

Didacta Building
211 Nana Sita Street
Pretoria

Private Bag 1758
Pretoria
0001

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ) NUMBER:	NRF-SAASTA SAP/56/20256-2026 (Please use this number as reference when sending quotations and supporting documentation)
DESCRIPTION	The National Research Foundation- SAASTA (NRF-SAASTA) wishes to appoint a suitable service provider to provide a quotation for a customised Panel van into a Mobile Laboratory.
RFQ ISSUED DATE	15 January 2026
RFQ VALIDITY PERIOD	30 days from the closing date.
CLOSING DATE	22 January 2026
CLOSING TIME	11:00am
EXPECTED DATE SERVICES IS REQUIRED	ASAP
COMPULSORY BRIEFING SESSION/ SITE VISIT/SITE INSPECTION	N/A
DELIVERY ADDRESS OF GOODS/SERVICES	Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu Science Centre, Cofimvaba, Eastern Cape
RFQ RESPONSES MUST BE EMAILED TO:	All quotations should be emailed to quotes1@saasta.nrf.ac.za . Failure to follow these instructions will result in your quote not being considered.
ENQUIRIES REGARDING THIS RFQ SHOULD BE SUBMITTED VIA E-MAIL TO	Enquires can be directed at this e-mail address Y.Nkenkana@saasta.nrf.ac.za For further enquiries, you may contact Yanga Nkenkana on 012 392 9395

Important Notes to this RFQ:

- Service providers/suppliers should ensure that RFQ responses are emailed to the correct email address, (quotes1@saasta.nrf.ac.za)
- If the quotation is late, it shall not be accepted for consideration.
- The NRF-SAASTA reception is generally accessible 8 hours a day (07h45 to 16h00); 5 days a week (Monday to Friday) for delivery of goods.
- Supplier to complete and sign all Annexures to this document (Standard Bidding Documents and Mandatory Requirements);
- Supplier must provide a CSD no (MAAA.....)
- Supplier must provide a original or copy of certified of SANAS accredited BBBEE Certificate or Sworn Affidavit;

Prohibition of Gifts & Hospitality:

“Except for the specific goods or service procured by the NRF-SAASTA, service providers/suppliers are required not to offer any gift, hospitality or other benefit to any NRF-SAASTA official. To avoid doubt, branded marketing material is considered to be a gift.

CONTENTS

Annex A :	TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)	4
Annex B :	GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT	5
Annex C :	RFQ SPECIFICATION	6
Annex D :	EVALUATION CRITERIA	9
Annex E :	COST BREAK DOWN	9
Annex F :	STANDARD BIDDING DOCUMENTS	13

Annex A : **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)**

SERVICE PROVIDER/SUPPLIER:
REGISTRATION NUMBER:
CSD REGISTRATION NUMBER:
ADDRESS:
CONTACT PERSON:
TEL:

1. NRF-SAASTA's standard conditions of purchase shall apply.
2. Late submissions will not be accepted.
3. The recommended service provider will be required to complete and sign all Standard Bidding Documents (SBDs) and Annexures. Please duly complete and sign the **SBD 1, 4, SBD 6.1 forms** respectively.
4. All service providers/suppliers must adhere to the General Conditions of Contract as prescribed by National Treasury.
5. Any service provider/supplier who has reasons to believe that the RFQ specification is based on a specific brand must inform the NRF-SAASTA before the RFQ closing date and time.
6. It is the responsibility of the service provider/supplier to ensure that the NRF-SAASTA is in possession of the valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC). The onus is on the service provider/supplier to ensure that the NRF-SAASTA receives a valid TCC as soon as the validity of the said certificate expires.
7. No goods or services shall be delivered before the issuing of an official authorised NRF-SAASTA Award Letter or Purchase Order (PO) signed by the authorised NRF-SAASTA official. The NRF-SAASTA reserves the right not to make payment or accept the goods or services should the goods or services be delivered to the NRF-SAASTA before the NRF-SAASTA Award Letter or PO is issued. (An official authorised NRF-SAASTA PO should have the Supply Chain Management (SCM): Manager signature or such other official duly authorised in terms of the NRF-SAASTA's Delegations of Authority and Approval Framework), Description of the item, Quantity of items purchased, Date of delivery of the item, Total amount of the items purchased inclusive of Vat where applicable.

*¹ Which is referred to as tenders in the PPPFA and Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022 include advertised competitive bids, written price quotations or proposal.

