

RFI FOR SUPPLY AND IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL PAYMENT SWITCH – Questions and answers



QUESTION (verbatim)	RESPONSE
1. SWIFT FIN and InterAct services. What use cases is the instant payment system expected to process when integrating with SWIFT FIN?	We acknowledge that this might cause unnecessary confusion. We expect the national payment switch to produce net settlement instruction (NSI) in swift format (ISO20022)
2. In the switch capability matrix, Instant Payments and Fraud Management were listed as optional; there are also some capabilities stated as nice to have. In order to guide indicative costs, can bidders divide the costs (licenses and implementation) according to how CBL has classified the requirements?	That's acceptable. There idea behind classification is to provide guidance on mandatory requirements and optional
3. "The consumer must be able to initiate a transaction (transfer of value) on a channel offered by a participant and conclude the transfer on a different channel provided by another participant" . Please clarify the role of the switch in this transaction scenario.	The purpose on the switch is to enable interoperability between channels
4. "Innovative solutions to solve or at least minimise the international card fee (2%)". How may this be achieved by the vendor when these are set by the schemes? Unless local processing or international cards without recourse to the schemes can be enforced, this may be unrealistic. Please advise	This is not meant to be achieved by the vendor, but switch operate can set lower fees compared to international schemes
5. "All domestic transactions (i.e. Lesotho merchant and Lesotho card) will be routed to and processed via the Switch." Please clarify what is meant by Lesotho Card; does this imply a local national payment card scheme or, still cards of international associations like Visa and MasterCard when issued by a local bank, and when it is used for a local transaction on a local payment channel?	This refers local bank issued card (it can Visa or MasterCard or other), when it's being used locally.

<p>6. Does CBL already have a fraud management and AML solution in place? It was listed among the external systems which the switch is meant to interface with; also it was listed as an optional requirement</p>	<p>No fraud management and AML solution. Some vendor offer this as part of core switch, some as additional external system. We open to both approaches</p>
<p>7. "The Solution must generate the volumes, values, charge types according to the payment types and integrate wit the Billing System. The level of integration (per message or aggregated numbers) will depend on the Billing system." - Which billing system is to be integrated with? However, our solution comes with a back office component to manage billing, fees, settlement, reporting etc.</p>	<p>Similar to above. Some systems have billing as part of the core, some as additional module</p>
<p>8. What is the role of the proxy system? It was listed as part of the external systems to interface with.</p>	<p>Proxy are forms of payments channels like mobile money</p>
<p>9. Request To Pay (RTP) was listed as an external system which the switch will integrate with. Is this an external system we need to integrate with or a functionality to be supported by the instant payments system?</p>	<p>Similar to 7 and 8</p>
<p>10. "Ability for your application to operate in the network environment described" - Please provide description of the network environment, it wasn't contained in the RFI document, if it was, we apologize, please point us to the relevant section.</p>	<p>This will be provided in the RFP stage</p>
<p>11. How many systems is the vendor required to carry out migration of data? What kinds of data will be migrated?</p>	<p>This is no longer required. Initial plan was to migrate EFT data to the national payment switch. However, latest determination is that, there will be no need to migrate data.</p>
<p>12. In the event that COVID-19 continues to impose travel restrictions, is CBL open to remote implementation of the project?</p>	<p>It may not be possible to implement a system of this magnitude remotely. But that will be considered. Chances are by the time we get to implementation, there will be a vaccine. But we will see</p>
<p>13. In the RFI, three options are being considered by CBL for international card processing viz: Lesotho banks</p>	<p>Final decision is that all the banks will connect via domestic switch. Kindly include interfacing to international cards – both VISA and</p>

<p>investing in their gateways, or use the existing gateways of their parent institutions in South Africa, or CBL provides.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •If the option eventually selected is for the banks to use the gateway of their parent institutions, will the CBL switch be required to interface with the institutions in South Africa or will the banks be allowed to connect without recourse to CBL? •Which international card schemes are in scope of the RFI? Should the bidder include cost of the interfaces to the international card schemes in the indicative costs? Will post bank issue international cards? If yes, if the National Switch does not invest in gateways to international schemes, what will be the desired approach? Please clarify 	<p>MasterCard</p>
<p>QUESTION (verbatim)</p>	<p>RESPONSE</p>
<p>To assure connectivity with SA Banks front-end processors shall we assume maintaining individual Host-to-Host connections? Or, will those connections obtained through regional switches i.e. BankservAfrica?</p>	<p>Please assume host to host connections</p>