

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)



# TO ACQUIRE SERVICES FOR DIGITAL PAKISTAN CYBERSECURITY HACKATHON 2025

No. IGNITE/DPCH/2025-26/0021/PROC

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[ignite.org.pk](http://ignite.org.pk)

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## List of Abbreviations

ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IT	Information Technology
LoA	Letter of Award
NTN	National Tax Number
OT	Operational Technology
PPRA	Public Procurement Regulatory Authority
R&D	Research and Development
RFP	Request for Proposal
SEED	Solicitation, Engagement & Evaluation Department
ToR	Terms of Reference



## 1 Mandatory Eligibility Criteria Checklist

Before the Bidders submit their Proposals, within the stipulated time mentioned in this Request for Proposal document, bidders are required to make sure that the following mandatory requirements of this RFP document are fulfilled. In case of bids being submitted as a Consortium / Joint Venture (JV), Lead Bidder's documents shall be evaluated against Mandatory Eligibility Criteria. **These requirements must be furnished at the time of submission of the Proposal. Non-submission of any one of the following applicable requirements shall result in immediate disqualification:**

#	Mandatory Eligibility Criteria Checklist	Mark
1.	Proof of Certificate of Incorporation or Registration or equivalent	
2.	Proof of NTN Certificate (If Applicable, please check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , otherwise put a Cross <input type="checkbox"/> in the Mark Column)	
3.	Proof of GST Certificate (If Applicable, please check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , otherwise put a Cross <input type="checkbox"/> in the Mark Column)	
4.	Proof of FTN certificate / Tax exemption certificate ( <i>for public sector entity</i> ), (If applicable, please check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , otherwise put a Cross <input type="checkbox"/> in the Mark Column).	
5.	In case of a bid being submitted as a consortium/Joint Venture (JV), attach a consent letter from <b>each</b> partner organization specifying its roles and responsibilities in the project. The competent authority of the partner organization shall issue the consent letter.	
6.	Original affidavit (not older than one month at the time of proposal submission) on Stamp Paper(s) of worth <b>PKR 100</b> or more that Bidder is not insolvent, bankrupt, and is not blacklisted or debarred by Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), Government, Semi-Government, Private, Autonomous body or any other international organization.	
7.	Original affidavit (not older than one month at the time of proposal submission) on Stamp Paper(s) worth <b>PKR 100</b> or more that the Bidder is an active taxpayer and has submitted its tax return for the preceding fiscal year. <b>Taxpayer list serial number (downloadable from FBR's website) is also to be mentioned.</b>	
8.	<p><b><u>Two separately sealed envelopes:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Envelope #1 shall bear the name "TECHNICAL PROPOSAL – "Acquiring Services for Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025"</u></b></p> <p>Two hard copies of the Technical Proposal, one marked as Original and one marked as Copy* must be submitted with one soft copy of the original technical proposal in USB. Bidders are to make sure that the Financial Proposal is <b>not</b> part of the Technical Proposal in any form.</p> <p><i>*An additional hard copy of the Technical Proposal is not a mandatory requirement.</i></p>	

9.	<b><u>Envelope #2 shall clearly bear the name “FINANCIAL PROPOSAL – “Acquiring Services for Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025”</u></b>  Financial Proposal in hard copy must be submitted with one soft copy of the same in USB. Soft copy must be in MS Excel format with formulas. (The hard copy and soft copy of the Financial Proposal must be sealed in Envelope # 2 and should not be part of the Technical Proposal in any form).	
10.	BID Security of PKR 1,000,000 to be placed in Envelope # 1 along with mandatory documentation	
11	Conflict of Interest Form ( <a href="#">Annexure – A2</a> )	
12	<b>Bidders should submit their proposal on EPADs <a href="https://eprocure.gov.pk">https://eprocure.gov.pk</a> through their own login. In case a bid is not submitted on EPADs from the bidders login, it will not be accepted by the Company in hard form.</b>	

**Note:** Bidders are required to submit a filled, signed & stamped copy of the above checklist along with the Proposal. All the supporting documents of the mandatory eligibility criteria shall be attached to the checklist in the same section of the technical proposal. Requirements No. 6 & 7 above are required to be submitted on separate stamp papers.

## 2 Definitions

In this Request for Proposal (RFP) document, unless the context provides otherwise:

<b>Bidder</b>	A firm, agency or party or consortium which will submit proposal in response to this RFP
<b>Company</b>	Ignite, registered under Section 42 of the Companies Act 2017, (Former Company Ordinance, 1984) with its office at TF Complex, G-9/4, Islamabad, Pakistan
<b>Consortium /Joint Venture</b>	Consortium is an association of more than one legal entity, which have come together to jointly respond to the RFP. A Joint Venture is an enterprise formed by two or more individuals or companies for the purpose of submitting the bid. All members of a consortium/joint venture (i.e., the leader and all other members) are jointly and severally liable to the Contracting Authority.
<b>Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT)</b>	Expert group that handles computer security incidents.
<b>Cybersecurity</b>	Protection of information systems (hardware, software and associated infrastructure), the data hosted by them, and the services they provide, from unauthorized access, harm or misuse.
<b>Date of Issue</b>	The date on which the RFP titled “National Cybersecurity Competition” is issued by Company to solicit bids from potential Bidders
<b>Draft Service Agreement</b>	An agreement concluded between Company and the Successful Bidder. ( <a href="#">Annexure – A3</a> )

<b>ISO 27001</b>	Standard for Information Security Management defined by International Standard Organization for managing information security in a company.
<b>Terms of Reference (ToR)</b>	The description of formal work & activities under the “National Cybersecurity Competition” to be completed by the Successful Bidder in accordance with the Contract signed between Successful Bidder and the Company
<b>Successful Bidder</b>	A bidder who has been awarded the contract pursuant to the RFP titled “ <u>Acquiring Services for Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025</u> ” and who shall be responsible for carrying out the study as per the requirements laid down in this document and in the contract
<b>Lead Bidder</b>	The lead bidder is the lead entity, in case of consortium or joint venture that is principally participating in submission of the proposal and should submit a letter of intent for purpose of identification.

### 3 Ignite

Ignite is dedicated to funding startups and innovative projects that leverage 4th industrial wave technologies to address local challenges and seize global opportunities in sectors such as health, education, energy, agriculture, telecom, and finance. With a national network of incubators across Pakistan, Ignite nurtures startups by connecting them with investors and corporations. Its flagship program, DigiSkills.pk, is aimed at equipping one million people with the skills needed for the future of work.

Since 2021, Ignite has been organizing the nationwide Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon, which aims to raise awareness among the cybersecurity workforce by helping them assess their strengths and weaknesses in knowledge, skills, and abilities. Additionally, the National Grassroots ICT Research Initiative (NGIRI) promotes R&D and innovation at the grassroots level in Pakistan by providing financial support to selected Final Year Projects (FYPs) of undergraduate students enrolled in ICT-related disciplines across public and private sector institutions.

Through studies and stakeholder engagement initiatives, Ignite also aids public and private sector planning. Ignite’s outreach activities are designed to inform professionals, media, students, corporations, and policymakers about the challenges and threats posed by the new economy, the importance of innovation, and the need for increased engagement in Ignite's programs. Further information about the Company is available at <http://www.ignite.org.pk>

### 4 Instructions for Bidders

This document contains all the information pertinent to this solicitation and governs the preparation and submission of Proposals. The technical & financial forms to be filled by Bidder for this assignment are annexed with this RFP document. Proposals must be submitted by the deadline stipulated in this RFP, completed on the formats provided by the Company, with supporting documents, according to the guidelines given in the section titled **Instructions and Information for Bidders**. Proposals will be



evaluated by bid evaluation committees constituted by the Company. Selection of Bidders will be on Quality and Cost Based Selection methodology as provided in the Bidding Document.

## **5 Bidding Document**

### **5.1 Contents**

The Bidder is expected to examine all instructions, general conditions, forms, terms, and specifications contained in the RFP document and its annexures. Failure to comply with instructions will be at the Bidder's risk and may affect the evaluation of the Proposal. Proposals that do not comprehensively address the ToR and other requirements may be rejected. Inability to comply with applicable instructions, general conditions of the contract, terms, and specifications may lead to rejection of the Proposal.

