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**Denmark-Copenhagen: IT and GIS consultancy services on implementation of Copernicus reference data access (RDA) component and on supporting the EEA in other Copernicus activities (2 lots)
2014/S 104-181732**

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2004/18/EC

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)

European Environment Agency (EEA)
Kongens Nytorv 6
For the attention of: Mrs Bitten Serena
1050 Copenhagen K
DENMARK
Telephone: +45 33367138
E-mail: procurement@eea.europa.eu
Fax: +45 33367199

Internet address(es):

General address of the contracting authority: <http://www.eea.europa.eu>
Electronic access to information: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/tenders>

Further information can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to: The above mentioned contact point(s)

I.2) Type of the contracting authority

European institution/agency or international organisation

I.3) Main activity

Environment

I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: no

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1) Description

II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority:

IT and GIS consultancy services on implementation of Copernicus reference data access (RDA) component and on supporting the EEA in other Copernicus activities (2 lots).

II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance

Services

Service category No 7: Computer and related services

Main site or location of works, place of delivery or of performance: At the contractor's premises ('extra muros') or at the EEA's premises in Copenhagen ('intra muros') depending on the requirements of the specific contracts.

NUTS code

II.1.3) **Information about a public contract, a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system (DPS)**

The notice involves the establishment of a framework agreement

II.1.4) **Information on framework agreement**

Framework agreement with a single operator

Duration of the framework agreement

Duration in months: 48

Estimated total value of purchases for the entire duration of the framework agreement

Estimated value excluding VAT: 4 000 000 EUR

II.1.5) **Short description of the contract or purchase(s)**

Copernicus, previously known as GMES (global monitoring for environment and security) is the European programme for the establishment of a European capacity for earth observation.

The EEA plays a key role in the development of the Copernicus services, in particular in the technical coordination and implementation of the pan-European and local component of the Copernicus land monitoring service, and of the Copernicus reference data access (RDA) component.

The RDA component work described in this call for tenders fits a dual track approach to ensure service cross-cutting improved availability and access to a selected group of required reference data. The first and most important track consists of improving the access to existing national and regional reference data by setting up an intermediate node at the EEA, for use by Copernicus services. This node shall harvest national and regional datasets from the EEA 39 member and cooperating countries, and make them available at a single point of access for the Copernicus services.

The second and complementary track consists of improving pan-European reference datasets, which are primarily used for gap filling over those areas for which no national or regional reference data can be accessed in the short term, or in cases where homogeneous data specifications are required over the full geographic coverage. As the implementation of Inspire progresses, the first track will gain in importance, whereas the second track is deemed to fade out on the longer term.

This call for tenders is thus divided in 2 lots:

lot 1 covers technical support for set-up and maintenance of the Copernicus reference data access node; and lot 2 covers technical support for completion and improvement of pan-European hydrographic and elevation datasets (EU-Hydro and EU-DEM) for use by Copernicus services.

II.1.6) **Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)**

72200000, 72310000, 72320000

II.1.7) **Information about Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The contract is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): no

II.1.8) **Lots**

This contract is divided into lots: yes

Tenders may be submitted for one or more lots

II.1.9) **Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2) **Quantity or scope of the contract**

II.2.1) **Total quantity or scope:**

The total value of the contract(s) is estimated at maximum 4 000 000 EUR over a maximum period of 48 months for both lots, starting from the date of signature of the contract(s).

The contract will be concluded for an initial period of 24 months with the possibility of maximum 2 renewals of 12 months each.

