

NCIA/ACQ/2018/1213

7 June 2018

Notification Of Intent to Invite Bids

Provide Electronic Countermeasure (ECM) Systems Against Radio-Controlled Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (RCIEDs)

IFB-CO-14786-NRF

Estimated Value: EUR 1,244,358

This high priority force-protection related procurement is in direct support of the NATO Response Force (NRF). This upcoming opportunity is anticipated to encompass the provision of three (3) vehicular and three (3) static ECM systems against RCIEDs. The effort will include the integration of the vehicular ECM systems into Purchaser-provided armoured vehicles, installation of antenna suites and control units, overall system testing and verification, training, and logistics support packages.

Please note that a previous IFB for a similar scope of work was issued in 2015 under IFB-CO-13500-NRF. No contract was awarded as a result of that solicitation.

The formal Invitation for Bid (IFB) is planned to be issued in **July 2018** with an anticipated Contract Award in **December 2018**.

NCI Agency Point of Contact

Dan Gaertner, Senior Contracting Officer

E-mail: daniel.gaertner@ncia.nato.int

To : See Distribution List

Subject : Notification of Intent to Invite Bids

Provide Electronic Countermeasure (ECM) Systems Against Radio-Controlled Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (RCIEDs)

IFB-CO-14786-NRF

Reference(s) : A. AC/4-DS(2018)0013
B. AC/4(PP)D/27001-ADD5
C. AC/4-DS(2014)0027
D. AC/4(PP)D/27001-ADD3
E. Serial 2011/5HQ03303
F. AC/4-D/2261(1996 Edition)

1. In accordance with References A-F, the NCI Agency, as the Host Nation, hereby gives notice of its intent to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) to “Provide ECM Systems against RCIEDs”, a part of the overall project to “Provide a Counter – Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) Capability Package to the NATO Response Force (NRF)”.
2. A summary of the requirements of the Invitation for Bid is set forth in Annex A, attached to this letter. These requirements are being refined and detailed as part of the preparation of the Invitation for Bid.
3. The reference for the Invitation for Bid is **IFB-CO-14786-NRF**, and all correspondence concerning this IFB should reference this number.
4. Please note that a previous IFB for a similar scope of work was issued in 2015 under IFB-CO-13500-NRF. No contract was awarded as a result of that solicitation. The primary change between IFB-CO-13500-NRF and IFB-CO-14786-NRF will be the removal of the requirement for a convoy planning tool.
5. The scope of work for this project has been authorised as recommended by References (A) and (B).
 - a. For planning purposes, the estimated cost for the services and deliverables included within the basic scope of the intended contract is €1,244,358. This estimate includes one year of initial Operating and Maintenance (O&M) costs.
 - b. The IFB will also include evaluated Options for the possible future acquisition of three additional ECM systems. This additional effort is not reflected in the €1,244,358 estimate and would be subject to a separate financial authorization from NATO funding authorities.
 - c. The IFB will also include non-evaluated options that will not impact the evaluation or award of the contract.

6. It is planned to award a single contract for the entire scope of work. No partial bidding will be accepted.
7. The NCI Agency is authorised to use the Reference (F) International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedure, lowest price technically compliant bid. The successful bid, pursuant to the IFB following this NOI, will be that bid which is the lowest price and technically compliant in accordance with the evaluation criteria prescribed in the IFB.
8. National Responsible Authorities are kindly requested that the NCI Agency be provided with Declarations of Eligibility, **not later than 35 days from the date of this letter**, of qualified and certified companies which may be interested in receiving an Invitation for Bid for this project. The Declarations of Eligibility should include the following information for each of the nominated companies: **Company Name and Address, Point of Contact, Telephone number and E-mail address**. This information is critical to enable prompt and accurate communication with prospective bidders and should be sent to the following point of contact:

NATO Communications and Information Agency
Attention: Dan Gaertner – Senior Contracting Officer
E-mail: daniel.gaertner@ncia.nato.int

