

115819-2026 - Competition

Finland – Research and development services and related consultancy services – Alternative policy instruments for strengthening the relative competitiveness of industry VN/4522/2026

OJ S 34/2026 18/02/2026

Contract or concession notice – standard regime

Services

1. Buyer

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (MEAE)

Email: mervi.pasanen@gov.fi

Legal type of the buyer: Central government authority

Activity of the contracting authority: Economic affairs

2. Procedure

2.1. Procedure

Title: Alternative policy instruments for strengthening the relative competitiveness of industry VN/4522/2026

Description: The purpose of this study is to identify the most relevant and applicable policy measures, that Finland could consider, to further improve the country's prerequisites for economic growth and foster the relative competitiveness of Finnish industries. The study focuses on energy and/or raw material intensive sectors, covering both existing and new industries such as data centres, Power-to-X, and raw materials and refining (chemicals, mining & metals, forest industries). The findings of the study will be used as a background information for national policy planning. The study scope is defined in four steps as follows (for full scope, please see Appendix 1) : 1. Current characteristics of Finnish industries in brief 2. International policy frameworks as relevant for the context of Finnish policy design 3. Industrial policy measures in selected countries 4. Applicability of selected policy measures for Finland Further details on the background and description of the procurement are set out in Appendix 1

Procedure identifier: 4ea60225-4423-49b7-b85a-e972b9eebe54

Internal identifier: 596294

Type of procedure: Open

The procedure is accelerated: no

Main features of the procedure: The Act on Public Procurement and Concession Contracts (1397/2016; hereafter referred to as the Act on Public Procurement) will apply to this procurement. The procurement exceeds the national threshold values, as referred to in section 25 of the Act on Public Procurement, and the European Union threshold values laid down in section 26 of the Act on Public Procurement. Open procedure will be used as the procurement procedure. In open procedure, the contracting entity publishes a contract notice and makes the call for tenders available so that all prospective suppliers may submit tenders. The main stages in the procurement procedure are as follows: 1. Publication of the call for tenders and the contract notice 2. Reception and opening of the tenders 3. Checking the suitability of the tenderers 4. Checking compliance with the call for tenders 5. Comparing the tenders using the comparison criteria laid out in the call for tenders 6. Making the procurement decision and announcing the winner 7. Drafting the procurement contract with the winning tenderer. The

procurement contract only becomes effective after the parties have signed the written contract. The procurement contract may be concluded no sooner than 14 days after the candidate or tenderer has received or is deemed to have received notice of the decision as well as the instructions for appeal and rectification. The Contracting Entity may suspend the procurement procedure if the tenders received are not in accordance with the call for tenders in the manner required by the Contracting Entity. The Contracting Entity may also suspend the procurement if the circumstances during the competitive tendering change so that the Contracting Entity is unable to use the results of the competitive tendering or if there are other justified grounds for suspending the procurement. Under the Act on Public Procurement, the Contracting Entity may exclude from the competitive tendering a tenderer that does not meet the suitability requirements laid out in the call for tenders or that has provided deficient or incorrect information with regard to the selection of the tenderer and the tender. The Contracting Entity may reject tenders that are incomplete or do not correspond to the call for tenders. The Contracting Entity will request any supplementary information for the tenders separately in writing.

2.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 73000000 Research and development services and related consultancy services

2.1.2. Place of performance

Anywhere

Additional information: The in-person meetings will be held in Helsinki

2.1.3. Value

Estimated value excluding VAT: 200 000,00 EUR

2.1.4. General information

Additional information: Content of tender The tender must include the following: General presentation of the tenderer Research plan (incl. schedule, milestones, deliverables, methods, breakdown of working hours per project phase, budgeted hours per expert). Pl. note that project phases 3 and 4 are considered as the most important for the project and this should be reflected also on the project scheduling and budget. CVs of the manager responsible for the research project and key experts involved in the project References of previous similar assignments Further information is set out in Appendix 1 and the other annexes to the invitation to tender

Legal basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

2.1.6. Grounds for exclusion

Sources of grounds for exclusion: Procurement Document, European Single Procurement Document (ESPD), Notice

Corruption: The economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein has been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for corruption, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable.

Fraud: The economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein

has been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for fraud, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable.

Money laundering or terrorist financing: The economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein has been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for money laundering or terrorist financing, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable.

