

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL CANADA
ACAN - SOLICITATION NUMBER: 23-58017

Requirement for Coastal Flooding – Risk Assessment for Adaptation and Disaster Mitigation

1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

2. Definition of the requirement

Under the Climate Resilient Built Environment Initiative funded by Infrastructure Canada, the National Research Council has a mandate to enable the incorporation of climate change considerations into regulatory instruments including Codes and Standards for buildings and infrastructure.

The work to be undertaken in this contract would involve the development of a National Standard of Canada (NSC) that would contain a set of standardized hydraulic testing procedures and certification metrics for the approval of emergency flood protection barrier technologies specifically for Canadian environments and settings.

This contract seeks to enter into an agreement with the CSA Group to establish a committee to provide a collaborative platform for key stakeholders to help establish priorities, provide insights, facilitate referencing within regulations, and support referencing of the newly developed standards within regulations. The standard will inform evidence-based decision making by providing a methodology for the testing of emergency flood protection barrier technologies and their verification against a consistent set of requirements. The standard would support emergency planners and decision makers by enabling them to trust and rely on tested technologies and include them in their flood protection plans and mitigation measures.

The work program will occur concurrently with the work underway at the NRC related to climate change adaptation.

NRC requests under the deliverables of this contract that CSA

- Establish and manage a Technical Committee on Emergency Flood Protection Barriers;
- Commence development of a new testing standard for Emergency Flood Protection Barriers, in accordance with the CSA accredited standards development process; delivered in English and French;
- Hold meetings with key users and decision makers to raise awareness and discuss key benefits the new standard can offer;
- Develop info sheets and/or infographics to support the new standard;

3. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- Association or Company must be a Standards Development Organization with Accreditation under the Standards Council of Canada
- Must hold the rights to develop all deliverables
- Must have significant experience (minimum of 10 years) in the management and development of Codes and Standards by way of established balanced technical committees
- Must demonstrate the ability to engage with broad range of industry and regulatory bodies on technical matters related to climate change adaptation for Coastal Flooding Risk Assessment for Adaptation and Disaster Mitigation
- Must demonstrate at least 5 years of experience of code or standards development as it pertains to the climate change adaptation of infrastructure
- Must demonstrate at least 10 years of experience working with Codes Canada on code or standard development

4. Applicability of the trade agreement(s) to the procurement

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreement(s):

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
- World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement (WTOAGP)
- Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA)
- Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA)
- Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement (CCoIFTA)
- Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement (CPanFTA)
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)
- Canada Korea Free Trade Agreement (CKFTA)

5. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

The Canadian Standards Association (operating as CSA Group), is an accredited Standards Development Organization (“SDO”) in Canada and the United States of America, providing services in accordance with its Policy governing standardization and Directives and guidelines governing standardization, where those documents apply to the services being performed, as well as other non-accredited services and products.

CSA began as the Canadian Engineering Standards Association (CESA) in 1919, federally chartered to create standards. CSA is accredited by the Standards Council of Canada, a Crown Corporation which promotes efficient and effective standardization in Canada. This accreditation verifies that CSA is competent to carry out standards development and certification functions, and is based on internationally recognized criteria and procedures.

CSA Group has established, demonstrated, and maintained expertise on the topic of urban flooding and climate change, and operates technical committees to develop and support National Standards of Canada on similar topics to this contract. In addition, CSA Group has confirmed that the new standard will not duplicate any existing National Standards of Canada, and confirmed that no other accredited Standards Development Organization is pursuing standards development on the topic of testing standards on emergency flood protection barriers, via the Standards Council of Canada Notice of Intent process.

CSA Group has also invested significant time in the development of standards to support flood mitigation. CSA Group has actively engaged stakeholders of the coastal flood mitigation sector to validate the need for standards to address climate change related risks.

6. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

Only one vendor is able to satisfy the unique technical requirements listed herein.

The following exception to the Government Contracts Regulations is invoked for this procurement under subsection 6 (d) – Only company is capable of performing the work.

if the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute goods or services exist for any of the following reasons:

(iii) due to an absence of competition for technical reasons

7. Ownership of Intellectual Property

Contractor to Own Intellectual Property Rights.

CSA Group has already filed via the Standards Council of Canada the Notice of Intent.

8. Period of the proposed contract or delivery date

The NRC anticipates the contract period will be approximately 1.5 years with expected start date of July 2, 2023. Completion date anticipated for February 28, 2025. This contract may be renewed for two (2) additional one-year optional periods with an estimated value up to \$200,000.00 CAD per year at the sole discretion of the NRC.

9. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the initial contract, is approximately \$195,000.00 CAD (GST/HST extra), subject to negotiations.

10. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

CSA Group
178 Rexdale Blvd.
Toronto, ON M9W 1R3
Canada

11. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

12. Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is June 9, 2023 at 02:00PM EDT

13. Inquiries and submission of Statements of Capabilities

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

NRC Procurement Officer:
Wesner Simeon
National Research Council Procurement Services
1200 Montreal Rd, Ottawa, ON
Email : Wesner.Simeon@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca