

General Information

Document Type: Solicitation Notice
Solicitation Number: BAA06-TSDD
Posted Date: 05 January 2007
Original Response Date: 21 March 2007
Original Archive Date: 05 January 2008
Current Archive Date: 05 January 2008
Classification Code: A – Research & Development
NAICS Code: 541710--Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences

Sponsor

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Strategic Technology Office (STO), 3701 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203-1714.

Contracting Office

United States Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command – Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (US Army RDECOM ECBC), Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), MD 21010. Contractual Point-of-Contact (POC): Contracting Office, US Army RDECOM, Acquisition Center, Edgewood Division, ECBC, APG, MD 21010, (410) 436-4271.

Description

DARPA/STO is soliciting proposals from qualified corporations, research institutions, universities, Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), and Department of Energy (DOE) laboratories in support of the Threat Agent Cloud Tactical Intercept and Countermeasure (TACTIC) Program, under Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) 06-TSDD (TACTIC System Development and Demonstration). This solicitation applies to TACTIC Phase II and the Phase III option. CLOSING DATE: One (1) year from date of publication in Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps), www.fbo.gov. PROPOSALS FOR FIRST SELECTIONS DUE: 4pm ET on 21 March 2007. Programmatic POC: TACTIC@darpa.mil, DARPA/STO, 3701 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1714.

Objective

The goal of the TACTIC program is to develop a revolutionary capability for the US military to defend against chemical and biological warfare agent (CWA/BWA) attacks against mobile US troops on the battlefield as well as fixed sites such as Sea Ports of

Debarkation (SPODs), Aerial Ports of Debarkation (APODs), and Forward-Operating Bases (FOBs).

Successful completion of the TACTIC Phase I program efforts (end date: April 2006) developed and demonstrated individual technologies for the classification/identification (CI) and countermeasure (CM) of concentrated CWA/BWA threat agent clouds in closed aerosol test chambers. Phase I performance criteria for CI technologies were: a probability of detection (P_D) of 0.9 and a probability of false alarm (P_{FA}) of $< 10^{-2}$ in less than 1 minute. Phase I performance criteria for CM technologies were a 4-log reduction in threat agent concentration in less than 5 minutes.

For the Phase II TACTIC Program effort, joint CI and CM prototype sub-systems will be developed, tested, and evaluated in a government-refereed ambient breeze tunnel. These sub-systems must be capable of CI and CM in a breeze tunnel aerosol testbed to the same standards as stated above for TACTIC Phase I.

In Phase III (option), a prototype CI and CM system will be integrated with military platforms (to be decided by the proposer and approved by the government) to demonstrate the end-to-end capability in open air releases to the same standards as stated above for TACTIC Phase I.

Detailed information with a specific set of performance goals is provided in the Proposer Information Pamphlet (PIP) for this BAA and is available publicly on FedBizOpps and on the DARPA solicitations website. There are several appendices to the PIP which are restricted (as For Official Use Only and at the SECRET level) and must be requested from DARPA as instructed below.

Acquisition Information and Bidders' Conference Information

All parties interested in this BAA must register their information (company name, principal POC name, address, phone number, and email address) on the TACTIC Program website at <https://dtsn.darpa.mil/TACTIC> and submit a one-page statement of capabilities (SOC) to TACTIC@darpa.mil. Those organizations deemed technically qualified will be granted access to the TACTIC Program website.

Qualifying organizations will have expertise in one or more of the following technical areas: chemical and/or biological warfare defense; detection, neutralization, decontamination; contamination transport modeling; chemical and/or biological (C/B) sensors/countermeasures; and/or, the integration of complex C/B systems. In all cases, qualifications will be determined by DARPA. Appendices A through H of the PIP are For Official Use Only (FOUO) and the Classified Appendix of the PIP is held at the SECRET level. To request a copy of the FOUO appendices of the PIP, interested parties must send an email to TACTIC@darpa.mil; to receive a copy of the SECRET Appendix of the PIP, interested parties must provide their CAGE code, facility level of clearance, approval date, CLASSIFIED mailing address, Facility Security Officer (FSO) name, phone number, and email to TACTIC@darpa.mil. The Principal Investigator's name,

phone number, and email must be provided when requesting the FOUO and SECRET appendices.

DARPA will host a Bidders' Conference in the metropolitan Washington, DC area on **23 January 2007**. Attendance for this meeting will be limited to technically qualified organizations. Consideration for admittance requires conference registration via the TACTIC Program website, <https://dtsn.darpa.mil/TACTIC>. Notification of user account activation will be provided by DARPA, via email, followed by access to the Bidders' Conference registration site. The Bidders' Conference will be a one-day event: the morning portion of the meeting will be unclassified and the afternoon portion will be held at the SECRET level. Those who wish to attend the CLASSIFIED portion of the conference will need to submit a visitor certification request to the hosting FSO whose information will be provided on the meeting registration website. Registration to attend this meeting must be received no later than **16 January 2007**. Questions regarding the Bidders' Conference can be sent to TACTIC@darpa.mil.

