

Italy-Ispra: Framework service contract for global land high-resolution hot spot monitoring within the global land component of the Copernicus land service (C-GL-HRM) — 2 lots

OJ S 149/2015 05/08/2015

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2004/18/EC

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Institute for Environment and Sustainability

Postal address: via Enrico Fermi 2749, TP 581

Town: Ispra VA

Postal code: 21027

Country: Italy

Contact person: B.5 Finance and Procurement Unit — Ispra

E-mail: jrc-ies-procurement@ec.europa.eu

Internet address(es):

General address of the contracting authority: <http://web.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

Electronic access to information: <https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/cft/cft-display.html?cftId=1007>

Additional information can be obtained from:

the abovementioned address

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from:

the abovementioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted: the abovementioned address

I.2. Type of the contracting authority

European institution/agency or international organisation

I.3. Main activity

General public services

Other: Research.

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**

Framework service contract for global land high-resolution hot spot monitoring within the global land component of the Copernicus land service (C-GL-HRM) — 2 lots.

II.1.2. Type of contract and place of performance or delivery

Services

Service category No 8: Research and development services

Main site or place of performance: Contractor's site.

NUTS code

II.1.3. Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

II.1.4. Information about 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: 10 000 000 EUR

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

The main objective of this activity is to provide detailed land information on specific areas of interest for the European Union (EU) outside the EU territory. The service will answer to ad hoc requests and focus particularly within the domain of the sustainable management of natural resources. For such areas of interest, including protected areas or hot spots for biodiversity and land degradation, land cover and land cover change products will be provided. The activities of the contract are organised in 2 lots:

1. lot 1: operations of the global land component: hot spot mapping (C-GL-HSM):

a) land cover mapping — single data;

b) land cover change mapping;

2. lot 2: independent validation and accuracy assessment.

II.1.6. CPV code(s)

73110000 Research services, 73210000 Research consultancy services, 90712400 Natural resources management or conservation strategy planning services, 90700000 Environmental services, 90711000 Environmental impact assessment other than for construction

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: 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. Scope of the procurement

II.2.1. Total quantity or scope

1. Lot 1: operations of the global land component: hot spot mapping (C-GL-HSM): value of 5 000 000 EUR:

a) land cover mapping — single data;

b) land cover change mapping.

2. Lot 2: independent validation and accuracy assessment value of 5 000 000 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: 1

In the case of renewable supplies or service contracts, estimated timeframe for subsequent contracts:

in months: 24 (from the award of the contract)

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

Information about lots

Lot No: 1

Lot title: C-GL-HSM mapping service

1) Short description

Lot 1 is structured in 2 components:

- a) land cover mapping — single data;
- b) land cover change mapping.

The final product of the C-GL-HSM service will be detailed thematic land cover and land cover change dynamics mapping and information processed in a standardised and harmonised manner over the requested area of interest. The latter may differ in size and requested detail might vary from area to area.

2) CPV code(s)

90712400 Natural resources management or conservation strategy planning services, 90700000 Environmental services, 90711000 Environmental impact assessment other than for construction, 73210000 Research consultancy services, 73110000 Research services

3) Quantity or scope

Estimated value excluding VAT: 5 000 000 EUR

4) Indication about different time frame or duration

5) Additional information about lots

Lot No: 2

Lot title: Independent validation and accuracy assessment

1) Short description

Lot 2 will perform the independent control consisting of validation and accuracy assessment of the products produced by lot 1.

2) CPV code(s)

90712400 Natural resources management or conservation strategy planning services, 90700000 Environmental services, 90711000 Environmental impact assessment other than for construction, 73210000 Research consultancy services, 73110000 Research services

3) Quantity or scope

Estimated value excluding VAT: 5 000 000 EUR

4) Indication about different time frame or duration

5) Additional information about lots

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1. Conditions related to the contract

III.1.1.

Deposits and guarantees required

None.

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

Please refer to tender documents.

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

Economic operators can submit a tender either as a sole tenderer or as partners in a consortium (with or without legal personality). In either case subcontracting is permitted. The tenderer must clearly specify the role of each economic operator — as a sole tenderer, a partner in a consortium or subcontractor. This also applies where the entities involved belong to the same economic group.

Each partner in a consortium assumes joint and several liability towards the contracting authority for implementation of the contract and will become a party to the contract if the consortium's tender is successful. The consortium shall nominate 1 legal entity ('the leader') who will have full authority to bind the consortium and each of its members during contract execution and will be responsible for the administrative management of the contract (invoicing, receiving payments, etc.) on behalf of all other partners.

