

**PHARE — ESTABLISHMENT OF PAYING
AGENCY AND PREPARATION FOR SETTING
UP OF IACS IN BULGARIA**

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BG-Sofia: Phare — establishment of paying agency and preparation for setting up of IACS in Bulgaria

2005/S 141-139626

Location — Bulgaria

Service procurement notice

1.

Publication reference:

EuropeAid/121322/D/SV/BG

2.

Procedure:

Restricted.

3.

Programme:

Phare.

4.

Financing:

BG 2003/004-937.03.03.

5.

Contracting authority:

Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU), Ministry of Finance, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Contract specification

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6.

Nature of contract:

Lump-sum.

7.

Contract description:

1. Development of software for risk analysis on Central level for selection of the applications for support under CAP to be checked on the spot; development of software for on the spot controls allowing possibilities to handle GIS data; installation, testing and training on the provided software.
2. Taking of aerial or satellite pictures of the territory of Pleven, Lovech, Veliko Tarnovo and Ruse districts. Acquisition, orthotransformation and georeferencing of digital ortho-images covering the area mentioned.

8.

Numbers and titles of lots:

- lot 1: development of risk analysis and on the spot software and training;
lot 2: provision of access to remote sensing images.

9.

Maximum budget:

EUR 876 000.

10.

Scope for additional services:

n/a.

Conditions of participation

11.

Eligibility:

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Participation is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons of the EU Member States, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Serbia-Montenegro and Turkey (see also item 29 below).

12.

Candidature:

All eligible natural and legal persons (as per item 11 above) or groupings of such persons (consortia) may apply.

All candidates should apply for both lots.

A consortium may be a permanent, legally established grouping or a grouping which has been constituted informally for a specific tender procedure. All members of a consortium (i.e. the leader and all other partners) are jointly and severally liable to the contracting authority.

The participation of an ineligible natural or legal person (as per item 11) will result in the automatic exclusion of that person. In particular, if that ineligible person belongs to a consortium, the whole consortium will be excluded.

13.

Number of applications:

No more than one application for both lots can be submitted by a natural or legal person (including legal persons within the same legal group), whatever the form of participation (as an individual legal entity or as leader or partner of a consortium submitting an application). This application should cover the information required for both lots. In the event that a natural or legal person (including legal persons within the same legal group) submits more than one application, all applications in which that person (and legal persons within the same legal group) has participated will be excluded.

14.

Shortlist alliances prohibited:

Any tenders received from tenderers comprising firms other than those mentioned in the shortlisted application forms will be excluded from this restricted tender procedure. Shortlisted candidates may not form alliances or subcontract to each other for the contract in question.

15.

Grounds for exclusion:

As part of the application form, candidates must submit a statement to the effect that they are not in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.3.3 of the Practical Guide to contract procedures

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financed from the general budget of the European Communities in the context of external actions (available from following Internet address: http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm).

16.

Subcontracting:

Subcontracting will be allowed up to 30 % of the contract value. Subcontracting can be used for short-term experts and for supporting the activities envisaged for the key experts.

17.

Number of candidates to be shortlisted:

On the basis of the applications received, at least 4 and at most 8 candidates will be invited to submit detailed tenders for this contract. Only candidates applying for both lots will be shortlisted.

Provisional timetable

18.

Provisional date of invitation to tender:

1.10.2005.

19.

Provisional commencement date of the contract:

1.1.2006.

20.

Initial period of execution and possible extension of the contract:

8 months.

Selection and award criteria

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21.

Selection criteria:

The following selection criteria will be applied to candidates. In the case of applications submitted by a consortium, these selection criteria will be applied to the consortium as a whole:

- 1) economic and financial standing of candidate (based on item 3 of the application form)
 - a) the average annual revenue of the candidate for each of the last two years for which accounts have been closed shall amount at least to EUR 1 300 000;
 - b) the firm or the leading partner of the consortium should be operational for the last 2 years.

In addition to the standard application form, the annual accounts of the last 2 years available must be attached to the application, e.g. the balance sheets or extracts from balance sheets from the last 2 years for which accounts have been closed, in accordance with the company law of the country in which the lead partner is established.

- 2) Professional capacity of candidate (based on items 4 and 5 of the application form):
the candidate shall have at least 6 experts per lot currently and on average during the last 2 years working in 1 or more of the fields related to this contract and specified below.

- 3) Technical capacity of candidate (based on items 5 and 6 of the application form):

- a) the candidate shall have experience in the following fields of specialisation:

- 1) software development and implementation;
- 2) IT project analysis;
- 3) object oriented programming languages;
- 4) database design, database development and database administration;
- 5) acquisition of airborne or satellite images;
- 6) processing of airborne or satellite images;
- 7) orthorectification;
- 8) geodesy;

- b) the candidate shall have successfully completed at least 2 projects in the past 3 years.

For lot 1 — 1 project with a value of at least EUR 250 000 and involving the fields from 1 to 4 described above under 3 a).

For lot 2 — 1 project with a value of at least EUR 350 000 and involving the fields from 5 to 8 described above under 3 a).

The fields described above under 3(a) can be covered by more than one project,

If more than 8 eligible candidates meet the above selection criteria, the relative strengths and weaknesses of the applications of these candidates must be re-examined to identify the eight best applications for the tender procedure. The only factor which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination is:

- 1) comparative criterion: highest number of projects compliant with the requirements listed above in pt. 21. 3) b). for both lots at the same time.

22.

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Award criteria:

As specified in the tender dossier annexed to the letter of invitation to tender which will be sent to shortlisted candidates.

Application

23.

Deadline for receipt of applications:

30.8.2005 (16.00), local time.

Any application received after this deadline will not be considered.

24.

Application format and details to be provided:

Applications must be submitted using the standard application form (available from the following Internet address: http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm), whose format and instructions must be strictly observed.

One application for both lots shall be submitted.

Any application which does not observe these provisions will be automatically eliminated. Any additional documentation (brochure, letter, etc.) sent with an application will not be taken into consideration.

25.

How applications may be submitted:

Applications must be submitted in English exclusively to the contracting authority:

either by recorded delivery (official postal service) to:

Att: Mr Vladimir Valchev, CFCU Director, 102, Rakovski Str, Ministry of Finance, room 512. Sofia, Bulgaria. Fax: (359-2) 98 59 27 73. E-mail: cfcu@minfin.bg.

or hand delivered (including courier services) directly to the contracting authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to:

Contact name: Mr Vladimir Valchev, CFCU Director, 102 Rakovski Str., Ministry of Finance, room 512

Fax: (359-2) 98 59 27 73. E-mail: cfcu@minfin.bg

The contract title and the publication reference (see item 1 above) must be clearly marked on the envelope containing the application and must always be mentioned in all subsequent correspondence with the contracting authority.

Applications submitted by any other means will not be considered.

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26.

Operational language:

All written communications for this tender procedure and contract must be in English.

27.

Additional information:

The contracting authority reserves the right to request references from the beneficiary/ries and/or candidates of the completed projects listed by the candidate in the application form. The candidate should be ready to present such reference(s) and/or further information related to the projects listed by the candidate upon request from the contracting authority.

28.

Date of publication of contract forecast:

8.4.2005.

29.

Legal basis:

For Phare: Council Regulation (EC) No 1605/2002 of 25.6.2002; Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 of 18.12.1989 as amended; Council Regulation (EC) No 2500/2001 of 17.12.2001), Council Regulation 769/2004 of 21.4.2004.