

**CRDF GLOBAL
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION or QUOTE
RFQ-NM-19A-2026**

Deadline: *June 26, 2026, COB, EET*

Summary:

CRDF Global is an independent non-profit organization founded in 1995 with offices in Arlington VA – USA, Kyiv – Ukraine, Warsaw – Poland, Manila – Philippines, Almaty – Kazakhstan, and Amman – Jordan. CRDF Global has a diverse staff and network of local community and governmental stakeholders deliver tailored security and counterproliferation programs that meet specific regional needs in over 100 countries across the globe.

CRDF Global is seeking quotations from qualified local resellers in North Macedonia for the procurement of licenses and hardware for North Macedonia's National Security Operation Center (SOC). CRDF Global reserves the right to reject any and all offers, to add, delete, or modify any element of the solicitation at any time without prior notification and without any liability or obligation of any kind. This RFQ does not obligate CRDF Global to enter into a contract nor does it obligate CRDF global to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of submission of any response.

Scope:

The Contractor, in support of the U.S. Department of State's Office of the Coordinator of US Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (EUR/ACE) and in close coordination with CRDF Global, will procure and deliver licenses, support services, and hardware to strengthen the cybersecurity capabilities and operational resilience of the National Security Operations Center (SOC) in North Macedonia.

Tasks and Deliverables: Quotes for the following hardware, licenses, and technical support items listed below:

1. Network switches

- 10x FortiSwitch 2048F (FS-2048F), front-to-back airflow

2. Optical transceivers, switch-side (required)

- FN-TRAN-SFP28-LR (25G, single-mode, up to 10 km, access): 100
- FN-TRAN-SFP+LR (10G, single-mode, access): 280
- FN-TRAN-LX (1G, single-mode, access): 100
- FN-TRAN-SFP+SR (10G, multimode, management/out-of-band): 20
- FN-TRAN-SFP28-SR (25G, multimode, core FortiSwitch to FortiGate 900G mesh): 8
- Subtotal: 508

3. Optical transceivers, far-end / institution-side (optional)

- FN-TRAN-SFP28-LR (25G, single-mode): 100
- FN-TRAN-SFP+LR (10G, single-mode): 280
- FN-TRAN-LX (1G, single-mode): 100
- FN-TRAN-SFP+SR (10G, multimode): 20
- Subtotal: 500

4. DAC cables (required)

- FN-CABLE-QSFP28-1 (100G, 1m, HA/MCLAG peer links): 10
- FN-CABLE-QSFP28-3 (100G, 3m, redundant 100G ring): 10
- Subtotal: 20

5. Fiber patch cabling, switch-side (required)

- Single-mode OS2, LC duplex (UPC), for the LR/LX links: 480 leads (100x 25G LR + 280x 10G LR + 100x 1G LX)
- Multimode OM4, LC duplex (UPC), for the SR links: 28 leads (20x management 10G SR + 8x data-center 25G SR)
- Subtotal: 508 leads
- Grade and connector fixed (OS2 LC duplex single-mode; OM4 LC duplex multimode). Lengths unknown; vendors to quote per-unit pricing across standard lengths (1m, 3m, 5m, 10m), final length mix confirmed at order.
- Scope: quantities provide the minimum fiber for direct switch-to-device connectivity (one duplex lead per transceiver). Any additional fiber required for structured cabling, patch panels, or cross-connects at the facility is the customer's responsibility and is not included.

6. Fiber patch cabling, institution-side (optional)

- Single-mode OS2, LC duplex (UPC), for far-end LR/LX links: up to 480 leads
- Multimode OM4, LC duplex (UPC), for far-end management SR links: up to 20 leads
- Per-unit pricing across the same standard lengths; quantities confirmed by site survey.