Submission of Technical and Financial Proposals against the RFP document means in principle acceptance of attached Draft Agreement by the Bidder. During negotiations with the successful Bidder only minor changes, proposed by the Bidder, can be made in the attached agreement. The company reserves the right to accept or reject any proposed changes by the successful bidder. The company reserves the right to make changes to the draft contract to ensure better & smooth implementation of the project.

After issuance of a letter of acceptance, the successful Bidder is expected to sign the agreement as soon as possible. If a successful Bidder is not responsive and does not sign the agreement within a reasonable time, maximum one (1) month after issuance of the letter of acceptance, the Company reserves the right to terminate and nullify the bid award.

In the event of non-compliance with the ToR of the RFP document and obligations contained in the funding agreement, the Company may terminate the funding agreement by providing one (1) month's written notice to the successful bidder without any further obligation or compensation on the part of the Company.

## **6 Preparation of Proposal**

### **6.1 Language of the Proposal**

Proposals prepared by the Bidders and all correspondence and documents relating to the Proposal exchanged between the Bidders and the Company shall be in writing and in English Language, except where otherwise specified.

### **6.2 Proposal Currency**

All prices shall be quoted in Pakistani Rupees (PKR) and all payments will be made in Pakistani Rupees (PKR.)

### **6.3 Period of Validity of Proposal**

Proposals shall remain valid for 180 days from the date of advertisement as provided in the RFP

document. In exceptional circumstances, the Company may solicit the Bidder's consent to an extension of the period of validity without any material changes in the Bidding Document.

## 6.4 Supporting Documents

While preparing the Technical Proposal, the Bidder shall ensure that it provides the Company with documentary evidence. Bid evaluation committees will evaluate proposals solely based on documentary evidence submitted by evaluation criteria described in this RFP.

## 6.5 Cost of Preparing Proposal

The Bidder shall bear all costs associated with or relating to the preparation and submission of their Proposal, and Ignite shall not be liable in any manner whatsoever for the same or any other costs or expenses incurred by a bidder in preparation or submission of the Proposal, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the Selection Process.

## 6.6 Proposal Documents

The Proposal, in binder form, with a serial number of each page should comprise the following:

### Technical Proposal:

- a) Checklist (Mandatory Documents required with the Proposal) – Page 2
- b) Technical Proposal Submission – Form C1
- c) Firms/Bidders Profile – Form C2
- d) Relevant Experience of the Firm/Bidder – Form C3-A, C3-B
- e) Key Team Members - Form C4
- f) Separate Design Document, Proposed Plan and Methodologies of Deliverable - Form C5
- g) Roles & Responsibilities of Consortium/JV Partners etc.– Form C6

Technical Proposal should detail the capability and experience of delivering the services specified in the ToR. Bidder should submit details of a maximum of ten of their most relevant/similar nature assignments for technical evaluation using the prescribed format. Assignments submitted beyond the given number will not be considered.

Team structure proposed by the Bidder for the project (including updated CVs of individuals involved in management and project implementation) in accordance with relevant Forms. CVs should provide details of projects undertaken and completed by the individual.

### Financial Proposal:

Financial Proposal must consist of the following:

- a) Financial Proposal Submission – Form C7
- b) Summary of Cost – Form C8

The electronic form of the Technical Proposal will also be provided in a separate USB flash drive, that will be included in the sealed envelope containing the written hard copy of the Technical Proposal.

The electronic form of the Financial Proposal in MS Excel will be provided in a separate USB flash

drive that will be included in the sealed envelope containing the written hard copy of the Financial Proposal.

## 6.7 Bid Security

The Bid security amounting to PKR 1,000,000 in the form of a Call Deposit/Bank Draft (refundable) drawn in favor of IGNITE National Technology Fund (FTN/NTN: 2939308- 6). The Bid security will be placed in Envelope #1 along with mandatory documentation.

## 6.8 Taxes

Quoted costs should be inclusive of all applicable (direct & indirect/duties/levies) taxes. Omission if any shall be the sole responsibility of the bidder. Financial Proposal will be scored based upon the bid amount inclusive of all taxes. All prices must be quoted in PKR.

Bidders registered with the Federal Board of Revenue/Respective Revenue Boards for Income Tax and Sales Tax are eligible to provide services to the Company. Bids of all those who are not registered with the Federal Board of Revenue/Respective Revenue Boards for Income Tax and Sales Tax shall be rejected.

If bidder is not in ATL (FBR for income tax and respective revenue boards for sales tax) at the time of payment, then the payment shall be stopped till he files his mandatory returns and appears on ATL.

The Company shall deduct tax (Income tax & Sales tax) at the rate prescribed under the tax laws of Pakistan i.e. Income Tax Ordinance 2001 & respective Sales Tax Acts, from all payments for supply/services rendered by any bidder who accepts the Purchase order or signs agreement.

## 6.9 Format and Signing of Proposal

The Proposal shall contain no interlineations, erasures, or overwriting, except, as necessary to correct errors made by the Bidder, in which case such corrections shall be initialed by Bidder's authorized person. The Proposals shall be clear and elaborate. Different parts of Proposals shall be separated using color separators, flags, or tags.

***Note: The Technical Proposal must not contain any pricing information whatsoever on the services being offered. Non-compliance will lead to rejection of the Proposal.***

# 7 Submission, Receipt, and Opening of Proposal

- 7.1. Proposals will be accepted and evaluated using Single Stage, Two Envelope Procedure. (Separate sealed envelopes for Technical and Financial Proposals). The process is further defined in Annexure – A1.
- 7.2. The original Proposal shall contain no interlineations or overwriting. All pages of the Proposals (Technical & Financial) must be numbered. Submission letters for both Technical and Financial Proposals must be in the attached format (Form C1 & C7) in separate

- envelopes.
- 7.3. The Bidder's Organization Head or an authorized representative on his/her behalf shall initial and stamp all pages of the original Technical and Financial Proposals. In the case of an authorized representative, an authorization shall be provided which shall be in the form of a written power of attorney accompanying the Proposal or in any other form demonstrating that the representative has been duly authorized to sign.
  - 7.4. Hard copies of the Technical Proposal shall be sent to the address listed in this Bidding Document. All required copies of the Technical Proposal are to be exact replicas of the original. If there are discrepancies between the original and copies of the Technical Proposal, the original governs.
  - 7.5. Bidder is required to submit **one original and one copy of the Technical Proposal along with all supporting documents.**
  - 7.6. One **USB flash drive** containing an electronic copy (labeled 'Electronic Copy') of all Proposal documents in PDF format (**excluding the Financial Proposal**), must be provided with the Technical Proposal. In the event of any discrepancy between the Original Proposal and the Electronic Copy, the former shall be deemed as the accurate Proposal. If Financial Proposal is copied to the USB flash drive containing Technical Proposal, the entire Proposal shall stand rejected.
  - 7.7. The Technical Proposal shall be placed in a sealed envelope clearly marked **"TECHNICAL PROPOSAL"** followed by the name of the assignment **"Acquiring Services for Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025"** and the name of the Bidder. Similarly, the Financial Proposal shall be placed in a separate sealed envelope clearly marked **"FINANCIAL PROPOSAL"** followed by the name of the assignment **"Acquiring Services for Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025"** and the name of the Bidder, with a warning **"DO NOT OPEN WITH THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL"**. The envelopes containing Technical and Financial Proposals shall be placed into an outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address and title of the assignment mentioned in this document, and the name of the Bidder, and clearly marked **"DO NOT OPEN BEFORE SUBMISSION DEADLINE"**. Company shall not be responsible for misplacement, losing or premature opening of the outer envelope if not properly sealed and marked as stipulated. Such negligence may result in rejection of the Proposal. If the Financial Proposal is not submitted in a separate sealed envelope duly marked as indicated above, this will constitute grounds for rejection of the Proposal.
  - 7.8. The Proposal must be sent to the following address and received by the Company not later than the time and the date specified elsewhere in this Bidding Document:

<b>Position:</b>	Head Procurement
<b>Telephone:</b>	+9251 910 7441 - 6 Ext. 135
<b>Mobile:</b>	+92306 199 1234
<b>Fax:</b>	+9251 910 7447
<b>Email Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:procurement@ignite.org.pk">procurement@ignite.org.pk</a>
<b>Postal Address:</b>	<b>Ignite- National Technology Fund 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, TF Complex, 7 Mauve Area, G-9/4, Islamabad</b>

- 7.9. Bidders must submit their Proposal to the Company by registered post/ courier or by hand to the official postal address of the Company before or on the submission deadline specified in 7.13 Sr. # 4 in this Bidding Document.
- 7.10. Any Proposal received by the Company after the deadline & specified time for submission shall be returned.
- 7.11. Company reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the Proposals submitted at any time in accordance with applicable PPRA rules and the stipulations contained in this document.
- 7.12. Company shall open Technical Proposal thirty minutes after the submission deadline. The envelopes with the Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and securely stored in the custody of Company and will be opened as per the tentative timeline specified elsewhere in this document.
- 7.13. Key Activities & Timeline

The tentative timeline set out herein represents the Company's best estimate of the schedule that will be followed. If an activity contained in this schedule, such as the opening date, is delayed, the rest of the schedule will be shifted by the same number of days.

The tentative schedule of activities is as follows:

#	ACTIVITY/MILESTONE	TIMELINE
1	RFP Issuance	December 19, 2025
2	Pre-bid session <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81990799812?pwd=zZHe5uonkhBs1MavrKS1GifKJ4AZ7l.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81990799812?pwd=zZHe5uonkhBs1MavrKS1GifKJ4AZ7l.1</a>	December 31, 2025 11:00 am
3	Deadline for receiving queries/questions	January 12, 2026
4	Response to queries/questions related to RFP	January 13, 2026
5	Proposal Submission Deadline	January 29, 2026 3:00 pm
6	Opening of Technical Proposals (in front of Bidders present at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, TF Complex, 7 Mauve Area, G-9/4, Islamabad)	January 29, 2026 3:30 pm
7	Opening of Financial Proposals (in front of Bidders present at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, TF Complex, 7 Mauve Area, G-9/4, Islamabad)	TBD*
8	Award of Contract	TBD

\*Head Procurement will communicate the date and time for the financial bid opening to technically qualified bidders.

## 8 Evaluation and Award Process

### 8.1 Evaluation of Proposals

- 8.1.1. From the time the Proposals are opened to the time the evaluation report is announced, Bidders should not contact the Company on any matter related to its Technical and/or

Financial Proposal. Any effort by the Bidder to influence the Company in the examination, evaluation, ranking of Proposals, and recommendation for award of Agreement may result in the rejection of the Bidder's Proposal. However, the Company may contact the Bidder for seeking clarification of any aspect of Technical Proposal or demand any missing information.

- 8.1.2. Evaluators of Technical Proposals shall have no access to Financial Proposals until the technical evaluation is concluded.
- 8.1.3. Overall evaluation shall be carried out based on weighted average methodology wherein technical evaluation will carry 70% and financial evaluation will carry 30% weightage respectively.

## 8.2 Evaluation of Technical Proposals

- 8.2.1. All grants are considered for funding on a competitive merit basis. A selection committee comprising of experts will evaluate the selection of grantees based on the prescribed criteria, along with the technical strength of the applicant to ensure a successful and sustainable project. Funds will be provided to the successful individual as per defined payment schedule. The final reports should also include full audited financial details of expenditure incurred as part of the project. Ignite must be acknowledged in all publications/communications activities for the project.
- 8.2.2. During the technical evaluation no amendments in the Proposals shall be permitted. Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. If Proposal fails to achieve the minimum qualifying technical score indicated in the RFP document, it will not qualify for financial evaluation stage. Bidders who obtain at least 70 out of 100 marks (70%) in technical evaluation criteria will qualify and Financial Proposals would be opened only for technically qualified Bidders.
- 8.2.3. Financial Proposals of those Bidders obtaining less than 70 marks out of 100 (70%) in Technical Evaluation shall remain unopened and will be returned to the Bidders. An evaluation committee appointed by the Company will evaluate Technical Proposals on the basis of their compliance with the RFP and by applying the evaluation criteria and the point system, specified below:

S #	Technical Evaluation Criteria	Sub Marks	Total Marks
1	<b>Firm/Bidder Profile (Registered age, and Financial position) – (Form C2)</b> 1. Registered Age (Lead Bidder) a) 7+ Years (5 Marks) b) 3 to 7 Years (3 Marks) c) Less than 3 Years (2 Mark)  2. Financial Position (Lead Bidder)	5     5	10
2	<b>Relevant Experience of the Firm/Bidder - (Form C3-A)</b> 1. Experience in developing and conducting similar Competitions a. 3 Marks per CTF competition for a maximum of up to 15 Marks	15	35

	<p>b. Nature of proposed platform:</p> <p>i- Indigenously developed (10 marks)</p> <p>ii- Customized Open Source (07 marks)</p> <p>iii- Commercial/Outsourced (05 marks)</p>	10	
	<p>c. Experience in conducting general nature projects somewhat similar to the scope outlined in this project. (2 marks per project)</p>	10	
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Qualification and Competence of the proposed Project Team, Proposed Approach &amp; Research Methodology, Understanding of the Terms of Reference, Proposed Timelines, and Work Plan – (Form C4, C5)</b></p> <p>I. Proposed Methodology, Design &amp; Project Plan</p> <p>a) Proposed Methodology, Project Design, Execution Plan, Team Traveling Plan (SEE RELEVANT FORMS FOR MORE DETAILS)</p> <p>II. Qualification, Experience, and Certifications of the proposed Project team</p> <p>a) Profile of the CTF Development team (20 marks)</p> <p>b) IT Infrastructure, Cloud, Support, and Project Team (05 marks)</p> <p><i><u>*Note: It is mandatory to comply with the ToRs/Requirements</u></i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>25</p>	<b>55</b>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Presentation by Bidders (Mandatory)</b></p> <p>Presentation of all proposed aspects of the project outlined in Evaluation Criteria as mentioned in Sections (I – V) above</p>		
	<b>Total Marks:</b>		<b>100</b>
	<b>Minimum Qualification Marks Required (70%):</b>		<b>70</b>

*All Bidders will also be invited for a mandatory presentation. Date and time for the presentation will be communicated to Bidders whose technical proposals are found to be legally compliant and whose proposals are accepted for evaluation purposes.*

### 8.3 Financial Proposal

- 8.3.1. After the evaluation of Technical Proposals, the Company shall communicate to each Bidder their respective technical score. The company shall notify Bidders who have secured a minimum qualifying technical score, about the date, time, and location for opening of Financial Proposals, within the bid validity period. Bidder's attendance at the opening of Financial Proposals is optional. The opening date shall be set to allow interested Bidders sufficient time to make arrangements for attending the Financial Bid opening.
- 8.3.2. Bidders whose technical scores do not meet minimum qualifying criteria, will be informed accordingly and their Financial Proposal will be returned unopened to them, after signing of contract with Successful Bidder.
- 8.3.3. At the outset of the Financial Proposal Opening session, and before the actual opening of the Financial Proposal, the technical score of qualified Bidders shall be read aloud.
- 8.3.4. A Financial Evaluation Committee shall evaluate the Financial Proposal. If any discrepancy arises between the "total" amount and the partial amount, the "total" amount shall prevail.

If any discrepancy arises between the “**word**” representation of the amount and the numerical representation of the amount, then the word representation shall prevail. The prices of all activities and resources listed in the Technical Proposal shall be assumed to be included in the Financial Proposal, whether or not they are individually listed and priced in the Financial Proposal.

- 8.3.5. Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method will be used for the evaluation of the Proposal. The most advantageous Financial Proposal will be given the maximum financial score of 30 points.

## **8.4 Combined Scores**

- 8.4.1. Technical Score (ST) shall be calculated as follows: (Technical score obtained by the Bidder/Total Technical score) x 70.
- 8.4.2. Financial Score (SF) shall be calculated as follows: (Lowest Bidder’s total cost/ Bidder’s total cost) x 30.
- 8.4.3. Combined Score (Total Score) = ST + SF
- 8.4.4. All Bidders will be ranked based on the combined technical and financial score.