Subcontracting is the situation where the contractor enters into legal commitments with other legal entities which will perform part of the contract on its behalf. The contractor retains full liability towards the contracting authority for implementation of the contract. Freelancing, drawing on the activities or staff of any other entirely different legal entity than the contractor, qualifies as subcontracting, independently of the applicable national law.

Tenderers must give an indication of the proportion of the contract that they intend to subcontract. They must also identify all subcontractors:

- a) on whose capacities they rely to meet the minimum capacity levels under headings III.2.2 and III.2.3;
- b) whose individual share of the contract is above 20 %.

Subcontractors in either situation a) or b) mentioned above must provide a letter of intent stating their willingness to participate in the performance of the contract as specified in the tender.

During contract execution any change of subcontractors will be subject to the prior written approval of the contracting authority.

A sole tenderer or a consortium may also rely on the capacities of other entities for meeting the minimum capacity levels under headings III.2.2 and III.2.3, regardless of the legal nature of the links which it has with them. If so, it must prove to the contracting authority that it will have the resources necessary for performance of the contract at its disposal, for example by providing an undertaking on the part of those entities. Reliance on the capacities of a third party which is a different legal entity from the sole tenderer or the consortium members, even though it is part of the same economic group, is considered subcontracting for the purposes of the procedure. If the contract is awarded to a tenderer relying on a third party to provide more than 80 % of the minimum requirements for economic and financial capacity listed under heading III.2.2, the contracting authority will require that the third party sign the contract and become jointly liable for its execution together with the tenderer.

The role and tasks of each consortium partner and identified subcontractors must be clearly specified in the tender. The cover letter must give the name of the tenderer (including all partners in the case of a consortium) and subcontractor(s), including third parties on whose capacities the tenderer relies, and the name of the single contact person in relation to this

procedure. For consortia the cover letter must be signed by each partner, or by a partner duly authorised to sign the tender and the contract on behalf of all partners. In the latter case authorisation can be, for instance, in the form of a power of attorney, a letter of intent or a consortium agreement.

Tenderers (all partners in the case of a consortium) must also provide a legible copy of the notice of appointment of the persons authorised to represent the tenderer in dealings with third parties and in legal proceedings, or a copy of the publication of such appointment if the legislation which applies to the legal entity concerned requires such publication. Any delegation of this authorisation to another representative not indicated in the official appointment must be evidenced.

III.1.4. Contract performance conditions

The performance of the contract is subject to particular conditions: yes

Description of particular conditions: 1. Exclusion of conflicts of interest:

Given the nature of the requested services, conflicts of interest have to be avoided between the contractors (and related subcontractors) providing services under each lot. JRC Ispra deems that in order to avoid any conflict of interest, lot 1 and lot 2 of this call for tenders cannot be assigned to tenderers that are part of the same industrial and/or commercial group or organisation.

1 economic operator (or group of) is allowed to apply for 1 or both lots. Nevertheless, 1 economic operator (or companies of the same group) may be awarded only 1 lot. Lots will be awarded according to this order of award: 1 and 2. For the sake of clarity, 2 tenderers are considered to be part of the same industrial and/or commercial group or organisation if one of the 2 controls the other, e.g. owns more than 50 % of the shares of the other, or if more than 50 % of their shares belong to a common direct or indirect shareholder.

III.2. Conditions for participation

III.2.1. Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions: 1. Exclusion criteria:

Tenderers will not be eligible to take part in this procedure if they are in any of the exclusion situations listed in Articles 106 and 107 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25.10.2012. Tenderers (including consortium partners) and subcontractors identified as per heading III.1.3 shall sign the declaration on honour (available on the contracting authority's website indicated in heading I.1) to declare that they are not in any of these situations.

The contracting authority requests that all tenderers (including all partners in the case of a consortium) and all subcontractors identified by the tenderer in accordance with III.1.3 shall provide the supporting documents listed in Article 143(3) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29.10.2012, together with the declaration of honour.

The contracting authority may waive the obligation to submit the required supporting documents if such evidence has already been submitted to it for the purposes of another procurement procedure and provided that the issuing date of the documents does not exceed 1 year from the date of the award notification and that they are still valid. In such a case, the tenderer shall declare on his honour that the documentary evidence has already been provided in a previous procurement procedure and confirm that no changes in his situation have occurred.

