

Request for Proposal

Information Systems Audit

APSTAR DT SACCO LTD

UKULIMA CO-OPERATIVE

HOUSE, Nairobi

P.O Box 44071-00100 Nairobi

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Section 1: Invitation to Quote

APSTAR DT SACCO Society Ltd Ukulima Co-operative House P.O. Box 44071-00100 Nairobi

24th September 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Request for Proposal (RFP) for Provision of Information System Audit

APSTAR DT SACCO based in Nairobi is seeking proposals in a sealed envelope for the provision of **Information System (IS) Audit** as described in the TOR section to this request for proposal document.

Chief Executive Officer
APSTAR DT SACCO

SECTION 2: INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

- 1. In order to prepare a responsive quotation, the bidder must carefully review, and understand the contents of the following documents:
 - a) This Invitation letter and Quotation Instruction Sheet (QIS)
 - b) Terms of Reference (TOR)
- 2. The following aspects will be considered for the evaluation;
 - a) Suitability of the approach and methodology including firm's capacity to undertake the services.
 - b) Qualifications and experience of proposed staff/personnel.
- 3. APSTAR DT SACCO implements a zero tolerance on fraud and other proscribed practices and is committed to identifying and addressing all such acts and practices against the SACCO, as well as third parties involved in the SACCO's activities.

QUOTATION INSTRUCTION SHEET (QIS)

Instruction to Suppliers	Specific Requirements	
Assignment	Information Systems (IS) Audit	
Deadline for Submission of Quotation	Date and Time : 08th Otober 2025 on or before 12 noon	
	This is an absolute deadline, Quotation received after this date and time will be disqualified	
Address for Proposal Submission	Quotations should be submitted to the designated address below by the date and time of the deadline given Tender box located at the Second floor, APSTAR DT SACCO Society Ltd, Ukulima Co-operative House, P.O Box 44071-00100, NAIROBI	
Method of Submission	Hard copies (1 original & 1 copy)	

Language of the Quotation	English
Quotation Currencies	Kenya Shillings
Payment Terms	As per terms of Contract
Representative of the SACCO	The representative of APSTAR Sacco is:
	Chief Executive Officer
	Email address: ceo@apstarsacco.coop
Quotation Validity Period commencing after closing date of RFQ	The SACCO may exceptionally request vendor to extend quotation validity beyond the initial period indicated in the RFQ. The request will be communicated in writing to all invited vendors. Otherwise, Quotation must remain valid for 120 days from the submission date.
Clarifications of solicitation documents	Clarifications may be requested not later than <u>7</u> days before the submission date.
	The address for requesting clarifications is: procurement@apstarsacco.coop
Duration of Contract	The estimated tenure of Contract :3 weeks

TERMS OF REFERENCE

BACKGROUND

A key strategic focus of APSTAR DT SACCO is to attain excellent Customer service and satisfaction by providing innovative products and services, which are to be delivered through diverse service distribution channels that leverage on excellent information and communication technology platforms.

Financial institutions have recently experienced increased cases of Cyber-crimes in their business environments. Most of these frauds have been as a result of the increasingly use of technology-based products and services.

While technology remains to be a strategic service delivery channel to the members', the Board is also cognizant of the significant exposures emanating from the various financial systems' solutions.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Apstar DT Sacco Society Limited (Formerly Ukulima Sacco Society Limited) is a licensed Deposit Taking Sacco licensed by the Sacco Society Regulatory Authority (SASRA) with its Headquarters in Nairobi and branches in Nairobi, Kisumu, Mombasa, Eldoret, Embu, Nakuru, Kisii, Kakamega and Meru. The Society aspires to transform lives through resource mobilization and provision of innovative and accessible financial solutions

The Society is interested to conduct Information Systems (IS) Audit through a reputed firm. The related activities are defined in the scope of work and shall inter-alia include conducting IS audit at Apstar's Sacco facilities for providing independent reasonable assurance to the SACCO on:-

- 1) Resilience of the extant infrastructure and robustness of IT system architecture
- 2) Identification of vulnerabilities security flaws, gaps and loopholes.
- 3) Mitigation of risks where there are significant control weaknesses.
- 4) Safeguarding the information assets viz. software, hardware, network, etc.
- 5) Maintaining security, confidentiality, integrity and availability of data.
- 6) Enhancing the IT Recovery capabilities by assessing the current IT Recovery strategies

SCOPE OF WORK

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SYSTEM SECURITY AUDIT

The IT Audit exercise will cover the following Areas.