## **8.5 Award of Agreement**

After completing negotiations, the Company shall award the Agreement to the selected Bidder (most advantageous). After the agreement signature, the Company shall return the unopened Financial Proposals of the non-responsive Bidders.

## **9 Availability of Skilled Resources**

- 9.1. The Successful Bidder is bound to provide the services of professional staff proposed in the Technical Proposal. In case of non-availability of any proposed professional staff during the contract period, the Bidder will provide a valid reason and documentary justification. The Bidder is bound to provide the substitute professional staff with the same technical strength with no delay after mutual agreement of both parties i.e., the Bidder and the Company. In such a case, it is at the discretion of the Company to accept or reject the Bid.
- 9.2. No member of professional staff, including the Project Manager, should be a proposed team member in any other bid (currently invited or under review for selection purposes) submitted to the Company for another project.

## **10 Confidentiality**

The Company shall keep all information regarding the bid evaluation confidential until the announcement of the evaluation report under PPRA Rule no. 41.

## **11 Conflict of Interest**

Without limitation on the generality of the foregoing, Bidder shall be considered to have a conflict



of interest and their Proposal shall not be entertained and shall be rejected under any of the circumstances set forth below:

- a) Conflicting assignments
  - The Bidder (including its Personnel) or any of its affiliates shall not be hired for any assignment that, by its nature, may conflict with another assignment to be executed for the same or another Client.
- b) Conflicting Relationships
  - The Bidder (including its Personnel) or any of its affiliates that has a business or family relationship with a member of the Company Board, Management, or staff who is directly or indirectly involved in the preparation of Terms of Reference, selection process of third party evaluation services and/or supervision of the Agreement may not be awarded an Agreement unless conflict stemming from this relationship has been resolved in a manner acceptable to the Company Board throughout the selection process and the execution of the Agreement.
  - The Bidder has an obligation to disclose any situation of actual or potential conflict that impacts their capacity to serve the best interest, or that may reasonably be perceived as having this effect by notifying the Company in writing. Failure to disclose said situations may lead to disqualification of the Bidder or the termination of its Agreement.
  - Current employees of the Company shall not work as and for the Bidder.

## 12 Fraud and Corruption

12.1. The Company requires the Bidder/s participating in provision of Service/s to adhere to the highest ethical standards, both during the selection process and throughout the execution of an agreement. In pursuance of this policy, Company defines, for the purpose of this paragraph, the terms set forth below as follows:

- a) “Corrupt practice” means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence the actions of any employee of the Company in the selection process or in agreement execution;
- b) “Fraudulent practice” means a misrepresentation or omission of facts in order to influence a selection process or the execution of an agreement;
- c) “Collusive practices” means a scheme or arrangement between two or more Bidders with or without the knowledge of the Client, designed to establish prices at artificial, non-competitive levels, etc.;
- d) “Coercive practices” means harming or threatening to harm, directly or indirectly, persons or their property to influence their participation in a procurement process, or affect the execution of an agreement.

12.2. The Company will reject a Proposal for award if it determines that the Bidder recommended for award has directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, or coercive practices in competing for the agreement to be executed under RFP. The Company

may also impose penalties on the Bidder, declaring it ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period, for Company funding, if at any time it determines that the Bidder has, directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices in competing for, or in executing a Company funded project.

- 12.3. The Company will have the right to inspect the bidding firm's accounts and records and other documents relating to the submission of Proposals and agreement performance and have them audited by auditors appointed by the Company.

## **13 Clarification Request/Amendment**

- 13.1. The Bidder can request clarification in the RFP document up to the date indicated in the RFP document. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic means to the Company's e-mail address indicated in the RFP document. The Company will respond in writing or by standard electronic means as mentioned in the table of activities and will place responses on the Company's website under FAQ's for understanding of all potential Bidders.
- 13.2. At any time before the submission of Proposals, the Company may amend the RFP document by issuing an addendum in writing or by standard electronic means. The addendum shall be published in the local newspaper and uploaded at PPRA and Company web site, and revised RFP document will be uploaded on Company's and PPRA web site.



## 14 Statement of Purpose



### 14.1 Background and Introduction

Pakistan has an emerging modern digital infrastructure, and with the emergence of 3G/4G, its internet usage growth rate is the second highest in the SAARC countries. According to the PTA, broadband subscribers have now crossed 147 million. Pakistan's e-commerce market is the 46<sup>th</sup> largest market with a revenue of US\$5.4 billion in 2024, as digitalization paved the way for the services sector. Pakistan's cyberspace is at risk, and it is among the countries experiencing the most cyberattacks. Hence, it is high time to develop a strong cybersecurity capability.

The urgent need to secure data and systems becomes more obvious each day. Digital assets, including the digital critical infrastructure, are under constant attack. On the whole, enterprises lack the knowledge, training, and tools to establish effective, sustainable defense. The persistent vulnerability of individuals, enterprises, and entire industry sectors to a range of malefactors, from common criminals to terrorist networks and nation-states, is an unavoidable reality.

Despite the growing space and sophistication of cyber threats, there are not enough people equipped with the appropriate knowledge, skills, and abilities to protect information technology for strategic advantage. The Global Risk Report 2025, World Economic Forum (WEF), calls cybersecurity one of the key threats of the next decade.

It has been known that there is a severe shortage of cybersecurity specialists in Pakistan. Yet universities are slow to react to this need to educate more cybersecurity professionals. Most universities currently do not offer degrees in Information Security (IS).

Ignite organized Pakistan's first Cybersecurity Hackathon in 2021, followed by the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> hackathons in 2022, 2023, and 2024, which have enhanced cybersecurity readiness, protection, and incident response capabilities of the country by conducting cyber drills in Capture the Flag (CTF) style in multiple cities.

This year, Ignite is taking the competition to the next level. The competition will be conducted in major cities, followed by the Final in Islamabad. The event will comprise CTF competition, Blue Teaming, Pwn-2-Own, Keynote Speeches, panel discussions, quiz competitions, and a demonstration of products and services offered by the industry and research labs.

<sup>1</sup> [https://reports.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_Global\\_Risks\\_Report\\_2025.pdf](https://reports.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Global_Risks_Report_2025.pdf)

## 14.2 Goals/Objectives

The main goals of conducting the competition are as follows:

- a) Proposed competition may offer a good chance to introduce security specialists to modern attack vectors, kill chains, and advanced tactics and technologies used by different cybersecurity expert teams from around the world.
- b) Proposed competition will help find new cybersecurity talent within a country. Holding such an activity can be a great way of identifying people who have the aptitude and skills to accept the challenge.
- c) Proposed competition can be used as a team-building and security-awareness exercise for an enterprise's employees, especially organizations regulated under MOITT, PTA, SBP, and NEPRA. As a result of the event, each organization will acquire awareness, knowledge, and skills that will enhance its overall security capabilities.

## 15 Scope of Work

The proposed Cybersecurity Competition is a capture the flag (CTF) contest for cybersecurity experts to be organized in the form of a game, in which the participants will solve computer security problems. They must either capture (attack/bring down) or defend computer systems in a CTF environment. Typically, these competitions are team-based and attract a diverse range of participants, including students, enthusiasts, and professionals. The duration of this competition will be 10 hours. The winning team or individual scoring the most points in the 1<sup>st</sup> round will be qualified for the final round of the competition. Three Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third places. In the interest of contest integrity and respect for the platform, ground rules will be shared with participants before the event.

