

RFP title **Analysis of the Environmental Cross-Compliance Possibilities in Canadian Agriculture Business Risk Management (BRM) Program Suite**

Solicitation # **01B68-23-3158**

Closing Date **New date April 17, 2024 at 14:00pm**

Questions and Answers

Date: April 11, 2024

Question #	Question	Response
1	Task reference 6.1.1 asks for research on existing cross compliance models in the agricultural sectors of the US, EU and Switzerland. The RFP does not appear to request a like/similar summation of research on Canada’s BRM programs and their influence/effects on agricultural practices that have environmental consequences. There is research on this topic. Does AAFC want the selected consultant to summarize this research for the project? (We expect to use some of this research in the course of developing the requested cross compliance framework and 3 models.)	Yes. As part of the Task 6.1.3, the contractor will have to consider “The characteristics of the Canadian agriculture sector and the BRM program suite” as background material to develop the different models. Canadian BRM cross-compliance findings are considered as background material. AAFC would allow using Canadian BRM cross-compliance findings in Task 6.1.2.
2	Section 5.0 of the RFP references the use of certain secondary source materials to undertake the project’s analysis. The RFP does not appear to mention primary research expectations for the project. Specifically, we would like some broad direction from AAFC on the parameters for consultants in regard to speaking with subject matter experts, including but not limited to agricultural association representatives, provincial government BRM program managers, university and institute researchers, and management in agricultural credit lending entities. We expect that speaking with AAFC subject matter experts is allowed during the course of the assignment. Can the selected consultants speak with the named range of subject matter experts (who are not AAFC parties)?	AAFC subject matter experts will be made available to the consultant throughout the process. Consultation with external subject matter experts, including agricultural association representatives, provincial government BRM program managers, university and institute researchers, and management in agricultural credit lending entities, is allowed under this contract. Bidders can include these consultations in their proposed methodology and detailed work plan as long as they align with the timeline of the project.
3	Section 7.0 (Deliverables) outlines a timeline based on submission and acceptance of draft/final reports and Powerpoint presentations. We have the impression that the draft/final reports are to be written in a format and style suitable for an audience of senior AAFC managers and that reports aimed at an audience of researchers and the like are not expected for this project. Is our assumption correct?	Yes. AAFC managers are key audience of the report. However, a format and style suitable for AAFC managers could be suitable for other audiences as well, as the format and style chosen should serve the purpose of presenting key findings of the research.

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All other Terms and Conditions remain unchanged.

Amendment #1

1. The closing date for the RFP is extended to Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 14:00 Ottawa local time.