

Call for tenders' details

Title: 'Extra-muros' services in the fields of spatial information and geographic information systems (GIS).

Start date: 06/11/2013

Time limit for receipt of tenders: 20/12/2013

Contracting authority: European Commission, DG EUROSTAT

Status: Closed

Call for tenders question list

#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
1	13/11/2013 11:45	18/11/2013 10:16	Annex 9 - financial bid - unit price for intra/extra-muros services	<p>with reference to Annex 9 - financial bid - unit price for intra/extra-muros services:</p> <p>I would like to point out that the 2nd table header (comparison) mentions "unit price for intra-muros services". Considering the tender specifications and title, could you kindly confirm that this is a clerical mistake and you are referring to "extra-muros services" ?</p>	<p>18/11/2013</p> <p>Indeed, there was an error in Annex 9. We confirm that we are referring to extra-muros services as specified in the tender specifications. Please use the corrected Annex 9 which is now available.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
2	22/11/2013 12:16	27/11/2013 11:20	Selection criteria - completed projects	<p>Paragraph 2.8.1 of the Tender Specifications makes two contradicting statements:</p> <p>"At least ten (10) completed projects, of a minimum size of 100 person days [...] from June 2010 until June 2013"</p> <p>"A minimum number of project references for each field of expertise of the tender [...] The minimum size of the referenced projects must be 50 person-days [...] between 2009 and 2013.</p> <p>Annex 14.1 states that the minimum size is 50 person-days. Could you clarify?</p>	<p>27/11/2013</p> <p>Please see document 'Reply to question re. specific selection criteria - project references' Reply to question re. specific selection criteria - project references</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
3	22/11/2013 12:12	27/11/2013 11:39	Section Four: Technical Bid	<p>Could you confirm/deny that the section four: technical bid must be presented under the form of Annex 14.2? Furthermore, it is said that is must comply with "requirements" listed in the "technical specifications" but there is no section called "technical specifications".</p>	<p>27/11/2013 As to Article 2.9 'Award criteria for the assessment of the bids' of the Tender Specifications, the tenderers are asked to use the Annex 14.2 'Questionnaire 'Technical quality of the bid' to provide a structured response. Quote: 'The assessment will be carried out on the basis of the responses to the questionnaire in Annex 14.2 Questionnaire 'Technical quality of the bid', covering in detail the assessment criteria.'</p> <p>Term 'technical specifications' is used in the Tender Specifications Article 3.1 'General Information', Article 5.4 'Section four: Technical Bid' and Article 5.6.2 'Award of the contract'. The term is used as reference to the Tender specifications. Please read the term as 'tender specifications' instead.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
4	27/11/2013 10:04	02/12/2013 11:26	RUP@EC	Could tenderers be provided access to the specificities of the RUP@EC project management method?	02/12/2013 RUP@EC is a customized version of the IBM Rational Unified Process (RUP), adjusted for the needs of the European Commission. Generic information about RUP can be found on the IBM site: http://www-01.ibm.com/software/rational/rup/ . Please be aware that the site may serve for information purposes only. Although it provides an overview of the RUP methodology and the scope of the expected project management effort, this is not an exact description of the RUP@EC. Detailed information will be provided to the successful tenderers, subject to a non-disclosure agreement.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
5	05/12/2013 14:53	05/12/2013 15:00	Section 2.8.2 Expert Profiles, Educational qualifications for the expert profiles	<p>Section 2.8.2 Expert Profiles, Educational qualifications for the expert profiles in the present tender. The Tender Specifications indicate as a fully compulsory requirement for all profiles, under Education, a University Degree (Bachelor) or equivalent.</p> <p>We understand that any candidate not complying with this educational requirement will automatically be excluded and not considered when evaluating the tender. That is, if we present a Project Manager with over 10 years' experience in IT and GIS field but with a Vocational Training Degree, this candidate will not be considered valid and be excluded.</p>	<p>05/12/2013 Point 2.8.2 "Expert profiles" includes descriptions with the list of minimum requirements for the expert profiles, in terms of education, knowledge and skills and experience. In addition the tenderers must be aware that fluency in English, verbally and in writing, is expected for each profile. "University degree (Bachelor) or equivalent" is considered to be a minimum requirement for all profiles.</p>