The following are the main responsibilities of the competition to be addressed by the bidder:

- a) Provisioning, configuration, and deployment of the complete hardware stack required for the competition, encompassing servers, network switches, firewalls, and all ancillary networking materials, including Endpoints LAN connectivity (Gig) for each participant.
- b) Provision of managed cloud services for hosting a diverse range of challenges, from web apps and binaries to full-network simulations.
- c) A reliable internet solution featuring a primary 100 Mbps fiber connection (300 Mbps in Islamabad regional round) at each site, a backup connection for redundancy, customized security access, and continuous performance monitoring.
- d) Demonstration of capability to provide managed services in the context of CTF & Blue teaming competition to the technical committee;
- e) Arrangement of UPS to support at least 5 minutes of backup for network and server connectivity (Not laptops).
- f) The provision of a comprehensive software platform capable of managing all aspects of the

Capture The Flag (CTF) competition includes essential features such as: a dynamic scoring server supporting First Blood bonuses (awarded for the first valid submission of a flag) and other scoring mechanics like headshots (for exquisite solutions); real-time monitoring of session and team activity to prevent cheating; an engaging graphical dashboard for participants and spectators, displaying live scores, solve progress, and a leaderboard with system-generated announcements; a system for generating random flags, validating submissions, and maintaining detailed submission logs; customizable reporting with filters (e.g., time-based, difficulty-based, team-wise) for in-depth post-game analysis; an integrated mechanism to capture participant feedback on individual challenges; and comprehensive logging of all actions performed by teams and individual members.

- g) Development of at least 100 Jeopardy-style CTFs for 7 sessions and the pre-qualifying stage. The proposed distribution for CTFs is 10 CTFs per location' i.e.; 40 easy (15 mins each), 30 medium (30 mins each), and 30 hard (60 minutes each). The participating team will provide a write-up of each solved CTF. The write-up covers challenge analysis, the use of specific tools, and the thought process in solving the CTF. The successful bidder will be responsible for collecting and evaluating these write-ups.
- h) The challenge library must comprehensively cover the modern threat landscape. It requires an equal distribution of challenges across both foundational and advanced categories, including reverse engineering, cryptography, web exploitation, binary exploitation (Pwn), mobile security, forensics, networking, and critically, emerging domains like AI security (e.g., model poisoning, adversarial attacks), blockchain & smart contract vulnerabilities, and OT/IoT security.
- i) In the second part, a comprehensive Blue Team competition component is used to simulate real-world Security Operations Center (SOC) activities. The required features for this module are:
  - i) **Scenario & Environment:** Participants must be provided with a isolated, realistic "digital twin" of a corporate IT infrastructure, including workstations, servers, network devices (firewalls, switches), and critical services (AD, DNS, Web Servers).
  - ii) **Attack Simulation:** The platform must generate and execute several consecutive, massive attack waves against each team's environment. These attacks should emulate modern threats (e.g., ransomware deployment, APT lateral movement, DDoS, phishing-based initial access).
  - iii) **Scoring Mechanism:** Points will be awarded based on:
  - iv) **Defensive Actions:** Successfully blocking malicious traffic, isolating compromised hosts, patching vulnerabilities, and hardening systems.
  - v) **Forensic Investigation:** Identifying indicators of compromise (IOCs), determining the initial attack vector, and mapping the kill chain.
  - vi) **Reporting:** Submitting clear, concise, and accurate incident reports for each attack wave,

detailing the findings and response actions taken.

- vii) **Visibility:** Teams must be provided with standard defensive toolsets within the environment, such as SIEM logs (e.g., Elastic Stack), firewall consoles, EDR alerts, and system logs to facilitate their investigation.
- j) In the third part of the competition, which is the “PWN-2-OWN” module; Participants will be tasked with attempting to exploit vulnerabilities in the target systems or software within a set time frame. The goal is to gain control or “own” the target system, often by executing specific actions or accessing sensitive data. This activity will be performed at the Grand Finale.
- k) Testing of complete challenges before launch and providing demo and walk-through to the technical committee
- l) Boarding and Lodging of staff and logistics to cover 7 venues (i.e., Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Multan, Quetta, and Islamabad followed by the grand finale in Islamabad.

## 15.1 Competition Environment

Depending on the format of the competition and other preferences, different types of infrastructure can be chosen for the competitive environment. National or International platforms can be used for conducting the competition. Normally, it is designed to emulate both the IT and OT networks of a real-world industrial infrastructure.

All the Hackathon venues will be networked and power-enabled for each team in the competition. The participating teams will bring their laptops. The setup will be installed one day before the competition, followed by 2 days of competition for 10 hours each day.

## 15.2 Competition Format

There are several variations on the capture the flag format style competition. The most popular styles are jeopardy, attack-defense, and a mix of the two. The competition will use jeopardy style in the pre-qualifying round. During the regional and Finale rounds, a mix of jeopardy and blue teaming. Teams will compete and apply their skills and knowledge to solve a diverse range of challenges in novel and creative ways.

## 16 Deliverables

The key deliverables/milestones of the project are as follows.

#	Deliverables	Description
1	<b>Deliverable 1 (10 days after signing of contract)</b>	Project Inception Report containing a complete work plan, methodology, roles and responsibilities of different team members, and other details mentioned in “Scope of Work”.
2	<b>Deliverable 2 (20 days after signing of contract)</b>	Setting up the environment for the Hackathon and making it available for Testing and final approval from the management committee.

3	<b>Deliverable 3 (30 days after signing of contract)</b>	Design and Deployment of the environment according to CTFs and blue teaming scenarios in collaboration with the CTF/Platform service provider.
4	<b>Deliverable 4 (35 days after signing of contract)</b>	Launch of the Pre-qualification round for shortlisting the participating teams.
5	<b>Deliverable 5 (60 days after signing of contract)</b>	Launch of regional rounds of competition in multiple cities.
6	<b>Deliverable 6: Final Round (90 days after signing of contract)</b>	Conducting of final round in Islamabad and submission of data collected to analyze the results.
7	<b>Deliverable 7: Final Report (100 days after signing of contract)</b>	Final report of the project completion.

## 17 Project Duration/Timeline

The Successful Bidder is required to conduct the event in 4-5 months.

### 17.1 Competition Timeline

A successful national-level competition consists of several stages, as follows:

#### 17.1.1 Initiation Stage (Consultation Stage)

The management committee will conduct meetings with potential bidders to address the queries regarding the competition keeping in view the different aspects of the event. During the meeting, the management committee will provide all the necessary information to the potential bidders.

#### 17.1.2 Planning Stage

At this stage, the management committee and the successful bidder will plan all the required resources and budget allocation by the agreed-upon plan. This stage usually takes about 2 weeks. Based on the time and budget estimates, the final plan will be prepared, detailing all the required resources, budget items, and logistics. The final plan will be reviewed and agreed upon by the committee and the successful bidder.

### 17.2 Preparation Stage

At this stage, the successful bidder will design and create the contest environment and desired infrastructure in collaboration with CTF team to run the pre-qualification, regional rounds, and the finals. The duration of this stage depends on the type and scope of the contest and is typically at least 1 month. This, along with preparing the virtual environment for the participating teams, will take 2 to 3 weeks. The successful bidder will start activities to prepare the venue and infrastructure to conduct the final.

### 17.3 Regional Rounds of Competition

At this stage, all teams registered for the contest will attempt to solve CTF challenges in their respective regional locations. Ignite will make all the necessary announcements to launch the regional rounds. The management committee will monitor all activities and ensure the quality environment is available throughout the rounds, providing participants with assistance to ensure



that the contest runs smoothly and all participants have equal opportunities to win. In addition, all of the participants' attack-related activity, including their successful attacks, will be tracked and logged, with network traffic backed up for further analysis.

#### 17.4 Final Round of Competition

At this stage, the successful teams will travel to Islamabad to participate in the finals. Ignite and the successful bidder will prepare the venue and the required infrastructure for the Final and the successful bidder will make necessary improvements which will be highlighted in the initial rounds.

The awards ceremony will take place when the finals are over and all the scores have been calculated. Finally, the infrastructure will be shut down and disconnected. After this, only the management committee and selected specialists will have access to the data collected to analyze the results.

#### 17.5 Analyzing the results and reporting.

At this stage, selected specialists will analyze the data inside the competition infrastructure and prepare a report. This stage usually takes about 1 week. The management committee and the successful bidder will prepare the technical report for the top management. The top management can use it by the goals agreed at the initial stage.

### 18 Payment Schedule

The tentative schedule for disbursements is given below.

