

ECB - accelerated negotiated tender for the provision of an ESCB XML data integration (EXDI) solution for the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) (D-Frankfurt-on-Main)

2006/S 69-071465

Contract notice

Supplies

Services

Is this contract covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)? Yes.

Section I: Contracting authority

- I.1) **Official name and address of the contracting authority:**
European Central Bank, attn: Alberto Molon, Kaiserstraße 29, D-60311 Frankfurt-on-Main. Fax (49-69) 13 44 75 03. E-mail: procurement@ecb.int. URL: www.ecb.int.
- I.2) **Address from which further information can be obtained:**
As in I.1.
- I.3) **Address from which documentation may be obtained:**
As in I.1.
- I.4) **Address to which tenders/requests to participate must be sent:**
As in I.1.
- I.5) **Type of contracting authority:**
EU institution.

Section II: Object of the contract

- II.1) **Description**
- II.1.1) **Type of works contract**
- II.1.2) **Type of supplies contract:**
Purchase.
- II.1.3) **Type of service contract**
- II.1.4) **Is it a framework agreement?**
No.
- II.1.5) **Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority:**
Accelerated negotiated tender for the provision of an ESCB XML Data Integration (EXDI) Solution for the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).
- II.1.6) **Description/object of the contract:**
This negotiated tender is for the provision of an ESCB XML data integration (EXDI) solution for the European

System of Central Banks (ESCB). This includes the ECB and all 25 National Central Banks (NCBs) of the Member States of the European Union (Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom). In addition, the EXDI solution shall extend to the NCBs of Romania and Bulgaria, and potentially to future member central banks of the European Union.

The contract to be awarded shall include:

- licenses for all required software components for an integrated and comprehensive EXDI solution (enterprise application integration, message oriented middleware, Message Bus, and Adapters). This includes the maintenance and support for the licensed software for the first 5 years after initial installation, including all necessary and required documentation;

- consultancy services for:

the installation, integration, testing and future enhancements of all required software components into the ESCB infrastructure,

the training of ECB and ESCB staff necessary to operate, monitor, maintain and develop the solution,

the extension of EXDI to potential new ESCB central banks and integration of new nodes into the EXDI ESCB infrastructure, or functional enhancement of the supplied framework.

The rollout of distributed components of EXDI at NCBs shall be performed by NCBs' operational teams using the software packages, training, support and documentation provided by the supplier.

II.1.7) Site or location of works, place of delivery or performance:

ECB premises in Frankfurt am Main.

NUTS code: DE712.

II.1.8) Nomenclature

II.1.8.1) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV):

30241200, 72261000, 72263000, 72267000.

II.1.8.2) Other relevant nomenclature (CPA/NACE/CPC)

II.1.9) Division into lots:

No.

II.1.10) Will variants be accepted:

Yes. With the limitations indicated in the tender documents.

II.2) Quantity or scope of the contract

II.2.1) Total quantity or scope:

The contract shall include the purchase of all required licenses, initial implementation, software maintenance and support services for 5 years after initial installation for all components necessary for an integrated, comprehensive EXDI solution for the ESCB. The contract may be renewed for successive periods and shall permit the licensing, maintenance and support of relevant functional, security or technical releases (such product upgrades) as are appropriate during the contracted periods.

The integrated, comprehensive EXDI software must support all interface processes for data exchange in the areas of:

- transportation: e.g. messaging, HTTPS, file transport, routing, dissemination, etc.,

- transformation: e.g. aggregation, splitting, conversion, bridging, etc.,

- security: encryption, authentication, multi-factor authentication, etc.,

- quality of service: resilience, performance, clustering, etc.,
- administration: monitoring, error-handling, prioritisation, etc.

In addition, the applicant must demonstrate the technical comprehensiveness of the solution in the areas of implementation of business data workflows, custom data processing and applications and cross-functional components such as data warehousing, databases, collaboration and workflow tools, implementation and development tools, portals, application servers, business process management and application integration tools, etc.

It is intended that there will be 40-50 applications and 2 000 users of the system for transportation, transformation and administration functionalities.

II.2.2) Options.

II.3) Duration of the contract or time-limit for completion:

The proposed contract concerns the purchase, maintenance and support services as well as implementation services of the EXDI software and framework for 5 years after the initial installation of the software. The ECB may opt for further renewals anticipating a use of the procured system for an undefined period.

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions relating to the contract

III.1.1) Deposits and guarantees required:

III.1.2) Main terms of financing and payment and/or reference to the relevant provisions

III.1.3) Legal form to be taken by the grouping of suppliers, contractors or service providers to whom the contract is awarded:

The establishment of a temporary grouping must declare in writing (i) that in case of an order they will provide all services as a temporary grouping and (ii) that all the members will have joint and several liability for the performance of the contract. The parts of the supplies and/or services that will be performed by the single companies shall be specified. Furthermore, a representative shall be named, who is authorised to report to the ESCB on behalf of the temporary grouping, to make legal statements and to accept unrestricted payments on behalf of the temporary grouping or each member of it.

