidders does not mean that the Issuer of the Tender accepts or rejects such opinion and its validity. During stage 2 of the tender, the system will be examined by the Issuer of the Tender or its representatives in order to determine whether the system meets the condition of providing access to users without infringement of privacy in accordance with the requirements set by the Issuer of the Tender regarding this matter.

2.2.2.3. **Scientific validity:** the privacy safe big data made accessible by the system and used by bidders to prove that they meet the minimum requirements specified in sub-sections 2.2.2.1 and 2.2.2.2 allow, as of the date of proposal submission, scientifically valid research or studies, with minimal interference with the quality and quantity of the accessible data. Bidders are required to prove that they meet this minimum requirement by one of the following ways:

2.2.2.3.1. Proof by academic paper: bidders will refer to an academic paper published by them in a peer-reviewed journal based on the safe information made accessible by the system or dealing directly with the question of the scientific validity of the

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information made accessible by the system and determining that the system provides access to information with high scientific validity.

2.2.2.3.2. Proof by opinion: bidders will attach the opinion of an external entity confirming that the privacy safe big data made accessible by the system and used by bidders to prove that they meet the minimum requirements specified in sub-sections 2.2.2.1 and 2.2.2.2 allow, as of the date of proposal submission, scientifically valid research or studies. The provider of such opinion must hold (at least) a doctoral degree in statistics, mathematics or computer science from an academic institute recognized by the Israeli Council of Higher Education or listed in UNESCO's World Higher Education Database (WHED). To clarify, the aforementioned opinion will be used as a personal statement by the bidder to prove that it meets this minimum requirement and will not bind the Issuer of the Tender in any way. The inclusion of any bidder in the list of Approved Bidders does not mean that the Issuer of the Tender accepts or rejects such opinion and its validity. During stage 2 of the tender, the system will be examined by the Issuer of the Tender or its representatives in order to determine whether the system meets the condition of providing access to data that can be used for scientifically valid research in accordance with the requirements set by the Issuer of the Tender regarding this matter.

2.2.2.4. **Operational status:** the system is currently operating as a research or development system in at least three organizations providing access to information about at least 100,000 persons to at least 10 teams of researchers or developers.

2.2.2.5. Details regarding the required proofs for meeting each of the professional minimum requirements by the bidder and the system can be found in the proposal booklet (supplement E).

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3. Tender schedule

3.1. Submitting tender proposals

Tender proposals shall be submitted in accordance with the following schedule:

Subject	Date
Tender P.Q publishing	[Monday, 25/04/2022] [13 PM]
Bidders' convention	[Thursday, 12/05/2022] [17 PM]
Last date for submitting requests for clarification	[Monday, 16/05/2022] [By 13 PM]
Last date for responses by the Issuer of the Tender to requests for clarification	[Sunday, 22/05/2022]
Last date for submitting proposals through the digital tender box	[Wednesday, 15/06/2022] [By 13 PM]
Last date for submitting supplement H: request for information from suppliers that meet the prequalification conditions regarding the suggested solution and presentation of the technological solution by the bidder	21 days from the date of notification to the bidder of meeting the prequalification conditions

3.2. Bidders' conference

3.2.1. A bidders' conference is scheduled to take place where essential details regarding the tender will be provided. The conference will take place on the date specified above. The date of the conference will also be published on the website of the government acquisition administration at www.mr.gov.il under the heading RIKMA tender no. 18/2022.

3.2.2. Participation in the bidders' conference is a condition for submitting tender proposals.

3.2.3. Bidders who wish to participate in the bidders' conference will inform the representative of the Issuer of the Tender in advance through the dedicated link on the website announcing the conference.

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3.2.4. Responses provided during the bidders' conference would bind the Issuer of the Tender only if provided in writing or published on the website.

3.3. Tender website

3.3.1. All information regarding the tender, including the tender documents and tender related notifications will be published on the tender webpage on the website of the government acquisition administration at www.mr.gov.il (hereinafter: "**the Website**").

3.4. Clarification requests regarding the tender

3.4.1. Requests for clarification or comments regarding the tender or any of its condition may be addressed to the representative of the Issuer of the Tender by e-mail at morias@mof.gov.il by the last date for submitting requests for clarification specified above.

3.4.2. Requests should be submitted using the Excel file published on the Website as part of the tender documents. The Issuer of the Tender may not respond to late requests submissions or to requests made orally, by phone or by any format other than the required format.

3.4.3. If required, the Issuer of the Tender may allow further rounds of clarification requests. Notification regarding such further rounds will be published on the Website.

3.4.4. Bidders who fail to address the Issuer of the Tender as specified above will forfeit the right to make any claim or request in the future regarding any ambiguity, discrepancy or incompatibility in the tender documents.

3.5. Response of the issuer of the Tender to clarification requests

3.5.1. The responses of the Issuer of the Tender to clarification submissions as well as any other clarification to the tender documents made by the Issuer of the Tender will be published on the tender webpage in the Website. Bidders should be familiar with the responses of the Issuer of the Tender and any regular updates published regarding the tender.

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3.5.2. In its responses to clarification request, the Issuer of the Tender may make changes to the tender documents and provide interpretations and clarifications regarding the provisions of the tender documents. Responses will be published without the names of the requesters.

3.5.3. When responding to clarification requests, the Issuer of the Tender may rewrite or shorten requests. The responses of the Issuer of the Tender shall be binding and an integral part of the tender.

3.6. Submitting tender proposals

3.6.1. Bidders who wish to participate in the tender will submit their response to the prequalification stage by completing and submitting chapter 1 and its supplements to the digital tender box in accordance with the method of submission specified in this section.

