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Tender

CEFAS24-39 Contract for services for holistic approaches to investigating disease in aquatic animal systems in India, under the Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP)

Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-011534

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0450d9

Published 9 April 2024, 5:32pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science

Pakefield Road

Lowestoft

NR33 0HT

Contact

Holly Power

Email

procure@cefas.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.cefas.co.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

CEFAS24-39 Contract for services for holistic approaches to investigating disease in aquatic animal systems in India, under the Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 90700000 - Environmental services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Contract for services for holistic approaches to investigating disease in aquatic animal systems in India, under the Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP)

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £120,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 73110000 - Research services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- IN - India

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP) is funded through official

development assistance (ODA) as part of the UK's £500 million Blue Planet Fund. Through the OCPP, the UK government partners with ODA-eligible countries to deliver tangible and positive impacts on the livelihoods of coastal communities that depend on healthy marine ecosystems. The programme supports countries to strengthen marine science expertise, develop science-based policy and management tools, and create educational resources for coastal communities.

Under the sustainable seafood objective, the programme supports the development of the skills and expertise needed to adopt sustainable seafood practices. This will reduce risks such as the spread of zoonotic diseases from unsustainable or unsafe activities, and will support trade in safe seafood. The programme will also help crack down on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by supporting the development of better management, monitoring and enforcement capabilities.

Following a One Health Aquaculture workshop, held in Kerala, India in February 2023, key priorities were identified for India that support the overall aim of the Sustainable Seafood project. These priorities are:

- Aquatic disease
- Water quality
- Climate change
- AMR

In this project we aim to combine the four key priorities in one project focusing on investigating emerging and/or cryptic aquatic animal disease. Given the scope of this funding, only disease in marine or brackishwater aquatic animal culture can be investigated.

Aquaculture is the fastest-growing farmed food sector, with the proportion of cultured to caught seafood increasing year-on-year. Increased culture has coincided with the increased incidence of disease, resulting in huge losses worldwide (estimated at around US\$6 billion annually). Traditionally, a "one disease, one pathogen" approach has been undertaken when investigating disease in aquaculture; however, as new and emerging 'omic technologies become more readily available, alternative methods of looking at systems as a whole to capture the bigger picture of what is happening in states of health and disease.

This project aims to investigate an aquatic animal culture system in India that is experiencing clinical signs of disease and/or mortalities using a holistic approach (sampling both the affected species and the environment that it is cultured in). Traditional methods to investigate disease, such as histopathology and basic water quality measurements, will be combined with metatranscriptomics, and microbial/algal community analysis (including 16S bacterial and 18S eukaryote metagenomics) and chemical

analysis to provide information on the parameters involved in disease and health states of the aquatic animal of interest.

The Contract will be a collaboration between the Supplier and Cefas, with Cefas able to provide training and support in:

- Sample collection and preparation of samples for metagenomic and 16S and 18S amplicon sequencing (in the form of SOPs) and bioinformatic analysis of sequence data generated within this project.
- Histopathology (in the form of SOPs)
- Microbial and algal community identification (in the form of technical advice)
- Analysis of chemical analysis data (in the form of technical advice)

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 70

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 10

Cost criterion - Name: Cost / Weighting: 20

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £120,000

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

10 June 2024

End date

31 May 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

10 May 2024

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Tender must be valid until: 9 July 2024

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

9 April 2024

Local time

5:00pm

Place

<https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Public Procurement Review Body

N/A

N/A

N/A

Email

publicprocurementreview@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-procurement-review-service-scope-and-remit>