

Sources Sought Notice

Sources Sought Notice No.: HHS-NIH-NCI-SBSS-PCPSB-5011-29

Title: A Bibliometric Study of Research Outcomes of the Transdisciplinary Research in Energetics and Cancer (TREC) Centers

Description:

This is a Small Business Sources Sought notice. This is **NOT** a solicitation for proposals, proposal abstracts, or quotations. The purpose of this notice is to obtain information regarding: (1) the availability and capability of qualified small business sources; (2) the type of small businesses, e.g., HUBZone small businesses; service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses; 8(a) small businesses; veteran-owned small businesses; woman-owned small businesses; or small disadvantaged businesses, etc.; and (3) their size classification relative to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for the proposed acquisition. Your responses to the information requested will assist the Government in determining the appropriate acquisition method, including whether a set-aside is possible. **AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS NOT CONSIDERED A SMALL BUSINESS UNDER THE APPLICABLE NAICS CODE SHOULD NOT SUBMIT A RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE.** This Sources Sought notice is for information and planning purposes only and shall not be construed as a solicitation or as an obligation on the part of the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

The NAICS code for this project is 541720.

The small business size standard is \$7 million.

Background:

Over the past few decades there has been an increase in the number of initiatives funded by both governmental and non-governmental agencies to solve complex societal, environmental, and public health problems. These large initiatives require collaborative work and cross-disciplinary inquiries, which has contributed to a pronounced shift from individually-oriented research behaviors toward team-based scientific endeavors.

The Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS), National Cancer Institute (NCI) has funded several large transdisciplinary center initiatives since 1999, tackling complex health problems in an array of domains. DCCPS seeks support for its mission to study the methods and processes associated with team science and determine ways to define, track and measure efficiency and success of such initiatives.

Purpose and Objectives:

The purpose of this project is to conduct innovative bibliometric studies to assess the value and productivity of the Transdisciplinary Research in Energetics and Cancer initiative (TREC). There are four major objectives to achieve: 1) to assess TREC research productivity using a rigorous research design; 2) to assess the evolution of the TREC publications and their unique contribution to the overall landscape of the energetics and energy balance field by utilizing scientific mapping and visualizing techniques; 3) to examine the relationship between collaborative antecedent and process factors and the TREC research outcomes; and 4) to incorporate qualitative methods for assessing the quality, impact, and level of transdisciplinarity of TREC publications.

Project Requirements:

Assess TREC research productivity using rigorous research design

Utilize a quasi-experimental study design to examine the TREC research outcomes including: a) developing appropriate comparison groups; b) extracting publication data for TREC and the comparison groups' through

database searching; c) conduct bibliometric analyses using appropriate bibliometric indicators; d) propose and incorporate appropriate covariates in the data analyses

Assess the evolution of the TREC publications and their unique contribution to the overall landscape of the energetics and energy balance field utilizing scientific mapping and visualizing techniques

a) produce a global map of NIH funded research publications in energetics, energy balance, and cancer to track the evolving publication pattern in the field; b) overlay TREC and comparison group publications on this global map using appropriate bibliometric indicators; c) provide interpretations of the mapping results

Examine the relationship between collaborative antecedent and process factors and the TREC research outcomes

a) identify relevant antecedent and process factors from the existing TREC baseline and follow-up survey database as predicating variables; b) identify appropriate bibliometric outcome indicators as dependent variables; c) conduct statistical analyses assessing the relationship between collaborative antecedents and process factors and the TREC research outcomes

Incorporate qualitative methods for assessing the quality, impact, and level of transdisciplinarity of TREC publications

a) refine and develop a qualitative rating protocol of the impact, quality, and transdisciplinarity of the TREC research publications; b) provide subjective appraisals using the protocol; c) integrate qualitative metrics into the bibliometric database and perform statistical analyses to better understand the relationship between qualitative appraisals of impact and existing quantitative indicators

Anticipated Period of Performance:

The anticipated period of performance is 2 years (1 base year and 1 option year) starting around September 30, 2010.

Capability Statement/Information Sought:

Small businesses that believe that they have the ability to satisfy all of the above stated Project Requirements, and who meet the stated size standard, are encouraged to submit a capability statement. The capability statements will be evaluated based on the information provided in relation to the Project Requirements and the current capacity to perform the work including: a) method and approach; b) staff availability, experience, and training; c) prior completed projects of a similar nature; and d) corporate experience and management capabilities. On the first page of the capability statement, clearly state the small business concern's size status and type(s), name, address, point of contact, and DUNS number. The remainder of the capability statement should be tailored to the project requirements stated above and must demonstrate that similar work has been performed in the past, including the dollar value of that work.

Information Submission Instructions:

All capability statements sent in response to this SMALL BUSINESS SOURCES SOUGHT notice must be submitted electronically (via e-mail) to Virginia DeSeau, Contracting Officer, at vd9t@nih.gov, in either MS Word, WordPerfect or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF), by **3:00pm Eastern time on March 17, 2010**. All responses must be received by the specified due date and time in order to be considered. **ANY RESPONSES RECEIVED AFTER THE SPECIFIED DATA AND TIME WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.** Capability statements should not exceed fifteen (15), single-sided pages (including all attachments, resumes, charts, etc.), presented in single-spaced, 12-point font size minimum.

Disclaimer:

This notice does not obligate the Government to award a contract or otherwise pay for the information provided in response. The Government reserves the right to use information provided by respondents for any purpose deemed necessary and legally appropriate. Any organization responding to this notice should ensure that its response is complete and sufficiently detailed to allow the Government to determine the organization's qualifications to perform the work. Respondents are advised that the Government is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted. After a review of the responses received, a pre-solicitation synopsis and solicitation may be published in Federal Business Opportunities. However, responses to this notice will not be considered adequate responses to a solicitation.

Confidentiality:

No proprietary, classified, confidential, or sensitive information should be included in your response. The Government reserves the right to use any non-proprietary technical information in any resultant solicitation(s).