

Tender specifications

Open call for tenders No. EEA/NSV/09/002

Data analysis and finalisation of country sketches assessment – CORINE 2000-2006

1. Title of the contract

Data analysis and finalisation of country sketches assessment based on Corine Land Cover 2000-2006 change data.

2. Purpose and context of the contract

Activities such as agriculture, forestry, transport and housing use land and alter its natural state and functions. Many environmental problems are rooted in the use of land; it leads to climate change, biodiversity loss and the pollution of water, soils and air. The impacts can be direct, e.g. the destruction of natural habitats and landscapes, or indirect, e.g. soil-sealing and deforestation enhancing flood risks. Climate change leads to desertification, changes in land cover and flash floods, amongst others.

To understand the relationship between land use and environmental impacts, information is needed at different scales — global, European and national. Land-use data are also a prerequisite for spatial planning at local and regional level. European Environment Agency (EEA) activities focus mainly on Europe's landscape and spatial change assessments by using land and ecosystem accounting tools and geographic information system analysis. EEA has also been given the task to develop an environmental data centre for land use as a contribution to a shared environmental information system for Europe (SEIS).

The Corine Land Cover 2006 project (CLC2006) is implemented as the first part of the European Land Monitoring Core Service component of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security initiative (GMES). All land cover changes bigger than 5 ha are mapped, regardless of location. As in previous CLC inventories, from 1990 and 2000, CLC2006 work is shared between the EEA and EEA member countries. While the image production is centrally organised, the land cover mapping is done in the EEA member states to benefit from local knowledge. Country sketches assessment (CSA) is based on the analysis of Corine Land Cover 2000-2006 change data that is prepared by applying land and ecosystem accounting (LEAC) methodology (<http://etc-lusi.eionet.europa.eu/LEAC>).

Depending on their historic, geographic and economic background, the land cover/land use dynamics of individual European countries can differ substantially. Measuring and demonstrating these differences with a consistent method and data would allow comparing countries, analysing the reasons for differences, and learning from more sustainable practices in order to achieve a more balanced development across Europe.

The EEA has developed a Core Set of Indicators (CSI) <http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/CSI>, one of which - the CSI14 Land take - is developed to answer the question “How much and in what proportions is agricultural, forest and other semi-natural and natural land being taken for urban and other artificial land development?”. This indicator has been developed at the European level and benefits directly from CSA. The Environmental Data Centre for land use that is hosted by the EEA is also foreseen to utilise the results of this work.

The service contract resulting from this call for tenders shall support EEA’s work on land cover/land use change analysis and related assessments from a European perspective in reports like the State and Outlook of Europe’s Environment (SOER), Europe’s Environment Assessment, and specific reports on land issues.

3. Subject of the contract

3.1 Objectives

Country sketches assessment (CSA) is a direct input to the Land Use Data Centre (LUDC) and to the EEA’s SOER2010 (Parts B and C). CSA is a key element to populate LUDC with CLC2006 results and the main input into EEA land-based assessments. The contractor will analyse preliminary data sets prepared by the EEA (standard excel tables) and produce assessments of 2000-2006 land changes in 32 countries.

The final deliverable for each country is a standard fact sheet based on a template provided by the EEA. It will involve common elements such as overview maps, graphs, tables and short texts.

To achieve the objectives, the following steps shall be performed:

- Examine past experience, define and agree with the EEA the detailed CSA methodology. Examples of CSA 2000 for Spain and Denmark are attached (Annex 3a and 3b).
- For each country, produce standard data analyses utilising data provided by the EEA: CLC distribution map, CLC 2000-2006 change map, urban change map, agricultural change map, forest & nature change map, main accounts table, and nine graphs specified in the template.
- For each country, produce one main assessment (overview of land cover & change 2000-2006) and three sub-assessments (on Urban, Agriculture and Forest & nature).
- Where necessary, consult National Reference Centres (NRCs) from the countries in order to achieve reliable results and high quality analyses. The lists of Primary Contact Points (PCPs) and National Reference Centres (NRCs) for each EEA Member State and Cooperating Country are available on http://eea.eionet.europa.eu/Public/irc/eionet-circle/Home/central_dir_admin?fn=roles&v=eionet-nrc-spatial&rd=1&af=0&ud=1&od=1

- Summarise a refined CSA methodology and make recommendations for similar future work, based on experience gained from the work done.