S #	Project Milestone	Amount Payable
1	Mobilization Advance (against bank guarantee)	10 %
2	Deliverable 1&2	10 %
3	Deliverable 3&4	20 %
4	Deliverable 5	20 %
5	Deliverable 6	20 %
6	Deliverable 7	20 %

Other details of the payment schedule would be finalized upon approval by the Finance Department as per existing policies.

### 19 Copyrights

All developed outcomes of the project (both hard and soft formats) will be the sole property of Ignite (National Technology Fund).



## Technical Proposal - Standard Forms

### C1. Covering Letter

[Location, Date]

To:

Head Procurement

Ignite National Technology Fund

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, TF Complex, 7 Mauve

AreaG-9/4, Islamabad.

Email: [procurement@ignite.org.pk](mailto:procurement@ignite.org.pk)

Sir,

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for the execution of the “**Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025**” in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [ADVERTISEMENT DATE]. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

Our Technical Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations, up to the expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, which is 180 calendar days from the date of advertisement.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive. We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:

Name and Title of Signatory: Name of Firm:

Address:

Email:

## C2. Firm/Bidder Profile

S #	Criteria	
1.	<b>Profile of the agency:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered age of Firm</li> <li>Names of Owners/ CEO/ Directors/ Partners/ Managers</li> </ol>	
2.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Location of Firm office/sub office</li> <li>Number of relevant employees including their Names &amp; Designations, Contact Numbers &amp; Branch contact numbers</li> </ol>	
3.	<b>Financial Position</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name of Banks</li> <li>Certificate of Financial position</li> <li>Copy of audited Annual Accounts (of last 3 years)</li> <li>Tax Registration (NTN/STN/FTN)</li> </ol>	

### C3. Relevant Experience of the firm/Bidder

#### C3-A: Specific Experience (Up to a Maximum of 10)

Describe the projects in areas relevant to the assignment only.

Sr. #	Name of Assignment	Client Name	National or International	Scope of Work & Duration (Give list of deliverables)	Value of Assignment (in PKR)	Contact Person & Detail of Client	Final Report (web link or attached as annexure)

**\*Please attach evidence of the above assignments. Only verifiable assignments will be evaluated.**

**C3. Relevant Experience of the firm/Bidder**

**C3-B: General Experience (Up to a Maximum of 10)**

Sr. #	Name of Client	Title of Assignment	Scope of Work and Period of Assignment (Give list of deliverables)	Value of Assignment (in PKR)	Present Status of the Assignment

**\*Please attach evidence of above assignments. Only verifiable assignments will be evaluated.**

#### C4. Key Team Members

Attach CVs of all team members, including DevOps, IT infrastructure support, and Project.

#	Name	Position/ Organization	Qualification/ Certification	No. of years of Experience	Relevance to the Assignment	Role in this Project
1						Team lead, etc.
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

## **C5. Separate Design Document, Proposed Plan, and Methodologies of Deliverables**

Including:

- Understanding of the project requirements, compliance with the Scope of Work (ToRs)
- Proposed methodology,
- Proposed design and Comparison with famous Cybersecurity competitions,
- Execution plan including activities, deliverables, and project time management plan,
- Details of the activities to be performed by the lead bidder and JV partners,
- Proposed quality assurance mechanism and M&E Plan, Risk Plan etc.

## C6. Roles and Responsibilities of Consortium/JV Partners

### Applying As:

<input type="checkbox"/> Standalone Legal Entity	<input type="checkbox"/> Consortium (Please attach relevant document )
<input type="checkbox"/> Joint Venture (Please attach relevant document )	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify & attach relevant document)

### Lead Partner Details:

Name of Partner:	
Focal Person:	
Contact Details:	(Telephone, Email and Postal Address)

### Partner – 1:

Name of Partner:	
Focal Person:	
Contact Details:	(Telephone, Email and Postal Address)
Roles and Responsibility in this Project:	

### Partner – 2:

Name of Partner:	
Focal Person:	
Contact Details:	(Telephone, Email and Postal Address)
Roles and Responsibility in this Project:	

In case of more than two partners you may add further sheets.

Note: Please attach MoU and/or consent letter of each partner clearly specifying its roles and responsibilities in the project. Letter should be issued by the competent authority of the partner organization.



## Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

### C7. Covering Letter

[Location, Date]

To:

Head Procurement

Ignite National Technology Fund

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, TF Complex, 7 Mauve Area

G-9/4, Islamabad.

Email: [procurement@ignite.org.pk](mailto:procurement@ignite.org.pk)

Sir,

We, the undersigned, offer to provide services for the execution of the **Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025** by your Request for Proposal dated [ADVERTISEMENT DATE] and our Proposal (Technical and Financial Proposals). Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [Amount in words and figures]. This amount is inclusive of all the local taxes, duties, fees, levies, and other charges applicable to our company, our sub-contractors, and collaborations under Pakistani law.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations, up to the expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, which is 180 calendar days from the date of advertisement.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive. We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:

Name and Title of Signatory: Name of Firm:

Address:

Email:

## C8. Summary of Cost:

Sr. #	Description	Amount (PKR)	In-Kind Contribution (PKR) (if available)
1	HR cost		
2	Travel & lodging		
3	CTF Development		
4	Cost for cloud services (incl b/w, etc.)		
5	Any other relevant		
6	Total		
7	Contingencies		
8	Applicable Taxes		
9	<b>Grand Total:</b>		

\*Add the budgetary head as per the requirement

## Annexure – A1

### SINGLE STAGE TWO ENVELOPE PROCEDURE FOR BIDDING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT RULES 2004

- i. The bid shall comprise a single package containing two separate envelopes. Each envelope shall contain separately the Financial Proposal and the Technical Proposal;
- ii. The envelopes shall be marked as “FINANCIAL PROPOSAL” and “TECHNICAL PROPOSAL” in bold and legible letters to avoid confusion;
- iii. Initially, only the envelope marked “TECHNICAL PROPOSAL” shall be opened;
- iv. The envelope marked as “FINANCIAL PROPOSAL” shall be retained in the custody of the procuring agency without being opened;
- v. The procuring agency shall evaluate the Technical Proposal in a manner prescribed in advance, without reference to the price and reject any Proposal which do not conform to the specified requirements; Minimum qualification for shortlisting of technical proposals is **70%** marks.
- vi. During the technical evaluation no amendments in the Technical Proposal shall be permitted;
- vii. The Financial Proposals of bids shall be opened publicly at a time, date and venue announced and communicated to the Bidders in advance;
- viii. After the evaluation and approval of the Technical Proposal the procuring agency, shall at a time within the bid validity period, publicly open the **Financial Proposals of the technically accepted bids only**. The Financial Proposal of bids found technically non-responsive shall be returned unopened to the respective Bidders; and
- ix. Weightage of technical and financial evaluation will be **70% and 30%** respectively. Financial score will be calculated as follows:
  - x. Financial score = Lowest bid/ Bidder’s bid x 30%
  - xi. The bidder with the highest combined score will be selected.

## Annexure – A2

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST - DISCLOSURE FORM (To be printed on company's letterhead)

In compliance of the mandatory requirement mentioned in the RFP for “ published by Ignite National Technology Fund (*hereinafter 'Ignite' and/or 'Company'*), I hereby confirm:

- ☐ I have no Conflict of Interest to disclose  
☐ I have a potential Conflict of Interest to disclose and the details are mentioned hereunder:

Summary Information			
Date Raised:		Reference No.:	

Personal Information			
Name:		Title/Designation:	
Contact No.:		Company:	

Nature of Conflict	
Description:	

I hereby affirm that the above details/disclosure are true to the best of my knowledge, and no additional information/disclosure exists.

In case of any change to the above given information/disclosure, I will promptly notify the Company and complete a new conflict of interest disclosure form which describes the changes.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Annexure – A3

**Note – 1: Any stamp duty, registration fees, or any other charges or levies, wherever applicable, in relation to the execution, performance, or registration of this Agreement, shall be the sole responsibility of the Service Provider/Vendor/supplier (successful Bidder) or any other party entering into this Agreement with Ignite. Ignite shall not be liable for any such costs or expenses.**

### **SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ACQUIRING SERVICES FOR ACTIVITIES UNDER THE DIGITAL PAKISTAN CYBERSECURITY HACKATHON 2025**

This agreement for **“Acquiring Services for Activities Under Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025”** (the “Agreement”) is made at Islamabad on this **[Insert the date]** day of **[Insert Month]** 2025.

