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SOLICITATION AMENDMENT
MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

Comments - Commentaires

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS A SECURITY REQUIREMENT / CE DOCUMENT CONTIENT DES EXIGENCES RELATIVES À LA SÉCURITÉ

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Title – Sujet Strategic Advisory Services – Sourcing and Benchmarking Service-conseils stratégiques – Approvisionnement et analyses comparatives	
Solicitation No. – N° de l'invitation 10031544/A	Amendment No. – 004
Client Reference No. – N° référence du client 13-1620	**Date** September 25, 2013
File No. – N° de dossier CAC10031544	
Solicitation Closes – L'invitation prend fin **at – à 11 :59 PM** **on – le October 4, 2013**	**Time Zone** **Fuseau horaire** Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) / Heure Avancée de l'Est (HAE)
F.O.B. - F.A.B. **Plant-Usine:** ☐ **Destination:** ☑ **Other-Autre:** ☐	
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Delivery required - Livraison exigée See Herein	**Delivered Offered – Livraison proposée**
Destination – of Goods, Services, and Construction: **Destination – des biens, services et construction :** See Herein	
Vendor/firm Name and address **Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur** **Facsimile No. – N° de télécopieur** **Telephone No. – N° de téléphone**	
Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/firm **(type or print)-** **Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)** **Signature** **Date**_____	

This amendment is raised to answer Industry questions. All remaining questions will be responded to in a subsequent amendment.

Question 28:
Though the awarded vendor cannot participate in any subsequent competitive procurements that result from this work effort, are they eligible for future task authorizations under this agreement that support the management and execution of the strategies that result from this initial statement of work.

Clarification:
I think the best way to clarify the question is by stating an example. If for example the successful bidder recommends a certain service area to be outsourced, would the successful bidder also be eligible for task authorizations to advise on the transition of services for that service area?

Answer 28:
Yes. It is most likely that this example would fit within the SOW, and therefore if a Task Authorization were issued for such Work, the Contractor may perform it.

Question 29:
There is no mention of the provision of work space for the contractor's team. Will SSC provide work space at their facilities or is the contractor responsible for the provision of all work space?

Answer 29:
Canada will not provide a work space for the Contractor. However, in situations where the nature of the work requires access to the SSC network in order to perform their specified tasks, SSC will provide the Contractor's personnel with any required desktop computing devices.

Question 30:
Subsection 5(4) of 2003 does not appear to reference time. Please clarify the correct reference.

Answer 30:
This is the correct reference. Subsection 5(4) of 2003 means SACC 2003, Article 05, paragraph 4.

Question 32:
Will the security clearance requirements for bidder resources that reside in other countries follow the same requirements as for a foreign supplier as outlined on page 25 of the RFP?

Answer 32:
Bidders must obtain security clearance for resources that reside in other countries from the residing country and will then be able to follow the process indentified in RFP Section 7.5.2 Security Requirement for Foreign Supplier, if that country holds a Bilateral Industrial Security MOU with Canada.

Please refer to the following link for a list of countries that hold a Bilateral Industrial Security MOU with Canada. http://ssi-iss.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ssi-iss/int/si-is-eng.html

Question 35:
The mandatory and rated requirements, and the general language of the RFP place a significant emphasis on "IT Benchmarking". A reading of Section 5.2 of the Statement of work leads us to believe that "IT Benchmarking" could also be delivered through maturity assessments, peer reviews and inter-jurisdictional scans, or other leading practices, that will help define a target end state and roadmap based on leading practices in global industries and governments.

- Would SSC please confirm that “IT Strategy projects and “IT Maturity Assessment” activities, where benchmarking was included, are compliant with the requirements M3, M4 and R4?
- AND/OR
- Given that are NMSO vehicles in place that Shared Services Canada can use to obtain IT Benchmarking services, would SSC issue an amendment removing requirements M3, M4 and R6, and replacing it with a clause stating that SSC has the capability to secure benchmarking through an existing contract that can be accessed as required.

Answer 35:
Yes, IT Maturity Assessment is a valid type of benchmark.

No, Canada will not remove Technical Criteria M3, M4, and R6.

Question 40:
Annex C – SRCL - Page 3. Part B – Personnel (Supplier). It is identified that personnel will need to hold a security screening level of Secret. Given the global context of this requirement, potentially resources from other countries will be required. Will Shared Services Canada have a Senior Procurement Officer or Security Officer (as the out of country process requires), available to assist the supplier with obtaining clearances for personnel from countries that have bilateral / reciprocal agreements with the Canadian investigate authorities.

Answer 40:
Yes. The Contracting Authority indicated on page one (1) of the bid solicitation will be available to assist in obtaining clearances for personnel from countries that have bilateral / reciprocal agreements with the Canadian investigate authorities.

Question 45:
Attachment 4.1 – 1.1 Client References:

M1 (pg 43) – There are a limited number of out sourcing relationships valued at over $1 billion, and industry is moving towards cloud and other lower cost services that don’t make the $1 billion threshold. We ask that SSC reduce the value of the outsource contract to $250 million.

Answer 45:
Canada will not make the requested change.

Question 47:
Can the same client reference(s) and project(s) be used for both the Mandatory and Point related requirements?

Answer 47:
See Amendment 003, response to Question 12.

Question 48:
Please clarify the difference between R1 and R5? Is R5 just a requirement for more client references that meet the same criteria as R1?

Answer 48:
For R.1 Bidders are requested to provide project references for any type of consulting service engagements. Whereas, for R.5 Bidders are requested to provide project references for IT consulting service engagements.

R.5 is asking for additional project references for engagements specific to IT consulting services that have not been provided in response to any other technical criteria.

Question 51:
RFP Page No. 43, Section 1.1 Client References, M.1 – Please provide the definition of (1) contract delivery and (2) contract management activities as it relates to this RFP request.

Answer 51:
See Amendment 003, response to Question 20.

Question 58:
Will security clearances be required for work on all Task Authorizations?

Answer 58:
Yes. As per RFP Section 7.5, the Contractor must hold valid security clearance at all times during the performance of the Contract, including for Work on validly issued Task Authorizations.

Question 69:
We are a global company with Canadian operations. To meet the Mandatory and Rated requirements, many of our reference projects would be for projects completed on a global scale (across multiple countries and jurisdictions, which may or may not have included Canada). Can you confirm that we may use global or international reference projects from our company, even if they were not delivered within Canada by our Canadian operations?

Answer 69:
Yes. Canada would accept global or international references.