3.6.2. Proposals should be submitted through the digital tender box. A link to the digital box will be published on the tender webpage in the Website near the date of submission.

3.6.3. Proposals should be submitted by the date specified in the table above in accordance with the guidelines of the Issuer of the Tender and as specified in the table of dates in section 3.1.1 of the tender.

3.6.4. Proposals that are not submitted through the digital tender box by the last date for proposal submission as specified in the table of dates will not be reviewed by the Tender Committee.

3.6.5. If the Issuer of the Tender publishes an updated version of the tender procedure or its supplement following clarifications made by the Issuer of the Tender, bidders will be required to submit their responses based on the updated version.

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4. The tender procedure

4.1. The rights of the Issuer of the Tender

- 4.1.1. The Issuer of the Tender, or a team on behalf of the Issuer of the Tender that may include external consultants, will ensure that bidders' proposals are submitted in accordance with the requirements specified in the proposal booklet (chapter 2) and score them.
- 4.1.2. For the purpose of reviewing proposals, the Issuer of the Tender may use the information specified in bidders' proposals as well as other reliable sources of information, including the professional knowledge available to the Issuer of the Tender, public information regarding bidders, the opinion of professional consultants, the opinion of research bodies and any other reliable source of information.
- 4.1.3. The Issuer of the Tender or its representatives may ask bidders for clarifications regarding their proposals, to supply information that is missing from their proposals or to provide alternative or additional documents to prove that they meet the minimum requirements and the tender requirements, and all this within a specific period of time. For this purpose, the Issuer of the Tender may meet with bidders in order to specify the required clarifications. Failure to meet such requests in due time may result in the disqualification of the proposal.
- 4.1.4. After providing bidders with the opportunity to supplement and complete their proposals, the Issuer of the Tender may disqualify any proposal that still fails to meet the requirements of the tender or ask for additional supplementation, at its sole discretion.
- 4.1.5. The Issuer of the Tender may enter into contract with the manufacturer of the system core (in case of a proposal submitted by an integrator), whether directly or through another integrator), at its sole discretion.
- 4.1.6. The Issuer of the Tender may hold meetings with bidders who successfully passed the prequalification stage in order to receive further clarifications and professional information and to examine and demonstrate the capabilities specified in their proposals. the Issuer of the Tender reserves the right to invite any of the bidders

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who successfully passed the prequalification stage to one or more demonstration meeting and to hold visual conferences or phone conversations with bidders in order to obtain additional professional information that would assist in the consolidation of the second stage of the tender.

4.1.7. The Issuer of the Tender may reject a proposal if any of the clauses of the tender are not treated in detail or if the proposal is unclear and ambiguous in a way that prevents its proper evaluation in the opinion of the Issuer of the Tender.

4.1.8. The Issuer of the Tender may disqualify a proposal at its sole discretion in any of the following conditions:

4.1.8.1. **Disqualification of a proposal that is not economically viable or tactical** – if a proposal is not economically viable for the bidder and raises doubts about the bidder's ability to meet its obligations if it wins the tender, or if a proposal is tactical (for example, a proposal that includes irregular prices or discounts for specific items) both in itself and in relation to other proposals, and in any case of an action that is not taken in good faith.

4.1.8.2. **Disqualification for deceitful behavior in previous tenders** – in previous tenders of the Issuer of the Tender or any other body, the bidder acted deceitfully, dishonestly or corruptibly, provided deceptive information of inaccurate material information.

4.1.8.3. **Disqualification due to the economic status of the bidder** – due to the current or projected economic status of the bidder, including bankruptcy or liquidation procedures or standing material actions against the bidder, the Issuer of the Tender has doubt regarding the ability of the bidder to provide the required services if it wins the tender.

4.1.8.4. **Disqualification due to conflict of interest** – if any conflict of interest exists or is suspected, whether direct or indirect, between the interests of the bidder or its interested parties and the performance of the services by the bidder which, in the opinion of the Issuer of the Tender, cannot be resolved.

4.1.9. For the purpose of the tender, bidders will appoint a contact person to serve as the sole point of contact for all matter related to the tender. Any correspondence sent

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by the contact person to the Issuer of the Tender and by the Issuer of the Tender to the contact person shall bind the bidder.

4.2. Tender cancellation or change

4.2.1. The Issuer of the Tender, at its sole discretion, may cancel, change or update the tender, including any specified dates and the method of proposal submission. Any such changes will be published on the tender website.

4.2.2. Any contact with the winner of the tender will be subject to the existence of an available budget. The Issuer of the Tender may cancel the tender if entry into contract with the winner of the tender is not possible due to budgetary reasons.

4.2.3. The Issuer of the Tender will not be obligated to compensate bidders in any case of tender cancellation.

4.3. Expenses

4.3.1. Bidders will not be entitled to any reimbursement or compensation in connection with the tender, including in case of any termination, delay or cancellation of the tender or any amendment to the terms of tender.

4.4. Jurisdiction

4.4.1. Jurisdiction regarding all matters related to the tender and any action related to its administration shall lay with the competent courts in Jerusalem.

4.5. Confidentiality and right of inspection

4.5.1. Subject to the legal obligations of the Issuer of the Tender, the Issuer of the Tender undertakes not to disclose the content of any proposal submitted as part of this tender process to any third party that is not an employee of the Issuer of the Tender or a consultant of the Issuer of the Tender that is employed by the Issuer of the Tender for the purpose of this tender. Such employees or consultants of the Issuer of the Tender shall also be obligated to protect the confidentiality of proposals and to refrain from using proposals for any purpose other than this tender.

