

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

The purpose of the work under this contract is to support the Innovation and Youth Engagement Division bring in an innovation training curriculum to Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) that caters to two primary objectives:

- Provide learning content and resources to a broader group of ECCC employees (particularly when there is demonstrated alignment with work and expertise) to foster greater innovation capacity across the Department as a whole; and
- Through a tailored, intensive pedagogical curriculum, support a focused cohort of employees build leadership capacities and apply their skills and learning to advance project objectives.

The training being provided is to enable the Department to improve its capabilities to practically deal with complex problems and strengthen internal capacity relating to leadership and public sector innovation. Work will include development and delivery of a pedagogical-based innovation skills training curriculum to improve the capacity of ECCC employees to solve cross-cutting challenges, specifically examining approaches, behaviours, and cultures that enable effective innovation in government. Ongoing support (in the form of learning materials such as workbooks as well as mentorship) and advice throughout the development and implementation of the program is also to be included.

Expected deliverables include:

- One two-day session and two five-day workshops to be hosted in-person between date of contract award and December 31, 2020 (precise timelines to be determined between ECCC and supplier). In-person workshops and sessions are to take place in the National Capital Region (Canada) and contribute to progress on a project that addresses a cross-cutting challenge in the Department. Virtual attendance and participation in these workshops is to be provided where appropriate and possible.
 - Workshops are to be supplemented by preparatory and follow-up exercises (e.g. written exercises, facilitated group discussions) to reinforce learning.
- In-person and virtual mentorship and coaching from faculty throughout the program, as appropriate.
- 60-90 minute webinars on relevant topics related to public sector innovation in order to expand learning to a broader audience in the Department. These webinars could involve interactive elements such as break-out or Q&A sessions as a means to consolidate content.

This will build leadership and innovation capacity across the Department, and in the learning process, collaborative research and analysis will help advance priority projects that can explore and test what types of approaches work most effectively for ECCC. It is also to address the need to grow and mature the skills and capacity required to manage more innovation in the Canadian public service context effectively, with a strong focus on results that cater specifically to ECCC.

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

- Demonstrate a minimum of 7 years' experience in delivering tailored innovation training programs that can be tailored to unique organizational needs (in this case, ECCC's mandate and priorities) and are appropriate for application in the public sector.
- Demonstrate strong and effective leverage of international and Canadian expertise in developing and delivering training content relating to innovation craft, such as experimentation, catered to a public sector audience.
- Demonstrate that the innovation training program, shaped by international and local expertise, can be catered effectively to a Canadian context and prove linkages to Canadian public sector innovation.
- Demonstrate experience working with participants of multidisciplinary backgrounds and in bringing together a diversity of stakeholders to effectively co-create solutions and stimulate changes in mindset and cultures, as means to addressing cross-cutting policy and program challenges in an organization.
- Deliver one two-day session and two five-day sessions in-person located within the National Capital Region, Canada, between March 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, supplemented by preparatory and follow-up exercises to reinforce learning.

4. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

Nesta is recognized as a global leader on innovation and how it can improve results for governments, businesses, charities and other organizations. Nesta's Stages of Change program is the world's first customizable, practice-oriented curriculum for government innovation. Their extensive stakeholder network is critical to this flagship innovation skills curriculum for governments, which capitalizes on a great depth and breadth of expertise from a range of experts, leading innovative organizations and high performing sectors. The program has a global faculty of innovative practitioners with a proven track record related to success in innovation work, and Nesta is the only organization positioned to tailor their innovation skills development curriculum, which is shaped by those experts, for use in a Canadian context. Their program aims to build increased awareness and understanding of the value of innovation, enable practiced application of innovation craft, as well as establish an understanding of the necessary conditions for innovation to happen; this also supports ECCC's objective of effectively integrating innovative practices as a more standard practice in regular operations.

Through States of Change, Nesta is able to offer a fulsome training experience that caters directly to ECCC's needs and leverages and engages local expertise. In this way, ECCC can benefit from this local expertise while also having access to the knowledge and teaching from Nesta's international faculty. Nesta has significant expertise and experience in running innovation skills training and strengthening leadership capacities in the public sector. Therefore, their team is best equipped to provide the Innovation and Youth Engagement Division with the knowledge, advice, and competencies, on how to most effectively bring an innovation training program to the Department in a manner that suits the interests and context of ECCC.

Nesta has previous experience with the Government of Canada (GC) and is currently engaged in innovation projects across a number of policy domains. No other organization has undertaken this type of work on this scale. Nesta has proven, reputable experience working with the GC through the Privy Council Office's GC Entrepreneur (GCE) program, in providing innovation training and building leadership capacity amongst a cohort of public servants. Resulting from the lessons, mentorship, and advice that Nesta was able to provide to the cohort, the associated GCE project work was able to deliver strong, impactful results across the GC.

Nesta is available to conduct this training on the prescribed timelines and this is an important component to this contract and work.

Nesta is well-respected within the industry and known for the quality of the work and training they provide, in addition to the deep and reputable expertise of the faculty delivering their training. With their extensive expertise, experience and capacity, Nesta is the most capable of bringing to ECCC a pedagogically-based innovation skills training curriculum, developed from an international knowledge base, that can be adapted to a Canadian context.

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 Person/Firm is capable of performing the work".

6. Applicable Trade Agreements

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreements:

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement;
- Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement;
- Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement;
- North American Free Trade Agreement;
- Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement;
- Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement;
- Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement;

7. Period of the Proposed Contract

The proposed contract is for a period that will go from the contract award date to December 31, 2020.

8. Cost Estimate of the Proposed Contract

The total estimated value of the contract is \$100 000.00, to be distributed over the 2019-20 and 2020-2021 fiscal years.

9. Name and Address of the Pre-Identified Supplier

Name: Nesta

Address:

58 Victoria Embankment

London

EC4Y 0DS, UK

10. 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.

11. Inquiries and Submission of Statements of Capabilities

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be delivered to:

Carole Daigle – Contracting Officer

45 Alderney Drive

Dartmouth, NS
B2Y 2N6

Email: carole.daigle@canada.ca

12. Closing Date and Time:

March 2, 2020; 2:00pm Eastern Standard Time