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ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE: (ACAN) # 01B68-15-0085

The Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) has a requirement for CSIRO Publishing to renew Library subscriptions for online journals.

The purpose of this Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) is to signal the government's intention to award a contract for these services to the pre-selected supplier:

CSIRO Publishing
PO Box 1139
Collingwood VIC 3066 AUSTRALIA
+61 3 9662 7666 (Phone)
+61 3 9662 7555 (Fax)

Before awarding a contract, however, the government would like to provide other suppliers with the opportunity to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying the requirements set out in this Notice, by submitting a statement of capabilities during the 15 calendar day posting period.

If other potential suppliers submit a statement of capabilities during the 15 calendar day posting period that meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the government will proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities meeting the requirements set out in the ACAN, a contract will be awarded to the pre-selected supplier, as referenced above.

BACKGROUND

CSIRO Publishing is an internationally recognized independent science and technology publisher. CSIRO Publishing publishes material covering a wide range of scientific disciplines, including agriculture, the plant and animal sciences and environmental management. CSIRO Publishing is a business unit within Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation. The Canadian Agriculture Library currently subscribes to 9 of their journals.

CAL has subscribed to journals from CSIRO Publishing, in print and/or online, since 1950. These journals are in high demand and are regularly used by AAFC researchers. Articles from these journals were accessed over 1,100 times during the previous calendar year. Licensing these e-journals supports AAFC's mandate by providing AAFC scientists improved access to information. These e-journals directly support research staff in Science and Technology Branch.

CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

CSIRO Publishing will license and deliver web access to the full-text content of the nine (9) subscribed electronic journals as stated in the statement of work below for the time period specified in the license agreement.

- Provide AAFC and portfolio clients with department-wide web-based access to the CSIRO electronic journals via a secure network, using IP authentication.
- Ensure that the server has adequate capacity and bandwidth to support the usage of the licensee at a level commensurate with the standards of availability for information services of similar scope operating via the World Wide Web.
- Use all reasonable endeavors to make the licensed material available to the licensee and authorized users at all times and on a twenty-four hour basis, save for scheduled routine maintenance, and to restore access to the licensed materials as soon as possible in the event of an interruption or suspension of the service.
- Provide adequate and competent technical support and assistance to enable the licensee to make proper use of the licensed material.

Journal Title	Coverage	Subject Coverage
Animal Production Science	v. 1 (1961)-present	Focus is on livestock and food production. Subjects covered include : animal breeding and genetics; animal nutrition and reproduction; livestock farming systems, sustainability and natural resource management; meat science and consumer acceptability; behaviour, health and welfare of livestock; feed quality and nutritional value; bio-pharmaceuticals derived from animals
Australian Journal of Botany	v. 1 (1953)-present	Focus is on original research in plant science. Subjects covered include: ecology and ecophysiology; conservation biology and biodiversity; cell and molecular biology; reproductive biology and genetics; mycology and pathology; structure and development.
Australian Systematic Botany	v. 1 (1988)-present	Covers research that advances systematic botany and related aspects of biogeography and evolution of all plant groups, including fossils.
Crop & Pasture Science	v. 1 (1950)-present	Covers research in plant sciences, sustainable farming systems, and food quality. The primary focus is broad-scale cereals, grain legumes, oilseeds and pastures. The journal is aimed at agricultural scientists, plant biologists, administrators, and policy-makers.
Functional Plant Biology	v. 1 (1974)-present	Covers all aspects of plant functions and their regulation, especially in relation to changing environments. Subjects covered include: plant growth and development, photosynthesis, nutrient uptake and metabolism, root-rhizosphere biology, reproduction biology, seed and fruit biology, stress tolerance, and defence and protection.
Invertebrate Systematics	v. 1 (1987)-present	Covers systematics and phylogeny of invertebrates worldwide.
Rangeland Journal	v. 1 (1976)-present	Covers the biophysical, social, cultural, economic, and policy influences affecting rangeland use and management.