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- 4.5.2. Pursuant to regulation 21(e) of the Tender Law regulations, bidders that did not win the tender may request to inspect the proposals that passed the prequalification stage and any other document related to the tender, and the Issuer of the Tender will allow such inspection except in cases of commercial or professional secrets whose disclosure may be detrimental to the security, foreign relations, economy or public safety of the state. To clarify, the original clarification requests submitted by bidders will not be disclosed under the right of inspection.
- 4.5.3. Depending on the nature of the tender, the suggested solutions specified in proposals will be considered as commercial or professional secrets by the Issuer of the Tender and, therefore, this part of the winning proposal will not be disclosed under the right of inspection.
- 4.5.4. Bidders that wish to prevent the inspection of other clauses of their proposal by claiming that such clauses constitute a commercial or professional secret, or for any other reason specified in the Mandatory Tender Regulations, shall explicitly specify this request in supplement G. To clarify, such request in itself shall not prevent the inspection of such clauses, and any decision in this matter shall be made by the tender committee of the Issuer of the Tender.
- 4.5.5. Bidders that claim that some part of their proposals constitutes a commercial or professional secret may not request to inspect such part in other proposals.
- 4.5.6. If the tender committee of the Issuer of the Tender rejects the claim of a bidder that some part of its proposals constitutes a commercial or professional secret, the Issuer of the Tender shall inform the bidder about such rejection at least 5 workdays prior to the actual entry into force of the right of inspection.
- 4.5.7. The final decision regarding the status of specific details in any proposal as commercial or professional secrets that may not be revealed to other bidders shall be made by the tender committee at its sole discretion.
- 4.5.8. Subject to the aforementioned in this section, by participating in the tender, bidders consent to the full disclosure of their proposals, including all supplements, to other participants in the tender, in accordance with the provisions of the law and the Mandatory Tender Regulations.

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Chapter 2 – The Proposal

Booklet

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1. The proposal booklet

Guidelines for bidder response to the tender

- 1.1. This chapter constitutes the response of bidders to the tender. A response is not necessary for any other part of the tender.
- 1.2. Follow the instructions in this chapter closely so your proposal may be properly reviewed and evaluated. Do not add, condition or change any of the terms of the tender.
- 1.3. Any request for clarification regarding the tender documents should be addressed to the Issuer of the Tender as specified in chapter 1 of the tender documents. By submitting a proposal under this tender, bidders accept the terms of the tender and shall have no claim against the Issuer of the Tender regarding such terms.
- 1.4. Unless explicitly specified otherwise, additional information and details may be added to those required in this supplement. Missing or inappropriate information may result in a lower score for the proposal or cause its disqualification in accordance with the sole discretion of the Issuer of the Tender. However, too much information is not recommended. Please keep the information accurate and concise.

2. Guidelines regarding the submission of tender responses

- 2.1. Bidders who are interested in participating in the tender shall submit their response to this chapter and its supplements through the digital box, in accordance with chapter 1 of the tender documents.
- 2.2. Proposals shall be submitted using Microsoft Word files, Microsoft Excel files and PDF files. **All submitted files must be digitally signed by the bidder.** An identical PDF version shall accompany every Word and Excel file. The naming convention of

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files shall be "Tender – 18/2022 - <document/supplement name>". The files shall include all of the information required in this chapter.

- 2.3. If the Issuer of the Tender publishes an updated version of the tender or its supplements following clarifications provided by it, bidders shall be required to submit their responses based on the updated version.

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Documents bidders are required to attach pursuant to the general minimum requirements

No.	Tender clause	Certificate / confirmation	Available	Not available
1.	2.1.2	Confirmation of relevant bidder registration, in accordance with applicable law.		
2.	2.1.1.3	Current and valid confirmation of bookkeeping.		
3.	2.1.1.3	Current and valid confirmation of tax deduction at source.		
4.	2.1.1.3	Current and valid confirmation of VAT registration.		
5.	2.1.1.3	If the bidder is Dealers Association: a confirmation of belonging to such Dealers Association, including reference to the bidder's authorized dealer / private company number.		
6.	2.1.1.6	If the bidder is an NPO: an authorization of proper management from the Association Registrar or charitable trust Registrar, as the case may be, for 2022.		

Documents bidders are required to complete or sign

Supplement	Clause	Subject	Comment
Supplement A	2.1.1	Bidder information	Complete and sign
Supplement B	2.1.1.3	Statement pursuant to the Public Bodies Transaction Law	Complete and sign Attorney signature required
Supplement C	2.1.1.4	Statement of compliance with the provisions of the Equal Rights Law	Complete and sign Attorney signature required
Supplement D	2.1.2.1	Bidder experience in regard to the professional minimum requirements	Complete and sign A signed opinion is required ¹
Supplement E	2.1.2.2	Professional minimum requirements for the system	Complete and sign
Supplement F		Details of subcontractors and other involved entities	Complete and sign

¹ The provider of such opinion must hold (at least) a doctoral degree in statistics, mathematics or computer science from an academic institute recognized by the Israeli Council of Higher Education or listed in UNESCO's World Higher Education Database (WHED).

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Supplement	Clause	Subject	Comment
Supplement G	4.5.4	Confidential parts of the proposal	Complete and sign
Supplement H	3.1.1	Request for information from suppliers who meet the minimum requirements for the suggested solution and the bidder's technological response	This supplement is only required from bidders approved by the Issuer of the Tender

Bidders are requested to attach the aforementioned documents in the order listed in the above table.

