



RETURN BIDS TO / RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À :

Attention: Nicholas Plettenberg-Dussault
 Department of Finance Canada
 Email only: procurement-provisionnement@fin.gc.ca

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL AMENDMENT

DEMANDE DE PROPOSITION MODIFICATION

Proposal To: Department of Finance
Proposition au : Ministère des Finances Canada

We hereby offer to sell to Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out herein, referred to herein or attached hereto, the goods, services, and construction listed herein and on any attached sheets at the price(s) set out thereof.

Instructions : See Herein

This document contains a Security Requirement.

Nous offrons par la présente de vendre à Sa Majesté la Reine du chef du Canada, aux conditions énoncées ou incluses par référence dans la présente et aux annexes ci-jointes, les biens, services et construction énumérés ici sur toute feuille ci-annexée, au ou aux prix indiqués.

Instructions : Voir aux présentes

Ce document contient une exigence de sécurité.

Title - Sujet Financial Sector Legislative Review on the Digitalization of Money Examen législatif du secteur financier sur la numérisation de l'argent	
Solicitation No. – No de l'invitation: FIN-20220497	Publication Date - Date de publication: July 25, 2022
Date of Amendment - Date de la modification : September 09, 2022	Amendment No. - Modification No. 003
Financial Code(s) – Code(s) financier(s) G/L: 4670 - CO:0060 - FC: 907101 - FA: 6150	GSIN Code(s) - Code(s) NIBS R019F: Consulting Services - Services de consultation
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG : PW-22-01002377 Financial Sector Legislative Review on the Digitalization of Money (FIN-20220497) - Buyandsell.gc.ca Examen législatif du secteur financier sur la numérisation de l'argent (FIN-20220497) - Achatsetventes.gc.ca	
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin: at 02 :00 PM EDT (Eastern Daylight Time) 14:00 Heure avancée de l'Est (HAE) on September 14, 2022 – 14 septembre 2022 No further extension will be granted and therefore Questions & Answers period is now closed.	
Solicitation Authority - Responsable de l'invitation: Name-Nom: Nicholas Plettenberg-Dussault Email - Courriel: procurement-provisionnement@fin.gc.ca	
Security Requirement - Exigences de sécurité : YES - OUI	
Tendering Process - Méthode d'approvisionnement: Open Bidding - Invitation Ouverte	
Estimated Contract Period - Période estimée du marché: Contract Award Date to September 30, 2024 Date d'attribution du contrat jusqu'au 30 septembre 2024	
Option Period: Yes - Oui	Number of Option Periods: Up to two (2) additional years - Jusqu'à 2 années additionnelles
All enquiries regarding this proposal solicitation must be submitted in writing to the Contracting Authority, no less than ten (10) calendar days prior to the Proposal Closing Date to allow sufficient time for the Department of Finance to provide responses. Enquiries received after that date may not be responded to prior to the Proposal Closing Date. Toutes les demandes de renseignements concernant la présente DDP doivent être soumises par écrit au responsable de l'invitation, au plus tard dix (10) jours civils avant la date de clôture du dépôt des propositions afin de donner au ministère des Finances Canada suffisamment de temps pour y donner suite. Si des demandes de renseignements sont reçues après cette date, il se peut qu'on n'y réponde pas avant la date de clôture des propositions. Toutes les réponses qui apportent plus de renseignements sur le besoin seront affichées sur SEAG.	

NOTICE TO ALL BIDDERS

In order to stimulate effective competition and seek best value for Canadian taxpayers, the Department of Finance conducted a search of publicly available information (such as websites and research reports) to help identify potential Bidders with subject matter expertise related to the services required in this Request for Proposal (RFP). In accordance with PSPC Supply Manual Clause 4.75.35 [Contacting Suppliers Directly During the Solicitation Period - Buyandsell.gc.ca](#), contact was made on August 15, 2022 to notify potential bidders of the opportunity and direct them to Government Electronic Tendering Service (GETS). The notice did not include any information that was not already available on GETS.

