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Koper, 5 December 2022

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TECHNICAL DIALOGUE FOR DEEPENING OF NAVIGATIONAL WATERS AT THE PORT OF KOPER AND OFFSHORE DISPOSAL

Dear Sirs,

Port of Koper is a multi-purpose port located at the North-east end of the Adriatic Sea, at the northern part of Slovenian coastline and is the only domestic deep-water cargo port. The Company Luka Koper d.d. provides port and logistics services at Port of Koper. Total maritime throughput in 2021 topped over 21,5 million tonnes, and the company has strengthened its position as leading port for cargo on the southern route to Europe.

Port of Koper extends over the area of 280 hectare and comprises of 3.4 km of quays and 28 berths. Port activities are carried out at 12 specialized terminals for indoor and outdoor warehousing. All terminals are operated by Luka Koper d.d. The core business covers cargo handling and warehousing of all types of cargo, complemented by a variety of additional services to provide comprehensive logistic support for our customers. The company also manages the development and maintenance of port infrastructure.

Background:

Slovenian water area of some 122 km² borders the water areas of Italy and Croatia. Slovenia has an overall length of some 46 km and the linear distance of the Slovenian coast between Italy in the north and Croatia in the south measures about 17 km. Water depth is about 21 to 24 metres below Chart Datum.

Commonly and as per UN Convention of the Law of the Sea the territorial waters of a state extends from the coast 12 nautical miles into the sea and is regarded as sovereign territory (normally mean low water mark), while foreign ships are allowed to innocent passage through this territorial waters. International shipping routes to the Italian ports of Trieste and Monfalcone are crossing the Slovenian waters.

In 2015, the first phase of dredging in the northern part of Basin I in the Port of Koper was completed, ensuring 14.5m of draft. The approach in this matter was conventional – permanent disposal of dredged material in the direct hinterland of the port. Nowadays Luka Koper sees the implementation of future capital dredging as a combination of onshore and offshore disposal activities.

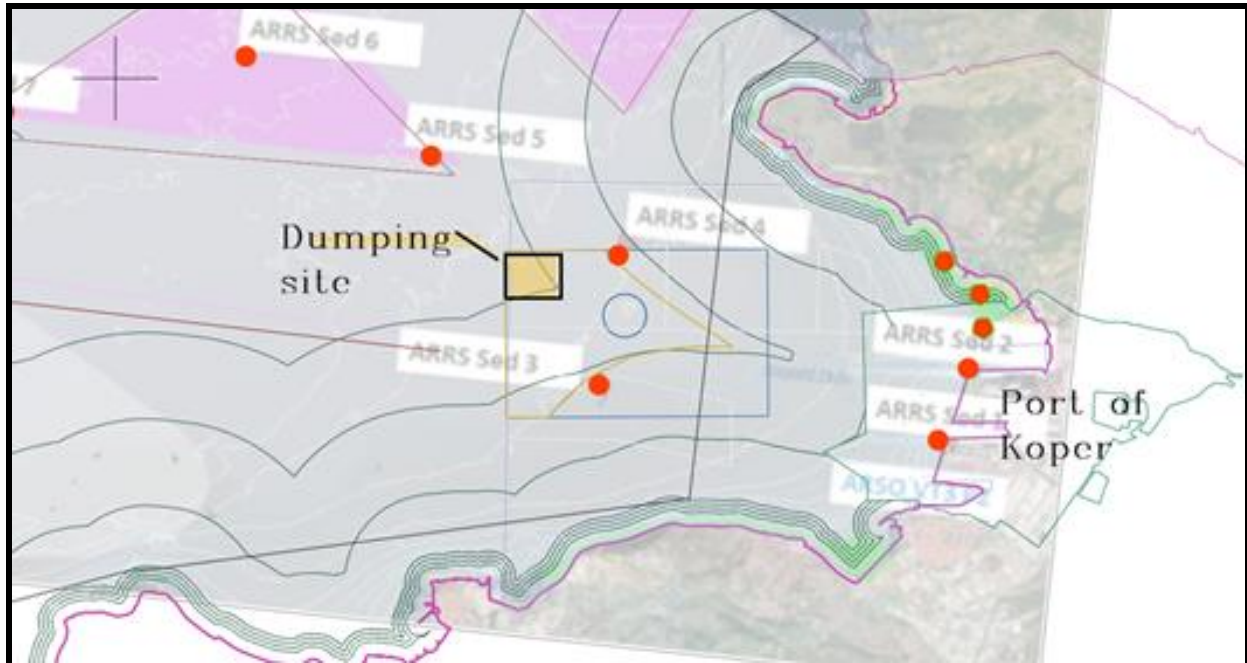


Chart 1: Marine sediment offshore location

The dumping site:

Vertex:	Latitude (WGS-84):	Longitude (WGS-84):
1	45° 34.5562' N	13° 40.0179' E
2	45° 34.5607' N	13° 40.4022' E
3	45° 34.2908' N	13° 40.4086' E
4	45° 34.2864' N	13° 40.0243' E

GK coordinates:
GKY: 396336,0
GKX: 48825,3
GKY: 396836,0
GKX: 48825,3
GKY: 396836,0
GKX: 48325,3
GKY: 396336,0
GKX: 48325,3

State of play:

The Decree on Maritime Spatial Plan of Slovenia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia no. 116/2021, hereinafter: PPP), adopted on 15 July 2021, defines various types of activities and uses at sea and in the coastal zone, as well as the conditions for their implementation. Relocation of marine sediment is defined in the section no. 6 of the PPP: *Maritime and transport*.

