

Questions and answers raised for the tender ER/C2/2012/422-1 concerning

Information tool of sustainable biomass resources for biofuel production

Questions and answers raised for the tenders

Update: 25.09.2012

Question 1: I am writing to you in order to request the specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) for Brussels: Mapping information tool of sustainable biomass resources for biofuel production 2012/S 159-264755 Directive 2004/18/EC.

Answer: You can find all related information for this tender at:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy/tenders/index_en.htm

Question 2: Is the definition of biofuels under this tender the same as in Directive 2009/28/EC: “‘biofuels’ means liquid or gaseous fuel for transport produced from biomass”? In affirmative case, this means that the scope of this tender covers only biomass (liquid and gaseous) for the abovementioned use (for transport). Is this right?

Answer: YES

Question 3: For the task “visual representation of areas cultivated and harvested otherwise for the purpose of using the biomass resources for biofuel production” required by the tender what would be the geographical detail required for mapping? Can be any indication given regarding this aspect? (land plots, or NUTs, for example?)

Answer: Both land plots and NUTs can be used.

Question 4: What is the main purpose of this tender? Providing information that can be currently available or the creation of a tool that can be complemented in the future with further information, enabling also interfaces with potential users in order to improve the quality of the information?

Answer: The creation of a tool.

Question 5: Apart from reports produced for the Commission, is the contractor expected to disseminate this information to the general public, such as providing general access to a web site with this information? If yes, is it enough to offer for consultation only the reports requested by the Commission or a generic reporting capability should also exist?

Answer: NO

Question 6: If web-based systems are expected as part of this contract, should the contractor foresee their hosting in non-EC premises or will the EC assume this task?

Answer: The contractor should foresee their hosting in non-EC premises

Question 7: Does the Commission have any constraints on the technologies used to perform the requested tasks? Are there any special requests concerning the availability of the tools and systems used?

Answer: NO

Question 8: At which level of detail is the DG ENER interested in the biomass production? Is it country based, region, municipality or even field based?

Answer: All of the above

Question 9: Are the names of the companies or individuals producing biomass of interest to DG ENER? If personal information is requested, what is the purpose of its usage? Do you have a template including the information you will therefore want to see?

Answer: No to all.

Question 10: Does the Commission have any requirement in terms of detailed design methodology? In particular, is the Commission accustomed to UML notation?

Answer: NO to all.

Question 11: Beside the progress reports, does the Commission expect any other deliverable? In particular, are the developed software as well as the base software and their licences (database, application server, map server ...) part of the deliverables expected by the Commission?

Answer: YES

Question 12: Does the Commission expect the use of a geographical information system (GIS) for the visualization of cultivated and harvested areas? If so, does the Commission have a preference for an existing GIS (eg a GIS already used by the Commission in the framework of other projects).

Answer: YES to the first part of the question. NO to the second part of the question.

Question 13: Does the Commission expect that some of the base software that it owns, be used in this project? For example, a database engine?

Answer: NO

Question 14: What is the estimated maximum number of users of the system?

Answer: 50

Question 15: What is the expected maximum number of simultaneous users of the system?

Answer: 50

Question 16: Does the Commission recommend one particular authentication method? In particular, does the Commission have LDAP directory that can be used to store the users identities and permissions?

Answer: NO

Question 17: What are the deliverables acceptance criteria's?

Answer: Conformity to the specifications of the tender.

Question 18: Does the commission have any performance requirements for the information system?

Answer: NO

Question 19: Does the commission require a warranty period on the service provided and on the deliverables? If yes, how long is it?

Answer: The information tool should be maintained for at least 12 months after the termination of the contract.

Question 20: Does the commission expect the contractor to be responsible for the data encoding into the system for the duration of the contract?

Answer: YES

Question 21: Does the commission has any recommended template for the biomass data to be collected or the contractor will have to make some suggestion?

Answer: The contractor will have to make suggestions.

Question 22: Should the collection happen in predefined intervals (e.g. every 6 months) or on an ad-hoc way?

Answer: The contractor will have to make recommendations.

Question 23: The link

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency_platform/action_plan_en.htm does not exist. Could you please send us the correct link?

Answer: Apologies, please use:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency_platform/transparency_platform_en.htm

Question 24: Is it the purpose of the tool to evaluate conformance of the Member States to their targets and plans, as set forward in the http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/action_plan_en.htm web site?

Answer: NO

Question 25: When in the tender specifications states:

III.4.1.Economic and financial capacity – Criteria and references required

Tenderers must provide evidence of their economic and financial capacity by submitting an average annual turnover of minimum 400,000 EUR, for the last three years for which accounts have been closed.

In the case a consortium formed by several companies is interested in submitting a proposal, is it a must for any company to fulfil this requirement? Or is it the sum of the annual turnover of all the companies integrated in the consortium what you will consider?

Answer: It is the sum of the annual turnover of all the companies integrated in the consortium.

Question 26: Do you have preferences in which platform, application or software the information tool should be provided for the best compatibility?

Answer: NO

Question 27: Data availability from other EU countries we consider as a crucial point of the project. Therefore we would like to ask you, whether these data are available in JCR or collected in other place in EU where is no problem to get them. Please be so kind, tell us which way the grant participant should calculate to acquire other EU member countries data.

Answer: No data at Member State level are required. No data can be expected to be provided by JRC or any other Commission service.

Question 28: Referring to your answer to the Q19, does it means the work involved in the maintenance of the tools is included in the estimated 500 man days?

Answer: YES

Question 29: Is it necessary that all identifications for the administrative proposal (i.e. Financial identification etc.) will be original? Are scanned copies acceptable?

Answer: Originals are required for all documents with the signature of the tenderer(s) (while only one or more in case of a consortium). Other documents can be scanned.