9. Please note that requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual companies cannot be considered.
10. The formal IFB is planned to be issued in July 2018, with a Bid Closing Date in August 2018 and Contract Award in December 2018.
11. Bidders will be required to declare a bid validity of twelve (12) months from closing date for receipt of bids, supported by a bid guarantee of €70,000 (seventy thousand euros). If the selection and award procedure exceed the bid closing date by more than twelve (12) months, firms may be requested to voluntarily extend the validity of their bids and the bid guarantee accordingly. Bidders may decline to do so, withdraw their bid and excuse themselves from the bidding process without penalty.
12. The National Authorities are advised that the IFB package will be NATO UNCLASSIFIED.
13. The successful bidder may be required to handle and store classified information up to the level of “NATO RESTRICTED”. In addition, execution of the proposed contract may require, in accordance with NATO Security Policy C-M(2002)49, personnel of the successful bidder to be required to hold individual security clearances of “NATO SECRET”. Only firms maintaining such cleared facilities and the appropriate personnel clearances will be able to perform the resulting contract.
14. The NCI Agency point of contact for this IFB is Dan Gaertner at e-mail: daniel.gaertner@ncia.nato.int.

15. Your assistance in this procurement is greatly appreciated.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF ACQUISITION:



Jean-Luc Guellec
Principal Contracting Officer

Attachment(s):

Annex A- Summary of the Requirements

Distribution List

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Strategic Commands

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NCI Agency

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ANNEX A – Summary of Requirements

IFB-CO-14786-NRF

Provide ECM Systems Against RCIEDs

1. Background

- 1.1. NATO considers countering Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Devices (RCIEDs) to be a high priority. Following lessons learned in recent operations, the NATO Commands developed military requirements to provide the NATO Response Force (NRF) with a force protection capability that allows them to conduct operations in a high-threat Improvised Explosive Device (IED) environment. The objective is to provide the NRF Deployable Headquarters (HQ) with a Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) protection capability that is flexible, highly deployable, interoperable, scalable and sustainable in all potential NRF scenarios.

2. Scope

- 2.1. The project implemented through this contract covers the procurement of electronic counter measures (ECM) systems against Radio Controlled IEDs (RC-IEDs) within the Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) Capability Package (CP) for the NATO Response Force (NRF). The implementation of the other capabilities under the C-IED NRF CP (i.e. the screening systems and armoured vehicles) has been addressed through other contracts.
- 2.2. Operation, maintenance and warranty options are also included in this contract with the explicit goal of delivering a complete, life-cycle approach to the procurement and support of this capability for NRF.
- 2.3. All processes and equipment will be held to NATO standards for testing, configuration management, quality assurance, and security.
- 2.4. Execution of this project shall include regular communication and interaction with the NCI Agency Project Manager and his/her team, who will ensure that the project is completed in accordance with the standards as stated in the eventual contract.
- 2.5. Additionally, the Contractor shall be expected to work closely with NATO operational authorities in both the design and implementation of the Contractor's final capability to ensure that it also conforms to NRF regulations and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Countering RCIEDs.
- 2.6. The Capability offered by the Contractor shall be free of any National or other restrictions and will be usable for by NATO, NATO nations and other troop contributing nations for NATO and national defence purposes.

3. Work Requirements

- 3.1. The project will provide NRF personnel with ECM equipment which is able to inhibit the command and therefore detonation of IEDs within a protection zone. This will provide protection to NRF HQ Entry Control Point (ECP) (Stationary ECM) and to NRF HQ convoys (Vehicular ECM).

3.2. The main deliverables expected from the Contractor completing this project shall include:

- 3.2.1. Design, development, integration and configuration of vehicular ECM systems on armoured vehicles. The vehicles will be provided as Purchaser Furnished Equipment (PFE);
- 3.2.2. Design, development, integration and configuration of stationary ECM capability for NRF HQ Entry Control Point (ECP);
- 3.2.3. Deliver ECM fill development services;
- 3.2.4. Test and accredit all hardware and software components in accordance with NATO regulations included in the Contract;
- 3.2.5. Deliver the Capability to the required locations;
- 3.2.6. Train NATO personnel in the operation and maintenance of all equipment;
- 3.2.7. Provide on-site customer support and maintenance prior to Final System Acceptance;
- 3.2.8. Perform all Project Management, Integrated Logistics Support, Quality Assurance, and Configuration Management activities in accordance with the Contract;
- 3.2.9. Provide Customer Support and Maintenance as per the requirements described herein, including provision of a 1-year hardware and software warranty;
- 3.2.10. Fully document all the elements of the solution;
- 3.2.11. Execute all activities within the contractually required timelines.

4. Schedule

- 4.1. It is expected that the C-IED screening capability for NRF will be implemented within 12 months from the Effective Date of Contract (EDC), followed by one year of initial support, plus contractual options for the provision of extended operational, maintenance and training support, the duration of which will be finalized in the IFB.