

1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services, or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

2. Definition of the requirement

- a) Environment and Climate Change Canada has requirements in 2016 for: 1) the supply of a monitoring plan (including threat assessment), 2) weekly surveys for Roseate Terns at sites in northeastern Brazil (Pecém Harbor and the Banco dos Cajuais, Ceará) March, 2016 including 3) photographs of any banded birds recorded and 4) photographs of birds in all present life stages (plumages) for identification purposes. For fiscal year 2016-17 (should an option year be exercised), the requirements are to: 1) conduct oversummering surveys for Roseate Terns in northeastern Brazil from late May through August 2016, 2) conduct regular surveys at known roost sites from November to March, and 3) to endeavour to identify additional sites used by Roseate Terns.
- b) The contractor must 1) be able to communicate (orally and in writing) in English and (orally) in Portuguese, 2) be available and able to: access all habitats used by terns at the two proposed sites (Pecém Harbor and the Banco dos Cajuais, Ceará regularly (i.e., weekly in March, 2016)) for tern surveys, 3) be able to distinguish Roseate Terns (in all life stages) from multiple other tern species that may be present at sites, 4) be able to read and record coded auxiliary bands on individually-marked Roseate Terns, and 5) take opportunistic photos of individually-marked birds for confirmation of identification, as well as provide representative photos of Roseate Terns in various plumages present in northeastern Brazil. The contractor must have 6) experience co-ordinating and leading a team for avian field surveys in Brazil, 7) must have access to a team of people experienced in conducting coordinated bird surveys and 8) must have experience working with local communities/people. Should an option year (2016/17) be exercised, the contractor must also be available from late May through August, 2016 to undertake oversummering surveys for Roseate Terns), to regularly inventory Pecém Harbor and the Banco dos Cajuais, Ceará for Roseate Terns, and to undertake expeditions in search of currently unknown sites important for Roseate Terns. The contractor must be experienced with recording data collected in the field for migratory birds and must be equipped and able to store field data.

3. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it is able to meet the above requirements (2b).

4. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

The "birding community" (i.e., experts with tern identification skills) in northeastern Brazil is very small and the language is a huge barrier (Portuguese is the primary language which makes finding English-speaking bird experts very difficult). Aquasis is in a unique position to coordinate coastal bird monitoring in Northeastern Brazil and is the only NGO in northeastern Brazil we are aware of with the necessary bird expertise and staff able to converse in English. The NGO maintains a 4WD vehicle, which is absolutely essential for conducting beach monitoring work in this region. Furthermore, Aquasis headquarters are situated close enough to Pecém Harbor that it is practical to undertake day trips and mostly avoid lodging expenses, except during particularly active periods when multiple days of monitoring can be more productive. Their field crew has excellent experience in coastal bird identification and photography and is intimately familiar with the proposed monitoring areas.

Thus, the proposed contractor has the knowledge, training, and experience to complete the tasks required for this contract. The proposed contractor has experience, specific technical, and biological knowledge to provide the services described and is familiar with the species and the geographic areas used by migratory terns in northeastern Brazil; they can identify the species accurately and are experienced with the type of information that must be recorded in the field and the methods required to record and store the data safely. The proposed contractor can quickly and efficiently conduct the tasks required without additional training. Finally, the proposed contractor is available to conduct this project during the specified time period which is a major requirement for this contract.

5. Government Contracts Regulation Exception(s)

The following exception to the *Government Contracts Regulations* is invoked for this procurement under subsection 6 (d): Only one contractor is capable of performing this contract.

Environment Canada; being responsible for the management and conservation of migratory birds, many of whom winter in South America; is an active participant in international alliances and partnerships, and we are unaware of any other domestic or international organization who could implement the work in northeastern Brazil as Aquasis.

6. Liability

Without restricting the terms and conditions of the contract, it is hereby understood and agreed that, except to the extent caused by or due to Canada, Canada shall not be liable for any losses, claims, damages, or expenses relating to any injury, disease, illness, disability, or death of the contractor or any employee, agent, or representative of the contractor caused or alleged to be caused as a result of performing the contract. The contractor agrees to fully protect and indemnify Canada and not to make any claims or demands against Canada in respect of any of the foregoing contingencies.

7. Supplemental General Conditions

8. Period of the Proposed Contract

The proposed contract is for a period of contract award date to March 31, 2017.

9. Cost Estimate of the Proposed Contract

The estimated value of the contract is between \$ 15, 500.00 (2016) and \$33,000.00 (if option year 2016/17 is exercised).

10. Name and Address of the Pre-Identified Supplier

AQUASIS - Associação de Pesquisa e Preservação de Ecossistemas Aquáticos
Avenida José de Alencar, 150
Caucaia, CE. Brazil. CEP 61627-010
Tel : 55 85 3318-4911
E-mail: alberto@aquasis.org or jason.a.mobley@gmail.com

11. Supplier's Right to Submit a Statement of Capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services, or construction services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contract person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

12. Inquiries and Submission of Statements of Capabilities

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be delivered to:

Carole Daigle – Contracting Officer
45 Alderney Drive
45 Alderney Drive
Dartmouth, NS
B2Y 2N6

Telephone: 902-426-0935
Email: carole.daigle@canada.ca

13. Closing Date and Time:

March 9, 2016 at 14:00 AST