

Call for tenders' details

Title: Service contract for further development of EU water balances at sub-catchment level - preparatory action - development of prevention activities to halt desertification in Europe.

Start date: 30/03/2013

Time limit for receipt of tenders: 21/05/2013

Contracting authority: European Commission, DG ENV+CLIMA

Status: Closed

Call for tenders question list

#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
1	08/04/2013 13:37	12/04/2013 09:48	Elegibility of tenderers	Could an entity involved in the implementation of the previous pilot projects be eligible to submit a tender and to be awarded a contract under the present Call for Tender? Thank you for clarification.	12/04/2013 The conditions for submitting a tender are clearly described in the ToR for exclusion and selection criteria. This tender is totally independant from the previous call for tender and call for proposal under this pilot project.

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2	29/04/2013 14:12	02/05/2013 16:35	Format CV's	In article 2.3.2. of the Tender specifications its stated that we need to provide the CV's of the team members. Do we need to send them in a certain format (Europass format)?	<p>02/05/2013 According to article 2.3.2b on Technical and professional capacity criteria and evidence the tenderer should provide evidence showing the educational and professional qualifications of the persons who will provide the service for the tender, i.e. CVs. No mandatory requirements are included in the tender specifications referring to the template.</p> <p>However being the Europass a European Initiative which aims to facilitate that citizens can present in a clear and comprehensive way information on all their qualifications and competences, the European Commission encourages its use, without being mandatory.</p>
3	06/05/2013 21:08	07/05/2013 14:58	Forms and signatures	<p>Is it allowed to submit scanned signatures or do they need to be original?</p> <p>Also, we need to submit the form "legal entity" and "financial identification". Can we submit a scanned and printed version or does it have to be an original one?</p>	<p>07/05/2013 All signatures must be original. For the "legal entity" and "financial identification" form, a copy will do.</p>

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4	01/05/2013 10:56	07/05/2013 16:27	Relationships between tasks to carry out and the EEA ETCs IPs 2013	<p>The TORs explicitly mention reference systems, data collection, etc. that are part of the 2013 IPs of the ETCs SIA and ICM. Details on the contents are not on the EEA website(s), however summaries strongly suggest possible overlaps. I wish having access to the complete technical content + resources allocated to the different actions in the final IPs in the view of effectively assess what is Contractor's duties and what is expected from the execution of the IPs to prevent duplicate actions.</p> <p>Thanks</p>	<p>07/05/2013</p> <p>The requested implementation plans form an integral part of the Specific agreements signed between the EEA and the ETC coordinator for the implementation of their partnership; The requested implementation plans for both ETCs contain confidential information, in particular contact details of responsible persons and estimated budget; In any case the tenders, to be received in response to the call for tenders, will be evaluated against the proposed methodology, the organisation of the work and the quality control measures. The requested information appears to be unnecessary for the purpose of the evaluation, and will be submitted to the successful contractor once the contract has been awarded, so that it can be taken into account for the inception report.</p>

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5	08/05/2013 09:16	13/05/2013 08:56	Natural Basins	For which of the 27 member states it is required to produce water balances at sub-basin level. Are these the ECRINS (v1.1) river basin districts "Natural basins envelopes", "Natural basins L1" or "Natural Basins L2", with or without the Islands (e.g. French, Spanish, Portuguese, etc.)?	<p>13/05/2013</p> <p>The geographical scope should cover the catchments included partially or totally in EU Member states and Norway. These are the catchments in green or pink in the map</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/facts_figures/pdf/River%20Basin%20Districts-2012.pdf</p> <p>In addition coastal catchments of Croatia need to be included, as Croatia will have joined the EU when the contract will start.</p> <p>There are problems of ECRINS coverage and key data availability (e.g. CORINE) for Azores, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Guyanne, La Réunion and Mayotte. The catchments in those territories of the EU can therefore be discarded for the present contract.</p>

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6	08/05/2013 09:16	13/05/2013 08:57	Water balances	Do the water balances have to be produced on sub-basin level and then being aggregated to basin level? Or will it be sufficient to produce a water balance on the basin level and if possible (depending on the availability of information and resources) to break down these balances to the sub-basin levels?	13/05/2013 Water balances have to be produced at sub-basin level, enabling further aggregation at river basin district level

