

CLARIFICATION No 2

Reference: EEA/SES/13/005-CEI

Title: Call for expression of interest (CEI) to provide assistance to the EEA in the production of the new Corine Land Cover (CLC) inventory, including the support to the harmonisation of national monitoring for integration at pan-European level

Question 1

Is it possible and compliant to CEI rules that the consortium building or grouping of experts (to bid for a call for tender) takes place **AFTER** the pool of experts has been set up by EEA through selection of individual experts according to EEA's analysis of CVs that have been handed in; **meaning:** will EEA possibly point out a certain number of selection of individual experts, who are then asked by EEA to hand in a proposal for a specific task?

Answer 1

On the basis of the list of candidates (individuals or a consortium) meeting the criteria outlined in section 9 in the terms of reference (ToR), the EEA will invite candidates to submit a tender for a given contract in accordance with the provisions of the relevant tender specifications.

While it is clear that only candidates (individuals or a consortium) entered on the list of candidates may be invited to tender, it does not exclude that the candidate further expands its capacities e.g. by forming/expanding a consortium, involving (further) subcontractors, etc.

On the other hand, in order to be possibly invited, a candidate listed on the list of candidates is bound to maintain at least the capacities invoked in its application based on which it was listed.

Question 2

Can a consortium be formed by a combination of legal entities and individuals?

Answer 2

Yes and each member of a consortium must fulfil the conditions for participation specified in section 9 in the ToR.

Question 3

In case of legal entities (as a part of a consortium or as individuals), should individual experts within the institution be listed (for the CVs, publications and projects requirements), or should the CV, publication and projects of the institution be presented as a whole?

Answer 3

The purpose of the selection criteria specified under section 9.2 of the ToR is to determine whether an applicant has the technical and professional capacity required for the proper performance of the contract to be carried out under the conditions of the call for expression of interest, if awarded a contract. The selection criteria are applied in particular for assessing the capacities of persons responsible for providing the services referred to in section 5 of the ToR.

Please refer to section 9.2.3 of the ToR, Technical and professional capacity, where it is stated ‘CVs detailing the educational and professional qualifications of the applicant (individual expert) documenting a minimum of 5 (five) years of professional experience in relation to the tasks listed under section 5 in the ToR and including information on language skills’.

In addition, please refer to section 8 of the ToR, ‘...selection criteria will be assessed in relation to the combined capacities of the service providers as a whole (i.e. on consortium level).

Question 4

In the terms of reference, section 3, ‘How the call for expression of interest works’, it is mentioned that ‘maximum number of candidates who will be invited to submit a tender for a given contract is 20 (twenty)’.

- a) If an institution applies for the CEI as legal person, can it be represented by e.g. 3 named experts?
- b) If a consortium is built of a combination of some individual experts together with some other institutions as legal persons (with e.g. 3 experts behind it), how is this counted in terms of maximum number of candidates? legal person as one (counted by institute), or all three involved experts inside one institution?

Answer 4

- a) *Yes, your understanding is correct*
- b) *Please refer to section 8 of the ToR, where it is stated ‘Applications may be submitted by two or more applicants grouped in a consortium which, if included in the list and invited to tender, may tender as a consortium’. This means that an application as a consortium is counted as ‘one candidate’.*