#### **By and Between**

**M/s. Ignite**, a company incorporated under section 42 of the repealed Companies Ordinance 1984 (*now The Companies Act, 2017*), with Corporate Universal Identification Number (CUIN) **0058556**, having its registered office at 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Telecom Foundation Complex Building, Mauve area, G-9/4, Islamabad, Pakistan (hereinafter referred to as the “**Company**”, which expression shall where the context permits, mean and include its administrators, successors-in-interest and permitted assigns) of the First Part;

And

**[Insert name of successful bidder]**, a company incorporated and existing under the laws of Pakistan, with Corporate Universal Identification Number (CUIN) **[insert CUIN]**, having its registered office at **[insert address]**, Pakistan (hereinafter referred to as the “**Service Provider**”, which expression shall where the context permits, mean and include its administrators, successors-in-interest and permitted assigns) through its duly authorized representative namely **[insert name & designation]** of the Service Provider, of the Second Part;

The Company and the Service Provider may hereinafter collectively be referred to as the “**Parties**” and individually as a “**Party**”.

#### **RECITALS**

#### **WHEREAS**

- A.** The Company requires services in connection with the event titled “*Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025*” (“DPCH”), involving the organization and execution of fourteen (14) competition sessions to be held across seven (7) designated cities in Pakistan, aimed at assessing and identifying cybersecurity talent nationwide.
- B.** The Service Provider agrees to organize and conduct the regional competitions for the Participants, followed by a final competition, as required by the Company and in accordance

- with the terms and scope of work set out in *Annexure A* attached to this Agreement.
- C. All services and duties, incidental or necessary thereto shall be conducted and performed diligently and completely and in accordance with professional standards of conduct.
  - D. Against the provision of satisfactory and acceptable Services, the Service Provider shall receive agreed compensation as provided in the “**Phased Disbursement Schedule**” attached herewith as **Annexure-B**.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants hereinafter set forth and for other good and valuable consideration the adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged by the Parties and the mutual benefits to be derived therefrom, the representations and warranties, covenants, conditions and promises contained herein below and intending to be legally bound, the Parties agree as follows:

## **1 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS**

The Following words and expressions shall have the meaning defined hereunder:

- 1.1 “**AGREEMENT DOCUMENTS**” means the documents listed in **Article 5** of this Agreement.
- 1.2 “**APPROVED**” or “**APPROVAL**” means approved in writing by the Company and/or the Service Provider.
- 1.3 “**CTF**” means Capture the Flag.
- 1.4 “**DAY**” means calendar day of the Gregorian calendar.
- 1.5 “**DELIVERABLES**” means the deliverables specified whether in draft or final form to be provided by the Service Provider as provided in the RFP under the heading “**Scope of Work**” therein attached herewith as **Annexure-C**.
- 1.6 “**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**” means rights in intellectual property arising from the Scope of Work, deliverables, reports, or work related to the Project provided by the Service Provider.
- 1.7 “**PARTICIPANT(S)**” means an individual registered on a designated portal by Ignite and selected accordingly for participation in the Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025.
- 1.8 “**PROJECT**” means conducting Hands-on Workshops and acquiring Services for activities under Digital Pakistan Cybersecurity Hackathon 2025 (DPCH 2025).
- 1.9 “**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**” or “**RFP**” means the request for proposal issued by the company for the purpose of this Agreement with Reference No. **[insert the reference No.]** dated **[insert date]**.
- 1.10 “**SERVICES**” means the services to be performed by the Service Provider for the successful completion of the assigned tasks as specifically mentioned in the RFP in Part B (Terms of Reference) and attached herewith as **Annexure-A**.
- 1.11 “**SINGULAR AND PLURAL**” Words importing singular include the plural and vice versa and words importing masculine gender include the feminine gender.

## **2 OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMPANY:**

- 2.1** The Company agrees to provide the Service Provider reasonable access to all necessary Participants to answer any questions about any problems reported by the Company regarding the Services.
- 2.2** The Company shall provide such information for the Term of this Agreement as may be required by the Service Provider as far as reasonably practicable and without liability on the part of the Company.

## **3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE SERVICE PROVIDER**

- 3.1** The Service Provider shall conform with and abide by the provisions of all federal, provincial and local laws, rules and regulations and any other laws for the time being in force in Pakistan including all regulations or by-laws of any local or other duly constituted authority within Pakistan which may be applicable to the performance of the Agreement and the rules and regulations of public bodies and companies whose property or rights are affected or may be affected in any way by the works (hereinafter referred to as “state laws”) and shall give all notices and pay all fines required to be given or paid thereby and shall keep the Company indemnified against all penalties of every kind for breach of any of the same.
- 3.2** Payments shall be disbursed to the Service Provider in accordance with the Annexure-B. All payments to be made to the Service Provider shall be subject to applicable tax and other deductions in accordance with laws of Pakistan.
- 3.3** The Service Provider shall remain responsible for execution of the work as mentioned in **Annexure-A**.
- 3.4** The Service Provider shall maintain detailed records of all acts and things done in relation to the performance of this Agreement and, at the Company's request, shall either make all such records available for inspection or shall provide the Company with true and accurate copies thereof.
- 3.5** The Service Provider shall appoint a dedicated professional team having relevant experience and specialized qualification for the performance of this Agreement.
- 3.6** The Service Provider shall perform and deliver the Deliverables listed within **Annexure-A** with care, skill, diligence, honesty and integrity and with generally accepted standards of good practice and prudence.
- 3.7** The Service Provider shall complete and deliver all Deliverables and perform all its obligations under this Agreement within the stipulated time therein.
- 3.8** The Service Provider shall fully comply with any representations, warranties and undertakings provided in the Agreement relating to the quality and contents of the Deliverables.
- 3.9** The Service Provider shall use its reasonable endeavors for the successful and timely completion of the activities, tasks or Deliverables which are not quantified or for which no measurable indices are given in the Agreement.
- 3.10** The Service Provider shall comply with all applicable laws, as they exist in Pakistan



from time to time, including safety and security standards applicable to the activities and tasks covered under this Agreement.

- 3.11** The Service Provided shall apply for, obtain and maintain at all times all permissions, consents, licenses, leases, approvals, authorizations and the like required from any private or public sector entity for performance of its obligations under this Agreement and, where applicable, assign or transfer the same to the Company or its authorized representatives for the uninterrupted use, benefit and enjoyment of the Deliverables during and after the Term.
- 3.12** The Service Provided shall promptly and accurately respond to the review of the Deliverables by the Company, either by providing explanations of information or by responding to reasonable requests for revisions to the Deliverables.

#### **4 PRIMARY CONTACTS**

The Parties shall appoint one (1) individual within their organizations to serve as the primary contact between each other in order to receive or provide any requisite assistance or support.

**Contact details of Ignite:**

Name:

Email:

Phone:

**Contact details of (bidder):**

Name:

Email:

Phone:

#### **5 AGREEMENT DOCUMENTS**

The Recitals to the Agreement and the following documents, form an integral part of this Agreement. In case of any conflict between the terms of these documents and provisions of this Agreement, such conflict shall be resolved with reference to the provisions of this Agreement:

- i) Subsequent Amendments, if any.
- ii) This Agreement;
- iii) **Annexure-A** i.e., the RFP;
- iv) **Annexure-B** i.e., the Phased Disbursement Schedule;
- v) **Annexure-C** i.e., the Deliverables.

#### **6 EFFECTIVE DATE & TERM OF THE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement shall become effective from [xxxx] and shall remain valid until [xxxx] (“Term”) unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Agreement or extended further in writing by mutual consent of the Parties.

Regardless of any provision in this Agreement, unless terminated earlier, if the Project is not

completed within the stipulated Term, the Agreement shall automatically extend beyond the Term's expiry date. The Service Provider will be obligated to continue providing services under the same terms and conditions outlined in Annexure-A. Such extension may be formally approved in writing by both Parties, specifying the duration of the extension.

