

Request for Clarification – Scope & Technical Questions

RFP Reference: P78547 – Design, Configuration and Deployment of a Web-Based Project Monitoring and Performance Dashboard for SMEDA Business Plan **Submitted via:** EPADS v2.0 (per ITB Clause 9.1)

Date: 19th Aug 2026

S. No	RFP Reference	Question	SMEDA Reply - Aug 20, 2026
1	Sec. 3.1 – Business Plan Review	Will SMEDA provide the existing Business Plan 2025–28 document, current M&E arrangements, and any existing KPI/results framework to the selected firm at contract start, or is the firm expected to source/reconstruct this independently during Phase 1?	Yes, SMEDA will provide the requisite information.
2	Sec. 3.1 – Master KPI Register	Approximately how many KPIs/indicators (across all themes and sub-projects) are expected to be consolidated into the Master KPI Register? An approximate count would help us size the data model and dashboard architecture.	8 Strategic Pillars 48+ Interventions 12 Master KPIs (Interventions and Master KPIs are estimated)
3	Sec. 3.2 – Data Architecture	How many distinct projects/sub-projects currently exist under the Business Plan portfolio that will need to be mapped into the data model?	8 Strategic Pillars spread into 48+ Intervention streams.
4	Sec. 3.2 – User Roles	Approximately how many users are expected in each role category (Project Managers, Theme Leads, Senior Management, External Reviewers)? This is separate from the 15–25 "active users" figure mentioned under platform criteria — please confirm if that figure represents the total user base across all roles.	Yes, estimated 15-25 'active users' across all roles.
5	Sec. 3.3 – Platform Selection	Does SMEDA have any existing IT infrastructure, licenses, or preferred platforms (e.g., Power BI, existing SaaS subscriptions, in-house servers) that should be considered or reused, or is the firm free to recommend any	SMEDA does not currently hold any license for Power BI or similar BI/SaaS tools, nor does it have a pre-existing dashboard platform. The firm is free to recommend a suitable platform; however,

		platform (SaaS, open-source, or custom-built)?	the solution must be open-source based and must not require recurring licensing costs in the future.
6	Sec. 3.3 – Hosting	Where is the solution expected to be hosted — on SMEDA's own servers/infrastructure, a government cloud, or a third-party/commercial cloud environment? Are there any data residency or government cybersecurity policy requirements the platform must comply with?	SMEDA will host the solution on its own existing server or arrange suitable hosting, in compliance with government policy requiring data to reside on a local server within Pakistan. The proposed technology/platform shall be open-source based. Development and testing phases shall be performed on the bidder's/service provider's server, while the final product shall be hosted on SMEDA's server.
7	Sec. 3.4 – Regional Distribution View	The RFP notes that provincial allocation percentages are "available with the program teams." Will this data be shared with the selected firm during Phase 1, and in what format (spreadsheet, existing system export, etc.)?	Yes, it will be provided, probably spreadsheets
8	Sec. 3.4 – Reporting Interface	For the "Government and Stakeholder Reporting Interface," are there existing report templates/formats used by the Ministry of Industries and Production or Finance Division that the dashboard's automated reports must replicate? Can samples be shared?	It will be discussed and decided during Phase 1
9	Sec. 3.5 – Data Entry / Integration	Does SMEDA currently use any system(s) for project data collection (e.g., Excel trackers, an existing MIS) from which historical/baseline data will need to be migrated or integrated?	Yes, open-source data Dashboard for some interventions and spread sheets
10	Sec. 3.5 – Data Entry	Is any integration required with other SMEDA or government	Some integration with SMEDA existing systems will be

		systems (e.g., financial/accounting systems, HR systems, or external reporting portals), or will the dashboard operate as a standalone system with manual data entry only?	required. However, project level data will be entered manually.
11	Sec. 3.6 – Training	Will training sessions be conducted on-site at SMEDA's Lahore office, virtually, or a mix of both? Please confirm expected number of participants per training track (Project Managers, Theme Leads, Senior Management).	Mix of both, especially Provincial Office Teams other than Lahore have to use the Dashboard as well. At least 20-30 participants.
12	Sec. 3.7 – UAT	How many representatives from each project management team are expected to participate in User Acceptance Testing, and over what indicative duration should UAT be planned?	At least 1-2 representatives from each team. The duration of UAT may be specified by the bidder based on the Scope of Work and Deliverables
13	Sec. 4 – Deliverable 3	For the "Configured dashboard prototype" (Deliverable 3), should this be a fully functional system populated with sample/dummy data, or a working system already populated with actual historical/baseline data as referenced in Section 3.7?	Partially operation dashboard exists, which have baseline data available.
14	Sec. 5 – Implementation Timeline	The 7-month timeline is split into 4 months (Phases 1–4, deployment) and 3 months (post-implementation support). Is any float/buffer built into the 4-month deployment phase for SMEDA's internal review and approval cycles between phases, or is this to be assumed within the firm's own planning?	The 4 months are deployment and operationalization of system, whereas 3 months are for post-implementation to address the trouble shooting and making the systems fool proof after implementations. The submission and acceptance of deliverable will be included in the 4 months' time frame. Bidders should therefore build a realistic allowance for SMEDA's review and approval into their own phase-wise work plan and timeline (submitted as part of the Inception Report — Deliverable 1), rather than

			assuming SMEDA will review and approve instantaneously.
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