6	05/12/2013 15:03	05/12/2013 15:06	Section 2.8.2 Expert Profiles, 2nd paragraph, Minimum requirements for the expert profiles	<p>Section 2.8.2 Expert Profiles, 2nd paragraph, Minimum requirements for the expert profiles in the present tender.</p> <p>The Tender Specifications indicate "The following descriptions provide the minimum requirements for the expert profiles, in terms of education, knowledge and skills and experience".</p> <p>Must all of the requirements per profile be met by each of the proposed candidates? That is, if we present a candidate complying with all requirements but one, will this candidate be excluded?</p>	<p>05/12/2013 Point 2.8.2 "Expert profiles" includes descriptions with the list of minimum requirements for the expert profiles, in terms of education, knowledge and skills and experience. The profile must meet all minimum requirements listed under 'Education', 'Work experience' and 'Other relevant experience'.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
7	05/12/2013 15:08	05/12/2013 15:11	Annex-14.1.1-Connection Table for Staff	Annex-14.1.1-Connection Table for Staff The column named Profile of the above-mentioned excel table has a total number of 5 unfoldable options corresponding to different profiles. (PM, GISSC, ASD, AP and PR). The option GISJC, needed for the present tender, is not available and can not be selected. Would you be so kind so as to provide a new table including the mentioned profile?	05/12/2013 The updated document 'Annex-14.1.1-Connection Table for Staff.' is now available.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
8	05/12/2013 15:23	05/12/2013 15:29	Annex 14.1 - Questionnaire "Technical and professional capacity".	<p>Annex 14.1 - Questionnaire "Technical and professional capacity".</p> <p>Page 2 of this questionnaire is headed with the following indication: The tenderers are asked to limit the length of their answers to the questionnaire questions to 1 A4 page. For joint offers, please provide information for each company.</p> <p>Our tender will be presented by a consortium made up by two different companies.</p> <p>We understand each of the companies has the limit of one A4 page, that is, we would be providing 2 A4 pages for each of the questionnaire questions.</p>	<p>05/12/2013</p> <p>Both in Annex 14.1 Questionnaire 'Technical and professional capacity' and Annex 14.2 Questionnaire 'Technical quality of the bid' the tenderers are asked to limit the length of their answers to the questionnaire questions to 1 (one) A4 page.</p> <p>Annex 14.1 Questionnaire 'Technical and professional capacity', explicitly states when answers of 1 (one) A4 page should be used per company providing the following instruction "For joint offers, please provide information for each company".</p> <p>It should be noted that in Annex 14.2 Questionnaire 'Technical quality of the bid', the tenderers are asked to limit the length of their answers to the questionnaire questions to 1 (one) A4 page, without a reference to a joint offer. The expected length of the answers does not depend on the number of companies submitting a joint offer. The tenderers are reminded to follow the structure of the Annex and to answer the questions in the given sequence.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
9	02/12/2013 14:02	05/12/2013 15:32	Annexes 14.1 and 14.2	Both questionnaires (14.1 and 14.2) include the same note: "The tenderers are asked to limit the length of their answers to the the questionnaire questions to 1 (one) A4 page". Regarding questionnaire 14.1 almost all information requested must be presented for all consortium members and can't be limited to a single page. Regarding questionnaire 14.2 some of the technical questions can't be answered in a single because examples are requested, the topics that have to be covered in the answer can't fit in a single page. Due to the considerations stated above please allow us to answer the questions in separated documents and reference the document or documents in the questionnaire.	05/12/2013 Question8