## **7 CONFIDENTIALITY**

**7.1** The Parties shall not disclose the Agreement, or any provision thereof, or any specification, plan, drawing, sample or information furnished by or on behalf of either Party in connection therewith, to any person other than a person employed by either Party in performance of the Agreement. Disclosure to any such employed person shall be made in confidence and shall only extend as far as may be necessary for purposes of such performance.

**7.2** Either party shall not, without mutual consent, make use of any documents or information except for purposes of performing the Agreement. Upon becoming aware of any loss, unauthorized use or disclosure of the Company's information, the Service Provider shall immediately notify the Company of such loss, unauthorized use or disclosure and indemnify the Company for the same.

**7.3** Both Parties agree that, regardless of the expiration or termination of the Agreement for any reason, the provisions concerning Confidentiality shall remain in effect for five (05) years after the Agreement's expiry or termination or unless the Parties agree otherwise to discontinue its effect.

## **8 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The Service Provider hereby acknowledges and agrees that any and all intellectual property rights generated as a result of the performance of Services under this Agreement, including the Scope of Work provided in this RFP, shall be the absolute property of the Company.

## **9 TAXES AND DUTIES**

The Service Provider shall fully comply with all applicable tax laws in Pakistan, including rules, regulations and other requirements. The Company is authorized to deduct, at the source, any withholding tax obligations as required by the prevailing tax laws of Pakistan.

## **10 ASSIGNMENT AND SUB-CONTRACT**

The Service Provider shall not alter, assign, or subcontract any part of this Agreement without obtaining prior written consent from the Company. If such consent is granted, it shall not absolve the Service Provider of its obligations and liabilities under this Agreement. Furthermore, the Service Provider remains fully accountable for the actions, omissions, and performance of any subcontractors or assignees, as well as those of its own agents, employees, and personnel.

## **11 PRICES AND PAYMENTS**

- 11.1** The total price of the Agreement including taxes shall not be in excess of PKR [XXXX] *[insert the amount in words]*, inclusive of all applicable taxes.
- 11.2** The price of the Agreement set forth in Clause 11.1 above in this Agreement is firm and final till execution of this Agreement and receipt of entire Services by the Company in acceptable condition.
- 11.3** No variation is acceptable to the Company with the exception of any price adjustment authorized under the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- 11.4** Applicable taxes will be deducted when processing payments and deposited with Federal Board Revenue (FBR).

## **12 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT**

- 12.1** The Company may, without prejudice to any other remedy for breach of Agreement, by written notice of default ("Default Notice") sent to the Service Provider, terminate this Agreement in whole or in part, if:
- 12.1.1** the Service Provider fails to deliver any or all of the services within the time period(s) specified in the Agreement or any extension thereof granted by the Company;
  - 12.1.2** the Service Provider fails to perform any other obligation(s) under the Agreement;
  - 12.1.3** the Service Provider, in either of the above circumstances does not cure its failure within a period of fifteen (15) days (or such longer period as the Company may authorize in writing) after receipt of the Default Notice from the Company.

## **13 TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

The Company reserves the right to terminate the Agreement, in whole or in part, at any time for its convenience, provided that it provides thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Service Provider or after payment of a proportionate fee, subject to the Service Provider's satisfactory performance as determined by the Company.

## **14 AMENDMENT**

No alteration, waiver or change in any of the terms of this Agreement will be effective unless made in writing and duly executed by an authorized officer or representative of each of the Parties.

## **15 ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement together with the attached Annexes contains the entire terms and conditions and constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties and cancels and supersedes any previous oral or written agreements, representations or arrangements, express or implied, by the Parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.

## **16 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS**

- 16.1 The Service Provider is and shall remain at all times an independent Contractor or and shall be fully responsible for its own acts or defaults (including those of its employees or agents).
- 16.2 The Service Provider, along with its employees, agents, or representatives, shall refrain from engaging in any activities that could reasonably lead any individual to believe that they are acting as employees, agents, or representatives of the Company.
- 16.3 Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute a partnership or other profit-sharing agreement between the Parties.

## **17 SURVIVAL**

Certain clauses of this Agreement, including but not limited to Indemnification, Confidentiality, and Dispute Resolution, as well as any other clauses inherently intended to extend beyond the termination or expiry of this Agreement, shall remain in effect for a period of Ten (10) years following such termination or expiry.

## **18 INDEMNIFICATION**

The Service Provider agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Company and its officers, agents, and employees, from any claim, real or imaginary, brought against the Company or its officers, agents, or employees, alleging damage or injury arising out of the subject matter of this Agreement; provided, however, that such provision shall not apply to the extent that the damage or injury results from proximate fault of the Company or its officers, agents, or employees.

## **19 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall be initially resolved through negotiation by Parties. If dispute(s) remain unresolved for a period of 30 days, it shall then be settled by the sole arbitrator appointed by both the Parties as mutually agreed in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1940 and the rules made thereunder. The venue of the arbitration shall be Islamabad, Pakistan. The award made by the arbitration process shall be final and binding on the Parties and may be enforced in any court of competent jurisdiction. Each Party shall bear the arbitration cost own its own.

The validity of interpretation and construction of this Agreement and of each part hereof shall be governed by the Laws of Pakistan. Both Parties shall comply with all applicable laws of Pakistan.

## **20 FORCE MAJEURE**

For the purposes of this Agreement “Force Majeure” means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party and which makes a Party’s performance of its obligations under this Agreement impossible or so impractical as to be considered impossible under the circumstances.

The failure of either Party to fulfil any of its obligations under this Agreement shall not be

considered to be breach of or default under this Agreement insofar as such inability arises from an event of Force Majeure, provided that the Party affected by such an event has taken all reasonable precautions, due care and reasonable alternative measures in order to carry out the terms and conditions of this Agreement and has informed the other Party as soon as possible about occurrence of such an event.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties to this Agreement through their duly authorized representatives have executed this Agreement in two (2) counterparts and on the days and dates set forth above, and certify that they have read, understood, and agreed to the terms and conditions of this Agreement as set forth herein.

**Signed for & on behalf of the Company**

**Signed for & on behalf of the Service Provider**

By: (name)  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CNIC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: (name)  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CNIC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness – 1**

**Witness – 2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CNIC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CNIC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness – 1**

**Witness – 2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CNIC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CNIC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note – 2:** *This Agreement is a draft and subject to modifications in terms and conditions based on negotiations with the successful bidder at the time of award. Bidders are advised to rely solely on the **Terms of Reference (TOR)** and instructions provided in this RFP for the preparation and submission of their bids.*

## Annexure – B

### Payment Schedule

The tentative schedule for disbursements is given below.

S #	Project Milestone	Amount Payable
1	Mobilization Advance (against bank guarantee)	10 %
2	Deliverable 1&2	10 %
3	Deliverable 3&4	20 %
4	Deliverable 5	20 %
5	Deliverable 6	20 %
6	Deliverable 7	20 %

## Annexure - C

### Deliverables

The key deliverables/milestones of the project are as follows.

#	Deliverables	Description
1	<b>Deliverable 1 (10 days after signing of contract)</b>	Project Inception Report containing a complete work plan, methodology, roles and responsibilities of different team members, and other details mentioned in "Scope of Work".
2	<b>Deliverable 2 (20 days after signing of contract)</b>	Setting up the environment for the Hackathon and making it available for Testing and final approval from the management committee.
3	<b>Deliverable 3 (30 days after signing of contract)</b>	Design and Deployment of the environment according to CTFs and blue teaming scenarios in collaboration with the CTF/Platform service provider.
4	<b>Deliverable 4 (35 days after signing of contract)</b>	Launch of the Pre-qualification round for shortlisting the participating teams.
5	<b>Deliverable 5 (60 days after signing of contract)</b>	Launch of regional rounds of competition in multiple cities.
6	<b>Deliverable 6: Final Round (90 days after signing of contract)</b>	Conducting of final round in Islamabad and submission of data collected to analyze the results.
7	<b>Deliverable 7: Final Report (100 days after signing of contract)</b>	Final report of the project completion.