**Question 1:** it is mentioned "deployment of IoT-enabled water quality sensors", but there is no section to supply such devices. Can you confirm that it is only a question of proposing a platform capable of connecting to IoT sensor data and not the deployment of the sensors themselves?

**Answer:**Yes, this is exclusively about developing a platform capable of connecting to IoT sensor data, not about deploying the sensors themselves. The platform will be designed for processing, visualization, and analysis of data received from such sensors if they are already implemented and integrated into the system. At this stage, all data will be entered manually, meaning there is no need for supplying or installing sensors.

**Question 2**: Do you consider the possibility of supplying a Saas (Software As A Service) platform or do you want an “on premise” solution to deploy on your own IT infrastructure?

**Answer:**We are considering on-premise solutions, as ready-made SaaS platforms may not fully meet the specific requirements and needs of our country. Priority is given to systems that can be adapted and deployed within our existing IT infrastructure.

**Question 3**:  In the deliverable “Deliverable 2.1. Established development and test environments on Sanepidcom or Uzinfocom cloud infrastructure”; does that mean only those cloud are possible or other clouds could be proposed. If not possible, does this mean that the tender has already been directed to an identified service provider?

**Answer:** According to the Presidential Decree of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 415 dated December 28, 2023, JSC “UZINFOCOM” has been designated as the coordinator of digitalization in the healthcare sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Based on this decree and the agreement between the Republican Sanitary-Epidemiological Committee and JSC “UZINFOCOM,” all information systems developed within this initiative must be approved and hosted in the data center of JSC “UZINFOCOM.” This excludes the possibility of using other cloud providers for this project.

**Question 4**:  Do you consider only the development of dedicated platform from scratch or you can consider an existing already proven configurable & evolutive platform, meeting your requirements of water management. That last option could be with less risk and less expensive for UNICEF.

**Answer:**Primarily, we consider the development of a platform from scratch, as this will allow for maximum adaptation of the system to meet the specific requirements of our partners. Additionally, there are government standards established by the State Standard of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the development of information systems, including O’z DSt ISO/IEC 27000:2014, “1987:2018,” “1985:2010,” and “1985:2018.” Compliance with the requirements of the Cybersecurity Center is also mandatory.

If your platform meets the specified government standards of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the requirements of our partners, we would be glad to collaborate with you.

**Question 5:** in case of “specific developments”, what is the plan to manage new features requests after initial development ? (process and budget)

**Answer:**In the case of developing “specific features,” the process for their creation is described in the Terms of Reference (ToR). The ToR also specifies the percentage distribution of the project budget, covering all development stages, including potential requests for new features.

**Question 6:** The scoring focuses only on IT skills but there is no mention on the capacity of understanding water quality domain and platform capabilities. How do you plan to evaluate the key items mentioned into the Annex B, such as : analysis capabilities proposed by the platform, adaptability to business context, user friendliness, reporting analysis and interactivity, responsive interfaces, response time, etc …

**Answer:**Annex B outlines four evaluation criteria, specifically:

         •           **Criterion #1**: “Bidder’s Qualification, Capacity, and Experience” includes sub-criteria that allow the evaluation of the bidder’s qualifications, experience, and capabilities.

         •           **Criterion #4**: “Demonstration of any successfully developed and deployed web application” includes sub-criteria where the bidder can showcase their skills, experience, and key features such as platform analysis capabilities, adaptability to the business context, user-friendliness, interactivity of interfaces, response time, and other important aspects.

These criteria provide an opportunity for a comprehensive assessment of key items such as platform analysis capabilities, user experience, and alignment with business requirements.

**Question 7:** We didn’t find any detailed feature specifications, do you consider they will be described during a scoping phase ?

**Answer:**The detailed feature specifications will be defined during the first phase of the project — *Design of the System and Work Plan*. At this stage, a thorough business analysis and the definition of the system’s functional requirements will be conducted.