

28 March 2023

Dear Supplier

Request for Information Reference: Simandou-IS&T03 / 09 (RFI)

Simfer S.A (Company) would like to invite your company to submit information in relation to the delivery of key infrastructure platforms and solutions required by **Rio Tinto's Simandou Project** ('Project').

The Request for Information is being released to elicit information from the market that will provide insights for the Company on the best manner in which these platforms can be procured and delivered during the upcoming execution phase of the Project.

Participation from suppliers will be viewed positively and may be used as the basis for any shortlist in potential future tender activities.

Submissions in relation to this Request for Information are to be emailed to the undersigned prior to the date and time identified as the "Due Date" on the RFI and containing the four documents requested within this RFI.

Alternatively, please advise of your organisation's intent to decline to respond by emailing the undersigned a formal notification.

Please refer to the Company's statement of business practices 'Working with us' and the publications titled 'The Way We Work' and 'Supplier Code of Conduct' available at www.riotinto.com. Those documents constitute the Rio Tinto Group's statement of its business practices and standards. Any contract entered into with the Company will contain a provision requiring adherence to those business practices and standards.

We note that the Company is only seeking information from potential suppliers and makes no representation or promise in relation to procuring work from a supplier or suppliers. The Company will not be responsible for any costs associated with preparing and submitting a response to the Request for Information (RFI) to the Company.

Please contact Tim Malone at tim.malone@riotinto.com for any questions related to the RFI. No other person within the Company or the wider Rio Tinto Group should be contacted regarding this RFI unless otherwise directed.

Tim Malone

Principal Advisor Procurement – Rio Tinto Projects (Simandou)

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RFI Details	
ITEM	DESCRIPTION
SERVICES SUMMARY A brief summary of the information sought is set out in the RFI Scope.	<p>This RFI consists of independent two (2) packages of scope. Suppliers may choose to respond to one or both of these packages, or alternatively decline to respond to either.</p> <p>A brief description of the packages is provided below, while the details can be found further down in the sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IS&T 03 – Engineering, Commissioning and Early Life Support of <u>Server and Storage Platforms</u>; and 2. IS&T 09 – Engineering, Commissioning and Early Life Support of <u>Voice and Data Networks</u>.
LOCATION OF SUPPLY	Guinea (Conakry and Simandou mine site)
CURRENCY FOR RFI	USD
RFI RELEASE DATE	31 March 2023
PRESENTATION TO SUPPLIERS	Supplier Briefing Session: Thursday, 0830am GMT
RFI CLOSE DATE	Monday 17 April 2023 (23:59hrs GMT)
COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE	Tim Malone tim.malone@riotinto.com
COMPANY ADDRESS	Simfer S.A 536, Commune de Dixinn, BP 848, Conakry, Republic of Guinea

1. Definitions and Interpretation

In the RFI the following terms have the meanings set out below. Unless the context requires otherwise, the interpretation should be that singular includes the plural and conversely.

Company means Simfer S.A

Evergreening means the practice of continuously evolving a technology ecosystem to avoid components becoming out-of-date or obsolete.

Exploration refers to sites designed to facilitate the survey and measurement of iron ore

Non-disclosure agreement means a confidentiality agreement between the Company and the Supplier.

Non-Production refers to sites that support Rio's business and technology functions such as offices and data centres.

Personnel mean employees, agents, consultants, advisers or contractors.

Production refers to sites with infrastructure directly responsible for resource production (mines).

Proposal means a Supplier's proposal made in response to this RFI.

Relevant Company means each Relevant Company identified in the RFI Scope.

RFI means this Request for Information.

Rio Tinto and Rio Tinto Group means the dual-listed structure of Rio Tinto plc (UK) and Rio Tinto Ltd (Australia) and all related entities.

Service is defined in RFI Scope Annexure 1, Section **Error! Reference source not found..**

Supplier means a prospective supplier who will be participating in this RFI.

Supply means the supply of Goods and/or Services in accordance to this RFI.

2. The Company

2.1 The Company is seeking information on the Services in support of the development of the Simandou mine, located approximately 10km south-west of the town of Beyla (Guinea).

2.2 Where required, the Services may be used for other members of the Tinto Group, for example Rio Tinto Guinea.

3. Request for Information

3.1 Information Required

This RFI is for the Supply of Goods and/or Services as set out in the RFI Scope in accordance with any specifications set out or referred to in this RFI.

3.2 Purpose of Request for Information

The purpose of the RFI is to obtain information from the market to assist the Company in shaping its strategy for the implementation of core IT infrastructure required for the development and future operation of the Simandou mine. The Company's objectives in respect to this RFI includes:

- (a) Ensuring the near-term and long-term requirements for technology and digital solutions are supported;

- (b) Ensuring a high level of local content for the goods and services to be supplied;
- (c) Ensuring all chosen Suppliers deliver the goods and services in compliance with the Company's policies, including but not limited to Health, Safety, Environment and Communities (HSEC), Business Integrity, Modern Slavery and Cyber Security;
- (d) Ensuring an effective and efficient supply chain for goods and services;
- (e) Ensuring the key schedule milestones for the wider Simandou project are achieved; and
- (f) Ensuring opportunities for regional and economic development in Guinea are leveraged.

3.3 Structure of the RFI

The RFI documentation is divided into the following sections:

- (a) Annexure 1 – Overview of the Project, RFI scope
- (b) Annexure 2 – Supplier ability to supply goods and services in this RFI (Technical)
- (c) Annexure 3 – Supplier ability to supply goods and services in this RFI – Non-Technical
- (d) Annexure 4 – Indicative Supply Contract
- (e) Annexure 5 – QA form (provided separately)

3.4 Transmission of Request for Information

The RFI is transmitted to Suppliers through e-mail. Only those Suppliers who have received this RFI directly from the Company may submit a response to the RFI.

3.5 Dates in RFI Details

The dates in the RFI Details are proposed dates and are subject to change at the Company's discretion. Any important information will be communicated through e-mail.

4. Accuracy of Information

4.1 No liability of Company for Information Provided

The Company has attempted to provide reliable information in the RFI. It gives no warranty as to the accuracy, completeness and sufficiency of any information given to the Supplier whether orally or in writing by the Company or its Personnel. The RFI response submitted by the Supplier will be deemed for all purposes to have been based upon the Supplier's own investigations and determinations, and the

Company and Relevant Companies (and their Personnel) accept no responsibility for the Supplier relying on the contents of this RFI or any statements made or information provided by them or on their behalf.

4.2 **Supplier to Fully Inform Itself**

The Supplier is required to fully inform itself of all conditions relating to the Supply at its own cost and expense, before submitting its response to the RFI.

4.3 **Clarification of RFI**

If the Supplier finds any ambiguity, discrepancy, error, omission or issue requiring clarification in this RFI, the Supplier must immediately notify the Company through e-mail.

4.4 **Statement of Interpretation**

If the Supplier has any doubts as to the meaning of any portion of this RFI, when submitting its response to the RFI, it must include a statement of interpretation upon which it relies and upon which its RFI response has been made. In addition, the Supplier may also submit questions to the Company as specified in Section 11.

5. **Decline to Respond**

5.1 **Supplier Notification**

If the Supplier does NOT wish to submit a response to the RFI, the Supplier is requested to notify the Company through e-mail no later than 5 Business Days prior to the RFI Close Date.

The Supplier is requested to provide reasons for its decision not to submit a response to the RFI. The Supplier will destroy all hard copy and electronic documents received from the Company as part of this RFI.

6. **Correspondence**

6.1 **Correspondence to be in Writing**

All correspondence between the Company and the Supplier's representative must be made by e-mail. Oral communications to any person on behalf of the Company, including modifications to RFI, will not be recognised by the Company unless reproduced in writing and communicated through e-mail.

7. **Company information and Obligations of Confidentiality**

7.1 **Non-disclosure Agreement**

The Supplier must have executed the Non-disclosure Agreement (NDA) prior to the receipt of this RFI. A response to the RFI will not be accepted unless the Supplier has executed the NDA. If the Supplier has not executed the NDA it must either destroy this RFI and not participate in it, or immediately contact the Company to arrange for execution of the NDA.

7.2 **RFI Confidentiality**

In addition to the requirements of the NDA or if the NDA has not been executed, this RFI and any other information given to the Supplier (together, "Information") may not be used for any purpose other than the preparation of the Proposal and may not be disclosed or released to any other person. The Supplier

must ensure that any of its Personnel or any other person to whom it supplies the information will be bound by terms no less onerous than those contained in the NDA. The Supplier will be liable to the Company and each Relevant Company for any unauthorised disclosure of information by any of its Personnel or by any person to whom it supplies the Information.

The Supplier must not copy or reproduce any Information except for the purpose of preparing and submitting a Proposal, and then only to the extent reasonably necessary.

7.3 Return of RFI

Each Supplier who does not submit a response to the RFI and each unsuccessful Supplier must return to the Company Representative all copies in whatever form (including electronic copies) of this RFI or destroy such copies.

8. Public Announcements

The Supplier will not make any public announcements or disclosures as to this RFI, any RFI, the RFI process or otherwise in relation to the subject matter of any potential contract flowing from this RFI without the prior written consent of the Company (except as required by any applicable law or regulatory requirement or stock exchange rules).

9. Lodgement of RFI

9.1 Submission of RFI

A Supplier's response to the RFI must be submitted through e-mail prior to the RFI Closing Date and must include:

- (a) Covering Letter: The covering letter must be on Supplier's letterhead and signed by an authorised representative of the Supplier. The Supplier must state in the letter that all paragraphs in the RFI have been read and understood. It is the Supplier's responsibility to clarify any perceived ambiguity in the RFI in accordance with Section 4.3 above prior to submitting a response to the RFI;
- (b) Attachments A1 and A2: The Supplier is required to complete fully and comprehensively of Attachments A-1 and A-2 for which it wishes to submit a Proposal, e.g. if the Supplier wishes to submit a Proposal for IS&T 03 only, the Supplier needs to include a completed Attachment A-1 in its submission. All other Attachments are not required. Where allowed, the Supplier is also encouraged to add appendices supporting its response to Attachment(s) A-1 to A-6; and
- (c) Attachment B: The Supplier is required to complete fully and comprehensively all work sheets of Attachment B. Where allowed, the Supplier is also encouraged to add appendices supporting its response to Attachment B.

9.2 Format for RFI

It is mandatory that Supplier's Proposal complies with this Section 9.2, other formats may be rejected in the absolute discretion of the Company:

- (a) Files shall be submitted as a single "Zip" file, not exceeding 20Mb;
- (b) File names shall contain Supplier's entity name in the format: '*<supplier organisation name>_Covering_Letter*', e.g. *JohnDoeCorp_Covering_Letter*

- (c) File names of appendices to Attachments A and B shall begin with a number that designates the order in which the files should be read and shall contain a reference to the relevant question in the format: '*<item number>_<supplier organisation name>_appendix_to_<question id>*', e.g. *16_JohnDoeCorp_appendix_to_TTNTQ-01* and
- (d) Attachments A and B shall be provided in Microsoft Excel-format. The covering letter shall be provided in PDF-format.

10. Modification or Withdrawal of RFI

10.1 Notice to Suppliers

The Company may withdraw, modify, correct, clarify or otherwise vary this RFI prior to the RFI Closing Date, by written notice to the Supplier ('Notice to Supplier').

10.2 Notice to Supplier to form part of RFI

Any Notice to Supplier issued by the Company will be sent to Suppliers through e-mail prior to the RFI Closing Date and will form part of this RFI.

11. Questions

11.1 Questions to the Company

Suppliers may direct any questions relating to this RFI to the Company until five (5) Business Days before the RFI via email using **Attachment C – Q&A Form**. No questions whether orally or in writing are to be asked outside of this channel to the Company or its Personnel.

11.2 Acknowledgement and Response to Questions

The Company will acknowledge the receipt of all questions submitted in accordance with Section 11.1 and will endeavour to provide written answers within a reasonable period.

11.3 Responses to Questions to be advised to all Suppliers

All Suppliers will be advised of the Company's response to a particular question. To the extent possible, the Company will endeavour not to identify the Supplier who asked the question.

12. Revision or Withdrawal of RFI

12.1 Revision Response

A Supplier who has submitted a response to the RFI may revise or withdraw its response at any time prior to the RFI Closing Date by contacting the Company Representative through e-mail.

13. Current Suppliers

There are contracts between the Company or a Relevant Company and third party suppliers for the Goods and Services relating to the Early Works phase of the Project. The focus of this RFI relates to solutions required for the Life of Mine (LoM).

14. Disclaimer

14.1 No Request for Proposal (RFP) or Contract

Suppliers participating in this RFI process or submission of an RFI does not create a contract between the Supplier and the Company and does not imply or suggest that an RFP will be sent to the Supplier or that the Supplier will be invited to form a contract with the Company.

14.2 No Representation or Inducement

By submitting a Proposal, the Supplier agrees that no representation or inducement has been made, that it will be included in an RFP, or be invited to form a contract with Rio for any reason and that it has participated in this RFI process of its own free will. By submitting a response to the RFI, the Supplier acknowledges and accepts that any further involvement in this or any related process will be at the absolute discretion of the Company.

15. RFI Evaluation

15.1 Introduction

Evaluation of the responses to the RFI will support the Company in the validation of its technology and delivery strategy supporting the Simandou Project, help inform what solutions and services the market can provide, and inform the way the Company will strategically procure goods and services required by the included SoWs. The information provided by Suppliers in response to this RFI will assist the Company in determining:

- How best to deliver the required scope given the relevant complexities of the wider Simandou Project;
- The relative capability of local suppliers (including a local workforce) to deliver the required scope;
- The approach to procuring and contracting for the required Services; and
- Identifying a possible shortlist of Suppliers who may be invited to participate in any RFP phase across any of the Goods or Services listed in this RFI.

By way of summary, the important factors which the Company wishes to elicit information on with prospective Suppliers in this RFI process are as follows:

- (a) Capability to deliver – a Supplier's capability to provide the Goods or Services required by the Company within the specific time (phases over a multi-year project);
- (b) Compliance with key policies – demonstration of a Supplier's ability to deliver all goods and services in compliance with key policies (e.g. HSEC, Business Integrity)
- (c) Thought leadership – the level at which the Supplier demonstrates an ability to deliver a robust and scalable technology strategy within a complex mining project with many moving parts;
- (d) Organisational fit – the extent to which the Supplier's organisation is aligned with the core values of the Rio Tinto Group;
- (e) Commercial approach – the ability of the Supplier to provide cost agility and transparency across all price components;
- (f) Transition approach – to ascertain the nature of how a Supplier will go about transition of implemented solutions to internal and external support teams; and
- (g) Performance Management– to ascertain the type of key performance indicators (KPIs) that a Supplier would employ to measure performance in supplying the Goods and Services and the types of mechanisms to guarantee value and customer satisfaction.

In preparing your response to the RFI, you should focus on providing concise and considered responses which address the Company's values, objectives and vision.

15.2 Industry Consultation

Without disclosing the identity of any individual Supplier, Rio reserves the right to consult with third parties in relation to any response to the RFI which it receives.

15.3 Dialogue Sessions

Suppliers who submit a response to the RFI may be invited to a dialogue session with Company representatives. These sessions are scheduled to take place in April or May 2023 to be conducted virtually. The Supplier will be provided a detailed agenda in advance of the dialogue session. Generally, the dialogue sessions will aim to cover the following topics:

- (a) Introduction of Supplier's organisation;
- (b) Summary of Supplier's RFI response with a specific focus on topics of interest which will be provided in writing in advance of the sessions;
- (c) Questions relating to the Supplier's RFI response; and

Technical aspects of the dialogue sessions may include deep dive into a particular proposal recommendations, clarification on tools and methods used for accelerating the speed of deployment, discussions around HSEC or other relevant policies and local content.

The Company does not represent that dialogue sessions will be requested from all or any Suppliers and any decision to invite a Supplier for a dialogue session will be in the absolute discretion of the Company.

15.4 Additional Information

The Company may request additional information, data, discussions or presentations in support of a response to the RFI, which the Supplier must provide at its own cost and expense. Additionally, the Company may conduct an audit of any Supplier who has submitted a response to the RFI to confirm or clarify any information provided or to collect more evidence of managerial, financial and technical abilities, including meetings and visits to current customers served by the Supplier. A Supplier's failure to cooperate with the Company's requests under this section may lead to rejection of the Supplier's response to the RFI in the absolute discretion of the Company.

16. Costs

The Company is not and will not be responsible for any costs (whether direct or indirect) incurred by a Supplier in preparing, submitting or otherwise responding to this RFI or in any subsequent discussions or negotiations, including where the RFI is delayed or terminated and whether or not the Supplier's response to the RFI is accepted.

17. Rio Business Practices

Suppliers are referred to Rio's statement of business practices 'Working with us' and the publications titled 'The Way We Work' and 'Supplier Code of Conduct' available at www.riotinto.com. Those documents constitute the Rio Group's statement of its business practices and standards. Any contract entered into with the Company will contain a provision requiring adherence to those business practices and standards. If a Supplier cannot locate those documents, please contact the Company Representative through e-mail.

ANNEXURE 1- COMPANY OVERVIEW

1. General

1.1 Overview of Rio Tinto Group

- (a) Rio is a world leader in finding, mining and processing the earth's mineral resources. The Rio Group's worldwide operations supply essential minerals and metals that help to meet global needs and contribute to improvements in living standards.
- (b) In order to deliver superior returns to shareholders over time, the Rio Group takes a long term and responsible approach to its business. It concentrates on the development of first class ore bodies into large, long life and efficient operations, capable of sustaining competitive advantage through business cycles.
- (c) Major products include aluminium, copper, diamonds, energy products (coal and uranium), gold, industrial minerals (borates, titanium dioxide, salt) and iron ore. The Rio Group's activities span the world but are strongly represented in Australia and North America with significant businesses in South America, Asia, Europe and southern Africa.
- (d) The Simandou Project involves the development of a world-class, high grade iron ore mine.

2. RFI Scope

2.1 RFI Scope

Overall IS&T has 12 major packages of scope that will be delivered in support of Simandou Project.

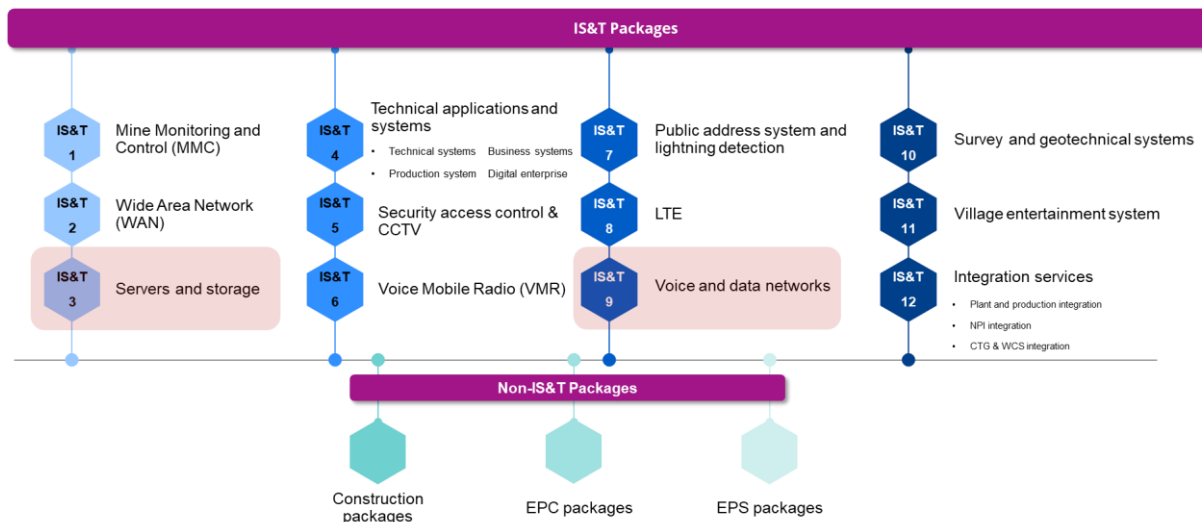


Figure 1: Simandou IS&T Packages

This RFI includes two packages:

1. IS&T 03 – Server and Storage Platforms
2. IS&T 09 – Voice and Data Networks

Suppliers are welcome to offer proposals for one or both of these packages.

ANNEXURE 2- SUPPLIER ABILITY TO SUPPLY GOODS AND SERVICES IN THIS RFI - TECHNICAL

General

The Supplier is encouraged to submit a Proposal based on their best ability to meet the Supply requirements. The Company will not be prejudiced towards any Suppliers should the response to the RFI be limited to specific aspects of the RFI only.

1. IS&T 03 – Server and Storage Platforms

This package covers the engineering, commissioning and Early Life Support of server and storage infrastructure for both CORP and PROD environments across 4 data centers and switching hubs. This requires delivery in Conakry (Tower C) and Mine Site (Central Operating Facility, Mine End Terminal, Canga Camp)

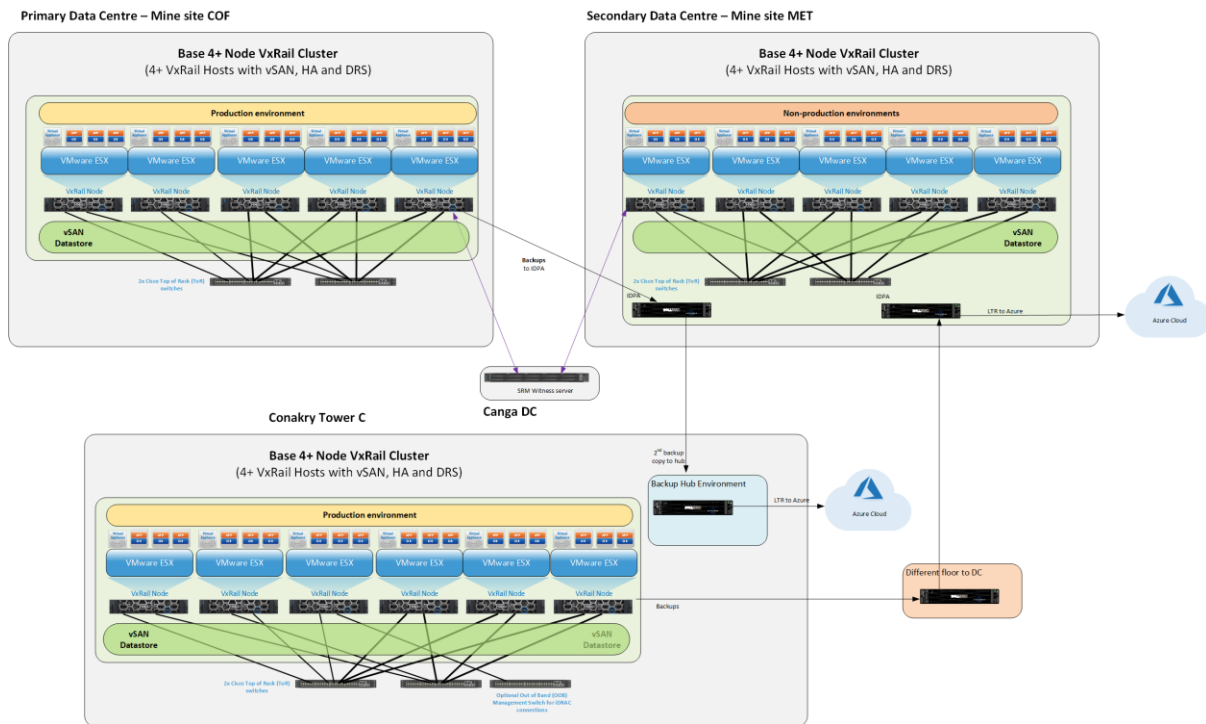


Figure 22: IS&T 03 Scope (Logical)

If the Supplier wishes to submit a Proposal for this Package, the Supplier is asked to complete all worksheets in **Attachment A-1**.

2. IS&T 09 – Voice and Data Networks

This package covers the engineering, commissioning and early life support for voice and data networks, PROD DMZ, network monitoring, datacenter design, end user computer, and telephony for the CORP and PROD networks that will span the Ouéléba mine site across 2 datacenters. This includes the ability to provide Rio Tinto with 'burst resource capacity' to assist in the provisioning of new workstations and other end user devices.

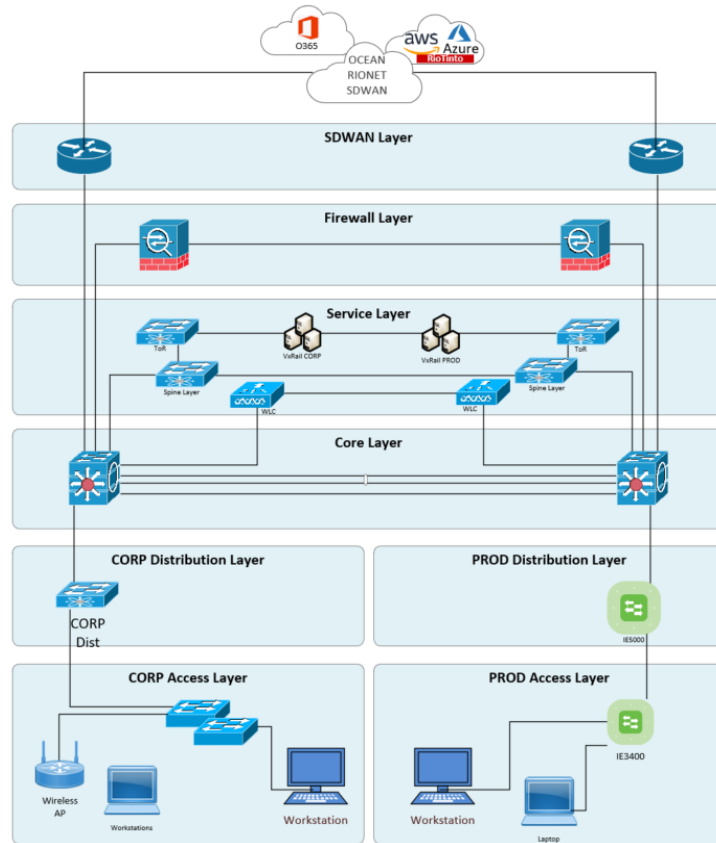


Figure 3: IS&T 09 Scope (Logical)

If the Supplier wishes to submit a Proposal for this Package, the Supplier is asked to complete all worksheets in **Attachment A-2**.

ANNEXURE 3 - SUPPLIER ABILITY TO SUPPLY GOODS AND SERVICES IN THIS RFI – NON-TECHNICAL

1. Organisational Fit

In Rio, our values, experience and history tell us that we must work in a way that delivers real, lasting benefits.

We must care for our employees, respect and safeguard the environment when we explore, build and operate, and re-purpose or rehabilitate the land when our operations come to an end. We must also contribute to local and national economies by paying competitive wages, treating our suppliers fairly, investing in our local communities and paying our share of taxes.

For Guinea, this presents numerous opportunities to work with local partners, employ a local workforce, and work in partnership with local organisations to contribute to the economical and regional development of the country.

We maintain our strong focus on safety, and so delivery of all Services for the Simandou Project must comply our HSE minimum standards is non-negotiable. In coming years the mine environment, rail spur and port will be a high-risk area due to the amount of earthworks, construction and commissioning activities.

We are looking to build confidence that our key partners and suppliers have a strong safety culture supported by the elements above.



And we must do so in a way that preserves the profitability of our own business, not only so we can meet our commitments to our shareholders, but so that we can continue to invest in areas important to our other stakeholders, including safety, climate change mitigation and workforce training. These beliefs are the foundation of our views on sustainability.