CLARIFICATIONS FOR AMD 002 – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question 17	<p>Regarding Page 3, 1.2.1 Summary of RFP, please advise if the Contract Security Program (CSP), Application for Registration (AFR) for Canadian Legal Entities document needs to be included as part of the bid submission, or if this document can be submitted prior to the award of contract.</p>
Answer 17	<p>As of May 2, 2022, organizations bidding on government solicitations with security requirements are requested to complete and provide an application for registration (AFR) form as part of their bid response (for example, their proposal).</p> <p>The documents related to the Security Requirement should be submitted with the bid but may be submitted afterwards. If any of these required documents is not completed and submitted as requested, the Contracting Authority will inform the Bidder of a time frame within which to provide the information.</p> <p>As a result of these changes, organizations only need to meet security requirements during the bid solicitation process if they are required to access sensitive documents to prepare their bid submission. If access to sensitive information is only required to execute the contract, government procurement officers must give bidders until the date of contract award to obtain their organization security clearance.</p> <p>This puts all potential bidders on the same level playing field and provides a more competitive business environment. It ensures that, regardless of whether or not they have a clearance with the CSP, organizations of all sizes are eligible to bid on government tenders with security requirements.</p> <p>Please refer to Part 6 – Security Requirement of RFP:</p> <p>PART 6 - SECURITY REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>6.1 Security Requirements</p> <p>1. Before award of a contract, the following conditions must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Bidder must hold a valid organization security clearance as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses; (b) the Bidder's proposed individuals requiring access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites must meet the security requirements as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses;

	<p>(c) the Bidder must provide the name of all individuals who will require access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites;</p> <p>(d) the Bidder's proposed location of work performance and document safeguarding must meet the security requirements as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses;</p> <p>(e) the Bidder must provide the addresses of proposed sites or premises of work performance and document safeguarding as indicated in Part 3 - Section IV Additional Information.</p> <p>2. Bidders are reminded to obtain the required security clearance promptly. Any delay in the award of a contract to allow the successful Bidder to obtain the required clearance will be at the entire discretion of the Contracting Authority.</p> <p>1. For additional information on security requirements, Bidders should refer to the Contract Security Program of Public Works and Government Services Canada (http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/esc-src/introduction-eng.html) website.</p>
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Question 22	Regarding Page 18, 5.2 Certifications Precedent to Contract Award and Additional Information of RFP, please advise if the certifications listed in section 5.2 should be included with the bid or provided upon award of contract? If they are required shortly after bid submission, please advise regarding how much time will be given to provide the certifications.
Answer 22	<p>Bidders must provide the required certifications and additional information before contract award date.</p> <p>AMENDED PART 5 – CERTIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Bidders must provide the required certifications and additional information to be awarded a contract.</p> <p>The certifications provided by Bidders to Canada are subject to verification by Canada at all times. Unless specified otherwise, Canada will declare a bid non-responsive, or will declare a contractor in default if any certification made by the Bidder is found to be untrue, whether made knowingly or unknowingly, during the bid evaluation period or during the contract period.</p> <p>The Contracting Authority will have the right to ask for additional information to verify the Bidder's certifications. Failure to comply and to cooperate with any request or requirement imposed by the Contracting Authority will render the bid non-responsive or constitute a default under the Contract.</p> <p>5.1 Certifications Required</p> <p>5.1.1 Integrity Provisions - Declaration of Convicted Offences</p> <p>In accordance with the Integrity Provisions of the Standard Instructions, all bidders must provide with their bid, if applicable, the Integrity declaration form available on the Forms</p>

for the Integrity Regime website (<http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ci-if/declaration-eng.html>), to be given further consideration in the procurement process.

5.2 Certifications Precedent to Contract Award and Additional Information

The certifications and additional information listed below should be submitted with the bid but may be submitted afterwards. If any of these required certifications or additional information is not completed and submitted as requested, the Contracting Authority will inform the Bidder of a time frame within which to provide the information. Failure to provide the certifications or the additional information listed below within the time frame specified will render the bid non-responsive.

5.2.1 Integrity Provisions – Required Documentation

In accordance with the section titled Information to be provided when bidding, contracting or entering into a real property agreement of the [Ineligibility and Suspension Policy](http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ci-if/politique-policy-eng.html) (<http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ci-if/politique-policy-eng.html>), the Bidder must provide the required documentation, as applicable, to be given further consideration in the procurement process

5.2.2 Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity - Bid Certification

By submitting a bid, the Bidder certifies that the Bidder, and any of the Bidder's members if the Bidder is a Joint Venture, is not named on the Federal Contractors Program (FCP) for employment equity "FCP Limited Eligibility to Bid" list available at the bottom of the page of the [Employment and Social Development Canada \(ESDC\) - Labour's](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/employment-equity/federal-contractor-program.html#) website (<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/employment-equity/federal-contractor-program.html#>).