*² It should be noted that written price quotation / RFQ bidding method is applicable to written price quotations up to the rand value of less than R 1 000 000. 00. (Vat inclusive).

I, the undersigned (NAME).....certify that:

I have read and understood the conditions of this RFQ;

I have supplied the required information and the information submitted as part of this RFQ is true and correct.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Capacity: _____

Annex B : GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

<https://www.saasta.ac.za/procurement/guidelines/>

<https://www.nrf.ac.za/sites/default/files/documents/General%20Conditions%20of%20Contract.pdf>

Annex C : RFQ SPECIFICATION

1. BACKGROUND TO THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION|SOUTH AFRICAN AGENCY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT

South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (NRF-SAASTA) is a business unit of the NRF and its primary function is to advance public awareness, appreciation, and engagement of science, engineering, and technology (SET) in southern Africa.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The National Research Foundation - South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (NRF-SAASTA) wishes to appoint a suitable service provider **to provide a quotation for a customised Panel van into a Mobile Laboratory as per the specifications below.**

3. DETAILED SPECIFICATION

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S)/SERVICE(S) REQUIRED	UNIT OF MEASURE	QUANTITY OF ITEM(S)
Mercedes- Benz Panel Van, 2-seater, 2000cm ³ to 2100cm ³ , Load Volume MORE than 7.0m ³ , Payload from 750kg HIGH ROOF (Diesel) Mercedes-Benz South Africa Ltd MERCEDES-BENZ SPRINTER 517 PANEL VAN SPRINTER 517 PANEL VAN 90765523-ZY4 30days 196.00 g/km MERCEDES BENZ R 913 000,00 R 913 000,00 15 GP (Diesel)	Each	3

<u>INTERIOR OF THE PANEL VAN REQUIREMENTS:</u> The interior of the panel van consists of storage areas and other equipment, not limited to the following: 1. Electricity connections 2. Two fire extinguishers 3. Small gas cylinders 4. Solar panels 5. Wifi connectivity 6. Shelves to store the following: a. Lab equipment (55mm x 40mm x 30mm) b. IT learning materials (laptops/tablets/Robotics/...) c. Manuals and factsheets – bookshelf d. First Aid kits e. At least 20 litres of water f. Safety kits g. Desktop exhibits (55mm x 40mm x 30mm)	Each	3
---	------	---



KEY CONSIDERATIONS INCLUDE:

1. robust vibration-resistant mounting,
2. precise weight distribution,
3. comprehensive safety protections,
4. climate-controlled component housing,
5. professionally installed to meet electrical codes,
6. an Electrical Certificate of Compliance (CoC) and Green Card Certificate based on South African regulations (covering wiring, DB board, plugs, etc.)
7. safe and meets SANS 10142-1 standards,
8. this setup delivers reliable off-grid operation while minimising generator runtime and fuel use.

CORE COMPONENTS & SIZING

Solar PV Array (5 kWp)	Capacity: "10 kVA" typically refers to inverter output. The solar array should be sized to match or exceed the inverter's charging capability.
	Mounting: Low-profile, aerodynamic mounting systems designed for vehicle roofs (bonded, rail-less). Must withstand highway speeds and vibrations.
	Panels: High-efficiency monocrystalline panels (21%+) to maximize limited roof space.
	Layout: Cover van roof and possibly use slide-out extensions when parked to increase capacity.
Battery Bank (Critical for Stability)	Technology: Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4) is mandatory. It offers longer life, faster charging, higher efficiency, and safety vs. lead-acid.
	Voltage: 48V DC system is standard for this power level (efficient, lower current).
	Capacity: 15 kWh usable capacity is a good starting point.
	Rationale: Should run essential lab loads.
Hybrid Inverter/Charger	Rating: 8 kW continuous minimum. True sine wave output is critical for sensitive equipment. • Grid/Generator Input: Built-in transfer switch to accept generator power.
Generator	Size: 12-15 kVA diesel or propane generator recommended. • It must be able to power the entire van load AND charge the batteries simultaneously. An undersized generator will bog down.
Wiring, Protection, & Safety	AC & DC Distribution Panels with appropriate breakers. • <i>Surge Protection Devices (SPD)</i> on both AC and DC sides. • <i>Proper Grounding & Bonding</i> is absolutely critical in a metal vehicle. • Vibration-Proof all connections (lock washers, liquid-tight conduits).
Monitoring	Touchscreen or web-based monitor showing PV production, battery SOC, consumption, and source of power (Solar/Grid/Gen).