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7	08/05/2013 09:16	13/05/2013 08:58	Basins	Which basins from part of the group 'best documented basins' for which at least it is required to produce water balances?	<p>13/05/2013 the question raise concerns on the proper understanding of what is required in the technical specifications (page 12) "The present project should address and mitigate the most relevant data gaps (as well as methodological gaps induced by the absence of data) so that water balances can be established at sub-catchment level for the whole EU with at least the level of confidence achieved in the group of best documented basins to allow better comparability across Europe, at the end of the contract".</p> <p>Please refer to a document drafted by the EEA and presented at the strategic co-ordination group (CSG) of the common implementation strategy (CIS) of the water framework directive (WFD):</p> <p>https://circabc.europa.eu/sd/d/d582e2b0-f0bc-4417-8f08-d00a19ac32fc/6%20-%20EEA-SCG07081112-7%20EEA%20note%20on%20Water%20Accounts%20and%20WEI+.pdf</p> <p>Map on page 4 gives an indication of the sub-catchments for which information collected was excellent.</p>

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8	08/05/2013 09:17	13/05/2013 08:58	Database	Aside from the existing databases, can we also make use of the instruments (like NOPULU System and AQUATOOL) that have been used in the preparation phase and for the pilot projects?	13/05/2013 The mentioned tools were used by former contractors for the production of water accounts. The tenderer is free to propose to use them, or any alternative tools that would enable the proper production of water balances. Some of the tools require licensing, the costs have to be covered by the contractor.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
9	08/05/2013 09:17	13/05/2013 08:59	Tender specifications	In the tender specifications it is specified on page 13 under task 2 sub 1: "The contractor should revise the sub-catchments defined for the building of water accounts, and in some cases the Functional Elementary Catchments (FEC)". Could you be more explicit about the cases where the contractor needs to revise the FEC?	13/05/2013 As mentioned in the tender specification some inconsistencies with the water bodies between Ecrins and the one reported under WFD Art 5 have been identified by the pilot projects and some adjustment at the initial stage of the project between Ecrins v.1.1 and the one used for the work might be needed, most likely by changes in the delineation of sub-basins and relocation of FEC between sub-basins rather than by changes in the delineation of FEC. The cases where ECRINS Functional Elementary Catchments would have to be revised will be discussed with Member States at the 1st meeting of the steering committee. Where there will be a need to have a significant change in the delineation of sub-basins or FEC (if requested by MS) this will be done in cooperation with the EEA and its technical teams.

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10	08/05/2013 09:17	13/05/2013 09:05	Complete the databases	Please provide additional insight in to the amount of work that is to be expected to make the databases complete? As we expect this will be difficult to quantify, would it be allowed to propose a commitment to our best effort instead of a result obligation?	13/05/2013 The objective of the tender and the tasks are clear and cannot be modified. The gaps are precisely described in the technical specifications. The final outcome of the contract will be in any case evaluated against the effort demonstrated to collect available information and reconstruct water balance, and will take into account elements outside of the responsibility of the contractor.
11	08/05/2013 09:18	13/05/2013 09:05	former contracts/pilots	The former contracts/pilots only provided only 8 years of water balances while the objective was to report 10 years. What was the rationale behind limiting this period?	13/05/2013 The calculation of water balances was done for an average of 8 years because of insufficient data either on water resources or on water use. In most cases 10 years data were available but the balances have not been computed in order to ensure EU-wide consistency.

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12	08/05/2013 09:18	13/05/2013 09:09	Databases	Is it possible for the client to estimate the percentage of water balance data that is still missing in the in EU databases for Water accounts? In other words, what is the percentage of data gaps in relation to the total amount of data that is required, is this in the order of 5%, 10%, 25%, 50% or more?	13/05/2013 This depends on the parameter. Please refer to the EEA report to WFD-CIS Strategic Coordination Group for more details (pp 2-3 + map page 4) https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/d582e2b0-f0bc-4417-8f08-d00a19ac32fc
13	08/05/2013 09:19	13/05/2013 09:09	Status of sub-basins	Can we obtain the ecological and chemical status of the sub-basins from the WFD?	13/05/2013 All available data on ecological and chemical status from WFD reporting and from SoE process will be made available to the contractor for the production of SEAAW quality accounting tables and maps. Data from SoE is already accessible from EEA website: http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/waterbase-rivers-8
14	08/05/2013 09:19	13/05/2013 09:10	Resolution water balances	What is the required resolution for the water balances? Are they to be submitted on sub-basin level (shape file polygons) or raster data? And if the latter is needed, what resolution is required?	13/05/2013 Water balances have to be produced at sub-basin level. Shape files from the previous contract, ECRINS and WFD Art 5 reporting will be provided to the contractor at the start of the contract.

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15	08/05/2013 09:19	13/05/2013 09:10	Modelling	Is additional modelling (1D, 2D, 3D) of water balance parameters (e.g. river discharge, sub-surface flow, etc.) required if monitoring data are not available?	13/05/2013 As mentioned page 13 of the technical specifications, the tenderer should describe the procedure to reconstruct irreplaceable data when it cannot be collected. This implies the use of models that have to be precisely described in the tender.

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