Canada will have the right to declare a bid non-responsive if the Bidder, or any member of the Bidder if the Bidder is a Joint Venture, appears on the "FCP Limited Eligibility to Bid list at the time of contract award.

Canada will also have the right to terminate the Contract for default if a Contractor, or any member of the Contractor if the Contractor is a Joint Venture, appears on the "[FCP Limited Eligibility to Bid](#)" list during the period of the Contract.

Question 23	<p>Regarding Page 21, 6.1 Security Requirements of RFP, please advise if the relevant organization security clearances listed in this section should be included with the bid submission, or if verification can be provided upon award of contract.</p> <p>If relevant security clearance verification is to be provided shortly after bid submission, please advise regarding how much time will be provided to complete these security requirements.</p>
Answer 23	<p>As of May 2, 2022, organizations bidding on government solicitations with security requirements are requested to complete and provide an application for registration (AFR) form as part of their bid response (for example, their proposal).</p> <p>The documents related to the Security Requirement should be submitted with the bid but may be submitted afterwards. If any of these required documents is not completed and submitted as requested, the Contracting Authority will inform the Bidder of a time frame within which to provide the information.</p> <p>As a result of these changes, organizations only need to meet security requirements during the bid solicitation process if they are required to access sensitive documents to prepare their bid submission. If access to sensitive information is only required to execute the contract, government procurement officers must give bidders until the date of contract award to obtain their organization security clearance.</p> <p>This puts all potential bidders on the same level playing field and provides a more competitive business environment. It ensures that, regardless of whether or not they have a clearance with the CSP, organizations of all sizes are eligible to bid on government tenders with security requirements.</p> <p>Please refer to Part 6 – Security Requirement of RFP:</p> <p>PART 6 - SECURITY REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>6.1 Security Requirements</p> <p>1. Before award of a contract, the following conditions must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Bidder must hold a valid organization security clearance as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses; (b) the Bidder's proposed individuals requiring access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites must meet the security requirements as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses; (c) the Bidder must provide the name of all individuals who will require access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites; (d) the Bidder's proposed location of work performance and document safeguarding must meet the security requirements as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses; (e) the Bidder must provide the addresses of proposed sites or premises of work performance and document safeguarding as indicated in Part 3 - Section IV Additional Information.

	<p>2. Bidders are reminded to obtain the required security clearance promptly. Any delay in the award of a contract to allow the successful Bidder to obtain the required clearance will be at the entire discretion of the Contracting Authority.</p> <p>1. For additional information on security requirements, Bidders should refer to the Contract Security Program of Public Works and Government Services Canada (http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/esc-src/introduction-eng.html) website.</p>
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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

This Amendment 003 is issued to provide answers to bidders' questions:

Question 28	In order to use international qualifications/projects (i.e. for clients located in OECD countries) to meet the mandatory requirements and allowing more a competitive responses from suppliers, and while acting as the Lead Member would the Crown allow us to combine mandatory corporate capabilities with other companies that want to partner with us so that together we can meet the corporate requirements.
Answer 28	<p>The current definition of "bidder", under section 04 of Standard Instructions 2003, "Bidder" means the person or entity (or, in the case of a joint venture, the persons or entities) submitting a bid to perform a contract for goods, services or both. It does not include the parent, subsidiaries or other affiliates of the Bidder, or its subcontractors.</p> <p>Joint ventures may respond to bid solicitations in accordance with the applicable conditions contained in the solicitation. The relevant section of standard instructions 2003 of the SACC Manual permits joint venture bids and provide further details.</p>
Question 29	Section 4.1.1.2 Point Rated Technical Criteria states "A total maximum of 95 rated points are available. In order for a Bidder to be considered compliant, a minimum of 67 points (70%) must be achieved. A minimum score of 60% is required for each rated criteria?" Would the Crown consider removing the minimum score for each rated criteria?
Answer 29	No, Canada will not remove the minimum score for each rated criteria.
Question 30	Would it possible to extend the bid closing date of September 12 th , 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)?
Answer 30	Yes, Canada will only be extending the bid closing date to September 14th, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). No further extension will be granted and therefore Questions & Answers period is now closed.
Question 31	Reference Check Process With regard to the reference check process, would the Crown please confirm that the Bidder will be copied (cc'd / bcc'd) on the emails sent to the cited reference?
Answer 31	No, Bidders will not be included in the Reference Check process and related emails.

