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24/03/2005

S59

Community Institutions - Commission - Services - General information

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B-Brussels: cumulative long-term effects of genetically modified (GM) crops on human/animal health and the environment: risk assessment methodologies

2005/S 59-056364

Contract notice

Services **Is this contract covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)?**
Yes.

Section I: Contracting authority

- I.1) **Official name and address of the contracting authority:**
 European Commission, Directorate-General Environment, Unit ENV.F.2, BU-5 00/122, B-1049 Brussels. Tel.: (+32-2)296.00.08. Fax: (+32-2)299.44.49. E-mail: env-tenders@cec.eu.int.
- I.2) **Address from which further information can be obtained:**
 As in I.1.
- I.3) **Address from which documentation may be obtained:**
 As in I.1.
- I.4) **Address to which tenders/requests to participate must be sent:**
 As in I.1.
- I.5) **Type of contracting authority:**
 EU institution.

Section II: Object of the contract

- II.1) **Description**
- II.1.1) **Type of works contract**
- II.1.2) **Type of supplies contract**
- II.1.3) **Type of service contract:**
 Service category: 12.
- II.1.4) **Is it a framework agreement?**
 No.
- II.1.5) **Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority:**
 Cumulative long-term effects of genetically modified (GM) crops on human/animal health and the environment: risk assessment methodologies.
- II.1.6) **Description/object of the contract:**
 The objectives of this project include the following:
 1. To collect and collate existing information/studies demonstrating the existence or potential for long-term effects of GM crops.
 2. To assess and document the adequacy of existing risk assessment methodologies/protocols to account for the above effects from different GM crops and to identify possible gaps/lack of knowledge and where further research is required.
 3. To develop specific methodology (e.g. Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), checklists) in terms of risk assessment with associated risk assessment criteria (e.g. specific indicators, etc.), for potential cumulative long-term effects from individual groups of GM crops (e.g. species) and for different transgenic phenotypes (e.g. herbicide tolerance, insect tolerance). This task should be prioritized to take account of the types of GM plants released within the Community at the present time and those predicted in the near future.

4. To indicate, as appropriate, the types and extent of risk management measures (including monitoring activities) required to address potential long-term effects.

- II.1.7) **Site or location of works, place of delivery or performance:**
Location of service: extra muros; place of delivery or performance - as per I.1.
NUTS code: not applicable.
- II.1.8) **Nomenclature**
- II.1.8.1) **Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV):**
90310000.
- II.1.8.2) **Other relevant nomenclature (CPA/NACE/CPC):**
867.
- II.1.9) **Division into lots:**
No.
- II.1.10) **Will variants be accepted?**
Not applicable.
- II.2) **Quantity or scope of the contract**
- II.2.1) **Total quantity or scope:**
Single contract.
- II.2.2) **Options. Description and time when they may be exercised:**
Not applicable.
- II.3) **Duration of the contract or time limit for completion:**
6 months from the award of the contract.

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

- III.1) **Conditions relating to the contract**
- III.1.1) **Deposits and guarantees required**
- III.1.2) **Main terms of financing and payment and/or reference to the relevant provisions**
This contract will be paid on a lump sum basis:
where a pre-financing payment of 30% will be paid upon signature of the contract;
a final payment of 70% will be paid upon acceptance by the Commission of the final report.
The Commission is exempt from all taxes and dues, including value added tax, pursuant to the provisions of Articles 3 and 4 of the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities with regard to its financial contribution under the contract.
- III.1.3) **Legal form to be taken by the grouping of suppliers, contractors or service providers to whom the contract is awarded:**
Groupings, irrespective of their legal form, may submit bids. Tenderers must, after forming a grouping, submit a joint bid on condition that it complies with the rules of competition. Such groupings (or consortia) must specify the company or person heading the project and must also submit a copy of the document authorizing this company or person to submit a bid and to sign a contract on behalf of the grouping/consortium if awarded. Attention is drawn to the fact that all members of the consortium must submit the appropriate documentation in respect of exclusion and selection criteria.
- III.2) **Conditions for participation**
- III.2.1) **Information concerning the personal situation of the contractor, supplier or service provider and information and formalities necessary for the evaluation of the minimum economic, financial and technical capacity required:**
Exclusion criteria: contractors or tenderers shall be excluded from participation in this procurement procedure as per the criteria set out in the terms of reference, as in Articles 93 and 94 of Council Regulation No 1605/2002 of 25.6.2002.
- III.2.2) **Contractors or tenderers will be evaluated according to the following selection criteria:**
(a) Proven experience in the field of European biotechnology legislation, knowledge of deliberate release of GMOs and especially of risk assessment of GMOs, as evidenced by the composition of the team, including curricula vitae of the team members and a reference list of relevant previous work.
(b) A tenderer must prove that he is authorized to perform the contract under national law, as evidenced by inclusion in a trade or professional register, or a sworn declaration or certificate, membership of a specific organization, express authorization or entry in the VAT register.
(c) Tenderers must be independent entities with no conflict of interest with interested parties.
(d) Evidence of the financial standing of the tender, including (extracts from) financial statements of the last three years.
(e) A tenderer must indicate in which State they have their headquarters or domicile and to present the supporting evidence normally acceptable under their own law.
- III.3) **Conditions specific to services contracts**

- III.3.1) **Is provision of the service reserved to a specific profession?**
No.
- III.3.2) **Will legal entities be required to state the names and professional qualifications of the personnel responsible for execution of the contract?**
Yes.