Estimated value excluding VAT: 4 000 000 EUR

II.2.2) **Information about options**

Options: no

II.2.3) **Information about renewals**

This contract is subject to renewal: yes

Number of possible renewals: 2

In the case of renewable supplies or service contracts, estimated timeframe for subsequent contracts:
in months: 12 (from the award of the contract)

II.3) **Duration of the contract or time limit for completion**

Duration in months: 48 (from the award of the contract)

Information about lots

Lot No: 1

Lot title: Technical support for the set-up and maintenance of the Copernicus reference data access node

1) **Short description**

The EEA shall set up a node providing for Copernicus services a single data access interface to the required up-to-date reference data in the EEA 39 countries that have established free of charge Web services. At input side, it is important to ensure a sufficient level of technical flexibility in an attempt to get as many as possible national reference data addressed via the node, whilst keeping in mind cost-efficiency considerations. At output side, Web services shall be Inspire compliant, to the extent feasible in terms of matching Copernicus service requirements. It is expected that in the beginning this node will provide access to the pre-selected national and regional reference datasets linked to Inspire Annexes I and II, however the scope of the geospatial reference data accessible through the node operated by the EEA will be extended over coming years as more data will become available free of charge for Copernicus services and addressing as well the 'in situ' data needs of other Copernicus services (marine, atmosphere, climate change and security), hence linking to Inspire Annex III as well. Principles of modularity, reusability and scalability shall be followed in the design and implementation of the node. The node shall have service-oriented architecture (SOA).

Due to the nature of the system being highly dependent on the advancements of the Web services established in the countries, the chosen implementation approach will be a step-by-step implementation of the modules.

2) **Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)**

72200000, 72310000, 72320000

3) **Quantity or scope**

The total estimated budget available for this lot over the initial period of implementation of the contract of 24 months is 1 250 000 EUR. An additional budget of maximum 1 000 000 EUR over a maximum period of 24 months is foreseen for possible renewals of the framework contract.

4) **Indication about different date for duration of contract or starting/completion**

5) **Additional information about lots**

Lot No: 2

Lot title: Technical support for completion and improvement of pan-European hydrographic and elevation datasets (EU-Hydro and EU-DEM) for use by Copernicus services

1) **Short description**

EU-Hydro and EU-DEM are European reference datasets created in the scope of the GMES preparatory action on RDA 2009. The purpose of EU-Hydro and EU-DEM upgrade is enhancement in quality and enriching of the

datasets with new features, within the main objective of providing these reference datasets fit for use by the Copernicus services.

EU-Hydro — the main outcome of the EU-Hydro upgrade will be a fully consistent database on surface hydrography, containing a photo-interpreted river network and surface water bodies, completed with missing upstream river segments available from the EU-Hydro modelled drainage part of the dataset as derived from EU-DEM. EU-Hydro will be linked to national identifiers of water bodies, complemented with a coastline consistent with the EU-DEM. The database shall fulfil all essential characteristics of a sound GIS database, fit to serve as a European reference dataset in terms of completeness, consistency, coherence, semantics, topology and metadata.

EU-DEM — the EU-DEM upgrade shall maintain its characteristics as a European reference dataset. The result of the upgrade shall ensure full consistency and coherence with the EU-Hydro database, so as to enable various types of spatial modelling combining both datasets in a consistent way, e.g. run-off modelling. The scope of the EU-DEM upgrade will be shaped based on user feedback (gathered by the EEA both from specific use cases and through technical workshops, queries etc.) and consultations with the countries. Moreover, independent statistical validation of the EU-DEM dataset is being performed, for which the results are expected by end June 2014. Therefore the description of the tasks to be fulfilled by the contractor in EU-DEM upgrade will be further specified in the specific contracts.

2) **Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)**

72200000, 72310000, 72320000

3) **Quantity or scope**

The total estimated budget available for this lot is 750 000 EUR over an initial period of 24 months. An additional budget of maximum 1 000 000 EUR is foreseen over a maximum period of 24 months for possible renewals of the contract (maximum 2 renewals of 12 months each).

4) **Indication about different date for duration of contract or starting/completion**

5) **Additional information about lots**

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) **Conditions relating to the contract**

III.1.1) **Deposits and guarantees required:**

As specified in the draft framework service contract attached as Annex 6 to the tender specifications.