Reproduction, Fertility & Development	v. 1 (1989)-present	Covers all aspects of vertebrate reproduction and developmental biology. Subjects covered include: biology, physiology, biochemistry, endocrinology, immunology, cell biology, genetics, epigenetics, pest management, and the development of reproductive technologies in humans, livestock and wildlife.
Soil Research	v. 1 (1963)-present	Soil Research Covers research relating to primary production, land and water management, environmental pollution and remediation.

Special Features

- E-mail alert service for new issues.
- Capability to export citations to EndNote, the AAFC standard for reference management software.
- Powerful database search engine and title browse capability.
- Capability to interface with link resolvers, particularly TOURresolver from TDNet and 360Link from ProQuest
- Participates in CrossRef reference linking system.
- Walk-in users shall have access to the full content of the online journals while consulting resources within the Library premises.
- Perpetual access to HTML and/or PDF full text papers where paid online access was held if subscriptions are subsequently cancelled.
- Provision of monthly COUNTER-compliant usage statistics.
- Customer administration functionality to manage IP registration and usage statistics.

CONTRACT PERIOD

The resulting contract will be valid from January 1st, 2016 to December 31st, 2016, and AAFC will have the option to extend the validity of the contract by up to two (2) one-year option periods.

QUALIFICATIONS

To fulfill the requirements of the contract the person or firm must be able to license perpetual Web access via IP authentication for AAFC's multiple sites and Portfolio partners served by CAL, to the full text content of the subscribed material.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA REGULATIONS EXCEPTION

The Treasury Board's Government Contract Regulations, Part 10.2.1 Section 6 states there are four exceptions that permit the contracting authority to set aside the requirement to solicit bids. This includes:

- d. "only one supplier person or firm is capable of performing the contract."

CSIRO Publishing owns all copyright in and to these online journals is authorized to publish all material therein. CSIRO Publishing is the only entity which can license access to these materials.

ESTIMATE OF COSTS

Original contract period: \$12,110.00 CAN plus applicable taxes.
Option Period #1: \$12,476.00CAN plus applicable taxes.
Option Period #2: \$12,848.00 CAN plus applicable taxes.

SUPPLIER NAME AND ADDRESS

CSIRO Publishing

PO Box 1139
Collingwood VIC 3066 AUSTRALIA

CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

Sami Nouh, Senior Contracting Officer
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)
Central Material Management Centre (CMMC)
Professional Services Contracting Unit
1285 Baseline Road, T3-5-337
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C5
Tel: 613-773-0941
Email: sami.nouh@agr.gc.ca

SUPPLIERS RIGHT TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services/goods described herein, may submit a Statement of Capabilities in writing to the address identified below.

Statements of Capabilities must be delivered to and received by the Contracting Authority on or before the closing date of December 15 2015 at 12:00 (noon Ottawa time) to the following address

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)
Central Material Management Centre (CMMC)
Professional Services Contracting Unit
1285 Baseline Road, T3-5-337
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C5
Attention: Sami Nouh, Senior Contracting Officer
Solicitation Number: ACAN: 01B68-15-0085

The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

Statements of capabilities must be mailed or faxed on or before the closing date/time. Statement of capabilities received on or before the closing date will be considered solely for the purpose of deciding whether or not to conduct a more extensive tendering process. Information provided will be used by the Crown for technical evaluation purposes only with respect to a decision to proceed to a further competitive process.

Suppliers that have submitted a statement of capabilities will be notified in writing of AAFC's decision to proceed to award the contract without a further additional tendering process.

Should you have any questions concerning this requirement, contact the contracting officer identified above. The AAFC file number, the contracting officer's name and the closing date of the ACAN must appear on the outside of the envelope in block letters or, in the case of facsimile transmission, on the covering page.

The Crown retains the right to negotiate with suppliers on any procurement. Documents may be submitted in either official language of Canada.