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Supplement A – Bidder information

Below is the information of the bidder submitting its proposal to tender number 0/2022 – **Prequalification Stage for RIKMA: Information System to Provide Access to Government Big Data for Research and Development:**

1.	Bidder's name (as specified in relevant registry)		
2.	Association type (limited company / partnership, etc.)		
3.	Identification number		4. Registration date _____
5.	Bidder's address		
6.	Bank account details	Bank no.:	Bank name:
		Branch no.:	Account no.:
		Branch address:	
		Name of beneficiary in bank records:	
7.	Bidder's CEO	Name:	
		Phone:	
		E-mail:	
8.	Contact person for the bidder	Name:	
		Address:	
		Phone:	
		E-mail:	
9.	Details of persons authorized sign on behalf of the bidder and bind the	Name: _____	ID (or equivalent): _____

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<p>bidder for the purpose of this tender.</p> <p>Authorized to bind the bidder for the purpose of this tender (mark accordingly – do not leave empty):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Together</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Together with company seal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Separately</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Separately with company seal</p>	Signature:	
	Name:	ID (or equivalent):
	_____	_____
	Signature:	
	Name:	ID (or equivalent):
	_____	_____
	Signature:	

10. Undertakings of the bidder

10.1 Qualification for participating in the tender

- 10.1.1 The bidder has read the tender documents thoroughly, including all chapters, supplements, terms and parts, and including all the clarifications published by the client, and understands and agrees to them.
- 10.1.2 The bidder is not currently undergoing any process of bankruptcy or liquidation and not material actions stands against the bidder that may prevent the bidder from fulfilling its obligations under this tender in case of winning.
- 10.1.3 No legal cause exists to prevent the bidder from participating in this tender.
- 10.1.4 Nothing in the submission of a proposal under this tender or in the entry into contract for the purpose of this tender shall constitute a conflict of interest, whether directly or indirectly, between the bidder and the Issuer of the Tender.
- 10.1.5 This proposal is offered in good faith.

10.2 Non-fixing of tender proposals

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- 10.2.1 The Information specified in this proposal has been decided by the bidder independently, without any consultation, arrangement or connection with another bidder.
- 10.2.2 The details of this proposal have not been and shall not be presented to any person or corporation submitting proposals in this tender.
- 10.2.3 The bidder has not been involved in any attempt to convince another competitor to submit a proposal in this tender and has not been involved in any way in any proposal submitted by another bidder.
- 10.2.4 The bidder has not been and has no intention of being involved in any attempt to cause another competitor to submit a higher or lower offer than the offer in this proposal.
- 10.2.5 The bidder has not been involved in any attempt to cause a competitor to submit a non-competitive proposal of any kind.
- 10.2.6 This proposal is submitted in good faith.

10.3 Bidder independence

- 10.3.1 The bidder does not hold and is not held by another bidder (for this purpose, "hold" shall mean direct or indirect holding of 25% or more of the means of control, as defined in the Securities Law, 1968).
- 10.3.2 A single entity does not hold 25% or more of the means of control in the bidder and in another bidder in the tender.
- 10.3.3 The bidder is not a subcontractor of another bidder in the tender in connection with the services contemplated in the tender.

10.4 Property rights

The bidder is entitled to sell the products offered by it in the tender pursuant to any law or agreement, and, to the best of the bidder's knowledge, selling such products does not infringe on the property rights of any third party.

10.5 Intellectual property and copyright

- 10.5.1** All services, service products or systems developed by the clients, themselves or through a subcontractor, on the platform of the supplier, whether through the services of a third party or using the tools and

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services of the supplier, shall be fully and solely owned by the clients, and the supplier shall have no ownership interest in them of any kind, except for the supplier's ownership of the tools and services used by the clients. Furthermore, any right of a creator to have its name on its creation, any right to object to any change of a creation and any similar right under any law of any country or pursuant to any convention (hereinafter: "**Moral Rights**") regarding the products of the services, shall be held by the clients alone and shall continue after the end of the contract.

10.5.2 When working with open-source systems, the client may publish addons and developments to the system to the open-source community.

10.5.3 To dispel any doubt, the supplier shall have no ownership over the government data in the system.

Bidder signature

Date

Name

Signature and stamp

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Supplement B – Statement pursuant to the Public Bodies Transaction Law

(Section 2.1.3 of the tender)

I, the undersigned, _____, ID (or equivalent) _____, having been warned that I am required to tell the truth and that failure to do so may result in the penalties prescribed by law, hereby declare as follows:

I am providing this statement on behalf of _____, who is the bidder (hereinafter: "**the Bidder**") wishing to enter into contract with the issuer of tender **18/2022 – Prequalification Stage for RIKMA: Information System to Provide Access to Government Big Data for Research and Development for the Ministry of Finance – Accountant General Department**. I represent that I am qualified to provide this statement on behalf of the Bidder.

In this statement, the term "**holder of interest**" shall have the meaning defined in the Public Bodies Transaction Law, 1976 (hereinafter: "**Public Bodies Transaction Law**"). I confirm that the meaning of this term has been explained to me and that I understand it.

The term "**offence**" shall have the meaning defined in the Foreign Workers Law (Prohibition on Unlawful Employment and Assurance of Fair Conditions), 1991, or the Minimum Wage Law, 1987, and, regarding transactions for obtaining services, as defined in section 2 of the Labor Laws Increased Enforcement Law, 2011, including a violation of the provision specified in the third addendum to same law.

The Bidder is a corporation registered in Israel.