2. Selection criteria:

Legal capacity:

Tenderers (all partners in the case of a consortium) shall prove that they have the legal

capacity to perform the contract by providing a certificate of registration in the relevant trade or professional register in their country of establishment/incorporation. If the tenderer is not required or allowed to register in such a register for reasons related to its statute or legal status, the contracting authority may accept, as satisfactory evidence, a sworn declaration or certificate, membership of a specific organisation, express authorisation, or entry in the VAT register.

III.2.2. Economic and financial ability

List and brief description of conditions: For both lots tenderers must comply with the following criteria:

- annual turnover meeting the minimum capacity level,
- financial viability sufficient to undertake and perform the contract.

The following evidence must be provided by each tenderer (each partner in the case of a consortium) and each subcontractor on whose capacities the tenderer relies for meeting the minimum capacity level for economic and financial ability:

(1) copy of financial statements (balance sheets, profit and loss accounts and any other related financial information) for the past 2 financial years for which accounts have been closed, published and/or audited or, where publication/auditing is not required under the law of the country in which the economic operator is established, self-certified as exact and sincere by the duly authorised representative.

If the provided documents show net/gross loss in any of the requested years, the economic operator must furnish another document as proof of its financial and economic capacity, such as appropriate bank references or a letter/statement by certified auditors attesting to the economic operator's financial stability, proof of professional risk insurance, or an appropriate guarantee from a third party (e.g. the parent company). The contracting authority may waive the obligation of an economic operator to submit the documentary evidence referred to above if such evidence has already been submitted to it for the purposes of another procurement procedure and provided that it complies with the requirements of the present call for tenders. In such a case, the economic operator shall provide reference to the contract and Commission service for which the evidence has been provided;

(2) a statement as to the economic operator's annual turnover and the annual turnover in the field covered by the contract, over the past 2 financial years for which accounts have been closed.

If, for some exceptional reason which the contracting authority considers justified, an economic operator is unable to produce the references required above, he may prove his economic and financial capacity by any other document which the contracting authority considers appropriate. In any case, the contracting authority must at least be notified of the exceptional reason and justification must be provided. The contracting authority reserves the right to request any other document enabling it to verify the economic operator's economic and financial capacity or to seek additional information and/or clarifications by any appropriate means (websites, official bodies, etc.).

The contracting authority may waive the obligation of an economic operator to submit the documentary evidence referred to above if such evidence has already been submitted to it for the purposes of another procurement procedure and provided that it complies with the requirements of the present call for tenders. In such a case, the economic operator shall provide reference to the contract and Commission service for which the evidence has been provided.

The contracting authority reserves the right not to select a tenderer where the evidence provided gives rise to major concerns on its financial viability to perform the contract and the

tenderer has failed to mitigate these concerns by submitting observations or other evidence of financial viability.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: The annual turnover for the past 2 financial years must be:

- lot 1 at least 2 500 000 EUR,
- lot 2 at least 2 500 000 EUR.

This minimum will be assessed in relation to the tenderer as a whole, including the combined capacities of all partners in the case of a consortium and all subcontractors.

III.2.3. Technical and professional ability

List and brief description of conditions:

For lot 1 tenderers must comply with the following criteria:

(a) a description of the professional qualifications <https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/home> or equivalent — relevant studies, education and experience, knowledge and skills — of the members of the team the service provider will allocate to the contract. The qualifications shall demonstrate the capabilities of the assigned team in the area of the contract. In order to harmonise the evaluation of staff qualifications in the tendering procedure, tenderers are requested to group CVs in predefined profiles. Each proposed CV can appear only under 1 profile. The precise contractual link with the tenderer must be specified. It is reminded that freelancing qualifies as subcontracting (see point III.1.3).

Tenderers shall propose the following profiles:

- project manager,
- technical senior expert,
- thematic senior expert;

(b) experience in the field of:

- satellite remote sensing image pre-processing (e.g. cloud masking, radiometric and geometric corrections, image mosaicking, etc.),
- image processing, i.e. image classification (both pixel as well as object-based),
- feature and statistic extraction (e.g. production of land cover and land cover change maps and statistics, extraction of land cover related indicators, etc.),
- GIS,
- experience of work at global level with specific knowledge of the African continent.

This experience must be proven by:

b1) an extract from a trade or professional register, or an equivalent proof of establishment; and

b2) a list of similar (in value, scope and complexity) contracts completed in the 3 years preceding the tender deadline. The list of past contracts shall include details of their start and end dates, total contract amount and scope, role and amount invoiced by the economic operator. In the case of contracts still ongoing only the portion completed during the reference period will be taken into consideration.