In 2018, Rio launched our first integrated sustainability strategy. This strategy commits us to adopt high standards, often going beyond legal requirements, on the sustainability issues that are material to our business, our employees, the communities that host us and the customers that buy and use our products. Our goal is to achieve consistent, high-quality social and environmental performance across all of our operations and to increase our stakeholders' knowledge of how we work through meaningful disclosures and transparency.

We express this strategy in three pillars. The first pillar is foundational: running a safe, responsible and profitable business. Building on the first pillar, the second focuses on the success of our communities and our contribution to governments and partners, including Indigenous groups: collaborating to enable long-term benefits where we operate. The third pillar is about our shared future: producing materials essential for human progress while contributing to some of the greatest challenges facing society.

In addition to the above, Rio's internal organisation is undergoing changes. As an example, IS&T is transforming to a product/service-based organisation. To reap the full benefits of all change activities, Rio considers it key that the Supplier and IS&T work hand-in-hand, as a true partnership, to equip Rio for the future.

IS&T has translated this strategy and the Rio broad 'The way we work' into a tangible description on how IS&T operates; often referred to as the "IS&T DNA". It stipulates 10 key drivers which are reflected in the ways IS&T interacts with both internal and external parties while delivering services to its customers.











										
	Customers at the heart	Be Fearless, Live to learn	Build the future	Find better ways	Strength in difference	Speak up!	Brilliant together	Have each others' backs	Own the outcome	Bring the techxpertise
	We understand the business and unite our purpose with empathy. Obsessed with delivering value with our customers.	Embrace a growth mindset. Take calculated risks, fail fast, grow and learn from every experience.	Understand our history, and use our trade to shape the future.	Dig deep, look hard, constantly improve	Our strength lies in our true self and our differences. Embrace a touch of the unorthodox.	Be honest with ourselves, be respectfully direct and brave.	Succeed and fail collectively, fused as one.	We look after each other with care, curiosity and courage	Be accountable, walk the talk.	We take pride in being technologists, and bring expertise and understanding to drive value outcomes.
Related Rio Tinto behaviours	We do the best for our partners (and environment)	We have the courage to take acceptable risks and learn from our mistakes. We share, learn and replicate from others	We agree on common goals and help others succeed	We are curious and constantly find better ways We keep things simple and deliver results	We value diversity and actively seek input from others	We speak up and challenge when things don't feel right	We succeed and fail as a team	We show genuine care for people and their wellbeing We treat people how we would expect to be treated	We take accountability for our decisions and actions We do what we say we will do	We fix problems to stay fixed

Figure 3 : IS&T DNA

The Supplier is asked to provide an insight in its alignment to the above in **Attachment B – work sheet 'Organisational fit'**.

2. Supplier's Experience

Rio would like to understand the Supplier's experience in delivering similar services as described in Annexure Annexure 2, preferably to client organisations comparable to Rio. To showcase relevant experience, the Supplier is asked to provide three (3) descriptions of reference projects. All referenced projects shall have an end date no earlier than 2018.

The Supplier is encouraged to cover the breadth of both the services in scope of this RFI, as well as Rio's geographical footprint through its references.

The Supplier is asked to provide details in **Attachment B – work sheet 'Experience'**.

3. Commercial Model and Order of Magnitude (OoM) Pricing

Rio wishes to utilise a contemporary commercial model for the supply of Services that supports the complex nature (many interfaces, stakeholders, always changing) of the Project.

To assist Rio Tinto in determining its approach and the likely costs required, the Supplier is asked to provide its response in **Attachment B – work sheet 'Commercial model'**.

4. Transition Approach

Rio is facing significant changes in the upcoming years. Due to the business' strong dependency on the IT Services, Rio wishes to minimise risks while transitioning new services into operation. As a result, the Supplier's approach shall minimise unplanned business interruptions, ensure key knowledge and skillsets are transferred to local resources (Rio Tinto or other suppliers).

The Supplier is asked to provide its response in **Attachment B – work sheet 'Transition'**.