3.2 Qualifications

Qualifications should include:

- General experience in land monitoring and understanding of socio-economic drivers behind the land use/cover dynamics;
- Familiarity with land use/cover change analysis from tabular data such as transition matrices, which will be provided by EEA as standardised excel spreadsheets;
- Analytical skills for concise written integrated assessments;
- Ability to produce maps and graphs as provided in the templates according to the specific requirements provided by EEA.

3.3 Geographical area to be covered

The results of the work should cover all 32 countries (EU 27 + 5 Western Balkan countries: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, FYR Macedonia, and Montenegro) where Corine Land Cover 2000-2006 change data is available.

3.4 Place of performance

The work will mainly be performed from the contractor's premises with 1 kick-off visit to Copenhagen.

3.5 Duration of the contract

The service contract will enter into force upon signature and is awarded until 15 February 2010.

3.6 Time schedule and organisation of work

Work shall begin immediately after signing the contract and as the EEA makes the source data for analysis available (in three deliveries). This data will be delivered as standard format Excel tables for each country containing the results of land accounting data manipulation (LEAC cube). EEA will also make available to contractor 23 Country Sketches Assessments for 1990-2000, which will allow consulting past trends for the countries where this data source exist. Work shall be executed in close discussion with the EEA project manager responsible and other relevant EEA staff.

3.7 Deliverables

The work should follow the steps outlined in *3.1 Objectives*, enabling the contractor to submit the following main deliverables:

Deliverable	Date
Inception report, based on 1 st data delivery from the EEA providing first preliminary examples of the deliverables	1 month after EEA 1 st data delivery
Country Sketches Assessments, 1 st set	3 months after EEA 1 st data delivery
Country Sketches Assessments, 2 nd set	6 months after EEA 1 st data delivery
Country Sketches Assessments, 3 rd set	7 months after EEA 1 st data delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Final report</u>: with documentation of the project implementation, refined methodology for Country Sketches Assessments and recommendations for similar future work, based on experience gained from the work done (MS Word file and pdf submitted in electronic format on CD-ROM/DVD). ▪ <u>Annex to the final report</u>: Finalised Country sketches assessments for all countries for which EEA has made source data available, using the template supplied by the EEA (colour prints and MS Word files) containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Main assessment: overview of land cover & change 2000-2006 ○ Sub-assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban • Agriculture • Forest & nature ▪ <u>Excel files</u>: Workbook for each country with standard graphs and tables and data that is used to produce them. Each of them will be presented on separate worksheets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Main accounts table ○ 9 graphs specified in the template ▪ <u>Map files</u>: For each country (file format TBC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CLC distribution map ○ CLC 2000-2006 change map ○ Urban change map ○ Agricultural change map ○ Forest & nature change map 	15 Feb 2010

3.8 Working language

The working language is English and deliverables shall be provided in English.

4. Documentation for tenderers

EEA's work on Corine Land Cover and related land use themes is documented on its thematic home pages: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes>. The template for Country sketches assessment is attached in Annex 3, an example of land change data utilisation in EEA's previous State of Environment reporting (November 2005) can be consulted on http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/state_of_environment_report_2005_1 and the EEA Core set indicator 014 - Land take fact sheet can be found on http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131735/IAssessment1116504972257/view_content

5. Volume of contract

The estimated maximum budget available for the contract emanating from this tender is 40,000 EUR.