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
10	06/12/2013 10:57	06/12/2013 11:00	Expert profiles, section 2.8.2 – GIS Junior Consultant, Tender Specification	<p>Expert profiles, section 2.8.2 – GIS Junior Consultant, Tender Specification</p> <p>Mapping and Digitization are part of the activities for this tender and hence are profiles to cover these 2 activities necessary. It is considered that the Mapping and Digitization activities will mainly be executed by GIS Junior Consultants. However experts within mapping/digitization are very difficult to fit into the GIS Junior Consultant described in the tender specification. The GIS Junior Consultant should from the tender specification have minimum one year of programming experience with the ArcGIS suite and in the programming languages currently used in the Commission.</p> <p>Mapping/digitization profiles will indeed have one year of experience with the ArcGIS suite – however programming experience will be very difficult to be covered by a mapping/digitization profile.</p> <p>Question: We understand that the GIS Junior Consultant profile doesn't need to have programming experience - however should have at least one year of experience within the ArcGIS suite. Is this correct understood?</p>	<p>06/12/2013</p> <p>Point 2.8.2 "Expert profiles" includes descriptions with the list of minimum requirements for the expert profiles, in terms of education, knowledge and skills and experience. The profile must meet all minimum requirements listed under 'Education', 'Work experience' and 'Other relevant experience'. GIS Junior Consultant profile is to be engaged in all fields of expertise (tender fields) and should not be limited only to the fields 'Digitisation of geographic information' or 'Mapping'.</p>

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				<p>understood?</p> <p>Should this not be the case, would you then consider changing the requirements for the GIS Junior Consultant profile to cover the Mapping and Digitization activities by removing the 1 year of programming requirement?</p>	
11	06/12/2013 11:01	06/12/2013 11:05	Special Conditions Art. I.8.2, draft framework contract	<p>Question to Special Conditions Art. I.8.2, draft framework contract</p> <p>Article I.8.2 specifies "All pre-existing rights incorporated in the results and directly related to the uses foreseen in Article I.8.1 shall be fully and irrevocably acquired by the Union as provided for in Article II.10.2 and by derogation to Article II.10.3."</p> <p>This article seems not be in the interest of the Union. The reason is that it will prevent the Contractor to base their development on open-source software or other software for which the Contractor does not hold the IPR.</p> <p>Question: does ESTAT maintain the present wording of Art. I.8.2?</p> <p>Should this not be the case, please submit the new wording of the concerned paragraph of the Article.</p>	<p>06/12/2013</p> <p>The submission of a tender in response to an invitation to tender issued by the Commission implies that the tenderer accepts all the conditions laid down in the invitation to tender and the contract. Therefore, the contract to be signed with the selected tenderer will be the one annexed to the tender specifications.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
12	11/12/2013 13:08	11/12/2013 13:15	Tender specifications, page 44, Section Five Financial Bid and Section 4.3	Request for clarification concerning the tender specifications, page 44, Section Five Financial Bid and Section 4.3 of the same document, dealing with how to send a tender: Regarding the way to assemble our final tender, there is no indication that Section Five Financial Bid should be included in a different envelope than the rest of the sections. We assume the whole of the tender is assembled together, in the same inner envelope. Please confirm our understanding is correct.	11/12/2013 Yes, your understanding is correct, the technical and financial parts of the offer are to be submitted in the same inner envelope.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
13	11/12/2013 13:22	11/12/2013 14:03	Annex 14.1.2 standardised CV form + Annex 14.1.1 Connection table for staff	<p>Request for clarification concerning Section 5.3 Technical and professional capacity, page 42 of the Tender Specifications and template 14.1.2 CV template.</p> <p>Template 14.1.2. indicates: In Surname(s)/first name(s), the CV number and identifier (as in the connection table for profiles and CVs). The profile must appear very clearly in the identifier or has to be explicitly mentioned.</p> <p>We understand that the Cvs shall not include the name and surnames of candidates and that names will only appear in Annex-14.1.1-Connection Table for Staff. Please confirm our understanding is correct.</p> <p>Could you additionally confirm if this Annex-14.1.1-Connection Table for Staff should be included in a separate envelope to the rest of the tender?</p>	<p>11/12/2013 Please follow the instructions of the revised document "Annex-14.1.2 Standardised_CV_form.doc", which is now available. Annex 14.1.1 'Connection table for staff' must be submitted together with the rest of the Annexes.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
14	11/12/2013 14:08	11/12/2013 14:15	Section 5.3 Technical and professional capacity, page 43 of the Tender Specifications, paragraph 5 and Annex 14.1 Technical and professional capacity questionnaire, page 1.	<p>Request for clarification, Section 5.3 Technical and professional capacity, page 43 of the Tender Specifications, paragraph 5 and Annex 14.1 Technical and professional capacity questionnaire, page 1.</p> <p>This first mentioned paragraph indicates that for technical selection phase there is no specific limit on the length of replies.</p> <p>The referred questionnaire nevertheless indicates that the tenderers are asked to limit the length of their answers to the questionnaire questions to one A4 page.</p> <p>Please confirm if there is a specific limit on the length of replies.</p>	<p>11/12/2013</p> <p>Although Point 5.3 'Section Three: Selection criteria' part b 'Technical and professional capacity' states that for the technical selection phase, there is no specific limit (neither minimum nor maximum limit) imposed on the length of the replies, the tenderers are asked to follow the stipulation of Annex 14.1 and Annex 14.2 ('The tenderers are asked to limit the length of their answers to the questionnaire questions to 1 (one) A4 page'), adjusting the length of the answers for the number of companies where indicated ('For joint offers, please provide information for each company').</p>
15	10/12/2013 11:34	11/12/2013 15:00	Annex 14.1.1	Is it possible to make the updated connection table for staff (Annex 14.1.1) available again for download?	<p>11/12/2013</p> <p>The documents are available for downloading.</p>