Participation in a criminal organisation: The economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein has been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for participation in a criminal organisation, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable.

Terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities: The economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein has been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable.

Child labour and including other forms of trafficking in human beings: The economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein has been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for child labour and other forms of trafficking in human beings, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable.

Breaching of obligations in the fields of environmental law: The economic operator has breached its obligations in the field of environmental law.

Breaching of obligations in the fields of labour law: The economic operator has breached its obligations in the field of labour law.

Breaching of obligations in the fields of social law: The economic operator has breached its obligations in the field of social law.

Agreements with other economic operators aimed at distorting competition: The economic operator has entered into agreements with other economic operators aimed at distorting competition.

Grave professional misconduct: The economic operator is guilty of grave professional misconduct.

Misrepresentation, withheld information, unable to provide required documents or obtained confidential information of this procedure: The economic operator can confirm that: a) It has been guilty of serious misrepresentation in supplying the information required for the verification of the absence of grounds for exclusion or the fulfilment of the selection criteria, b) It has withheld such information, c) It has not been able, without delay, to submit the supporting documents required by a contracting authority or contracting entity, and d) It has undertaken to unduly influence the decision making process of the contracting authority or contracting entity, to obtain confidential information that may confer upon it undue advantages in the procurement procedure or to negligently provide misleading information that may have a material influence on decisions concerning exclusion, selection or award.

Conflict of interest due to its participation in the procurement procedure: The economic operator is aware of any conflict of interest, as indicated in national law, the relevant notice or the procurement documents due to its participation in the procurement procedure.

Direct or indirect involvement in the preparation of this procurement procedure: The economic operator or an undertaking related to it has advised the contracting authority or contracting entity or otherwise been involved in the preparation of the procurement procedure.

Early termination, damages, or other comparable sanctions: The economic operator has experienced that a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity or a prior concession contract was terminated early, or that damages or other comparable sanctions were imposed in connection with that prior contract.

Breaching of obligations set under purely national exclusion grounds: Any person who is a member of the economic operator's administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein has been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for work safety offence, working hours offence, work discrimination, extortionate work discrimination, violation of the right to organise or unauthorised use of foreign labour.

Breaching obligation relating to payment of social security contributions: The economic operator has breached its obligations relating to the payment social security contributions, both in the country in which it is established and in Member State of the contracting authority or contracting entity if other than the country of establishment.

Breaching obligation relating to payment of taxes: The economic operator has breached its obligations relating to the payment of taxes, both in the country in which it is established and in Member State of the contracting authority or contracting entity if other than the country of establishment.

Business activities are suspended: The business activities of the economic operator are suspended.

Bankruptcy: The economic operator is bankrupt.

Arrangement with creditors: The economic operator is in arrangement with creditors.

Insolvency: The economic operator is the subject of insolvency or winding-up.

Assets being administered by liquidator: The assets of the economic operator are being administered by a liquidator or by the court.

Analogous situation like bankruptcy, insolvency or arrangement with creditors under national law: The economic operator is in any analogous situation like bankruptcy arising from a similar procedure under national laws and regulations.

5. Lot

5.1. Lot: LOT-0000

Title: Alternative policy instruments for strengthening the relative competitiveness of industry VN/4522/2026

Description: The purpose of this study is to identify the most relevant and applicable policy measures, that Finland could consider, to further improve the country's prerequisites for economic growth and foster the relative competitiveness of Finnish industries. The study focuses on energy and/or raw material intensive sectors, covering both existing and new industries such as data centres, Power-to-X, and raw materials and refining (chemicals, mining & metals, forest industries). The findings of the study will be used as a background information for national policy planning. The study scope is defined in four steps as follows (for full scope, please see Appendix 1) : 1. Current characteristics of Finnish industries in brief 2. International policy frameworks as relevant for the context of Finnish policy design 3. Industrial policy measures in selected countries 4. Applicability of selected policy measures for Finland Further details on the background and description of the procurement are set out in Appendix 1

5.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 73000000 Research and development services and related consultancy services

5.1.2. Place of performance

Anywhere

Additional information: The in-person meetings will be held in Helsinki

5.1.3. Estimated duration

Start date: 20/04/2026

Duration end date: 30/10/2026

5.1.5. Value

Estimated value excluding VAT: 200 000,00 EUR

5.1.6. General information

Reserved participation:

Participation is not reserved.