The contracts submitted as evidence of fulfilment of the minimum capacity levels shall be accompanied by certificates of satisfactory execution, issued by clients, specifying that they have been fully carried out in a professional manner. Where the services have been performed for EU contracting authorities, the certificates shall be issued or countersigned by the competent authority;

(c) material/technical resources necessary to perform the contract in accordance with the technical specifications (i.e. software, computing power, storage capacity, Internet connection, etc.) to perform the requested tasks. To demonstrate compliance with this criterion the tenderer shall provide a list of the equipment, tools and facilities available to it for the performance of the contract and, where applicable, indicate the name of the economic

operator placing these at its disposal.

For lot 2 tenderers must comply with the following criteria:

(a) a description of the professional qualifications <https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/home> or equivalent — relevant studies, education and experience, knowledge and skills — of the members of the team the service provider will allocate to the contract. The qualifications shall demonstrate the capabilities of the assigned team in the area of the contract. In order to harmonise the evaluation of staff qualifications in the tendering procedure, tenderers are requested to group CVs in predefined profiles. Each proposed CV can appear only under 1 profile. The precise contractual link with the tenderer must be specified. It is reminded that freelancing qualifies as subcontracting (see point III.1.3).

Tenderers shall propose the following profiles:

- project manager,
- technical senior expert,
- thematic senior expert;

(b) experience in the field of:

- satellite remote sensing image processing,
- GIS and geostatistics,
- specific knowledge in image classification validation and accuracy assessment following the requirements of the CEOS working group on calibration and validation, working group on global land cover validation (see technical annex),
- experience of work at global level with specific knowledge of the African continent.

This experience must be proven by:

b1) an extract from a trade or professional register, or an equivalent proof of establishment; and

b2) a list of similar (in value, scope and complexity) contracts completed in the 3 years preceding the tender deadline. The list of past contracts shall include details of their start and end dates, total contract amount and scope, role and amount invoiced by the economic operator. In the case of contracts still ongoing only the portion completed during the reference period will be taken into consideration.

The contracts submitted as evidence of fulfilment of the minimum capacity levels shall be accompanied by certificates of satisfactory execution, issued by clients, specifying that they have been fully carried out in a professional manner. Where the services have been performed for EU contracting authorities, the certificates shall be issued or countersigned by the competent authority;

(c) material/technical resources necessary to perform the contract in accordance with the technical specifications (i.e. software, computing power, storage capacity, Internet connection, etc.) to perform the requested tasks. To demonstrate compliance with this criterion the tenderer shall provide a list of the equipment, tools and facilities available to it for the performance of the contract and, where applicable, indicate the name of the economic operator placing these at its disposal.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required:

For both lots III.2.3(a), each profile corresponds to a minimum level of qualification made up of:

— the number of years of professional experience specific to the profile (outside the studies).

The minimum level of qualifications has to be fulfilled by each person proposed and related CV for a given profile.

For lot 1:

— project manager:

Minimum 10 years of experience in the field of:

- project management,
- satellite remote sensing,

- natural resource management,
- working at global level.

Minimum European level of English language skills:

listening, reading, speaking and writing — C1 or equivalent.

At least 3 CVs have to be presented,

— technical senior expert:

Minimum 10 years' experience in the field of:

- satellite remote sensing image pre-processing (e.g. cloud masking, radiometric and geometric corrections, image mosaicking, etc.),
- image processing, including, image classification (both pixel as well as object-based),
- minimum of MSc or equivalent in the field of geography, geoinformatics, physics or similar.

Minimum European level of English language skills:

listening, reading, speaking and writing — C1 or equivalent.

At least 3 CVs have to be presented,

— thematic senior expert:

Minimum 10 years' experience in the field of:

- feature and statistic extraction (e.g. production of land cover and land cover change maps and statistics, extraction of land cover-related indicators, etc.),
- GIS,
- thematic knowledge in the field of land cover mapping and natural resource management,
- experience of work at global level,
- experience of the African continent,
- minimum of MSc or equivalent in the field of geography, forestry, natural resource management or similar.

Minimum European level of English language skills:

listening, reading, speaking and writing — C1 or equivalent.

At least 3 CVs have to be presented.

For lot 2:

— project manager:

Minimum 10 years of experience in the field of:

- project management,
- satellite remote sensing,
- statistics,
- natural resource management,
- working at global level.

Minimum European level of English language skills:

listening, reading, speaking and writing — C1 or equivalent.