(Mark X in the appropriate box)

The Bidder and its holder of interest **have not been convicted** of more than two offences by the last date for submitting proposals (hereinafter: "**the Submission Date**") for tender no. 0/2022 – Prequalification Stage for RIKMA: Information System to Provide Access to Government Big Data for Research and Development for the Ministry of Finance – Accountant General Department.

The Bidder or its holder of interest **have been convicted** of more than two offences and at least **one year has elapsed** between the last conviction and the Submission Date.

The Bidder or its holder of interest **have been convicted** of more than two offences and at least **one year has not elapsed** between the last conviction and the Submission Date.

This is my name and my signature, and my statement is true.

Date

Name

Signature and stamp

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Attorney Confirmation

I, the undersigned, _____, attorney at law, hereby confirm that Mr. / Mrs. _____, who identified him / her self by the use of an identification card (or equivalent) / who is personally familiar to me, appeared before me in my office at _____, on _____, and after being warned by me about his / her obligation to state the truth, and that failure to do so may result in the penalties prescribed by law, signed this statement in my presence.

Date

License number

Signature and stamp

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Supplement C – Statement of compliance with the provisions of the Equal Rights

Law

(Section 2.1.3.4 of the tender)

Applications to the general manager of the Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Services as required by this statement shall be made through the headquarters for the integration of persons with disabilities by e-mail: mateh.shiluv@economy.gov.il.

Questions may be addressed to the Employers Support Center by e-mail at info@mtlm.org.il, or phone: 1700507676.

I, the undersigned, _____, ID (or equivalent) _____, having been warned that I am required to tell the truth and that failure to do so may result in the penalties prescribed by law, hereby declare as follows:

I am providing this statement on behalf of _____, who is the bidder (hereinafter: "**the Bidder**") wishing to enter into contract with the issuer of tender **18/2022 – Prequalification Stage for RIKMA: Information System to Provide Access to Government Big Data for Research and Development for the Ministry of Finance – Accountant General Department**. I represent that I am qualified to provide this statement on behalf of the Bidder.

(Mark X in the appropriate box):

- The provisions of section 9 of the Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities Law, 1998, do not apply to the Bidder.
- The provisions of section 9 of the Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities Law, 1998, apply to the Bidder, and the Bidder complies with such provisions.

(If the provisions of section 9 of the Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities Law, 1998, apply to the Bidder, mark X in the appropriate box):

- The Bidder employs less than 100 employees.
- The Bidder employs 100 or more employees.

(If the Bidder employs 100 or more employees, mark X in the appropriate box):

- The Bidder undertakes to apply the general manager of the Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Services, if it wins the tender, to review the fulfilment of its obligations pursuant to section 9 of the Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities Law, 1998, and, if necessary, to receive guidelines regarding their fulfilment.
- The Bidder previously undertook to apply the general manager of the Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Services to review the fulfilment of its obligations pursuant to section 9 of the Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities Law, 1998, and has applied accordingly, and, if it received guidelines for the fulfilment of its obligation, it **has implemented such guidelines** (if the Bidder previously undertook to apply as aforementioned and was contacted and provided this undertaking in relation to such contact).

The bidder undertakes to submit a copy of the statement provided by it pursuant to this paragraph to the general manager of the Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Services within 30 days from the date of the contract.

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Date

Name

Signature and stamp

Attorney Confirmation

I, the undersigned, _____, attorney at law, hereby confirm that Mr. / Mrs. _____, who identified him / her self by the use of an identification card (or equivalent) / who is personally familiar to me, appeared before me in my office at _____, on _____, and after being warned by me about his / her obligation to state the truth, and that failure to do so may result in the penalties prescribed by law, signed this statement in my presence.

Date

License number

Signature and stamp

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4. In the table below, the bidder shall specify at least two years' experience in the development and integration of information systems for collecting and analyzing big data (in case of a developer and an integrator, each shall specify at least two years of experience in development and integration, respectively):

Name of body / organization to which service was provided	Information regarding the services or the nature of the service provided by the bidder	Start date of service provision (month)	Start date of service provision (year)	End date of service provision (month)	End date of service provision (year)	Contact person	Mobile phone	Position	E-mail

5. Bidder signature

Bidder signature:

Date

Name

Signature and stamp

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Supplement E – Professional minimum requirements for the system

1. Providing access to big data

1.1. The bidder represents that it meets the minimum requirements specified in section 2.2.2.1 of the tender.

1.2. To prove that the system is a dedicated system capable of collecting, processing and providing access to big data (as defined in the definitions chapter) to users, the bidder will attach an empty table of data made accessible by the system to users (a table including the names of accessible fields without the actual data), demonstrating that the system provides access to big data at the individual level and not only integrative data or query responses. The table should include at least 20 columns (fields) for a population of at least 100,000 persons / events. The printed table may be attached as an XLS file, Google Sheet or text. In addition to this table, the bidder should attach a ReadMe file with explanations about the fields in the table. An example for a ReadMe file can be found here: <https://data.gov.il/dataset/covid-19/resource/3f5c975e-7196-454b-8c5b-ef85881f78db> (Note: the table to which the ReadMe file refers is not an example for a table providing compliance with the minimum requirements since it contains less than 20 fields). The bidder should complete the summary table below within the supplement in order to facilitate the examination of the minimum requirements:

Parameter	Response (to be completed by the bidder)	Comments
Name of attached table		
Number of fields		Must be higher than 20
Number of persons / events to which the provides information		Must be higher than 100,000

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Context in which the table was made accessible to users by the system		Explain the study / research under which information was made accessible to users
Users to which information was made accessible		Name the researchers and/or research institutes or bodies conducting the research
Year in which information was made accessible		

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2. Scientific validity

2.1. The bidder represents that it meets the minimum requirements specified in section 2.1.2.2.2 of the tender.

2.2. To prove that it meets these minimum requirements, the bidder can choose one of two methods of proof:

2.2.1.Option 1: proof of meeting the minimum requirements by reference to one or more academic papers:

2.2.1.1. Provide reference to at least one paper published in a peer-reviewed journal based on information provided by the system and/or academic papers dealing directly with the question of the scientific validity of the information made accessible by the system and determining that this information is scientifically valid.