7. Licenses (per unit, all 10 switches)

- FortiSwitch Advanced Features License for FS-2000 Series: 3-year term

8. Support and warranty (per unit, all 10 switches)

- FortiCare Premium Support: 3-year term
- Hardware warranty: 3-year term, aligned to support

9. Authenticity and sourcing

- All switches, transceivers, DAC cables, and Fortinet-branded components must be original Fortinet products, supplied through an authorized Fortinet distributor.
- All units must carry valid, FortiCare-registrable serial numbers eligible for manufacturer support and software updates.
- No third-party, compatible-coded, refurbished, or grey-market equipment will be accepted.
- Vendors must provide proof of authorized sourcing (e.g. distributor authorization or chain-of-supply documentation) on request.

10. Technical specifications (vendors confirm as standard factory configuration)

- Ports: 48x 25G SFP28 / 10G SFP+; 2x 10G SFP+ / 1G SFP; 8x 100G QSFP28 / 40G QSFP+; 1x console
- Switching capacity: 4,000 Gbps full duplex
- Forwarding rate: 4,000 Mpps full duplex
- Latency: max 1 microsecond
- Memory: 8 GB DDR4 RAM minimum
- Storage: 32 GB SSD minimum
- MAC table: 96K
- VLANs: up to 4,096
- Power: dual hot-swappable AC power supplies
- Management: native FortiLink integration with FortiGate for centralized VLAN management, policy enforcement, NAC, and Security Fabric; no separate controller or additional management platform required

Proposal Requirements:

Suppliers must provide comprehensive delivery timelines in calendar days and costs associated with the proposed goods/service.

Warranty and after sales service:

Supplier must specify the duration, scope of warranty and after-sales service (if applicable) to be included in their quotation.

Eligibility criteria:

Prospective suppliers are required to submit the following information in response to this RFQ:

- 1) Provide a contact information– telephone and email address;
- 2) To include detailed information on the quality of goods/services offered – including all technical specifications when applicable;
- 3) To include a firm timeline (in calendar days) of delivery of goods/services described in this RFQ;
- 4) Offer/quotation must be valid minimum one month (30 calendar days) from the submission deadline.
- 5) Provide (if available) certificate or equivalent document confirming your official partner status of this RFQ's Goods' manufacturer.

Other Requirements:

- 1) Offer/quotation to be issued in English
- 2) Prices should be set in US dollars (USD).
- 3) All prices are firm and are not subject to change during the quotation validity period (min. 30 days)
- 4) The contract payment terms NET 45 upon delivery and invoice acceptance.

By submitting a Proposal, the Offeror confirms that it has considered all applicable tax implications and local regulatory requirements. The proposed price shall constitute the total compensation payable by CRDF Global, and no subsequent adjustments or additional charges will be accepted.

Timetable:

June 10, 2026: RFQ posted and live

June 17, 2026: RFQ Questions due

June 22, 2026: RFQ Questions & Answers released

June 26, 2026: RFQ submissions due

June 30, 2026: Contract start date (tentative)

Selection Criteria and Evaluation Methods:

Evaluation Factors

- I. Price/Cost
- II. Demonstrated experience supplying enterprise-grade networking hardware of similar scale
- III. Verified reseller status
- IV. Completeness of quote (all line items addressed)
- V. Transparency of unit vs. bundled pricing

Evaluation Methods

Lowest Price, Technically Acceptable (LPTA):

CRDF Global will award the contract to the offeror who submits the lowest price proposal, provided that the proposal is technically acceptable. Technical acceptability will be determined based on whether the offeror meets all minimum



technical requirements as outlined in the solicitation. Price will not be considered until technical acceptability is established.

Submission:

Proposals should be submitted to procurement@crdfglobal.org & ofomin@crdfglobal.org , no later than *June 11, 2026, COB, EET*. Proposals should be submitted as electronic documents in PDF, Word or Excel format. Please indicate RFQ-NM-19-2026 in the subject line of your emails for all related correspondence.

Background:

CRDF Global is an independent nonprofit organization founded in 1995 in response to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the threat of large-scale proliferation of weapons technology from the region. With support authorized by the Nunn-Lugar Act of 1991 and the Freedom Support Act of 1992, as well private foundation contributions, CRDF Global embarked on bolstering the global scientific community and fostering alternatives to weapons research.