At least 3 CVs have to be presented,

— technical senior expert:

Minimum 10 years' experience in the field of:

- satellite remote sensing image processing including pre-processing and image classification,
- specific knowledge in image classification validation and accuracy assessment following the requirements of the CEOS working group on calibration and validation, working group on global land cover validation (see technical annex),
- minimum of MSc or equivalent in the field of geography, geoinformatics, geostatistics, physics or similar.

Minimum European level of English language skills:

listening, reading, speaking and writing — C1 or equivalent.

At least 3 CVs have to be presented,

— thematic senior expert:

Minimum 10 years' experience in the field of:

- feature and statistic extraction (e.g. land cover and land cover change-related statistics, statistical accuracy assessment, etc.),
- GIS,
- thematic knowledge in the field of land cover mapping and natural resource management,
- experience of work at global level,
- experience of the African continent,
- minimum of MSc or equivalent in the field of geography, geostatistics, forestry, natural resource management or similar.

Minimum European level of English language skills:

listening, reading, speaking and writing — C1 or equivalent.

At least 3 CVs have to be presented.

For both lots sufficient technical staff to execute the requested work tasks outlined above and support the work of the senior expert(s).

For each profile type the tenderer must provide at least the minimum number of CVs per profile (preferably in Europass format) meeting the minimum capacity levels for this criterion.

For both lots III.2.3(b), a minimum of 3 relevant services in the past 3 years.

For both lots III.2.3(c):

guaranteed transfer speed of at least 100 Mbps in upload and download;

software including algorithms tailored to the different aspects of image analysis (i.e.: eCognition /ENVI/ERDAS);

workstation/server with quad-core or higher multi-core processor(s), with 32 GB RAM;

storage capacity: high availability network storage (> 40 TB capacity).

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. Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract: yes

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1. Type of procedure

IV.1.1. Type of procedure

Open

IV.1.2. Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited

IV.1.3. Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue

IV.2. Award criteria

IV.2.1. Award criteria

Lowest price

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

JRC/IPR/2015/H.5/0021/OC.

IV.3.2. Previous publication concerning this procedure

no

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

Time limit for receipt of requests for documents or for accessing documents: 25.9.2015

Payable documents: no

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

25.9.2015

IV.3.5. Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

IV.3.6. Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

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: 30.9.2015 - 10:00

Place:

Reception Building (first floor, room 7) located at the entrance to the JRC, Ispra site.

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

Information about authorised persons and opening procedure: Max. 1 authorised representative can attend the opening session. The request must be sent to jrc-ies-procurement@ec.europa.eu at least 3 working days prior to the opening together with a copy of the identity card/passport.

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1. Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: no

VI.2. Information about European Union funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds:
no

VI.3. Additional information

Documents and communication related to this procedure are available free of charge at the following website: <https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/cft/cft-display.html?cftId=1007>
Any additional information and reply to requests for clarifications will be published there. It is therefore the responsibility of economic operators to check the website on a regular basis. Based on Article 134(1)(f) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29.10.2012 during the 3 years following conclusion of the original contract the contracting authority may use the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice to

procure additional services consisting of the repetition of similar services (up to a maximum of 50 % of the original contract value) from the economic operator to whom the contract is awarded.

VI.4. Procedures for review

VI.4.1. Review body

Official name: General Court
Postal address: rue du Fort Niedergrünewald
Town: Luxembourg
Postal code: 2925
Country: Luxembourg
E-mail: generalcourt.registry@curia.europa.eu
Telephone: +352 4303-1
Fax: +352 4303-2100
Internet address: <http://curia.europa.eu/>

VI.4.2. Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures: You may submit any observations concerning the award procedure to the contracting authority indicated under heading I.1.
If you believe that there was maladministration, you may lodge a complaint to the European Ombudsman within 2 years of the date when you became aware of the facts on which the complaint is based (see <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu>). Such complaint does not have as an effect either to suspend the time limit to launch an appeal or to open a new period for lodging an appeal.
Within 2 months of the notification of the award decision you may lodge an appeal to the body referred to in VI.4.1.

VI.4.3. Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Official name: General Court
Postal address: rue du Fort Niedergrünewald
Town: Luxembourg
Postal code: 2925
Country: Luxembourg
E-mail: generalcourt.registry@curia.europa.eu
Telephone: +352 4303-1
Fax: +352 4303-2100
Internet address: <http://curia.europa.eu/>

VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice

24.7.2015