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation criteria will be based on the following requirements:

1. Evaluation for Price and NRF-SAASTA specific goals based on the 80/20 PPPFA principle.

Evaluation: Price and NRF-SAASTA specific goals:

This RFQ will be evaluated based on the 80/20 preference point system applicable to bids with a rand value of up to R1 000 000. 00. (All applicable taxes included).

Annex D : COST BREAK DOWN

1. The service provider/supplier is required to provide a full cost breakdown for each item required on an official company letterhead;
2. The service provider/supplier is required to list all additional costs associated with the services listed above, with the conditions of when such costs will apply;
3. All prices must be VAT inclusive (if VAT registered) and must be quoted in South African Rand (ZAR);
4. No price changes will be accepted after official Purchase Order (PO) is issued.

NB: Price calculation Guide to be aligned to the quotation

No	Description	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Unit Price	Total VAT inclusive
	Mercedes- Benz Panel Van, 2-seater, 2000cm³ to 2100cm³, Load Volume MORE than 7.0m³, Payload from 750kg HIGH ROOF (Diesel) Mercedes-Benz South Africa Ltd MERCEDES-BENZ SPRINTER 517 PANEL VAN SPRINTER 517 PANEL VAN 90765523-ZY4 30days 196.00 g/km MERCEDES BENZ R 913 000,00R 913 000,00 15 GP (Diesel) <u>INTERIOR OF THE PANEL VAN REQUIREMENTS:</u> The interior of the panel van consists of storage areas and other equipment, not limited to the following: 1. Electricity connections 2. Two fire extinguishers 3. Small gas cylinders 4. Solar panels 5. Wifi connectivity 6. Shelves to store the following: a. Lab equipment (55mm x 40mm x 30mm) b. IT learning materials (laptops/tablets/Robotics/...) c. Manuals and factsheets – bookshelf d. First Aid kits	Each	3		

- e. At least 20 litres of water
- f. Safety kits
- g. Desktop exhibits (55mm x 40mm x 30mm)



KEY CONSIDERATIONS INCLUDE:

1. robust vibration-resistant mounting,
2. precise weight distribution,
3. comprehensive safety protections,
4. climate-controlled component housing,
5. professionally installed to meet electrical codes,
6. an Electrical Certificate of Compliance (CoC) and Green Card Certificate based on South African regulations (covering wiring, DB board, plugs, etc.)
7. safe and meets SANS 10142-1 standards,

	8. this setup delivers reliable off-grid operation while minimising generator runtime and fuel use.				
Total VAT inclusive					

CORE COMPONENTS & SIZING

Solar PV Array (5 kWp)	Capacity: "10 kVA" typically refers to inverter output. The solar array should be sized to match or exceed the inverter's charging capability.
	Mounting: Low-profile, aerodynamic mounting systems designed for vehicle roofs (bonded, rail-less). Must withstand highway speeds and vibrations.
	Panels: High-efficiency monocrystalline panels (21%+) to maximize limited roof space.
	Layout: Cover van roof and possibly use slide-out extensions when parked to increase capacity.
Battery Bank <i>(Critical for Stability)</i>	Technology: Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4) is mandatory. It offers longer life, faster charging, higher efficiency, and safety vs. lead-acid.
	Voltage: 48V DC system is standard for this power level (efficient, lower current).
	Capacity: 15 kWh usable capacity is a good starting point.
	Rationale: Should run essential lab loads.
Hybrid Inverter/Charger	Rating: 8 kW continuous minimum. True sine wave output is critical for sensitive equipment. Grid/Generator Input: Built-in transfer switch to accept generator power.
Generator	Size: 12-15 kVA diesel or propane generator recommended. It must be able to power the entire van load AND charge the batteries simultaneously. An undersized generator will bog down.
Wiring, Protection, & Safety	AC & DC Distribution Panels with appropriate breakers. <i>Surge Protection Devices (SPD)</i> on both AC and DC sides. <i>Proper Grounding & Bonding</i> is absolutely critical in a metal vehicle. Vibration-Proof all connections (lock washers, liquid-tight conduits).
Monitoring	Touchscreen or web-based monitor showing PV production, battery SOC, consumption, and source of power (Solar/Grid/Gen).

Annex E : STANDARD BIDDING DOCUMENTS

[SCM-Bid documents SBD 1](#)

[SCM-Bid documents SBD 4](#)

[SBD 6.1 in terms of PPR 2022](#)