Question 32	<p>Initial International Security Screening Form With regard to the IISS document / form and the Application for Registration form posted on the BuyandSell.gc.ca website, would the Crown please confirm that this information is not required to be included at the time of bid submission and will only be required at the time of contract award?</p>
Answer 32	<p>Organizations bidding on government solicitations with security requirements are requested to complete and provide an Initial International Security Screening Form (IISS) as part of their bid response (for example, their proposal).</p> <p>As of May 2, 2022, organizations bidding on government solicitations with security requirements are requested to complete and provide an application for registration (AFR) form as part of their bid response (for example, their proposal).</p> <p>The documents related to the Security Requirement should be submitted with the bid but may be submitted afterwards. If any of these required documents is not completed and submitted as requested, the Contracting Authority will inform the Bidder of a time frame within which to provide the information.</p> <p>As a result of these changes, organizations only need to meet security requirements during the bid solicitation process if they are required to access sensitive documents to prepare their bid submission. If access to sensitive information is only required to execute the contract, government procurement officers must give bidders until the date of contract award to obtain their organization security clearance.</p> <p>This puts all potential bidders on the same level playing field and provides a more competitive business environment. It ensures that, regardless of whether or not they have a clearance with the CSP, organizations of all sizes are eligible to bid on government tenders with security requirements.</p> <p>Please refer to Part 6 – Security Requirement of RFP:</p> <p>PART 6 - SECURITY REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>6.1 Security Requirements</p> <p>1. Before award of a contract, the following conditions must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Bidder must hold a valid organization security clearance as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses; (b) the Bidder's proposed individuals requiring access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites must meet the security requirements as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses; (c) the Bidder must provide the name of all individuals who will require access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites; (d) the Bidder's proposed location of work performance and document safeguarding must meet the security requirements as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses; (e) the Bidder must provide the addresses of proposed sites or premises of work performance and document safeguarding as indicated in Part 3 - Section IV Additional Information. <p>2. Bidders are reminded to obtain the required security clearance promptly. Any delay in the award of a contract to allow the successful Bidder to obtain the required clearance will be at the entire discretion of the Contracting Authority.</p>

	3. For additional information on security requirements, Bidders should refer to the Contract Security Program of Public Works and Government Services Canada (http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/esc-src/introduction-eng.html) website.
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Question 33	Future Requirements Related to the Government of Canada's Financial Sector Legislative Review Understanding that this RFP deals with the first phase of the Financial Sector Legislative Review – specifically focused on the digitalization of money, would the Crown please confirm that the successful supplier under this RFP will not be precluded from any future RFP's related to subsequent phases of the overarching Financial Sector Legislative Review.
Answer 33	The successful bidder will not be precluded on bidding on future requirements related to the Financial Sector Legislative Review.

Question 34	Allowable Rate Increases in Future Years The RFP requires bidders to put forward hourly rates for each level of resource category for years ending 2026. Given the current global economic environment, would the Crown consider allowing for the option to increase hourly rates in subsequent years in accordance with the Consumer Price Index to accommodate fluctuations in inflation? This is an approach that has been applied historically within Government of Canada RFP's during times of economic volatility.
Answer 34	No, Canada will not allow for the option to modify hourly rates due to inflation. Bidders already have the flexibility to propose different hourly rates for each year in their financial proposal as indicated in Table MF1 under section 4.1.2.1. Mandatory Financial Criteria. The successful bidder will be expected to honour the firm prices quoted in the Table MF1 throughout the contract period, including any option periods exercised by Canada

Question 35	Number of Hours in a "day" To support bidders in preparing their financial proposals, would the Crown please confirm the number of hours included in a single workday. We understand that a workday is typically defined in Government of Canada RFP's as 7.5 hours but wish to confirm our understanding for this RFP is correct.
Answer 35	A day is defined as 7.5 hours exclusive of meal breaks.

Question 36	Given the current definition of Bidder and the limited initiatives within Canada pertaining to MT4, we suggest omitting this requirement from the Mandatory Technical Criteria. Would Canada consider removing Mandatory Technical MT4?
Answer 36	There will be no changes to the Mandatory Technical Criteria. The current definition of "bidder", under section 04 of Standard Instructions 2003, "Bidder" means the person or entity (or, in the case of a joint venture, the persons or entities) submitting a bid to perform a contract for goods, services or both. It does not include the parent, subsidiaries or other affiliates of the Bidder, or its subcontractors. Joint ventures may respond to bid solicitations in accordance with the applicable conditions contained in the solicitation. The relevant section of standard instructions 2003 of the SACC Manual permits joint venture bids and provide further details.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.