



Request for information for PRIVATE 5G RAN SOLUTION for

5G WAT-ERR-IB PROJECT

**(5G for WATer supply management and Emergency Response and
Recovery for Ilirska Bistrica smart municipality)**

14 July 2025

1 Introduction

VAHTA d.o.o. (CUSTOMER) is pleased to invite you, as a respondent, to participate in this RFI for CUSTOMER's Private 5G RAN solution: Dedicated Private 5G SA. In this chapter you will find a general introduction, reservations, and the structure of this document.

1.1 General

Respondents are advised to carefully read this RFI. Not following the RFI procedure may result in a direct rejection of your RFI response.

This document is an RFI for CUSTOMER's Dedicated Private 5G SA RAN solution (hereafter referred to as "Private 5G RAN" or "RFI"). As this document contains confidential and proprietary information, all information is disclosed under a Non-Disclosure that has been mutually agreed between parties.

This document is not a commitment to contract. All recipients of this document are responsible for and will bear their own costs, expenses and liabilities incurred in the preparation and completion of a reply whether or not a contract is awarded. See Section 1.4 for more detailed information.

1.2 Extent of this RFI

This RFI document has been created for the benefit of CUSTOMER with the purpose to communicate the conditions, goals and objectives, approach, timelines, requirements and expectations regarding this RFI. This document should provide the recipients with sufficient information to enable the formation of a valid response as expected by CUSTOMER in this RFI. CUSTOMER expects your company's response to this RFI document will provide CUSTOMER with detailed information and the willingness to commit to partner with CUSTOMER and help to achieve defined short and long-term goals.

1.3 Explanation of terminologies

"Request For Information" and the abbreviation "RFI" refer to this document, which is an invitation to submit a non-binding proposal that complies with the demand and requirements stated in this document. "We" and "CUSTOMER" as well as "our" and "us" refer to the legal entity that has distributed this RFI. "You" and "Supplier" refer to all respondents to whom this RFI has been sent and the respondents to whom CUSTOMER will finally grant the supply of the products/application and services necessary to carry out what is stated in the RFI on a contractual basis. The terms also refer to all subcontractors under the responsibility of the main contractor.

1.4 Reservation and changes

Submission of a response implies that Supplier has acknowledged and accepted the terms and conditions throughout this document under which this RFI is issued and under which Supplier's response shall be submitted.

CUSTOMER reserves the right, without giving reasons, to modify the RFI (document and/or process) at any time without liability, including changing the scope, identifying and including new bidders, awarding the work to another party, or discontinuing the process in whole or in part. CUSTOMER cannot be held liable for this risk if the commission has not been granted in a formal sense. Supplier cannot derive any rights from this in any way whatsoever, neither shall CUSTOMER be liable for damages in whatever way in this case. Supplier shall be aware of this and accept the fact that they participate in this RFI at their own risk and expense.

Supplier also acknowledges that during the RFI process CUSTOMER may, at any time:

- Terminate the RFI process with respect to any or all of CUSTOMER's requirements;
- Terminate the RFI process with a Supplier;
- Depart from or modify the requested framework for the response and/or any other procedures in relation to the RFI;
- Add, delete or modify the original document, which could result in addenda, which will become an integral part of the RFI and/or respondents response;
- Start with next procurement phase (e.g. RFQ).

In particular, CUSTOMER might:

- Reject any proposal that does not conform to instructions and specifications that are issued herein;
- Not accept proposals after the stated submission deadline;
- Reject at its sole discretion all or part of any RFI response submitted by Supplier;
- Enter into and conclude negotiations with any other Supplier for the supply of all or parts of CUSTOMER's requirements;
- Award the proposal/bid in full or partially to one or more Suppliers;
- Make no award (Reject all proposals).

The CUSTOMER advises to always submit proposals at "best price level".

The CUSTOMER will use the outcome of this RFI for the preparation of the RFQ (that is due mid-August 2025) for **the whole package offer for the CUSTOMER** (deployment of the 5G network, including all the necessary construction works to deliver and erect the towers, deliver and set-up a working system comprising the SA Core, transport and RAN, with all the necessary hardware and software parts, and the warranty, including support services, updates and upgrades, evaluated in a TCO (7 years)).

The supplier of the active layer 5G solution therefore accepts to participate in the subsequent RFQ process as a subcontractor or a partner in a group bid.

1.5 Structure of this RFI

Chapter 2 describes the procedure of this RFI process. There are separate documents attached in which the requirements are added such that the compliancy for each requirement can be stated.

