

QUESTIONS & Answers

INVITATION TO TENDER N° ENER/B1/2013-371

**For a service contract regarding the study on Grid infrastructure development:
European Strategy for raising public acceptance**

Contract notice in OJEU 2013/S 067-111082

Last update: 29/05/2013

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Q1. Do you have any specific language requirements relating to the team delivering the service? The requirement of Polish as a language suggests that you already have an idea about preferred target countries. And do you have a number of target countries in mind?

A1. Given that some work and meetings are envisaged to be conducted in different Member States, the work requires a multilingual team for data collection.

For the specification of target countries, please see Tender Specifications, section 3.2.3 – Task 3 – Determine priority Member States.

Q2. As far as the language knowledge is concerned. The call for tenders indicates that the team should preferably speak four languages: English, German, Polish and French. We were wondering what kind of impact the level of knowledge of Polish might have, according to your demand, on our work and possible collaboration.

A2. The Polish language was mentioned among the suggested example languages. No certain requirement of Polish language has been specified in the Tender Specification.

Q3. You ask for statistical expertise. Why, as there seems to be no statistical analysis involved here?

A3. As several tools that could become necessary during the conduct of the study include the design of surveys and opinion polls that would then require extrapolating generalities in ratio, the team will have to use statistical analysis.

Q4. How do you envisage the Transparency Platform?

A4. The infrastructure transparency platform will be established in compliance with the provisions of the Infrastructure Regulation (Article 18). Namely, it will include the Union-wide list of projects of common interest, the geographical location, the implementation plan and the funds allocated and disbursed by the EU for each PCI and the main results of the cost-benefit analysis.

Q5. Do we have access to previous stakeholder consultations?

A5. The comments received during public consultations can be consulted on the "Your Voice in Europe" web-portal. Those organized for energy affairs can be directly accessed on the following link: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/consultations/index_en.htm

The European Commission and ENTSO-E will assist the work on creating a database of stakeholders.

Q6. How can the ENTSO-E intranet be used in developing the network?

A6. The existing platforms of ENTSO are available for the tenderers who consider using them.

Q7. What will be the role of Commission in the campaign, and in particular in the social media contacts to be set up and in the roadshows?

A7. No decision has been made yet on the social media contacts by the Commission to be set up.

Q8. How do you see the pilot campaign module? How can it be implemented in the timeframe foreseen (i.e. should it be implemented and tested within the 7 months of contract duration)? We understand that the contractor is expected to come up with a strategy, but that the actual implementation of the pilot module is not part of the project.

A8. The pilot campaign module is part of Task 3 and has to be proposed and implemented by the tenderer (i.e. interim/final report) within the duration of the contract (i.e. 7 months).

Q9. It is stated that the contractor should set up a pilot campaign module. We understand that the contractor is expected to come up with a strategy entailing a pilot phase but that the actual implementation of the pilot module is not part of the project (the pilot has not to be implemented under this contract).

A9. Please see answer No 8.

Q10. Campaign timeline: Is this from 2014 onwards? Can the Commission give an indication of the overall duration of the campaign and of the financial means available for the campaign?

A10. No decision has been made yet.

Q11. Contract time line: Why is the final report planned in October, and the contract end date in December? What happens in the two months in between? Given the fact that the contract aims at carrying out activities in the middle of the holiday period, wouldn't it be better to aim for a final report by the end of November?

A11. The contract will be signed for 7 months. Nevertheless, the final report will be due after 5 months, leaving two months for the finalisation of all activities.

Q12. What are the licenses referred to?

A12. Licences (if applicable) required in the Member State of the tenderer in order to perform the tasks specified in Tender Specifications

Q13. Contractor will act as a facilitator of events. Does that include charring these events?

A13. The Contractor is expected to organize stakeholder meetings in Brussels and the Member States and act as a neutral facilitator. The contractor may be chairing the respective events.

Q14. The activities should entail the setting up of facility (potentially an internet platform). Is actual implementation of the platform excluded from the scope of the work to be performed?

A14. The set-up a facility – potentially an internet platform - is part of Task 1 and has to be proposed and implemented by the tenderer.

Q15. We understand that the contractor will have to develop options, recommendations and define the specifications of the retained option for such a best practice sharing facility, but that the actual implementation of this facility is excluded.

A15. The best practice sharing facility is part of Task 2 and the final deliverables.

Q16. The contractor will benefit from the inputs and documents of ENTSO E and the Commission. Are those documents detailed enough so that we would be able to have a first overview of the current situation in the Member States? Or, in addition to those documents, would it be necessary to discuss with experts in each of the 27 member states in order to gather more information? Plus, do you expect that we travel in each member state or only in the most relevant ones?

A16. To determine priority Member States is part of Task 3. Please consult p. 14 "Determine priority Member States".

Q17. In the invitations to tender it is stated that tenderers can submit tenders by letter “either by post or by courier not later than 31/05/2013, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip” We understand this sentence to mean that we are required to submit the proposal on 31/05/2013 at the latest, and that as long as the date of dispatch on the postmark or courier’s slip is on 31/05/2013 or before, the proposal would be accepted, even if the proposal, submitted within 31/05/2013, reaches the Commission’s premises after said date. Is our understanding correct?

A17. Your understanding is correct. It is the date on which the offer is sent (“either by post or by courier not later than 31/05/2013, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip, to the address indicated below”).