	Paper title	Journal	Publication year	Link to the paper	Contact details of lead writer
1					
2					

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3					
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2.2.2. Option 2: proof of meeting the minimum requirements by reference to a dedicated opinion: provide an external opinion confirming that the privacy safe big data made accessible by the system and used by bidders to prove that they meet the minimum requirements specified in sub-sections 2.1.2.2.1 and 2.1.2.2.2 allows, as of the date of proposal submission, scientifically valid research or studies. The provider of such opinion must hold (at least) a doctoral degree in statistics, mathematics or computer science from an academic institute recognized by the Israeli Council of Higher Education or listed in UNESCO's World Higher Education Database (WHED).

3. Privacy protection

3.1. Provide an external opinion confirming that the system provides access to big data without any infringement of privacy (as defined in the definitions chapter) even when the data is based on private information. The provider of such opinion must hold (at least) a doctoral degree in statistics, mathematics or computer science from an academic institute recognized by the Israeli Council of Higher Education or listed in UNESCO's World Higher Education Database (WHED).

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4. Operational status

4.1. To prove that the system is currently operating as a research or development system in at least three organizations providing access to information about at least 100,000 persons to at least 10 teams of researchers or developers, the bidder shall complete the following table:

	Research / team name	Participating researchers	Field of research	Number of citizens whose information was made accessible as part of the research
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

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5. Bidder signature

Bidder signature:

Date

Name

Signature and stamp

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Supplement F – Details of subcontractors and other involved entities

In the table below, specify the subcontractors and other entities involved in the proposal (delete and add rows as necessary). In addition, attach the profile and experience of each subcontractor as a supplement to this response. To clarify, adding or replacing a subcontractor requires advance written authorization from the Issuer of the Tender.

	Area of responsibility	Company details	Years of experience	Contact
1	System manufacturer (if the bidder is an integrator)			
2	Integrator (if the bidder is the system manufacturer)			
3	User experience design company			
4	Hosting services supplier			
5	Content production company			

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6	...			
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In response to this chapter add any further information of relevant document:

Bidder signature:

Date

Name

Signature and stamp

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Supplement G – Confidential parts of the proposal

Mark X in the appropriate box:

- By marking X in this box, the bidder represents that **there are no** confidential parts in its proposal.
- By marking X in this box, the bidder represents that **there are** confidential parts in its proposal. In the table below, specify the pages, clauses or documents included in the proposal that their inspection by other bidders may expose a commercial or professional secret:

Page / clause number	Subject of page / clause	Reason for preventing disclosure

Bidder signature:

Date

Name

Signature and stamp

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Supplement H – Request for information from suppliers who meet the minimum requirements for the suggested solution and the bidder's technological response

1. How to respond to this supplement:

- 1.1. This supplement includes questions written by the Issuer of the Tender for the purpose of assisting the Issuer of the Tender in developing the second part of the tender. The Approved Bidder is required to specify in the required level of detail the way that the solution suggested by it provides a response to these questions.
- 1.2. Additional information may be added, such as: creating suggestions and solutions, pointing out requirements that may become redundant due to the suggested solution or point out missing requirements. However, a clear response to the aforementioned question must be provided. The main characteristics of the suggested solution should be emphasized, and it should be clear what is suggested, what already exists, and what is expected to exist in the future. In case of a large quantity of information, it may be added as a supplement with an appropriate designation.
- 1.3. The bidder is invited to specify any additional capabilities supported by the product that may be beneficial.
- 1.4. Bidders should note that parts in the response to this chapter that are not marked by them as confidential, may be provided for inspection to other bidders. Parts that bidders wish to designate as confidential should be marked as such in supplement G.
- 1.5. It should be emphasized that the response to this chapter is not part of the minimum requirements. Bidders who choose to skip this chapter may still meet the minimum requirements of the prequalification stage.
- 1.6. The date for submitting supplement H is 21 days from the date of notification to the bidder about meeting the minimum requirements of the prequalification stage. The purpose of the separate date is to allow bidders to complete supplement H only after receiving notification about meeting the minimum requirements of the prequalification stage.

2. Nature of the suggested system:

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As described in the background chapter, the Issuer of the Tender is interested in acquiring an information system to provide access to big data for research and development purposes. Such accessibility currently exists within the government and outside it in various scenarios differing by purpose, quality, quantity, methods, etc. On this subject, please answer the following questions:

- 2.1. What is the purpose of the system suggested by the bidder? What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the core capabilities of the system and its key benefits to users? What differentiates the system from other systems available on the market?
- 2.2. Who are the target users of the suggested system? Who were its first users and what other types of users was it adapted to later?
- 2.3. What are the main use scenarios for which the system was created? What other use scenarios does it support? Refer to different types of studies and research methods.
- 2.4. What do the main work processes of the system look like from the perspective of the user? What are the foundations of such work processes?
- 2.5. What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the main limitations of the system. What types of research and queries cannot be conducted using the system, and what rules are important for users to observe in order to avoid misuse of the system? In this section, reference can be made to technical limitations related to data inputs to the system, data volume and material limitations related to the system's use scenarios.
- 2.6. What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the principles related to the nature of the information system that should be considered when developing a pilot on the subject of user accessibility?