The names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to perform the contract must be given: Tender requirement

Procurement Project not financed with EU Funds.

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): yes

This procurement is also suitable for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs): no

Additional information: Content of tender The tender must include the following: General presentation of the tenderer Research plan (incl. schedule, milestones, deliverables, methods, breakdown of working hours per project phase, budgeted hours per expert). PI. note that project phases 3 and 4 are considered as the most important for the project and this should be reflected also on the project scheduling and budget. CVs of the manager responsible for the research project and key experts involved in the project References of previous similar assignments Further information is set out in Appendix 1 and the other annexes to the invitation to tender

5.1.8. Accessibility criteria

Accessibility criteria for persons with disabilities are not included because the procurement is not intended for use by natural persons

5.1.9. Selection criteria

Sources of selection criteria: Procurement Document, European Single Procurement Document (ESPD), Notice

Criterion: Average yearly turnover

Description of selection criterion: years 2022, 2023, 2024 400000 Euros

Criterion: References on specified works

Description of selection criterion: The minimum requirement for the number of assessments /studies per the tenderer is one assessment related to business analysis of a specific sector of interest, incl. energy, climate and/or industrial policy analysis, in the last 5 years.

5.1.10. Award criteria

Criterion:

Type: Price

Name: Price

Description: 20 points

Category of award weight criterion: Weight (points, exact)

Award criterion number: 20

Criterion:

Type: Quality

Name: The Research Plan

Description: Suitability and feasibility of the plan in respect of the objectives of the research, research questions, production of new information, and suitability of the chosen approach and methods. The research plan describes the organisation of the research work and the methods used in it, takes into account the description of the project, its timetable and other client requirements in the invitation to tender. The research plan assesses the following: 1. the research plan has been drawn up using a clear and structured presentation method and it is feasible (0-4 points = does not correspond to the specifications of the project description at all, 5-9 points = corresponds poorly to the specifications of the project description, 10-14 points = corresponds moderately to the specifications of the project description, 15-19 points = corresponds well to the specifications of the project description, 20 points = corresponds in an excellent manner to the specifications of the project description.) 2. the approach, suggested information sources, and the methods proposed in the research plan are suitable for the information needs, and the results can be utilised in policy preparation. The plan is realistic, and the description and timetable of the project and the requirements of the client indicated in the invitation to tender have been taken into account in the plan. (0-4 points = does not correspond to the specifications of the project description at all, 5-9 points = corresponds poorly to the specifications of the project description, 10-14 points = corresponds moderately to the specifications of the project description, 15-19 points = corresponds well to the specifications of the project description, 20 points = corresponds in an excellent manner to the specifications of the project description). The points received by the tenderers from subsections 1-2 are added up, max. 40 points.

Category of award weight criterion: Weight (points, exact)

Award criterion number: 40

Criterion:

Type: Quality

Name: The Team

Description: 40 % The tenderer must appoint a team consisting of several persons for the project. The group of experts will be assessed as a whole. The expertise (especially in consulting/research project management and business and policy analysis of the industrial sectors of interest) and experience of the experts must be reported by attaching their CVs to the tender, along with a list of references relevant to the subject of the call for tenders and the role of the experts in them. When comparing the expertise and experience of the experts offered, attention will be paid to the educational background and expertise of the individuals and the team. The expertise and competence of the manager in charge and the other members of the group are assessed on the basis of CVs. The CVs should include references to relevant evaluations/studies done in the last 5 years. The minimum requirement for education is a master's degree in a field of study related to the research subject, such as political sciences, economics and business sciences. The minimum requirement for the number of assessments/studies per research group is one assessment related to business and policy analysis of the industrial sectors of interest in the last 5 years. Sufficiency of resources is assessed on the basis of the person-days reported in the research plan. The group of researchers is evaluated as a whole in the following areas: 1. Relevant references (max 10 points) 2. Expertise of the research team on the basis of their individual CVs (max 20

points) 3. Sufficiency of resources (max 10 points) The points received by the tenderers from subsections 1-3 are added up, max. 40 points.

