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ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE: (ACAN) # 01B68-15-0269

The Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) has a requirement for access to Zen Innovations' Global Trade Tracker database covering Global multilateral trade data.

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:

Zen Innovations AG
Bernstrasse 99
CH-3122 Kehrsatz
Switzerland

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

The Global Analysis Division (GAD) of MISB learned of this database provided by Zen Innovations AG in 2015. The Global Trade Tracker database is a powerful application which provides critical multilateral trade data by country with monthly data and also international port and US State data. The intention is to evaluate the new product during the course of one year before deciding if any future contract should be awarded. This service is aligned with the MISB Priority activities involving knowledge transfer.

CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

The contractor will deliver Web access to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and its Portfolio for their new Business Intelligence tool called the Global Trade Tracker (GTT). These are mainly:

1. Unlimited access to Import/Export information for all countries and commodities, for both monthly and annual data and by port. Unlimited access to the batch reporting functionality, for both monthly and annual data. This will allow single or multiple user defined data feeds to be set up for individual users.
2. Unlimited access to the full state-of-the-art Business Intelligence functionality which includes several searching features, heat maps and many of their advanced customizable features including the ability to custom design templates which self-update. Unlimited access to "mirror reporting" (deduced/inferred reports) for all reporting and non-reporting countries. This includes visualisation of data tools (Dashboards) and personal updates on newly published research (Alerts).

- Capacity to create regional trade blocs from combining reporter countries and allowing the system to report on intra and extra trade for each of these blocs. This is a key feature which allows Global Analysis to accelerate and improve significantly its development of tools to measure market opportunities as a result of regional trade agreements such as the TPP and CETA.

CONTRACT PERIOD

It is estimated that the resulting contract will be valid from March 25th, 2016 to March 24th, 2017.

MINIMUM ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

To fulfill the requirements of the contract the person or firm must be able to provide access to the Global Trade Tracker database covering Global multilateral trade data, as outlined above under "Current Requirements".

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."

Only Zen Innovations AG can deliver the full services required and the Business Intelligence (BI) tool functionality. The system functionality provided by Zen Innovations AG is largely proprietary and as such is not available by other sources.

ESTIMATE OF COSTS

The estimated value of a one-year contract is \$96,600.00 inclusive of taxes.

SUPPLIER NAME AND ADDRESS

Zen Innovations AG
Bernstrasse 99
CH-3122 Kehrsatz
Switzerland

CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

Erin Massey, Senior Contracting Officer
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)
Central Material Management Centre (CMMC)
Professional Services Contracting Unit
1341 Baseline Road, T5-2-345
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C5
Tel: 613-773-2737
Email: erin.massey@canada.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 **March 14th, 2016 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
1341 Baseline Road, T5-2-345
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C5
Attention: Erin Massey, Senior Contracting Officer
Solicitation Number: ACAN: 01B68-15-0269

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/time 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.