3. How the system deals with privacy challenges:

The privacy challenges involved in making data accessible for research and development are considerable and dealing with them is a prerequisite for the ability of the Issuer of the Tender to provide users with access to any information. The system would need to provide access to information with different levels of privacy risk: from information that is completely privacy safe, through de-identified information (with the right authorizations), to raw information with a significant risk to privacy that is only rarely approved for access. On this subject, please answer the following questions:

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- 3.1. What is the bidder's philosophy for dealing with the privacy challenges involved in making data accessible for research and development?
- 3.2. How does the system create information that is privacy safe from information that contain identifying personal information? How can the system ensure that such information does not pose any privacy risks while preserving the scientific value of the original information?
- 3.3. How does the system help users understand the difference between the original information and the information to which they get access? And how does it allow users to validate queries made on the accessible information using the original information (without having access to the original information itself)?
- 3.4. The way infringement of privacy is defined is critical for determining whether access to some information involves privacy risks. Does the system support different definitions of infringement of privacy, and can it adjust the information made accessible by it to such definitions?
- 3.5. How did the system help organizations that provide access to information deal with privacy challenges? How did the process of approving researchers and research change in organizations that implemented the system by the introduction of a technology that allows accessibility to information that is privacy safe? What was the effect of the introduction of such technology on the scope of research activity and the data made accessible to users?
- 3.6. What are, to the best knowledge of the bidder, the principles related to dealing with privacy challenges that should be considered when developing a pilot on the subject of user accessibility?

4. How the system deals with the scientific validity challenge:

One of the challenges involved with providing access to information that is not raw for the purpose of research and development is maintaining scientific validity. On this subject, please answer the following questions:

- 4.1. What is the bidder's solution concept for dealing with the scientific validity challenge?

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- 4.2. How does the system enable users to understand the validity of the information provided to them and any gaps (if any exist) between the information that is made accessible and the original information that may affect the scientific validity of the information?
- 4.3. What statistical characteristics of the original information (such as the single variable distribution of variables in the original database, the shared variance of variables, correlations between pairs / triplets of parameters, etc.) are preserved in the information that is made accessible to users?
- 4.4. What research, studies and policy works that require access to scientifically valid information have already been conducted using the system?
- 4.5. In cases where protecting privacy requires limiting the amount or quality of the information made accessible to users, how does the system manage such limitation? How does the system communicate such limitation to users, and how does it allow users to manage their requests for information in ways that minimize the limitation to the quality and quantity of the information made accessible to them?
- 4.6. What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the principles related to dealing with the scientific validity challenge that should be considered when developing a pilot on the subject of user accessibility?

5. Types of research and types of information supported by the system:

The system is intended to serve as a platform for various types of research conducted by people of different backgrounds and areas of interest. The ability to support a variety of research activity is therefore critical for the system. On this subject, please answer the following questions:

- 5.1. How compatible is the system with research conducted using classical statistical methods?
- 5.2. How compatible is the system with research and development using techniques such as machine learning, neural networks and artificial intelligence?
- 5.3. How compatible is the system with accessibility to unstructured information?
- 5.4. How compatible is the system with research with geographical aspects?
- 5.5. How compatible is the system with panel studies and cohort studies?

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5.6. How compatible is the system with research that requires natural language processing?

What languages have been used in such research using the system so far?

5.7. How compatible is the system with research that require processing streaming information and real-time algorithm development?

5.8. How compatible is the system with research using information consisting of images and videos, imaging data, continuous physiological data, genetic data, or data from the logs of operational systems?

5.9. How compatible is the system with research where the basic subject is not a person but an organization, a town or a geographical cell?

5.10. What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the principles related supported research types that should be considered when developing a pilot on the subject of user accessibility?

In response to questions 5.1 – 5.9, please provide examples for projects conducted using the system and emphasize any limitations to the use of the system for such research types.

6. Additional main capabilities of the system:

The system will be required to provide an end-to-end solution to the process of making information accessible to users. Such a solution requires various capabilities that far exceed the existence of a dedicated algorithm for creating privacy safe information. The bidder is therefore asked to answer questions regarding additional capabilities of the system in a variety of areas:

6.1. Approval and management of researchers and studies within the system:

6.1.1. What are the work processes that enable the creation of new users in the system and the management of existing users?

6.1.2. What processes for approving research does the system currently support? How does the system adapt to the work processes of different organizations?

6.1.3. What is the mechanism for managing system permissions? How can system activity be monitored and recorded (audit trail)?

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- 6.1.4. How does the "client journey" look like for a user who wants to receive information from the system, from the first encounter with the system to being defined as a system user and receiving a research environment where information is made accessible?
- 6.1.5. Does the system allow collaboration between researchers on the same research team? What capabilities support teamwork within the system?
- 6.1.6. Does the system allow the sharing of information and insights between different research teams? What tools does the system have to encourage reuse of data and tools developed in a specific study?
- 6.1.7. What work processes does the system allow users to conduct independently, and what work processes require intervention by an administrator on behalf of the organization that is providing access to the information?

6.2. System sources of information and data collection and optimization stage:

- 6.2.1. What the system's current source of information? How does the system interface with additional sources of information when necessary?
- 6.2.2. What are the processes for collecting, processing and optimizing system data? What data optimization and data fusion processes does the system support?
- 6.2.3. How does the system allow quality control processes for incoming information?
- 6.2.4. Different studies require the integration of data brought by the user from home into the basket of information made accessible to the user. How does the system deal with the challenges involved with such integration?
- 6.2.5. What is the data scheme of incoming information? What information standards and protocols (such as FHIR, OMOP, etc.) does the system currently support?
- 6.2.6. One of the significant capabilities of the planned system is the capability to conduct a unified study using distributed information – in other words, the ability to present the system with queries whose result requires information stored in different ministries and obtain unified access to privacy safe information from different ministries in response to the query. On this subject:
 - 6.2.6.1. How does the suggested system deal with this challenge?