Furthermore, the following appendices are part of this RFI and provided as separate documents:

Item	Description	Format
RFI document	CUSTOMER RFI Private 5G RAN	PDF
Appendix A	CUSTOMER RFI Private 5G RAN- Appendix A - Response Pricing template Private 5G RAN and Core (2 separate files)	Excel
Appendix B	CUSTOMER RFI Private 5G RAN - Appendix B - Solution Requirements Private 5G RAN and Core (2 separate files)	Excel
Appendix C	CUSTOMER RFI Private 5G RAN – Appendix C1 – Maintenance and Support	Excel

2 Procedure RFI application process

This chapter outlines the instructions imposed on Supplier's response to this RFI. Supplier is expected to adhere to these guidelines to facilitate the execution of the RFI.

2.1 Response contact, important data and RFI schedule

It is the responsibility of the respondents to avoid any lack of clarity, inconsistency, errors or omissions when responding to this RFI. The respondents will therefore be given the opportunity by CUSTOMER to submit all requests for clarification at the latest on August 8th 2025. Respondents are only allowed to submit questions by e-mail to the provided emails below:

- goran@vahta.eu (Goran Živec - primary contact person)
- 5g-waterrib@vahta.eu (official 5G WAT-ER-IBB project email)

Always use both emails in communication.

2.2 Schedule RFI

In the table below is CUSTOMER's current planning for this RFI:

Subject	Date
Publish RFI on website	14.7.2025
Acknowledgement by the supplier by sending email to the CUSTOMER of the willingness to participate	4.8.2025
Latest opportunity to ask questions by Supplier	8.8.2025
Questions answered by CUSTOMER	14.8.2025
Presentations of the RFI answer – Clarification of the response (online call max 1,5h)	Week btw 11.8. and 14.8.2025

Closing date for sending final response to the RFI and any accompanying material by the Supplier	14.8.2025
RFQ publication	Mid August 2025
RFQ closing date	15.9.2025
Contract signature with the selected supplier	End September
Planned delivery of equipment	Before end of 2025
Planned deployment on the field	During 2026

2.3 Clarifying answers by CUSTOMER

Questions, answers, rectifications and addenda will be anonymized and published online. CUSTOMER encourages suppliers to submit as many questions as possible **within the first week**.

2.4 Submitting the response to the RFI

The RFI response and any accompanying material to CUSTOMER must be sent by e-mail.

2.5 Response instructions and format

CUSTOMER has designed this phase of the RFI in such a way to facilitate an objective and balanced evaluation of Supplier's response. This can most readily be achieved if all the responses received conform to a consistent format. This section defines the format of responses requested from Supplier. Accompanying information may be supplied separately, but this does not relieve Supplier from his task to respond to the RFI in an adequate way. Responses that refer to procedures, documentation or technical manuals must include a reference to the respective document, stating the chapter and page. When submitting a separate response document it must include the following:

- All responses shall be in English language;
- All responses must be substantiated enough to indicate without ambiguity that Supplier has fully understood, and is attempting to satisfy, the requirements of the relevant instruction;
- Any deviation from the instructions and guidelines must be clearly stated in the RFI proposal;
- Appendix A –Response Pricing template Private 5G RAN and Core (2 separate files);
- Appendix B – Solution Requirements Private 5G RAN and Core (2 separate files);
- Appendix C – Maintenance and Support;

All documents uploaded by Supplier must contain the following name convention:

[Appendix <X> – <Name of appendix>-<Supplier>-<YYYYMMDD_version>.xlsx](#)

2.6 General Requirements

The following general requirements apply:

- The response to this RFI must be approved and signed by a duly authorized management representative of Supplier;
- Supplier is requested to provide comments and answers to the defined instructions in a brief and concise manner. Avoidance of commercial platitudes would be appreciated;
- The supplier grants that all offered equipment will not be EOL in the next 7 years, and that the spare parts will be accessible for at least additional 5 years. In case an adequate substitute to the proposed item will be put to market, the supplier grants that it will be supplied to the CUSTOMER for the same price level as the substituted part, despite a potential bigger capacity.
- Supplier must fill in all the tables requested in the chapters and ensure these are included in the Solution response document;
- Demonstrable facts are preferred to gratuitous statements;
- Clarity of information is preferred to a lack of information or ambiguity;
- Supplier is encouraged to use graphical presentation techniques such as drawings, diagrams, flowcharts, etc. in order to clarify its answers or vision;
- Statements and claims made in the response to this RFI will be considered to remain valid throughout the possible next steps in the process;
- The response to this RFI will be the basis for discussions in a next phase (if any).