To be considered for award, all proposals must be received by 1600 ET on **21 March 2007**. The BAA shall remain open for one (1) year from the date of publication on www.fbo.gov, however, the Government anticipates that the majority of funding for this program will be committed during selections of those proposals submitted by **21 March 2007**.

Proposal Submission

The BAA06-TSDD PIP provides further details for this BAA including program objectives, technical milestone criteria, proposal preparation and submittal instructions, and DD Form 254. Proposals not meeting the specified format described in the PIP will not be considered for award. The PIP is not classified, however specific threat information is contained in the CLASSIFIED appendix at the SECRET level that must be obtained by request to DARPA only. Furthermore, information about technologies developed and studies conducted in Phase I of TACTIC are in a separate FOUO attachment.

The Government anticipates proposals submitted under this BAA will contain CLASSIFIED sections. Guidance regarding the marking, packaging, and delivery of CLASSIFIED proposals is provided in the DD Form 254 "Contract Security Classification Specification" and PIP associated with this BAA. A SECRET facility clearance and a SECRET safeguarding clearance will be required to perform awards issued under this BAA. (Organizations that do not have both of these clearances may still perform under this BAA by teaming with a lead (or prime) organization that does have the required clearances *if* the teaming (subcontracting) organization does not receive or generate CLASSIFIED material.)

All key personnel who will be working on this program are required to have a SECRET clearance or higher. In order to obtain a SECRET clearance, individuals must be a US citizen.

Proposers are free to team with any entity. If proposers intend to team, they must include a copy of the teaming arrangement or a signed commitment letter along with a description of the tasks the other entity will perform and the costs associated with those tasks.

Questions regarding this BAA or comments on the PIP may be emailed directly to TACTIC@darpa.mil.

It is anticipated that contracts will be awarded in **May 2007**. The Government will not be liable for the cost of proposal preparation and submission. Proposals must be submitted in accordance with this announcement and the PIP. There will be no other solicitation issued in regard to this requirement. Proposers should be alert for any BAA amendments that may be published on the FedBizOpps website.

Organizational Conflict of Interest

Each proposal shall contain a section satisfying the requirements below. Awards made under this BAA are subject to the provisions of the FAR, subpart 9.5, organizational Conflict of Interest (OCI). All proposers and proposed subcontractors must affirmatively state whether they are supporting any DARPA technical office(s) and/or RDECOM ECBC through an active contract or subcontract. All affirmations must state which office(s) the proposer supports and identify the prime contract number(s). Affirmations shall be furnished at the time of proposal submission and the existence or potential existence of organizational OCI, as that term is defined in FAR 9.501, must be disclosed. This disclosure shall include a description of the action the proposer has taken, or proposes to take to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate such conflict. If the proposer believes that no such conflict exists, then it shall so state in this section.

It is the policy of DARPA to treat all proposals as competitive information and to disclose the contents of those proposals to US Government employees and necessary support contract personnel only for the purposes of evaluation. The Government intends to use non-Government personnel as special resources to help with the logistics of administering the proposal evaluation and providing selected technical support related to proposal evaluation. These support personnel are restricted by their contracts from disclosing proposal information for any purpose and are required to sign OCI/Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs). By submission of its proposal, each proposer agrees that proposal information may be disclosed to those selected contractors for the limited purpose stated above. Any information not intended for limited release to support contractors must be clearly marked and segregated from other submitted proposal material.

All responsible sources capable of satisfying the Government's needs may submit a proposal that will be considered by DARPA. HBCUs and MIs are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals. This BAA affords proposers the choice of submitting proposals for the award of a procurement contract or other such

appropriate award. The government reserves the right to negotiate the type of award determined appropriate under the circumstances.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Within the meaning of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) 6.102 and 35.016, this announcement and the PIP constitute DARPA's solicitation for this BAA. Evaluation of all proposals will be accomplished through a scientific review considering the following general criteria which are defined in further detail in the PIP and are listed here: (1) scientific and technical merit, (2) proposer qualifications, and (3) cost and schedule realism. Each proposal will be evaluated on the merit and relevance of the specific proposal as it relates to the program rather than against other proposals for research in the same general area, because no common work statement exists. All factors other than cost or price, when combined, are significantly more important than cost or price.

All proposals, regardless of the date of submission, will be evaluated using the above general criteria. As a result of this BAA, DARPA may award traditional FAR/DFARS (Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations Supplement) contracts. No portion of this BAA will be set aside for small business, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) or Minority Institution (MI) participation due to the impracticality of reserving discrete or severable areas of research for exclusive competition among the entries. The Government reserves the right to select for award all, some, or none of the proposals received in response to this BAA. Proposals may be selected and/or award decisions made without discussions or negotiations.