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6.2.6.2. To what extent, if at all, will a solution to this challenge required transferring privacy unsafe information between different ministries?

6.2.6.3. What are the architecture and work configuration suggested by the supplier in order to allow ministries to maintain full control of their databases and flexibility with their data access procedures on the one hand, and allow users to work with a simple and convenient single interface using the one stop shop approach on the other hand? How does such architecture and/or the operating model of the system allow the unification of information from all organizations on the network while mainlining different levels of compartmentalization between organizations?

6.3. Catalog management and pre-study processes:

6.3.1. The ability to understand what information is available to users through the system as early as possible is critical for planning research. What capabilities of the system provide a solution to this challenge?

6.3.2. How does the system deal with the challenge of integrating information from various sources that is cataloged differently?

6.3.3. What pre-study processes exist in the system? How do they aid users with the system's first work stages, and how do they help organizations with the process of approving research?

6.3.4. How does the process of developing a study cohort in the system look like? How do users choose the criteria for including participants in a study? How do these criteria affect the resolution of the information made accessible to users (if at all)?

6.4. Work in research environments:

6.4.1. How does the "client journey" look like for a user after receiving access to a research environment?

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- 6.4.2. What tools and technologies are available to users in a dedicated research environment opened for them? Refer to both analytical tools and visualization tools.
- 6.4.3. Many users want to use tools that are not available in their research environment. How does the system provide a solution for the challenge of integrating such tools into the user's work?
- 6.4.4. When using information that is privacy safe, how does the system inform users about the results they would have received, if they had run the same queries on the original data?
- 6.4.5. How does the system allow users to create calculated fields in the research environment, optimize information in the research environment during research, and save intermediate products for future use by the user and others?

6.5. Completing research and following stages:

- 6.5.1. What are the processes of approving the output of summary information from the system? How can the system ensure that summary information retrieved by users poses no risk?
- 6.5.2. In many cases, the information used for a specific study needs to be preserved after the study is completed for the purpose of study control, validation of findings and further research. How does the system support this need?

6.6. Additional capabilities:

- 6.6.1. What additional capabilities does the suggested system offer that are relevant to a project for providing access to big data?
- 6.6.2. What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the additional capabilities that must be included in the suggested system when developing a pilot on the subject of user accessibility?

7. Technology and infrastructure:

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- 7.1. What are the suggested architecture, technology and tools of the solution and its implementation? Refer to all of the required components of the system, including software, servers, storage arrays, infrastructure software, etc.
- 7.2. Does the suggested solution include the suggested tools (third party products), or does it require dedicated development? Refer also to licensing aspects.
- 7.3. How does the bidder estimate that providing solutions to the changes specified above would require it to have expansion capabilities? If possible, describe the significance of such expansion, adding functionality of the same type (work volume, customization, build in adjustments, SDK support, is change to the database structure required, is configuration alone possible, etc.).
- 7.4. What interfaces does the system currently have? In what process are more interfaces added?
- 7.5. What methods of system quality assurance are used by the bidder?
 - 7.5.1. What information security measures are applied, from user management, through activity recording (queries), to active alerts to prevent prohibited use?
 - 7.5.2. What is the required/derived information security architecture (infrastructure)?
- 7.6. What deployment, implementation and maintenance services are required for the system?
- 7.7. How and to what extent does the system use open-source code? How does the system adjust itself to the frequent changes in the technological content domains of its area of activity?
- 7.8. How does the system allow to minimize its maintenance and expansion costs?
- 7.9. Does the system support work in the cloud and/or on-prem?
- 7.10. What does the system's user interface look like? Is it a web client interface, and, if not, why is an interface that is not a web client used? What browsers and devices does the system support?
- 7.11. How does the system support different languages?
- 7.12. What are the internal databases of the system?
- 7.13. What is the system's security philosophy? What relevant standards does the system meet?

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- 7.14. What is the technical performance of the system? Refer to such aspects as capacity, response times, survivability and availability.

8. Implementation aspects:

- 8.1. Describe the working process with organizations that implement the system. What are the stages of this process? How long are they? How many work hours are required before research can be conducted using the system?
- 8.2. How is work divided during the construction of the system and preparation of data for research between representatives of the bidder and representatives of organizations that provide access to information?
- 8.3. One of the challenges of implementing a project of this type is preventing a dependency of the client in the bidder in the day-to-day use of the system and support of user activity. How does the bidder plan to deal with this challenge in order to allow the client to gradually become independent in the use of the system?
- 8.4. What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the aspects of implementation that must be considered when developing a pilot on the subject of user accessibility?

9. Pricing model:

- 9.1. What is the pricing model for the suggested system? What elements of the system determine the payment collected from customers? What models are used by the bidder to price the system to different types of customers?
- 9.2. How do different customer preferences regarding the use of the system, user types and the purposes of the system affect the pricing model?
- 9.3. What are, in the opinion of the bidder, the aspects of pricing model that must be considered when developing a pilot on the subject of user accessibility?

It should be noted that proposals must not include any prices and costs. The chapter concerning the pricing model is intended to help the Issuer of the Tender with constructing the right pricing model for the tender and not to estimate the costs of the system.