2.7 Clarification of the response

Subject to CUSTOMER's needs, you will be invited to present your proposal to our project team. It is preferred that Supplier's project manager (who will lead the project) is present at and has an active role in the presentation. We will provide you the necessary guidance upfront if and when the presentation is scheduled. Note that your presentation is only to clarify the received proposal and not to provide us with new information or information outside the scope of the RFI. When needed, extra clarification sessions and/or workshops can be planned on request of CUSTOMER.

2.8 Confidentiality

CUSTOMER expressly commits that all information received from suppliers will be used solely for the purposes of this RFI and the subsequent RFQ process, and will not be disclosed, distributed, or used for any other purpose. If requested by the supplier, CUSTOMER is willing to sign a mutually binding Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) before the final submission of the RFI response.

All material that is made available by the respondents in connection with responding to this RFI shall be owned by CUSTOMER. This information will be exclusively distributed to those persons working for or on behalf of CUSTOMER and who are involved in the evaluation process.

2.9 Media Releases

Supplier is not permitted to announce or release any information regarding this RFI, CUSTOMER evaluation process or any aspect of this process or project without CUSTOMER's prior written approval. Supplier understands and agrees that CUSTOMER does not participate in, nor does it allow Supplier to utilize media releases of any kind to publicize Supplier's business relationship

with CUSTOMER. Supplier shall not use any trade name, trademark, service mark or any other information which identifies CUSTOMER in Supplier's sales, marketing and publicity activities, including, but not limited to, interviews with representatives of any form of media without CUSTOMER's express prior written consent.

3 Goal and Background for this RFI

The purpose of this chapter is to give your company an understanding of the goals, objectives and high-level scope of this RFI.

3.1 CUSTOMER's Network & Situation in Slovenia

3.1.1 Spectrum available for private local use

For the Private 5G solution, CUSTOMER wants to primarily make use of the spectrum reserved for local use:

Table Spectrum for private use

Band	NR band	Bandwidth (MHz)	Notes
2300 TDD	N40	1 x 20 1 x 30 (*)	2300-2320 MHz 2300-2330 MHz
3500 TDD	N78	1x 20	3400-3420 MHz
3500 TDD	N77(*)	5,10,20,40,50, 100	3800-4200 MHz

(*) Currently not licensed but might become available

(**) Under discussion with local regulator

4 Connectivity for the fixed base stations

The fixed base stations are to be connected over the existing local access fiber network.

4.1 Topology

Main node Ilirska Bistrica (Bazoviška 14)

Secondary main node (for Core redundancy) GKV Gorjansko (83.500m away).

Intermediate locations:

- Pregarje
- Knežak
- Podgrad

- Ilirska Bistrica (main node is also an intermediate node to connect those towers that are directly connected to that node)

The intermediate locations are connected to the main location with 2 fibres.

The tower locations are connected to intermediate locations with one fiber.

The intermediate locations are all within 15km from the Core location.

The lengths of fiber from intermediate location to the towers is shown in the following table.

Core	Intermediate locations	Distance (m)	Tower
Ilirska Bistrica	Ilirska Bistrica	9.895	Velika Bukovica
		16.245	Vodohran Jelšane
		15.534	Črpališče in vodohran Gornji Zemon
		2.775	Kamno lom
		3.827	Vodohran Dobropolje 1
		14.821	Vodohran Tominje
		10.169	Podgraje
	Knežak	1.170	Vodohran Knežak
		6.285	Vodohran Podtabor
	Pregarje	11.486	Vodohran Kilovče
		1.193	Vodohran Pregarje 2
		10.170	Vodohran Prem 1
	Podgrad	11.751	Vodohran Plama (Starod)
		5.626	Vodohran Plama (Podgrad)

Appendix A Response template pricing

The following pricing template is provided as Appendix A of this RFI:

- Appendix A - Response Pricing template Private 5G RAN v1.0 20250711.xlsx
- Appendix A - Response Pricing Template Private 5G CORE v1.0-20250711.xlsx

Appendix B Solution Requirements

A list of requirements regarding the proposed solution and different questions are defined in a separate Excel-document provided in this appendix. Please read the instructions carefully under tab: “Instruction”.

The following Excel document is provided as Appendix B of this RFI:

- Appendix B - Solution Requirements Private 5G RAN v1.0 20250711.xlsx
- Appendix B - Solution Requirements CORE Private 5G Network v1.0-20250711.xlsx

Appendix C Maintenance and Support

Supplier is kindly requested to provide information on the Maintenance and Support in the Excel document provided in this Appendix.

The following Excel document is provided as Appendix C of this RFI:

- Appendix C - Maintenance and Support Private 5G CORE and RAN 1.0 20250711.xlsx