



Soil Studies and Data Procurement from the JRC in support of ESDAC

European Union policy makers require timely and targeted scientific support

JRC tasked by DG ENVIRONMENT, EEA and EUROSTAT with developing and operating **EUROPEAN SOIL DATA CENTRE (ESDAC)**.

ESDAC will:

- provide a gateway to data holdings and information on the soil resources of Europe
- generate value-added pan-European indicators that describe the functions of soil or threats to soil on the basis of data collected by individual Member States.

These requirements call for a significant effort to develop a sound scientific basis at EU level

Scientific Knowledge

- **Framework Contract for Soil Studies**

Soil Data

- **AMI List**

June 2008: JRC launched an open call for tender in the EU Official Journal for a

- **Framework contract for the provision of policy relevant studies in support of the European soil data centre**

- **4 year duration**

Late August 2008: Closing date for offers

Deliverables = TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS

Scientific reports, models for data processing, reviews and that aim:

- a) to address key soil related issues that are of concern in Europe (e.g. identification of areas at risk from soil erosion or decline of organic matter, developments of indicators of bio-diversity or desertification);
- b) to understand, monitor and evaluate the relationships between the functions of soil and associated threats;
- c) c) to monitor and evaluate the specific environmental
- d) contribution of Community programmes to sustainable soil protection;

Requests for technical assessments will be in the form of either:

- a) **'fast-track'** actions designed to provide a quick responses to specific assessment queries by means of a targeted report

- b) **longer-term studies** (e.g. 6 – 12 months) designed to support the Soil Thematic Strategy (STS) through the development or harmonisation of the EU knowledge base on soil.

- **One reply**
- Consortium led by Cranfield University
- Partners: Alterra, UBA, INRA and Szent Istvan University
- List of associated experts

- Offer eligible, technically sound, high quality and satisfied the evaluation criteria
- Submitted to high level financial control

Successful!

- Contracts and consortium agreements being prepared
- ‘KO’ Meeting : Thursday, Paris!

- Mark...

1. The JRC specifies the topic, scope, tasks and terms of the request.
2. The Contractor assesses the feasibility and makes a technical proposal. The proposal must also contain:
 - i) a description of the competencies of the person(s) who will directly work on the topic;
 - ii) a timetable to complete the request;
 - iii) the number of person/days of work involved split by personnel competencies;
 - iv) the itemised cost of the study or data provision service.
3. Once the JRC has accepted the proposal, a specific contract is sent to the Contractor to be signed in order to start the activity according to the agreed proposal.
4. Kick-off meeting organised to formalise the methodology that the Contractor intends to follow.
5. During the course of the activity, information exchange will take place with emails or phone calls; however, if necessary, an ad-hoc meeting could be organised to discuss specific unclear points of the study.
6. Results and the draft report or data will be presented and discussed during the final meeting.
7. Final report.

- AMI List
- Open call
- NON-COMPETITIVE
- Valid for three years

- call for expression of interest for suppliers of soil data
- purpose of call is to build up, after a selection process, a list of potential contractors who may subsequently be invited to submit tenders
- main advantage of this list is that the potential contractors have to supply relevant information only once when answering specific invitations to tender to follow up their expression of interest
- name entered on a list of potential contractors in accordance with set rules
- inclusion on the list entails no obligation on the part of the Commission concerning the award nor the contractor

Selection criteria

- Financial and economic capacity
- Technical and Professional Capacity
- List will be divided into sub lists/ lots (per country)
 - Every country in Europe
 - Africa
 - Global
- **Deliverables**
 - soil profile descriptions and spatial data

Soil profile descriptions with associated attributes:

physical,

chemical,

biological;

...

List of **typical** parameters provided (viz. SPADE)

Spatial data representing key soil characteristics or indicators that describe the functions of soil or threats to soil.

Result of field surveys or outputs of geo-spatial/geo-statistical modelling

Must be accompanied by appropriate quality statements (e.g. errors associated with input datasets, validation results).

Spatial data will be requested in a form that is compatible with the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) currently being used within the JRC

- vector data will be requested at scales between 1:250,000 and 1:1,000,000 (data model of 1:1,000,000 could be used a template)
- raster data sets could be in the range 100 m to 10 km, aligned with the INSPIRE reference grid

Text of call completed

File with EC legal and financial services

Publication: late 2008 / early 2009

Onus on ESNB data providers to register.

Main (only?) mechanism for ESDAC to purchase data

Not on list ...!