Category of award weight criterion: Weight (points, exact)

Award criterion number: 40

5.1.11. Procurement documents

Deadline for requesting additional information: 11/03/2026 12:00:00 (UTC+00:00) Western European Time, GMT

Address of the procurement documents: <https://tarjouspalvelu.fi/tem?id=596294&tpk=f60deef4-1f76-4780-85cb-9e37d2e5e7b6>

5.1.12. Terms of procurement

Terms of submission:

Electronic submission: Required

Address for submission: <https://tarjouspalvelu.fi/tem?id=596294&tpk=f60deef4-1f76-4780-85cb-9e37d2e5e7b6>

Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted: English, Finnish

Electronic catalogue: Not allowed

Variants: Not allowed

Tenderers may submit more than one tender: Not allowed

Deadline for receipt of tenders: 24/03/2026 14:15:00 (UTC+00:00) Western European Time, GMT

Duration during which the tender must remain valid: 3 Months

Information about public opening:

Opening date: 25/03/2026 08:00:00 (UTC+00:00) Western European Time, GMT

Place: Helsinki/Teams

Terms of contract:

The execution of the contract must be performed within the framework of sheltered employment programmes: No

Conditions relating to the performance of the contract: The procurement contract will be prepared in accordance with the Contracting Entity's template document appended to this call for tenders as Annex 2 Draft Contract. The General Terms of Public Procurement in Service Contracts (JYSE 2025 SERVICES) will apply to this procurement contract unless otherwise specified in this call for tenders or the documents appended to it. The contractual terms applicable to the procurement are detailed in the draft contract appended to this document. The tenderer must accept the terms laid out in the Appendix. The contractual terms are absolute requirements and they may not be changed. Tenderers may not include their own contractual terms in the tenders.

A non-disclosure agreement is required: no

Electronic invoicing: Required

Electronic ordering will be used: no

Electronic payment will be used: yes

5.1.15. Techniques

Framework agreement:

No framework agreement

Information about the dynamic purchasing system:

No dynamic purchase system

5.1.16. Further information, mediation and review

Mediation organisation: Markkinaoikeus

Review organisation: Markkinaoikeus

Information about review deadlines: I INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECTIFICATION Under sections 133–135 of the Public Procurement Act, anyone who is unhappy with a decision of the Contracting Entity or some other decision made as part of a procurement procedure may file a written claim for rectification of procurement with the Contracting Entity. A claim for rectification of procurement may be filed by a tenderer who participated in a competitive tendering process or a candidate who submitted a request to participate; in other words, a party whose rights, obligations or interests are directly affected by the decision (a concerned party). Deadline for filing a claim for rectification of procurement A concerned party should file a claim for rectification of procurement no later than 14 days after receiving notice of the decision made by the Contracting Entity or some other decision that is part of the procurement procedure. The claim must be submitted no later than the last day of the time limit before the end of the workday (16.15). When electronic means are used, candidates and tenderers are deemed to have received notice of the decision and its attachments on the day when the electronic document concerning the case became available to the recipients of the message on their reception devices in a form in which the electronic message can be processed. Such a time shall be considered the date of dispatching the message, in the absence of a reliable explanation of an electronic communications failure or other corresponding factor that caused the electronic message to reach the recipient at a later time. If the notice is served by means of a letter sent by post, the recipient will be deemed to have received notice of the decision on the seventh day following its dispatch, unless the recipient shows that service of process was effected at a later time. When the notice is served in a verifiable manner, the recipient shall be deemed to have been notified on the day shown in the proof of delivery or advice of receipt. Contents of a claim for rectification of procurement A claim for rectification of procurement should include the claims and their justifications. The claim should indicate the name of the party filing the claim and the contact details required to deal with the matter. The documents to which the party filing the claim wishes to make appeal should be attached to the claim, unless they already are in the Contracting Entity's possession. Address A claim for rectification of procurement should be submitted to the Contracting Entity. Contracting Entity contact details: Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of Finland P.O. BOX 32 00023 Valtioneuvosto, Finland kirjaamo.tem@gov.fi II INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPEALING TO THE MARKET COURT