1. IT Governance Review

- Review ICT system service delivery for efficiency and assigned staff roles against best practice requirements such as ITIL bringing out any conflicting roles and roles that are currently not assigned to members of staff.
- ii) Review the information security/technology policies maintained by the SACCO determine their adequacy and ensure that they comply with the legal, regulatory, and other guiding standards
- iii) Review security breach incidence response strategies deployed by the SACCO their adequacy and effectiveness.
- iv) Review the vulnerability management framework deployed by the SACCO, its effectiveness and adequacy.
- v) Review CCTV.
- vi) Review and assist the Sacco in classifying its information system assets for proper controls.
- vii) Review the network monitoring strategies deployed by the SACCO, their adequacy and effectiveness giving value addition recommendations.
- viii) Review application activities logging strategies their effectiveness and adequacy.
- ix) Review the business continuity and disaster recovery strategies adopted by the SACCO. The review should cover the documentation, implementation, adequacy and effectiveness of the BCP and DRP strategies/frameworks.
- x) Review third party governance for system vendors and information technology service providers against best practice.
- xi) Review ICT budgets and adequacy

2. Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing

- i) Perform an external infrastructure and application vulnerability assessment and penetration testing exercise.
- ii) Perform an internal infrastructure and application vulnerability assessment and penetration testing exercise
- iii) Perform a penetration testing on the mobile banking application and the supporting components. iv) Scan the SACCO's IT environment for malware.
- v) Simulate social engineering scenarios to determine the awareness levels among members of staff
- vi) Offer awareness training sessions for key social engineering methods used by attackers and how to avoid social engineering-based exploitations (*This should be a session after the simulations with the results of the simulations used to provide the key watch out areas*).

3. Network Architecture and Device Configurations Review

i) The consultant will review the SACCO's network architecture against best practice identifying the weaknesses and provide recommendations for gap closure.

4. General IT Controls Review

- i) Perform a review of the effectiveness of the access management controls deployed around the organizations key applications, databases, and operating systems.
- ii) Perform a review of the change & enhancement management process and controls to the current system to determine their adequacy and effectiveness.
- iii) Review the program development process and controls to determine their adequacy and effectiveness
- iv) Review the interfaces between the systems on the SACCO's environment for accuracy and completeness.
- v) Review job scheduling monitoring process and controls to determine their adequacy and effectiveness.
- vi) Review the backup management strategy its effectiveness and adequacy.
- vii) Review the internal incident management process for adequacy and effectiveness.

5. Application Controls Review

Review application controls for key processes that rely on the SACCO's systems including but not limited

to the following.

- i) Credit related processes
- ii) Member onboarding (KYC) process
- iii) EFT and standing order management process
- iv) Card management process
- v) Over the counter cash withdrawal/deposits
- vi) Cheques (bankers cheques, SACCO cheques and member cheques) management process
- vii) Mobile banking processes
- viii) Agency banking processes
- ix) ATM banking processes
- x) Account dormancy, freezing, closure and activation processes
- xi) Check-off process
- xii) Payroll processing for external parties
- xiii) Data analysis should be performed to confirm the effectiveness of the application controls.

6. <u>Database Security Review</u>

Under this domain the consultant will review the security controls for the databases maintained by the SACCO. The review will cover the following elements.

- i) The process of access management for the databases on the SACCO's environment.
- ii) Review the adequacy and effectiveness of logging of activities executed by the database administrators and other accounts that access the databases directly.
- iii) Review database setup against best practice such as CIS benchmarks

- iv) Review supporting infrastructure setup against vendor minimum baseline requirements.
- v) Review data integrity i.e. how easy to change static data and track the changes

DELIVERABLES

- i. A written report with a signed executive summary, description of the assessment and audit activities and methodologies used, observations and findings with risk rankings, recommendations for risk mitigation, and strategies for improving security and recommendations for corrective action and steps to remove identified vulnerabilities.
- ii. Presentation to the APSTAR Management of the findings of the Audit exercise
- iii. A report on the assessment of the current IT Recovery capabilities and identified opportunities for improvement to ensure conformance for regulatory and business requirements.
- iv. A report on vulnerability assessment and penetration tests.
- v. An IT risk register and mitigation report.

DURATION OF AUDIT

The entire audit shall be completed within 3 weeks from the date of letter of appointment.

Evaluation Criteria

6.1 (i) Eligibility Criteria

Bidders failing to meet the eligibility criteria or not submitting requisite proof for supporting these criteria are liable to be rejected summarily.

- The Bidder should be in the business of Information Security (IS)
 Audit or Information Security Consultancy with a capability of carrying out Risk Assessment.
- 2. The Bidder should have completed at least 5 Information Security (IS) Audits of similar nature for similar or larger company.
- The Bidder must have at least 2 full time IS Audit professionals who hold professional certifications such as CISA/ CEH/ CISSP/ CISM/oracle 10g and 11g or MSQL Database Administration.
- 4. The lead auditor should be a member of ISACA for at least 6 years.
- The Bidder must have at least one full time Risk Management professionals who hold professional certifications such as CERM, ISO 31000.

- The Bidder to demonstrate capability in information security and Risk Management. Demonstration of a valid and verifiable information security certification such as ISO27001:2013 as an entity will be added advantage
- The bidder should not be a present vendor of IT equipment/peripherals/software to APSTAR DT SACCO

Bids failing to meet the Eligibility Criteria or not submitting requisite proof in support thereof as mentioned in Paragraph 6.1 of Part II Data Sheet are liable to be considered as non-responsive and rejected summarily.

(ii) The list of mandatory supporting documents to be submitted are:

- 1) Copy of the Certificate of Incorporation
- 2) Valid ICT Authority certificate- ICTA consultancy
- 3) Valid ICT Authority certificate- ICTA information security
- 4) Valid business permit.
- 5) Valid Tax Compliance Certificate
- 6) Audited and certified accounts (Last two years)
- 7) Must provide ODPC data controller and data processor compliance certificate
- 8) Dully filled, signed and stamped confidential business questionnaire
- 9) Dully filled, signed and stamped self-declaration that the person/tenderer is not debarred in the matter of the public procurement and asset disposal act 2015 SD1
- 10) Dully filled, signed and stamped elf-declaration that the person/tenderer will not engage in any corrupt or fraudulent practice SD2
- 11) The tender documents must be properly bound & well presented.

 All pages must be paginated.

	al Evaluation Criteria: Experience: 30		
S. No	Criteria	Points	
1	Previous experience of Bidder	20	
	General Experience		
	Must have completed IS Audit assignments for at		
	least 5 firms within the last 5 years.		
	For each assignment carried out the firm/		
	consultant should indicate- the name of the		
	contract, client name, value of the contract, and the		
	duration of the assignment.		
	(Provide recommendation letters, Must be in		
	clients letter head)		
	Specific experience	10	
	Must have completed IS Audit assignments for at		
	least 2 Tier 1 Saccos within the last 5 years.		
	For each assignment carried out the firm/		
	consultant should indicate- the name of the		
	contract, client name, value of the contract, and the		
	duration of the assignment.		
l	(Provide recommendation letters, Must be in		
	clients letter head)		

Total Score for Criterion (i)	30

(ii) Adequacy of the Proposed Methodology: 40

SI. No	Criteria	Points
1	Detailed approach and methodology for	20
	conducting the IS Audit covering all the	
	requirements mentioned in the Scope of Work and	
	the expected Deliverables, including but not	
	limited to risk assessment and analysis, sample	
	audit report formats, compliance review	
	mechanism, etc.	
2	Approach and methodology for conducting IT	10
	Recovery assessment	
3	Work plan and activity schedule in line with the	5
	TOR	
4	Training and knowledge transfer framework	5
	Total Score for Criterion (ii)	40

(iii) Key professional staff qualifications and competence for the assignment: 30

Sl. No	Team Composition and Key Areas of Expertise	Points
	Qualified staff that meet the following basic	
	requirements. Must provide evidence/proof of	
	certificates and description of the CVS	
1	Lead Auditor	10
	 Master's Degree in information technology 	
	or related field:	

	1	
	Member of ISACA for at least 6 years	
	Certified information system auditor (CISA)	
	 Certified information security manager 	
	(CISM)	
	5 years' experience as a lead auditor in	
	handling similar assignments	
	At least 4 IS Audit and Risk Professionals	
2	Cyber security Auditor (at least 2 staff)	10
	 Degree in information technology, 	
	Engineering or related field (2marks)	
	Certified Penetration Testing Engineer	
	(CPTE)	
	Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)	
	3 years' experience in handling IS audit	
	assignments	
3	Risk assessment auditor (at least 2 staff)	10
	 Degree in information technology, 	
	Engineering or related field (2 marks)	
	Certified Enterprise risk management	
	ISO 31000 certified	
	3 years' experience in handling IS audit	
	assignments	
	Total Score for Criterion (iii)	30