In the past 25 years, our work has expanded to address ever-changing global concerns, but our commitment to ensuring the success of our partners remains the same. We are a leading provider of flexible logistical support, program design and management, and strategic capacity building programs in the areas of higher education, CBRNE security and nonproliferation, border security, cybersecurity, global health, technology entrepreneurship, and international professional exchanges.

With offices in Arlington, VA; Amman, Jordan; Kyiv, Ukraine; Manila, Philippines; Almaty, Kazakhstan; and Warsaw, Poland; CRDF Global's global staff and networks of local community and government stakeholders deliver programs tailored to specific regions that advance U.S. security interests in over 120 countries across the globe.

Vision Statement:

Our world, healthy, safe, and sustainable.

Mission Statement:

Safety, security, and sustainability through science, innovation, and collaboration.

Values:

We do the right thing.

We care about each other and the people we work with.

We work together to deliver excellence

CRDF Global provides equal opportunities to all qualified individuals without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran, or disabled status. We are committed to prioritizing an inclusive and collaborative space in which diversity and equity is discussed, championed, and supported. We acknowledge and honor the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals. We pledge ourselves to creating and maintaining an environment that respects diverse traditions, heritages, and experiences.

More information is available at www.crdfglobal.org.

Solicitation Terms & Conditions:

Right to Select Suppliers. CRDF Global reserves the right to negotiate with and select all qualified suppliers at its own discretion and is not obligated to inform suppliers of the methods used in the selection process. CRDF Global reserves the right to dismiss any and/or all suppliers from the bid process and reject any and/or all proposals.

Obligation. This RFQ does not bind nor obligate CRDF Global in any way. CRDF Global makes no representation, either expressed or implied, that it will accept or approve in whole or in part any proposal submitted in response to this RFQ. CRDF Global may reward, in whole or in part, the proposal at its sole discretion.

Notification. CRDF Global will notify bidders following completion of the evaluation process, as to whether or not bidders have been awarded the contract. The only information regarding the status of the evaluation of proposals that will be provided to any inquiring bidder shall be whether or not the inquiring bidder has been awarded the contract. CRDF Global may, at its sole discretion, inform any inquiring bidder of the reason(s) as to why it was not awarded the contract.

Binding Period. Following the due date of submission of this Proposal, the pricing included in this RFQ shall be binding upon the supplier for the duration of the contract.

Hold Harmless. By submitting a response to the RFQ, bidder agrees that CRDF Global has sole discretion to select any and/or all suppliers. During or following the conclusion of this process, bidders waive their rights to damages whatsoever attributable to the selection process, materials provided, supplier selection, or any communication associated with the RFP process and supplier selection.

Transfer to Final Contract. The terms and conditions of the RFQ, including the specifications and the completed proposal, will become at CRDF Global's sole discretion, part of the final contract (the "Agreement") between CRDF Global and the selected bidder. In the event that responses to the terms and conditions will materially impair a bidder's ability to respond to the RFQ, bidder should notify CRDF Global in writing of the impairment. If bidder fails to object to any condition(s) incorporated herein, it shall mean that bidder agrees with, and will comply with the conditions set forth herein.

Exceptions. Any exceptions to the terms and conditions or any additions, which bidder may wish to include in the RFQ, should be made in writing and included in the form of an addendum to the applicable Section in the RFQ.

CRDF Global Proprietary Information. Supplier agrees that all non-public information contained in this document and communicated verbally in reference to this RQI by CRDF Global shall be received for the sole discretion and purpose of enabling the supplier to submit an accurate response to this RFQI. The information contained in this RFQ and disclosed during the course of negotiations and communications are proprietary in nature and under no circumstances to be disclosed to a third party without prior written consent from CRDF Global.

Supplier Proprietary Information. Information contained in the response to this RFQ will be considered proprietary in nature if marked "confidential" or "proprietary". Such marked documents will not be disclosed to third parties outside CRDF Global with the exception of retained consultants under contractual confidentiality agreements.