Subject of review and restrictions An appeal may be filed before the Market Court against a decision made by the Contracting Entity or some other decision made by the Contracting Entity as part of the procurement procedure referred to in the Act on Public Procurement that may influence the status of a candidate or a tenderer. No appeal may be filed with the Market Court in respect of a decision made by the Contracting Entity that concerns: 1) solely the preparation of a procurement procedure; 2) a failure to divide a procurement contract into lots pursuant to section 75; or 3) use of the lowest price or costs alone as the criterion for determining the most economically advantageous tender referred to in section 93. A procurement based on a framework agreement referred to in section 42 of the Act on Public Procurement or a resolution of a contracting entity concerning approval of a dynamic purchasing system referred to in section 51 shall not be open to review by appeal unless the Market Court grants leave to hear the case. Leave shall be granted if: 1) a hearing of the case is important for application of the law in other similar cases; or 2) there is some pressing reason for doing so, related to the procedure of the Contracting Entity. Appeal period Unless otherwise provided, an appeal shall be submitted in writing within 14 days of the date on which the concerned party received notice of the procurement decision together with the instructions for appeal. If, following the procurement decision, a contracting entity has made a procurement agreement or concession contract pursuant to point 1 or 3 of section 130 without observing the standstill period, then the appeal shall be filed within 30 days of the date when the tenderer

received notice of the decision. An appeal shall be submitted no later than six months after the procurement decision is made in the event that the candidate or tenderer has received notice of the procurement decision together with the instructions for appeal and the procurement decision or the instructions for appeal were essentially defective. If a Contracting Entity has submitted a notice for publication in the Official Journal of the European Union concerning a direct procurement referred to in section 131 or a contractual amendment referred to in point 9 of subsection 1 of section 58, then the appeal shall be filed within 14 days of the date of publishing the notice. If this notice has not been published, then an appeal concerning a direct procurement shall be filed: 1) within 30 days of the date when a contract award notice concerning the direct procurement was published in the Official Journal of the European Union; or 2) within six months of the date of concluding the procurement contract. Submitting the appeal The appeal should be submitted to the Market Court. The appeal should reach the Market Court by the last day of the appeal period during office hours. The opening hours of the Market Court Registry are 8.00 –16.15. The actual day of notice will not be included in this period.

Web address of tax legislation: <https://vero.fi/en/businesses-and-corporations/>

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure: Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (MEAE)

Organisation providing offline access to the procurement documents: Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (MEAE)

Organisation providing more information on the review procedures: Markkinaoikeus

Organisation receiving requests to participate: Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (MEAE)

Organisation processing tenders: Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (MEAE)

8. Organisations

8.1. ORG-0001

Official name: Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (MEAE)

Registration number: 2160307-0

Postal address: PL 32

Town: Valtioneuvosto

Postcode: 00023

Country subdivision (NUTS): Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI1B1)

Country: Finland

Contact point: Innovaatio- ja yritysrahoitusosasto/Mervi Pasanen ja Leena Sivill

Email: mervi.pasanen@gov.fi

Telephone: +358 295064219

Internet address: <http://tem.fi>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure

Organisation providing offline access to the procurement documents

Organisation receiving requests to participate

Organisation processing tenders

8.1. ORG-0002

Official name: Markkinaoikeus

Registration number: 3006157-6
Postal address: Radanrakentajantie 5
Town: Helsinki
Postcode: 00520
Country subdivision (NUTS): Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI1B1)
Country: Finland
Email: markkinaoikeus@oikeus.fi
Telephone: +358 295643300
Internet address: <https://www.markkinaoikeus.fi>

Roles of this organisation:

Review organisation

Organisation providing more information on the review procedures

Mediation organisation

8.1. ORG-0003

Official name: Hansel Oy (Hilma)
Registration number: FI09880841
Postal address: Mannerheiminaukio 1a
Town: Helsinki
Postcode: 00100
Country subdivision (NUTS): Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI1B1)
Country: Finland
Contact point: eSender
Email: tekninen@hankintailmoitukset.fi
Telephone: 029 55 636 30
Internet address: <http://hankintailmoitukset.fi>

Roles of this organisation:

TED eSender

Notice information

Notice identifier/version: 68e6dea5-7bf1-46f8-abbe-aeb8a136365d - 01
Form type: Competition
Notice type: Contract or concession notice – standard regime
Notice subtype: 16
Notice dispatch date: 17/02/2026 07:56:01 (UTC+00:00) Western European Time, GMT
Notice dispatch date (eSender): 17/02/2026 07:56:13 (UTC+00:00) Western European Time, GMT
Languages in which this notice is officially available: English
Notice publication number: 115819-2026
OJ S issue number: 34/2026
Publication date: 18/02/2026