In **part 6.2 (iii)** the key resources and team composition based on the core areas of expertise required for the assignment will be evaluated, as described in Section 3 – Scope of Work. The number of points to be assigned to each of the above disciplines shall be determined considering the

	following three sub-criteria:		
	1) General qualifications		
	Sub-criteria		
	a) Educational qualification and training		
	b) Number of years of auditing experience		
	c) Number of years of association with the audit organization		
	(Resources are required to have a minimum of 3 months on the payroll of		
	the organization)		
	2) Adequacy for the assignment		
	Sub-criteria		
	a) Experience as stated in 'Area of Specific Expertise & Qualification and		
	Professional Experience		
	b) IS Audit experience in similar assignments		
	c)Adequate involvement in the assignment		
	Total points for the above criteria (i), (ii), (iii): 100		
	St = Total points obtained for the above criteria (i), (ii), (iii)		
	The minimum technical score required to pass is: 70 Points		
6.3	The formula for determining the technical score is as follows:		
	St = $(100 \times T / Tm)$, in which St is the normalized technical score, Tm is the		
	highest technical score and T is the technical score of the proposal under consideration.		
	The formula for determining the financial scores is the following:		
	Sf = $100 \times Fm / F$, in which Sf is the financial score, Fm is the lowest price and		
	F the price of the proposal under consideration.		
	The weights given to the Technical and Financial Proposals are:		
	T = 0.70; and F = 0.30		
7.1	Address:		

	APSTAR DT SACCO Ukulima Co-operative
	House P.O Box 44071-00100
	Nairobi
7.1	Expected date for commencement of work will be communicated after the Award.

Sample CV template:

CV's may follow the below sample template and should include as a minimum biographical data, education/degree and relevant employment record.

Name:				
Position for this Assignment	:			
Nationality:				
Language Skills:				
Educational and other Qualifications				
Employment Record: [Insert	details of as many other a	appropriate records as necessary]		
From [Year]:To [Year]:			
Employer:				
Positions held:				
Relevant Experience (From most recent; Among the assignments in which the staff has been involved, indicate the following information for those assignments that best illustrate staff capability to handle the tasks listed under the TOR) [Insert details of as many other appropriate assignments as necessary]				
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	_		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	_		
appropriate assignments a	s necessary] Name of	Insert details of as many other Job Title, main project features,		
appropriate assignments a	s necessary] Name of	Insert details of as many other Job Title, main project features,		

Financial Quotation

The components comprising the total price must provide sufficient detail to allow the SACCO to determine compliance of quotation with requirements as per TOR of this RFP. The supplier shall include a complete breakdown of the cost elements associated with this assignment as shown below

Item	Costs (Ksh)
Total Cost for Conducting Information System	
Audit	
Applicable Taxes	
Total Amount (Including Taxes)	

Terms and Conditions

- 1. The price quoted should be in Kenya Shillings
- 2. No out-of-pocket expenses will be paid over and above the total amount
- 3. The fee should include all taxes, duties, levies, service tax etc. The fee should include the cost of all deliverables envisaged as part of the project
- 4. All details must be completely filled up. The corrections, if any should be authenticated. In case of the corrections/alteration are not properly authenticated, the application shall become liable for rejection at the discretion of APSTAR DT SACCO
- 5. Invoices should be clear and legible.

NB: Quotations MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope

Tendering Forms

i) TENDERER'S ELIGIBILITY - CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS QUESTIONNAIRE Instructions to tenders

Tender is instructed to complete the particulars required in this Form, one form for each entity if Tender is a JV. Tenderer is further reminded that it is an offence to give false information on this Form.

a) Tenderer's details

	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
1	Name of the Procuring Entity	
2	Reference Number of the Tender	
3	Date and Time of Tender Opening	
4	Name of the Tenderer	
5	Full Address and Contact Details of the Tenderer.	 Country City Location Building Floor Postal Address Name and email of contact person.
6	Current Trade License Registration Number and Expiring date	
7	Name, country and full address (postal and physical addresses, email, and telephone number) of Registering Body/Agency	
8	Description of Nature of Business	
9	Maximum value of business which the Tenderer handles.	
10	State if Tenders Company is listed in stock exchange, give name and full address (postal and physical addresses, email, and telephone number) of state which stock exchange	