6. Price

The price tendered must be all-inclusive and expressed in euros, including for countries that are not part of the euro zone. For tenderers in countries that do not belong to the euro zone, the price quoted may not be revised in line with exchange rate movements. It is for the tenderer to select an exchange rate and assume the risks or the benefits deriving from any variation. The price quoted shall be fixed and not subject to revision for the duration of the contract.

Under Articles 3 and 4 of the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities, the Communities are exempt from all charges, taxes and dues, including value added tax; such charges may not, therefore, be included in the calculation of the price quoted; the VAT amount must be indicated separately.

The costs incurred in preparing and submitting tenders are borne by the tenderer and cannot be reimbursed.

7. Contractual terms and guarantees

In drawing up his bid the tenderer should bear in mind the provisions of the standard contract attached to this invitation to tender

8. Criteria

8.1 Exclusion criteria

Tenderers must provide a declaration on their honour, duly signed and dated, stating that they comply with the exclusion criteria listed in Annex 1. Non-compliance with these criteria will lead to exclusion.

8.2 Selection criteria (as indicated in Section III.2. (Conditions for participation) of the Contract notice

8.3 Award criteria

The contract will be awarded to the tenderer with the best price-quality ratio, taking into account the following criteria:

8.3.1 Technical merit (TM) (80 points maximum/50 points minimum)

- A.** Demonstrated understanding of the context and objectives of the contract. Knowledge of the methodological questions around land cover/land use dynamics and change detection, experience in data analysis and assessments (40 points maximum/20 points minimum);
- B.** Knowledge of different environmental and socio-economic regional contexts across Europe and practical experience in cooperating with local partners (EIONET National Reference Centres) (20 points maximum/10 points minimum);
- C.** Familiar with land monitoring issues across Europe and ways to link Corine data with other relevant data sources for the benefit of the Country Sketches Assessment (20 points maximum/10 points minimum).

Tenders reaching the indicated minima will be ranked according to:

$$TM = A + B + C$$

Offers scoring less than the required minima for technical merit will not be considered further.

8.3.2 Price (P) (20 points maximum)

Prices should be quoted in euro showing all-inclusive, daily rates and the total price offered, which will be used as the basis for the price comparison. Points will be awarded using the following formula:

$$P = P_{min}/P \times 20$$

The contract will be awarded to the technically compliant tender reaching the highest score Σ of TM + P.

9. Tenders

Tenders should preferably be drafted in English and must comprise:

- a technical offer, including a description of the proposed activities considered necessary to achieve the contract objectives in time, and an all-inclusive financial offer, including travel costs, containing one original and two copies;

- a declaration on exclusion criteria (Annex 1) and an identification sheet (Annex 2) duly filled out and signed, together with supporting evidence;
- if the tenderer intends to subcontract part of the work, an indication of the proportion of the contract intended to be subcontracted
- tenders from consortiums of firms or groups of service providers must specify the role, qualifications and experience of each of the members or of the group. Declarations that there are no conflicts of interest, documents on exclusion and selection criteria must be supplied by each member of the consortium of firms or group of service providers submitting a single tender.

10. Environmental Considerations

The EEA runs a certified environmental management system (EMAS) and aims to minimise the environmental impact of all its activities, including those carried out under contract. The future contractor will therefore be requested to consider the EEA environmental management guidelines in the implementation of the contract, in particular those relating to business travel/electronic means of communication, paper and energy consumption. Further information on the EMAS system can be found on the EEA homepage: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/documents/emas>.

Moreover, it is strongly recommended that tenders are submitted in an environmentally friendly way, e.g., by choosing a simple and clear structure (list of contents and consecutive page numbering), double-sided printing, limiting attachments to what is required in the technical specifications (no additional material) and avoiding plastic folders or binders.

Submitting an offer implies acceptance by the tenderer of all terms and conditions of the draft contract and its Annexes.

Annexes

- Annex 1: Declaration on exclusion criteria
- Annex 2: Identification sheet
- Annex 3: Template examples for Country Sketches Assessments 1990-200 (Spain and Denmark)