III.1.2) **Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them:**

As specified in the draft framework service contract attached as Annex 6 to the tender specifications.

III.1.3) **Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded:**

Tenders may be submitted by consortia of economic operators. If a consortium is awarded a contract, it may be required to adopt a given legal form before the contract is signed if that change is necessary for proper performance of the contract. This can take the form of an entity with or without legal personality but offering sufficient protection to the EEA's contractual interests (depending on the member country concerned, this may be for instance, incorporation or partnership or a temporary association). Consortia must identify one of their members as coordinator who will interface with the EEA. Each member of a consortium must fulfil the conditions for participation specified in Section III.2.1 below.

III.1.4) **Other particular conditions**

The performance of the contract is subject to particular conditions: no

III.2) **Conditions for participation**

III.2.1) Personal situation of economic operators, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Exclusion criteria — to be eligible for participation in this contract award procedure, tenderers must not be in any situation referred to in Articles 106 and 107 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25.10.2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298/1 of 26.10.2012). To that effect, tenderers are requested to submit a declaration on honour (see Annex 2 to the tender specifications) in accordance with Article 143 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29.10.2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362/1 of 31.12.2012). Under the same provision, the tenderer to whom the contract is to be awarded, will be required to produce evidence confirming the prior declaration (see Section 10.1.2 of the tender specifications).

Legal capacity — tenderers are required to prove that they are authorised to perform the contract under national law, as evidenced by inclusion in a trade or professional register and/or entry in the VAT register. To that effect, tenderers are required to submit a legal entity form (see Annex 3 to the tender specifications) duly filled out and signed, accompanied by a copy of inscription in the trade register and/or a copy of inscription in the VAT register, where applicable. In addition, tenderers must indicate in which country they have their headquarters, registered office or residence, and provide the necessary supporting documents in accordance with their national law (see Annex 1 to the tender specifications).

III.2.2) Economic and financial ability

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Evidence of economic and financial capacity shall be furnished by 1 (or more) of the following documents:

- appropriate statements from banks or evidence of professional risk indemnity insurance, or
- the presentation of balance sheets or extracts from balance sheets for at least the last 2 years for which accounts have been closed, where publication of the balance sheet is required under the company law of the country in which the economic operator is established, or
- a statement of overall turnover and turnover concerning the services covered by the contract during the last 2 financial years.

If, for some exceptional reason, which the EEA considers justified, a tenderer is unable to provide the references requested above, he may prove his economic and financial capacity by any other means which the EEA considers appropriate.

An economic operator may, where appropriate and for a particular contract, rely on the capacities of other entities, regardless of the legal nature of the links, which it has with them. It must in that case prove to the EEA that it will have at its disposal the resources necessary for performance of the contract, for example by producing an undertaking on the part of those entities to place those resources at its disposal.

III.2.3) Technical capacity

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met:

Tenderers shall provide the following documentation:

• Human resources:

(i) CVs detailing the educational and professional qualifications of the firm's managerial staff as well as those of the staff designated to provide the services indicating the required professional experience as follows:

- minimum 2 CVs detailing the educational and professional qualifications of the firm's managerial staff (documenting a minimum of 5 years' relevant experience),

- minimum 3 CVs of senior consultants who will be responsible for providing the services (documenting a minimum of overall 5 years' relevant professional experience),
 - minimum 3 CVs of junior consultants who will be responsible for providing the services (documenting a minimum of overall 2 years' relevant professional experience),
 - CVs of additional 3 consultants who can potentially take over responsibility for providing the services in case of busy periods,
 - minimum 3 CVs of relevant supporting specialists who will not be working full time on the contract.
- (ii) An overview in a cross table of all staff responsible for providing the services giving the total amount of months worked in the areas specified in the tables contained in Section 10.2.3 of the tender specifications, depending on the lot(s) for which a tender is intended to be submitted.

