

**Title:**                **The role of public participation and stakeholder dialogue in water management – Good cases of public information and consultation under the WFD (Art. 14)**

**Reference:**        **Negotiated procedure EEA/NSV/13/004**

The European Environment Agency (EEA) seeks a service provider able to assist in the analysis of good cases of public participation and stakeholder dialogue in the context of the first round of River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) under the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

**Type of contract:**

Service contract for duration of 5 and ½ months as from the date of its signature or until 15.11.2013 whichever date comes first

**Estimated value:**

EUR 50'000 excluding VAT

**Place of delivery or of performance:**

At the contractor's premises

**Description of the services to be procured:**

Rationale:

The 2012 synthesis report highlights that in order to ensure effective implementation of water-related policies, integration between the different levels of administration (local, river basin district, national and EU) is indispensable. The cooperation of different levels of administration must be completed by a 'horizontal' integration across water-using sectors such as between relevant stakeholders in areas like agriculture, energy, and transport. Healthy water ecosystems can only be secured through a wide participatory dialogue of all stakeholders and the public involved.

Hypothesis: 'Better public participation leads to better plans, and to better implementation of plans'. Effective public participation and cooperation between different stakeholders leads to better implementation of measures.

Tasks:

Practical examples where the implementation of Article 14 constructively contributed to a better water management, and more consistent and possibly more effective measures, should be analysed on the basis of the 1<sup>st</sup> River Basin Management Plans, which have been reported in 2010-2012 by Member States.

The outcome of the contract is going to under pin this rationale in close cooperation with a complementary task conducted by the European Topic Centre on Inland, coastal and marine waters (ETC/ICM). The ETC will work in the beginning of the year on the basic background and setting of the project, developing criteria and basic questions to analyse the plans and set already a proposal of possible good cases.

The project should then on this basis conduct interviews and a more thorough analysis of the processes, outcomes, advantages and problems in the public participation and stakeholder dialogue in some specific River Basin Districts.

**Scheduled starting date of contract (indicative):**

1.7.2013

**Registration of interest:**

Interested candidates shall register their interest by email to [procurement@eea.europa.eu](mailto:procurement@eea.europa.eu) by **5.5.2013** at the latest, quoting the title and reference No of this negotiated procedure in the subject field of the message and providing the following information:

- Name (of individual or organisation/company)
- Address (of individual or organisation/company)
- Contact person
- E-mail
- Description of main area of business / expertise (max. 500 words)

The selection will focus on candidates who:

- Are experienced in the strategically and technical details of the information reported under the WFD
- Are experienced in the conceptual issues connected with the drafting of RBMPs and the stakeholder dialogue and participatory process connected with it, either proofed by earlier contracts with EEA or the European Commission or active involvement in the preparation, consultation and/or drafting of RBMPs

Your personal information above will be processed solely for the purpose of this negotiated procedure in accordance with the rules set in Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJEU L 8/1 of 12.1.2001). For further detailed information please refer to the privacy statement available on the EEA external website at the following address: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/tenders/privacy-statement>

**Description of the tendering procedure:**

On the basis of the pre-assessment of the information provided, the EEA will draw up a list of the most suitable candidates and will forward to all or some of them (at least three candidates) by e-mail an invitation to submit a tender in accordance with the tender specifications by a set deadline. The tender submitted will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria specified in the tender specifications. During the negotiation phase after the submission of the tenders, selected candidates may be required to adapt their tender to the requirements set in the tender specifications in order to find the solution offering the best value for money.

Candidates shall note that registration of interest to participate in the above-mentioned procedure entails no obligation on the part of the EEA to send an invitation to tenders to candidates or to award them a contract. Please note that no replies will be sent to unselected candidates.