



Procuring organization

Ríkiskaup
Ingifríður R. Skúladóttir

Procurement

RFI - Language Technology for Icelandic
40406
Tender closing date: 22/03/2019 22:00

Legend

- | | |
|---|--|
|  The text is included in the advert |  The text is included in the qualification |
|  The text will be part of the contract |  The text will be published in the contract catalogue |
|  The text/question contains requirements to be met |  The text/question contains ESPD requirements |
|  The question is weighted and included in the evaluation |  The question is asked for information only |
|  The question is answered by the buyer |  The question is marked for special follow-up |

1. Language Technology for Icelandic (RFI)

1.1 Contracting Authorities



Ríkiskaup, Central Public Procurement, on behalf of Almennarómur – Center for Language Technology, requests information from potential suppliers of Language Technology for Icelandic.

1.2 Scope



Ríkiskaup, on behalf of Almennarómur – Center for Language Technology, intends to put up for tender four core-solutions (speech recogniser, speech synthesiser, machine translation system, and spell and grammar checker), plus the language resources and support tools that are the prerequisite to building those core solutions. To this end, Ríkiskaup would like to request information from organisations that have the capability to develop such solutions.

The four core-solutions, along with the language resources and support tools, defined as the necessary infrastructure for the Icelandic language to survive in a digital world, are described in the document *Language Technology for Icelandic 2018-2022 – Project Plan (Máltækni fyrir íslensku 2018-2022 Verkáætlun)* which will be made available to interested parties if requested by e-mail to jvg@almannaromur.is.

The aim is to ensure that using Icelandic will be an option in all communications using computers and telecommunications technology.

1.3 General information



According to the five-year project plan, four open core-solutions should be created; speech recogniser, speech synthesiser, machine translation system, and spell and grammar checker, plus the language resources and support tools that are the prerequisite to building those core solutions.

To this end there will be five main RFP's; speech recognition, speech synthesis, machine translation, spell and grammar checking, and language resource enhancement and tools.

A principal prerequisite in building language technology tools is to have language resources and support tools in place, as all language technology is built on language resources; basic tools and lexicographical and linguistic data. If these are underdeveloped or do not exist, it is impossible to develop language technology. The tools developed will be open and accessible to all. The project is focused on establishing important corpora of spoken and written language. It is also necessary to prepare data, such as vocabulary, pronunciations, and semantics, for use in language technology. Furthermore, reliable support tools are a necessary component of language technology software and data processing.

1.4 Questions regarding the core projects

Almannarómur is requesting information about the following:

1. Suggested prioritization of the core projects, and their sub-projects, over the five years of the project plan.
2. Interdependency between the core projects, and their sub-projects, and how should the different teams working on different projects work together when and where necessary.
3. Knowledge of and experience with language technology programs in other countries.
4. Language technology solutions for other languages, that might be relevant and/or useful.
5. Experience in the market of the specific tools mentioned in the Language Technology for Icelandic 2018-2022 – Project Plan.
6. Ideas on how to create an incentive for large international technology companies to use the language resources and core solutions created via the project plan. The aim is to ensure that the language technology solutions made for the Icelandic language will be usable and used in the software and equipment made by the international technology companies.
7. Optimal handling of data and licences.

Request for information in the following format:

- a) Max 12 page document detailing the suggested approach to the abovementioned factors.
- b) Please provide your responses in line with the numbers 1-7.
- c) Please include contact information and whether further demos would be possible.

Suggested approach

Attachment

**1.5 Questions for interested suppliers - next steps**

The next steps in the process will largely depend on the answers received. A procurement strategy (including choice of procedure) has not been established, due to insufficient market information.

It is therefore important that potential suppliers respond to the RFI.

a. Is this procurement of interest to you?

Yes/No

**b. What is your experience with similar projects?**

Text field

**c. What kind of contractual arrangement would you see as practical?**

Text field

**d. Are there any particular contract clauses the supplier would suggest or recommend?**

Text field

**e. Are there any particular qualification criteria the supplier would suggest or recommend?**

Text field

**f. Are there any particular selection criteria the supplier would suggest or recommend?**

Text field

**g. Is there a particular procurement procedure the supplier would suggest or recommend?**

Text field



h. How might the best ratio between quality and cost be reached, in the supplier's opinion?



Text field

i. Does the supplier wish to offer any further advice on the coming procurement process?



Text field