III.2) Conditions for participation:

III.2.1) Information concerning the personal situation of the contractor, supplier or service provider and information and formalities necessary for the evaluation of the minimum economic, financial and technical capacity required:

Potential applicants must have and demonstrate a high level of all required expertise and proven experience of comparable contracts within the organisational units selected by the applicant to deliver EXDI services. Applications are welcome from companies or organisations that can meet the minimum requirements (proof has to be supplied related to the organisational units that would be involved in the EXDI project). If the non-compliance with any of the formal requirements is discovered subsequently, the ESCB is entitled to exclude the concerned applicant from the tender procedure and to annul/withdraw, if need be, the award of the contract.

III.2.1.1) Legal position - means of proof required:

Applicants must furnish proof of the length of an organisation's existence under its current or previous legal form. For groupings of applicants, this information must be submitted for all members of the proposed grouping. Specifications concerning the applicant's background and profile together with an organisational chart showing

the company structure, including the branch offices and partnerships must also be provided.

III.2.1.2) Economic and financial capacity - means of proof required:

Applicants must furnish proof of financial and good market performance of the organisation, and its organisational units that would undertake the delivery of EXDI. For grouping of applicants, this information must be submitted for all members of the proposed grouping. As a minimum, certified balance sheet and profit and loss statements for the last 3 years have to be provided for each member and organisational unit to be involved in the proposed grouping.

III.2.1.3) Technical capacity - means of proof required:

The applicant must furnish proof and a concise description for a minimum of 3 comparable contracts in the last 3 years undertaken directly by the organisational units (e.g. project, portfolio, divisions, sections) that the supplier has selected for the delivery of EXDI. This description shall include functional, operational and security service definitions included within those contracts to prove:

- comparable scope, complexity, and
- comparable organisation to the ESCB (e.g. public international organisations spread across geographically distributed location).

One of these contracts should have been provided in the European Union.

Applicants must provide comprehensive information (list of products, functional overview fact sheets) about their technical and functional capacity, distinguishing between the technical qualities of the standard products (enterprise architecture integration, message oriented middleware, enterprise service bus, XML, and process orchestration) used in the comparable contracts supplied in III.2.1 above, and the consultancy services to be supplied.

The applicants must furnish comprehensive proof that their proposed integrated, comprehensive EXDI software is capable of supporting all interface processes and cross-functional capabilities as described in point II.2.1 of this contract notice.

The applicants must provide comprehensive information regarding technical and operations support personnel classified by their skill specialisation, e.g. helpdesk support, EXDI application support, interface specialist, interface designer, project manager, quality manager and by the location from which any service would be delivered to the ESCB. Furthermore the applicant must declare to be able to provide English language support and documentation.

III.3) Conditions specific to services contracts

III.3.1) Is provision of the service reserved to a specific profession?

No.

III.3.2) Will legal entities be required to state the names and professional qualifications of the personnel responsible for execution of the contract?

Yes.

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) Type of procedure:

Accelerated negotiated.

IV.1.1) Have candidates already been selected?

No.

IV.1.2) Justification for the choice of accelerated procedure:

Necessity to finalise the first implementation by end 2006.

IV.1.3) Previous publication concerning the same contract

IV.1.3.1) Prior information notice concerning the same contract

IV.1.3.2) Other previous publications

IV.1.4) Envisaged number of suppliers which will be invited to tender:

Minimum: 3; maximum: 7.

The criteria for the selection of vendors to be invited to tender are as follows:

a) The applicant's capacity in terms of:

1. financial soundness and resources: provide certified last 3 years' balance sheets and P&L accounts, and any market position-related information, e.g. market share;
2. financial soundness and resources specific to the organisational units to be proposed by the applicants to deliver EXDI, including last 3 years' operating results;
3. technical resources: provide information regarding technical and operations support as well as implementation personnel classified by their skill specialisation, e.g. interface specialist, business analysts, network specialist, support specialist and by the location from which any support would be delivered.

b) The ability of the applicant's proposed EXDI services to:

1. provide comprehensive and clear information about the functionality in the 5 functional and cross-functional domains listed in point II.2.1 in comparable public international organisations by the relevant organisational units in accordance with the conditions supplied in point III.2.

The ESCB may elect to verify the applicants documentation by contacts or visits to the named reference clients;

2. relevant experience of the company as listed in point III.2.1.

c) A written application must be submitted and sent to the address given in point I with the envelope marked Negotiated tender for EXDI solution - for the attention of Mr Alberto Molon. In addition applicants are requested to enclose a copy of all appropriate parts of their application on a CD preferably in Microsoft Word XP/Excel XP/PowerPoint or Adobe Acrobat Reader (.pdf) or to send a copy to the e-mail address given in point I above.

IV.2) Award criteria:

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of criteria as stated in contract documents.

IV.3) Administrative information

IV.3.1) Reference number attributed to the file by the contracting authority

IV.3.2) Conditions for obtaining contract document and additional documents

IV.3.3) Time-limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate:

25.4.2006.

IV.3.4) Dispatch of invitations to tender to selected candidates

IV.3.5) Language or languages in which tenders or requests to participate can be drawn up:

English.

IV.3.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain its tender

IV.3.7) Conditions for opening tenders

IV.3.7.1) Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders

IV.3.7.2) **Date, time and place**

Section VI: Other information

VI.1) **Is this notice a non-mandatory one?**

No.

VI.2) **If applicable, indicate whether this procurement is a recurrent one and the estimated timing for further notices to be published**

VI.3) **Does the contract relate to a project/programme financed by EU funds?**

No.

VI.4) **Additional information**

VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**

31.3.2006.