The seabed dredging and marine sediment relocation plan is defined as a consecutive two-phase process, namely:

- Phase 1: (THE TEST PHASE) - relocation of up to 50,000 m³ of marine sediment. Specifically, marine sediment is excavated in the port area and relocated to designated offshore location specified in the PPP (area indicated as the dumping site in Chart 1). Relocation is carried out in parallel with the deepening the seabed in the Port of Koper - as part of a capital dredging investment in the Basin III, and within the framework of maintenance dredging interventions in the wider area of Basin I and III. The sailing distance from the port to the dumping site is approx. 3,5 NM. The dredging and the sea discharging process is subject to monitoring of the possible impacts of relocation to environment before, during and after the intervention is carried out, in accordance with the conditions of the spatial planning authorities. The successfully implemented test phase and the positive results of the sediment relocation (environmental monitoring) will led to obtaining consent for the Phase 2.
- Phase 2: (THE EXECUTION PHASE) – based on the positive results of the test phase, the large-scale relocation of marine sediment can be carried out, subject to conditions set out in the PPP and in the obtained consent.

In accordance with the conditions set in the PPP regulation, Luka Koper has started the process of obtaining permits for the activities related to relocation of 50.000 m³ of dredged material from the Port of Koper area to the designated area at sea, in the Bay of Koper, Slovenia. Based on that, Luka Koper plans to contract an external expert to execute dredging works of 50.000 m³ of marine sediment and offshore disposal of the material at the dumping site, as indicated on the Chart 1.

Framework:

Luka Koper, d.d. as a contracting authority plans to perform preliminary technical dialogue with the potential providers, in accordance with the **Slovenian Public procurement Act (ZJN-3)**, which in Article 64 defines the method of conducting preliminary market consultations, namely:

Before launching a procurement procedure, contracting authorities may conduct technical dialogue with a view to preparing the procurement and informing economic operators of their procurement plans and requirements. For this purpose, contracting authorities may conduct a technical dialogue to seek or accept advice which may be used in the preparation of the procurement documents, provided that such advice or recommendations do not have the effect of preventing or restricting competition and do not result in a violation of the principles of equal treatment of tenderers or the transparency of public procurement.

The public tender and the selection process will be carried out in accordance with Slovenian legislation on public procurement. The statement of work (SOW) and the work contract will be tentatively drafted during the technical dialogue process, considering the conditions set in the PPP.

Procurement activities related to dredging and offshore disposal are planned to start in Q1 of 2023. The execution of works for the test phase is scheduled to begin in Q4 of 2023.

The mayor requirements for the dredging equipment are as follows:

- dredging up to 50.000 m³ of marine sediment in Port of Koper (mostly mud/clay slud; very few of sand, gravel, or rock) and relocate the material to the designated area.
- capital dredging works in Port of Koper (Basin III): up to -13 m CD
- maintenance dredging works in Port of Koper (Basin I): up to -15 m CD
- maintenance dredging works in Port of Koper (Basin III): up to -18 m CD
- the sea depth at the designated dumping site: approx. -21 m CD
- transport of marine sediment from the Port of Koper to the offshore location - the dumping site (sailing distance approx. 3,5 NM)
- used technology at the dredging site: grabber (clamshell bucket)
- used technologies at the dumping site: discharge using bottom hatch/doors and/or the grabber (clamshell bucket) system
- deposition of material at the dumping site up to a height of 20 cm

The main points of the technical dialogue are (but not limited to) the following:

- references on successfully executed dredging projects in last 5 years (Mediterranean basin, Adriatic Sea, etc).
- experience with projects involving offshore disposal of marine sediment
- suggested equipment for the Port of Koper environment + alternatives
- availability of equipment
- scheduling flexibility
- types and dimensions of equipment/fleet, capacity, overflow levels, etc.
- equipment productivity (dredging, dumping, sailing, overall)
- mob. / demob / preparation of equipment
- working time
- minimum working conditions (weather, wind, etc.)
- safety and monitoring systems
- safety at work assurance, navigation systems, collision prevention systems
- performance guarantee, delays
- in/out volumes survey and tolerances
- dredging in corner areas
- dredging of gravel / removal of rock
- continuous work and stand-by rates
- environmental mitigation measures at the dredging site (e.g., noise, vibration, etc)
- environmental mitigation measures at the offshore site (e.g., turbidity, etc.)

As part of the technical dialogue, Luka Koper can provide information on bathymetry.

Expectations:

The main purpose of the dialogue is the exchange of technical and other information related to the concerned public tender for a better understanding of the possibilities/technical characteristics of the offshore sediment disposal intervention.

Based on this announcement, interested potential bidders/suppliers are kindly requested to apply to participate in the technical dialogue on dredging works and offshore sediment disposal in Port of Koper latest until 12 January 2023 via email EU-projekti@luka-kp.si. Upon your application, we intend to convene a meeting at our premises or, alternatively, at the premises of the interested bidders.

The interested bidders/suppliers are kindly requested to attend the meeting together with their technical experts to provide more detailed technical information. As part of the dialogue, interested bidders will also be asked to submit a non-binding offer, which will be treated as confidential and will only be used for the purposes of budget planning during the public procurement procedure. Technical and other information submitted by a potential bidder will be treated as confidential if designated as such by the potential bidder.

For the sake of transparency and the principle of equal treatment, minutes are taken of such meetings.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any additional information you may require by email: EU-projekti@luka-kp.si or by phone +386 5 6656 643.

We will be awaiting your reply.

Thank you in advance.

LUKA KOPER d.d.