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
16	13/12/2013 14:03	13/12/2013 14:39	Request for clarification concerning questionnaire 14.2, Technical quality of the bid, paragraph 4.2.	Request for clarification concerning questionnaire 14.2, Technical quality of the bid, paragraph 4.2: "Describe the structure and content of the proposals that you will submit to the Commission in response to a service request. Please give an outline proposal based on the example" Could you please detail which example you are referring to?	13/12/2013 The tenderers are asked to provide an outline (structure and content) of the proposal, that will be submitted by the contractor, in reply to an 'order form' ('request' or 'service request') as to Article 3.2 'Ordering procedure' of the Tender Specifications. An example is not provided, the reference to 'an example' is removed. Please use revised Annex 14.2 Questionnaire 'Technical quality of the bid' which is now available.
17	12/12/2013 18:02	17/12/2013 18:23	CV language	Dear Sir / Madam, Is it possible to present the CV's of the experts in Spanish language? We will present our proposal in English but the CVs are compiled from our Corporate Management System, and are composed in Spanish. Best regards	17/12/2013 We confirm it possible to submit CV's in Spanish.

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#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
18	13/12/2013 15:40	17/12/2013 18:25	Valid programming languages for the profiles "Junior Consultant" and "Programmer"	<p>Tender Specifications Section 2.8.1 (page 18), section 2.8.2, (page 20), Annex 12 "indicative products list" (page 2).</p> <p>The profiles "Junior Consultant" and "Programmer", require "programming experience in the programming languages currently used in the Commission". Annex 12 just addresses "Java J2EE 1.6.x" as programming language, while section 2.8.1 (page 18) include a list of software infrastructure for a larger set of programming languages.</p> <p>Could Eurostat please specify which are the specific languages of the European Commission which are considered valid to pass the selection criteria of a CV?</p> <p>Are .Net, Python and Flash (which are part of the required software infrastructure) valid programming languages for both profiles?</p>	<p>17/12/2013</p> <p>The expected or valid programming languages are listed among the specific requirement for the Contractor's infrastructure in Article 2.8.1 'Specific requirements to bid for this lot (specific selection criteria)', and Annex 16.1.6 'IT Infrastructure Form' (Page 2 of 2). These specific requirements identify the minimum overlapping between the Commission and Contractor's infrastructure needed for the successful implementation of the framework contract.</p>