Section IV: Procedure

- IV.1) **Type of procedure:**
Open.
- IV.1.1) **Have candidates already been selected?**
No.
- IV.1.2) **Justification for the choice of accelerated procedure:**
Not applicable.
- IV.1.3) **Previous publication concerning the same contract**
- IV.1.3.1) **Prior information notice concerning the same contract**
- IV.1.3.2) **Other previous publications**
- IV.1.4) **Envisaged number of suppliers which will be invited to tender:**
Not applicable.
- IV.2) **Award criteria:**
The most economically advantageous tender in terms of:
1. Understanding: this criterion serves to assess if candidates have taken into consideration all the aspects of the tasks required by the contract, such as they appear above, as well as of the contents of the proposed deliverables.
2. Methodology: the degree to which the methodology shows the capacity to resolve the questions underlying the tender in a realistic and well-structured way as well as to whether the methods proposed are in conformity with the need of the Commission expressed in the technical annex.
3. Project management: this criterion relates to the quality of project planning, organization of the work involved and a demonstration of the ability to manage a project of this nature.
4. Points: a maximum of 50 points will be attributed to criterion 1, a maximum of 25 points will be attributed to criterion 2, and a maximum of 25 points will be attributed to criterion 3. In addition two categories of thresholds will be set up under this system of points:
- Technical sufficiency levels: selected companies will have to score a minimum of 25, 13 and 13 points under criteria 1, 2 and 3 respectively, with a minimum total of 60 points.
- A technical excellence level, set up for the total number of points only, of 80 points.
5. Budget: the budget is a maximum of 50 000 EUR excluding VAT (including all fees, travel and other costs).
The price quoted must be a firm, non-revisable price and must be quoted in euro.
6. Price: the bid offering the best value for money will be chosen, providing the minimum number of points is achieved. Best value for money will be calculated as follows:
- Bids that do not satisfy all technical sufficiency levels will not be considered for contract award.
- For the offers at, or above, all the technical sufficiency levels, the price is divided by the total number of points awarded. The award of the contract will be made in accordance with the following principles:
If the tenderer with the lowest ratio is below the technical excellence level, its offer wins.
If the tenderer with the lowest ratio is at or above the technical excellence level and no other tenderer(s) scored at or above that level, its offer wins.
If the tenderer with the lowest ratio is at or above the technical excellence level and at least one other tenderer scored at or above that level, the winning offer will be the lowest priced one amongst the set of those at or above the technical excellence level.
Criteria as stated in contract documents.
- IV.3) **Administrative information**
- IV.3.1) **Reference number attributed to the file by the contracting authority:**
ENV.B.4/2005/SER/0016
- IV.3.2) **Closing date for obtaining tender documents:**
Obtainable until 29.4.2005.
Price: not applicable.
- IV.3.3) **Closing date for submission of tenders:**
17.5.2005.
Time: 16.00.
- IV.3.4) **Dispatch of invitations to tender to selected candidates:**

Not applicable.

- IV.3.5) **Language or languages in which tenders or requests to participate can be drawn up:**
Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish and Swedish.
- IV.3.6) **Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain its tender:**
6 months from the deadline stated for receipt of tenders.
- IV.3.7) **Conditions for opening tenders**
- IV.3.7.1) **Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders:**
One representative per tenderer (with proof of identity) may attend the opening of tenders (no expenses paid).
- IV.3.7.2) **Date, time and place for opening of tenders:**
Date: 27.5.2005. Time: 10.30.
Place: 5 avenue de Beaulieu, B-1160 Brussels.

Section VI: Other information

- VI.1) **Is this notice a non-mandatory one?**
No.
- VI.2) **If applicable, indicate whether this procurement is a recurrent one and the estimated timing for further notices to be published:**
Not applicable.
- VI.3) **Does the contract relate to a project/programme financed by EU funds?**
No.
- VI.4) **Additional information:**
Not applicable.
- VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**
14.3.2005.

Annex A

- 1.2) **Address from which further information and documentation can be obtained:**
The European Commission, 'Markets' Team, DG ENV.F.2 (BU-5 00/122), B-1049 Brussels. Tel.: (32-2) 296 00 08. Fax: (32-2) 299 44 49. E-mail: env-tenders@cec.eu.int quoting the reference No given under IV.3.1).
- 1.3) **Address to which tenders/requests to participate must be sent:**
The European Commission, 'Markets' Team, DG ENV.F.2 (BU-5 00/122), B-1049 Brussels. Tel.: (32-2) 296 00 08. Fax: (32-2) 299 44 49.
- 1.4) **Address for delivery of tenders in person (hand-delivery), by an authorized representative, or private/express courier service:**
The European Commission, 'Markets' Team DG ENV.F.2 (BU-5 00/122), rue de Genève 1-3, B-1140 Evere, Brussels.