General and specific details

		b)	Sol	e Proprieto	r, provide the fo	lowing details.	
	Name in full				Age		
	Nationality		Country	Country of Origin			
		Citizensh	ip				
		c)	Par	tnership, p	rovide the follow		
		Names of	of Pa	rtners	Nationality	Citizenship	% Shares owned
	1						
	2						
	3						
		d)	Reg	gistered Co	mpany, provide	the following deta	ails.
			i)	Private or	public Company _		
			ii)	State the no	ominal and issued s	vanital of the Compa	nnv.
			11)			capital of the Compa	my-
	Nominal Kenya Shillings (Equivalent)						
	Issued Kenya Shillings						
	(Equivalent)						
			iii)	Give detai	ls of Directors as	follows.	
	Na	mes of Di	recto	or	Nationality	Citizenship	% Shares owned
1							
2							
3							
		e)	DIS	CLOSURE (OF INTEREST-Int	erest of the Firm	in the Procuring Entity.
			i)				(Name of relationship in this firm?
				Yes/No			
				If yes, pro	vide details as fol	lows.	

	Names of	Designation in the Procuring	Interest or Relationship with
	Person	Entity	Tenderer
1			
2			
3			

i) Conflict of interest disclosure

1) Commet of interest discressive		
Type of Conflict	Disclosure YES OR NO	If YES provide details of the relationship with Tenderer
Tenderer is directly or indirectly controlled by or is under common control with another tenderer.		

Tenderer receives or has received any direct or		
Indirect subsidy from another tenderer. Tenderer has the same legal representative as		
another tenderer		
Tender has a relationship with another tenderer,		
directly or through common third parties that puts		
it in a position to influence the tender of another		
tenderer, or influence the decisions of the		
Procuring Entity regarding this tendering process.		
Any of the Tenderer's affiliates participated as a		
consultant in the preparation of the design or		
technical spécifications of the Works that are the		
subject of the tender. Tenderer would be providing goods, works, non-		-
consulting services or consulting services during		
implementation of the contract specified in this		
Tender Document.		
Tenderer has a close business or family		
relationship with a professional staff of the		
Procuring Entity who are directly or indirectly		
involved in the preparation of the Tender document or specifications of the Contract,		
and/or the Tender evaluation process of such		
contract.		
Tenderer has a close business or family		
relationship with a Professional staff of the		
Procuring Entity who would be involved in the		
implementation or supervision of the Contract.		
Has the conflict stemming from such relationship		
stated in item 7 and 8 above been resolved in a		
manner acceptable to the Procuring Entity throughout the tendering process and execution		
of the Contract?		
f) Certification		
 f) Certification On behalf of the Tenderer, I certify that the informat 	tion given above is complete	
current and accurate as at the date of submission.	idon given above is complete,	
Full name		
Title or designation		

(Date)

(Signature)

SELF-DECLARATION FORMS

FORM SD1

	Γ AND ASSET DISPOSAL A	CT 2015	K OF THE
Box	being a resident of do hereby make the follow	In the Repubic of	
Officer/Director in respect of Ter	ofnder No	(insert tender title/description) (Insert name of the Procuring	is a Bidde
	aid Bidder, its Directors ar procurement proceeding u	nd subcontractors have not been debander Part IV of the Act.	rred from
•	ooned to herein above is t	rue to the best of my knowledge, infor	mation
(Title) Bidder Official Stamp	(Signature)	(Date)	

FORM SD2

SELF DECLARATION THAT THE PERSON/TENDERER WILL NOT ENGAGE IN ANY CORRUPT OR FRAUDULENT PRACTICE

Box	of post office In the Repubic ofdo hereby make the following statement :			
1.	THAT I am the Company Secretary/ Chief Executive/ Managing Director /Principal Officer/Director of(insert name of the Company) who is a Bidde in respect of Tender Nofor(insert tender title/description) for(Insert name of the Procuring entity)			
	and duly authorized and competent to make this statement.			
2.	THAT the aforesaid Bidder, its servants and/or agents /subcontractors will not engage in any corrupt or fraudulent practice and has not been requested to pay any inducement to any member of the Board, Management, Staff and/or employees and/or agents of (insert name of the Procuring entity) which is the procuring entity.			
3.	THAT the aforesaid Bidder, its servants and/or agents /subcontractors have not offered ar inducement to any member of the Board, Management, Staff and/or employees and/or agents of(name of the procuring entity)			
4.	. THAT the aforesaid Bidder will not engage /has not engaged in any corrosive practice with other bidders participating in the subject tender			
	THAT what is deponed to here in above is true to the best of my knowledge information and belief.			
(Title) Biddei	(Signature) (Date) Official Stamp			