

SERVICE PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Assessment of demersal fish and shellfish stocks commercially exploited in Croatia

Croatia

1. Publication reference

EuropeAid/123624/D/SER/HR

2. Procedure

Restricted

3. Programme

PHARE 2005

4. Financing

Croatia 2005 Phare National Programme

5. Contracting Authority

The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Croatia, Central Finance and Contracting Unit

CONTRACT SPECIFICATION

6. Nature of contract

Global price

7. Contract description

The service under this contract should provide the assessment of demersal stocks (fish and shellfish) commercially exploited in Republic of Croatia. The research undertaken is expected to complement and re-assess available results and should include field sampling, data elaboration and reporting. The assessment of the stocks should comprise: demersal communities composition; spatial and temporal species' distribution; population parameters; assessment of impacts to non-target species (by-catch and discard); definition of sensitive areas; biomass index assessment; development potentials and definition of monitoring parameters. Special emphasis should be given to commercially most important demersal species. Relevant studies and available information should be taken into account. It is considered a part of the overall PHARE 2005 project, and shall be done in close cooperation with other relevant segments. Its results are essential part of the National Fisheries Management Strategy.

8. Numbers and titles of lots

N/A

9. Maximum budget

300.000 EURO

10. Scope for additional services

The Contracting Authority may, at its own discretion, extend the project in duration and/or scope subject to the availability of funding, up to a maximum not exceeding the length and value of the initial contract. Any extension of the contract would be subject to satisfactory performance by the Contractor.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

11. Eligibility

Participation is open to all legal persons of the EU Member States and the countries and territories of the regions covered and/or authorised by the Regulations on access to Community external assistance and other specific instruments applicable to the programme under which the contract is financed (see also item 30 below). Participation of natural persons is directly governed by the specific instruments applicable to the programme under which the contract is financed.

12. Candidature

All eligible natural and legal persons (as per item 11 above) or groupings of such persons (consortia) may apply.

A consortium may be a permanent, legally-established grouping or a grouping which has been constituted informally for a specific tender procedure. All members of a consortium (i.e., the leader and all other members) are jointly and severally liable to the Contracting Authority.

The participation of an ineligible natural or legal person (as per item 11) will result in the automatic exclusion of that person. In particular, if that ineligible person belongs to a consortium, the whole consortium will be excluded.

13. Number of applications

No more than one application can be submitted by a natural or legal person whatever the form of participation (as an individual legal entity or as leader or member of a consortium submitting an application). In the event that a natural or legal person submits more than one application, all applications in which that person has participated will be excluded.

14. Shortlist alliances prohibited

Any tenders received from tenderers comprising firms other than those mentioned in the short-listed application forms will be excluded from this restricted tender procedure. Short-listed candidates may not form alliances or subcontract to each other for the contract in question.

15. Grounds for exclusion

As part of the application form, candidates must submit a signed declaration, included in the standard application form, to the effect that they are not in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.3.3 of the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions.

16. Sub-contracting

N/A

17. Number of candidates to be short-listed

On the basis of the applications received, at least 4 and at most 8 candidates will be invited to submit detailed tenders for this contract.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

18. Provisional date of invitation to tender

February 2007

19. Provisional commencement date of the contract

July 2007

20. Initial period of execution and possible extension of the contract

16 months

SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

21. Selection criteria

The following selection criteria will be applied to candidates. In the case of applications submitted by a consortium, these selection criteria will be applied to the consortium as a whole:

- 1) Economic and financial capacity of candidate (based on item 3 of the application form)
 - a) The average annual turnover of the candidate for the past three years must exceed EUR 200.000;
 - b) The averages of cash and cash equivalents at the beginning and end of year are positive.
- 2) Professional capacity of candidate (based on items 4 and 5 of the application form)
 - a) At least 10 staff currently work for the applicant in the fields related to his contract
 - b) At least 25% of all staff working for the candidate this year in fields related to this contract are permanent
- 3) Technical capacity of candidate (based on items 5 and 6 of the application form)
 - a) The candidate has worked successfully on at least one project with a budget of at least that of this contract (in any case not below EUR 300.000) in fields related to this contract in the past three years. The contribution of the candidate in such a project budget must have been of at least 50%, amounting to minimum EUR 300.000 (e.g. 50% in a project of EUR 600.000).

An economic operator may, where appropriate and for a particular contract, rely on the capacities of other entities, regardless of the legal nature of the links which it has with them. It must in that case prove to the Contracting Authority that it will have at its disposal the resources necessary for performance of the contract, for example by producing an undertaking on the part of those entities to place those resources at its disposal. Under the same conditions, a consortium of economic operators may rely on the capacities of members of the consortium or of other entities.

If more than 8 eligible candidates meet the above selection criteria, the relative strengths and weaknesses of the applications of these candidates must be reexamined to identify the eight best applications for the tender procedure. The only factors which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination are:

- 1) the total number of similar contracts in size, implemented in the last three years, following

the criteria 3a.

22. Award criteria

As specified in the tender dossier annexed to the letter of invitation to tender which will be sent to short-listed candidates.

APPLICATION

23. Deadline for receipt of applications

16:00 Central European Time on 29 January 2007.

Any application received after this deadline will not be considered.

24. Application format and details to be provided

Applications must be submitted using the standard application form (available from the following Internet address: http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm), whose format and instructions must be strictly observed.

Any additional documentation (brochure, letter, etc) sent with an application will not be taken into consideration.

25. How applications may be submitted

Applications must be submitted in English exclusively to the Contracting Authority:

- EITHER by recorded delivery (official postal service) to :

**Mr Ivan Serdarušić
Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Croatia
Department for Financing EU Assistance Programmes and Projects
Central Finance and Contracting Unit (CFCU)
(Ministarstvo financija Republike Hrvatske,
Uprava za financiranje programa i projekata pomoći EU – Središnja jedinica za
financiranje i ugovaranje – SJFU)
Katančičeva 5
10000 Zagreb
Croatia**

- OR hand delivered (including courier services) directly to the Contracting Authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to:

**Mr Ivan Serdarušić
Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Croatia
Department for Financing EU Assistance Programmes and Projects
Central Finance and Contracting Unit (CFCU)
(Ministarstvo financija Republike Hrvatske,
Uprava za financiranje programa i projekata pomoći EU – Središnja jedinica za
financiranje i ugovaranje – SJFU)
Katančičeva 5
10000 Zagreb
Croatia**

The Contract title and the Publication reference (see item 1 above) must be clearly marked on the envelope containing the application and must always be mentioned in all subsequent correspondence with the Contracting Authority. Envelope should be marked "Do not open before short listing committee meeting – *Ne otvarati prije sastanka odbora za ocjenjivanje*".

Applications submitted by any other means will not be considered.

26. Alteration or withdrawal of applications

Candidates may alter or withdraw their applications by written notification prior to the deadline for submission of tenders. No application may be altered after this deadline.

Any such notification of alteration or withdrawal shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with Clause 25. The outer envelope (and the relevant inner envelope) must be marked 'Alteration' or 'Withdrawal' as appropriate.

27. Operational language

All written communications for this tender procedure and contract must be in English.

28. Additional information

N/A

29. Date of publication of contract forecast

21 June 2006

30. Legal basis

Council Regulation (EEC) no 3906/89 of 18 December 1989, as last amended by Council Regulation (EC) 2257/2004 of 20 December 2004