

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
INVITATION TO TENDER No. TREN/G3/316-1/1-2008
"Implementation of a centralised access system to the European GNSS simulation and testing infrastructure"

Time-limit for receipt of tenders: 22 July 2009

Question 1:

"In response the contract notice in OJEU S 2009/S 98-140618 of 23/05/2009, Page 8 of the ITT refers to the following:

- Survey on European GNSS test beds and simulation capabilities
- Study on design, interfaces, harmonisation, etc.
- Study on concept of operations, risks, etc.

Can you tell me how the items can be obtained? What is their current status? Have they been published? Are they available in draft?"

Answer to question 1:

Please note that on page 8 it is also stated that the FP7 SCENIC project is expected to deliver consolidated outputs only by end 2009. The items you are requesting are being produced in the frame of the SCENIC study and they have not been published or even generated yet. Hence the EC will only be able to provide these inputs only to the tenderer awarded with the contract at KOM.

Should you be interested in additional background information on the activities to be performed within the SCENIC study for the preparation of an eventual proposal, you are kindly invited to download the statement of work applicable to the procurement procedure GSA/OP/08/07 "Support to the Coordination of European GNSS Simulation and Testing Infrastructure" at the following internet address:

<http://www.gsa.europa.eu/go/gsa/procurement/calls-2008>

Question 2:

"Est-ce que nous sommes demandés de présenter une demande de participation séparée avant la présentation de l'offre?"

Answer to question 2:

Dans le cadre du présent appel d'offres, tout soumissionnaire intéressé à participer doit remettre une offre selon les modalités reprises dans les documents d'appel d'offres. Il n'est pas requis de demander à participer préalablement.

Question 3:

"Est-ce qu'il est possible de connaître le nom de l'organisation qui effectue l'étude SCENIC (qui représente la base essentielle du projet)?"

Answer to question 3:

L'étude SCENIC est conduite par un consortium Industriel composé comme suit:

Entité Nationalité Rôle au sein du consortium

FDC France Coordinateur

IFEN Allemagne Partenaire

IESSG Royaume-Uni Partenaire
Telespazio France Partenaire
Telespazio Italie Partenaire
CTAE Espagne Partenaire

Question 4:

- a. As this is a fixed price project and as the detailed requirements are not defined yet (this is the first task's objective), it seems to us that the real estimation of the work to be done can be made only at the end of first task. In this case, this means that the estimation given in our proposal would be only provisional. Can you confirm that? In this case, how can we apply a price reduction, knowing the given price is a maximum?
- b. You insisted on using COTS software for the development phase. Do you have a specific technology in mind? .Net for example? Or are the open source related COTS also a conceivable solution?
- c. Are some information from the preliminary study already available, in order to better focus on the practical part in our proposal?
- d. Is the company who made the preliminary study allowed to answer to this tender?
- e. When you mention the "synchronization between the GSTI and the remote labs scheduler", what is this scheduler? Is it a internal tool installed in the labs? Is it an outlook shared calendar available in the lab? Or something like Doodle web site? Should the application take care of providing such functionality to the labs users?
- f. What is the kind of "information about tools and laboratories" that should be kept in the future application?

Answers to Question 4:

I.1.1. a. The total amount of efforts to be provided throughout the entire duration of the contract is to be based on the elements as contained in the Statement of Work. Tenderers are requested to submit a fixed firm price for the total amount of work to be performed during the contract (see III.2.3 Section Three: Financial proposal of vthe tendering specifications)

b. The use of COTS is encouraged because it is deemed more cost and effort efficient than developing the system from scratch. There are many SW tools already available which can support efficiently the implementation of web based information systems.

EC does not have any preference for any tool in particular. However, if a specific tool is suggested, the bidder should justify his/her choice

c. Please note that on page 8 it is also stated that the FP7 SCENIC project is expected to deliver consolidated outputs only by end 2009. The items you are requesting are being produced in the frame of the SCENIC study and they have not been published or even written yet.

Hence the EC will only be able to provide these inputs only to the tenderer awarded with the contract at KOM.

Should you be interested in additional background information on the activities to be performed within the SCENIC study for the preparation of an eventual proposal, you are kindly invited to download the statement of work applicable to the procurement procedure GSA/OP/08/07 "Support to the Coordination of European GNSS Simulation and Testing Infrastructure" at the following internet address:

<http://www.gsa.europa.eu/go/gsa/procurement/calls-2008>

d. The company who made the preliminary study is allowed to answer to this tender as far as they meet the criteria requested in this invitation to tender.

e. The local scheduler (at a remote GNSS laboratory) is supposed to be a planning SW tool (e.g. outlook) which is used locally to manage the access to their tools and facilities. The

intent is to collect and centralised this information in the web system to be developed in order to inform potential users about the windows of availability for the use of a certain tool.
f. Please refer to the section I.4.3 "TASK 3 – Survey of European GNSS Simulation Tools, Laboratories and Testbeds" of the Tender Specifications indicated in the answer to the question number 3.

Question 5:

"In the Tender specifications and the FAQ attached to the documentation, reference is made to the SCENIC project and the survey carried out by the latter.

The entities that participate in SCENIC can also bid for the Tender? Or is there a conflict of interest regarding their potential participation, taking into account that the Tender is (partly) based on the outcome of the SCENIC study, fact that would give a competitive advantage to the entities composing the SCENIC consortium?"

Answer to Question 5:

- The entities which are presently participating to the SCENIC Study are entitled to participate to the aforementioned Call for tenders as far as they meet the criteria requested in this invitation to tender.

-The tender specifications define completely the mission requirements of the Platform to be developed.

-The purpose of the present procurement is to define the system requirements which allow fulfilling the mission requirements. The contractor will only be requested to take into account the SCENIC outcomes relevant to the mission specified in the tendering documents.

Question 6 (New):

We understand from the Tender Specifications (section I.2.2.1, page 12) that the deliverable D2.3 (Survey on IT COTS SW tools) will analyse possible COTS products which could be used to implement the GSTI system. Consequently we understand the services proposal must be open to implement the system with different COTS products.

As the product and the number of licenses are not known at this stage, we assume price for licenses of the COTS product must not be included in the Financial Offer, and the COTS product licenses will be acquired by DG TREN through a different contract or acquisition channel. Is our approach correct?

Please note that in section I.2.7.1 (page 16) it is stated (second paragraph, 4th line): "The final delivery shall incorporate all elements composing the platform: configuration, database, COTS SW, HW, licenses, etc."

Answer to Question 6:

Our technical specifications do request for selected contractor to analyze possible COTS products which could be used to implement the GSTI system; to that end, the contractor must have sufficient knowledge of products available in the market.

The tender specifications unambiguously stipulate that the total price quoted is a fix and firm price and that this price shall include the price of COTS tools to be used; as for user licences we are only expecting contractor to provide one user licence and it will be for EC to acquire additional licences if need be.

Prices for existing COTS being in the same range it is thus requested for tenderers to quote an average but binding price.