• Past contracts:

Tenderers shall provide details of major contracts awarded to them relevant to the services required by the EEA, indicating the value, dates, brief description of the services provided and recipients of the services (public or private), under the following 2 categories: (1) contracts currently undertaken; and (2) contracts that have been undertaken over the last 3 years.

• Quality control:

Tenderers shall provide details of any quality assurance accreditation that they hold. If no accreditation held, tenderers shall provide an outline of any quality assurance policy specifying the status of implementation (e.g. measures employed to ensure the quality of services such as Web services, delivered products, derived data and source code), and details of any quality assurance accreditations for which they have applied. In the event of a joint offer submitted by a consortium, each member of the consortium shall provide the requested description.

• Environmental policy:

Tenderers shall provide a description of their environmental policy specifying the status of implementation. In the event of a joint offer submitted by a consortium, each member of the consortium shall provide the requested description.

III.2.4) **Information about reserved contracts**

III.3) **Conditions specific to services contracts**

III.3.1) **Information about a particular profession**

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession: no

III.3.2) **Staff responsible for the execution of the service**

Legal persons should indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff responsible for the execution of the service: no

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) **Type of procedure**

IV.1.1) **Type of procedure**

Open

IV.1.2) **Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate**

IV.1.3) **Reduction of the number of operators during the negotiation or dialogue**

IV.2) **Award criteria**

IV.2.1) **Award criteria**

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of the criteria stated in the specifications, in the invitation to tender or to negotiate or in the descriptive document

IV.2.2) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction will be used: no

IV.3) Administrative information

IV.3.1) File reference number attributed by the contracting authority:

EEA/MDI/14/005.

IV.3.2) Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract

no

IV.3.3) Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document

IV.3.4) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

15.7.2014 - 16:00

IV.3.5) Date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

IV.3.6) Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up

Any EU official language

IV.3.7) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Duration in months: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.3.8) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date: 22.7.2014

Place:

The EEA's premises at Kongens Nytorv 6, 1050 Copenhagen K, DENMARK.

Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders: yes

Additional information about authorised persons and opening procedure: Representatives of tenderers (1 per tenderer) are allowed to participate in the opening session. They are requested to inform the EEA's procurement services in advance and at the latest by 21.7.2014 (12:00), CET by e-mail at procurement@eea.europa.eu or by fax at number +45 33367199.

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: no

VI.2) Information about European Union funds

The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: yes

Reference to project(s) and/or programme(s): Copernicus land monitoring service, previously known as GMES (global monitoring for environment and security), Regulation (EU) No 377/2014 of 3.4.2014 (OJ L 122/44 of 24.4.2014).

VI.3) Additional information

All tender documents and any additional information are available for consultation and download from the EEA's external website at the following address: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/tenders>

VI.4) Procedures for appeal

VI.4.1) Body responsible for appeal procedures

General Court

rue du Fort Niedergrünwald

2925 Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG

E-mail: generalcourt.registry@curia.europa.eu

Telephone: +352 4303-1

Internet address: <http://curia.europa.eu>

Fax: +352 4303-2100

Body responsible for mediation procedures

European Ombudsman

1 avenue du Président Robert Schuman

67001 Strasbourg

FRANCE

E-mail: eo@ombudsman.europa.eu

Telephone: +33 388172313

Internet address: <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu>

Fax: +33 388179062

VI.4.2) Lodging of appeals

Precise information on deadline(s) for lodging appeals: Within 2 months of the notification to the plaintiff (date of receipt), or, in the absence thereof, the day on which the person concerned had knowledge of the relevant information, an appeal may be lodged with the General Court. A complaint to the European Ombudsman has no impact on the above deadline for lodging an appeal.

VI.4.3) Service from which information about the lodging of appeals may be obtained

General Court

rue du Fort Niedergrünwald

2925 Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG

E-mail: generalcourt.registry@curia.europa.eu

Telephone: +352 4303-1

Internet address: <http://curia.europa.eu>

Fax: +352 4303-2100

VI.5) Date of dispatch of this notice:

21.5.2014