PUBLICATION REFERENCE: FIDGG 25/11/16

When submitting their tenders, tenderers must follow all instructions, forms, terms of reference, contract provisions and specifications contained in this tender dossier. Failure to submit a tender containing all the required information and documentation within the deadline specified may lead to the rejection of the tender.

1. **Services to be provided**

The services required by the Contracting Authority are described in the Terms of Reference. They are set out in Annex II to the draft contract, which forms Part B of this tender dossier.

1. **Timetable**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **DATE** | **TIME\*** |
| **Deadline for submitting tenders** | 15.12.2016 | 12:00 |
| **Completion date for evaluating technical offers** | 16.12.2016 | - |
| **Notification of award** | 19.12.2016 | - |
| **Contract signature** | 20.12.2016 | - |
| **Start date** | 20.12.2016 | - |

**\* All times are in the time zone of the country of the Contracting Authority****Provisional date**

1. **Participation, experts and subcontracting.**
2. Participation in this tender procedure is open only to the invited tenderers.
3. Natural or legal persons are not entitled to participate in this tender procedure or be awarded a contract if they are in any of the conditions mentioned in Section 2.3.3 of the **Practical Guide**. Should they do so, they may be excluded from tender procedures and contracts in accordance with Section 2.3.4 of the **Practical Guide**.
4. Tenderers guilty of making false declarations may also be subject to financial penalties representing 2 % to 10 % of the total value of the contract being awarded. This rate may be increased to 4 % to 20 % in the event of a repeat offence within five years of the first infringement.
5. Tenders should be submitted by the same service provider or consortium that submitted the application form on the basis of which it was short-listed and to which the letter of invitation to tender is addressed. No change whatsoever in the identity or composition of the tenderer is permittedunless the Contracting Authority has given its prior approval in writing.
6. Short-listed service providers or consortia are not allowed to form alliances with any other firms or to subcontract to each other for the purposes of this contract.
7. The contract between the tenderer/contractor and its experts shall contain a provision that it is subject to the approval of the partner country. It is furthermore recommended that this contract contains a dispute resolution clause.
8. Subcontracting is not allowed.
9. **Content of tenders**

## Offers, all correspondence and documents related to the tender exchanged by the tenderer and the Contracting Authority must be written in English.

## Supporting documents and printed literature furnished by the tenderer may be in another language, provided they are accompanied by a translation into the language of the procedure. For the purposes of interpreting the tender, the language of the procedure has precedence.

The tender must comprise of a Technical offer and a Financial offer, which must be submitted in separate envelopes (see clause ). Each Technical offer and Financial offer must contain one original, clearly marked **‘Original’**, and 3 copies, each marked ‘**Copy’**. Failure to fulfil the requirements in clauses 4.1, 4.2 and will constitute a formal error and may result in rejection of the tender.

**4.1. Technical offer**

The Technical offer must include the following documents:

1. **Tender submission form** (see Part D of this tender dossier) including:
2. A signed **declaration** in the tender submission form, using the format attached to the tender submission form
3. **Copy of legal registration** of the tenderer
4. **Organisation and methodology** (will become Annex III of the contract), to be drawn up by the tenderer using the format in Annex III of the draft contract.
5. **List of references of the company** (To become Annex IV of the contract, to be drawn up by the tender using the format in Annex IV of the draft contract).
6. **Sworn statement** from the tenderer (using the format provided in the Tender Dossier)

Tenderers are reminded that the provision of false information in this tender procedure may lead to their exclusion from EC-funded contracts for a period of 2 to 5 years.

If the documentary evidence submitted is not written in one of the official languages of the European Union, a translation into the language of the procedure must be attached. Where the documents are in an official language of the European Union other than the one of the procedure, it is however strongly recommended to provide a translation into the language of the procedure, in order to facilitate the evaluation of the documents. Documentary proof or statements may be in original or copy. If copies are submitted, the originals must be available to send to the Contracting Authority upon request.

The electronic version of the technical offer must be included with the printed version in the separate envelope in which the technical offer is submitted. If there are any discrepancies between the electronic version and the original, printed version, the latter has precedence.

**4.2. Financial offer**

The Financial offer must be presented as an amount in Euro [[1]](#footnote-2) and must be submitted using the template for the global-price version of Annex V to part B of this tender dossier.

The global price must not be broken down.

Tenderers are reminded that the maximum budget available for this contract, as stated in the contract notice, is EUR 7,500.00 Payments under this contract will be made in the currency of the tender.

1. **Variant solutions**

Tenderers are not authorised to tender for a variant in addition to this tender.

Tenderers must submit a tender that meets the requirements of the tender dossier.

1. **Period during which tenders are binding**

Tenderers are bound by their tenders for 90 days after the deadline for submitting tenders or until they have been notified of non-award. In exceptional cases, before the period of validity expires, the Contracting Authority may ask tenderers to extend the period for a specific number of days, which may not exceed 40.

The selected tenderer must maintain its tender for a further 60 days. This further period of 60 days is added to the validity period irrespective of the date of notification.

1. **Additional information before the deadline for submitting tenders**

The tender dossier should be clear enough to avoid candidates having to request additional information during the procedure. If the Contracting Authority, either on its own initiative or in response to a request from a short-listed candidate, provides additional information on the tender dossier, it must send such information in writing to all other short-listed candidates at the same time.

Tenderers may submit questions in writing to the following address up to 3 days before the deadline for submission of tenders, specifying the publication reference and the contract title to:

Ms. Aferdita Sylaj

Address: Community Building Mitrovica, Bulevardi Isa Boletini 11-12 (ex Confidence Area), 40000 Mitrovica, Kosovo

E-mail: [aferdita.syla@cbmitrovica.org](mailto:aferdita.syla@cbmitrovica.org)

The Contracting Authority has no obligation to provide clarification after this date.

Any tenderer seeking to arrange individual meetings with the Contracting Authority and/or the government of the partner country and/or the European Commission concerning this contract during the tender period may be excluded from the tender procedure.

Any clarification of the tender dossier will be communicated simultaneously in writing to all tenderers at the latest 2 calendar days before the deadline for submitting tenders.

No information meeting is planned.

No site visit is planned.

Visits by individual prospective tenderers during the tender period are not organised.]

1. **Submission of tenders**

Tenders must be delivered to the Contracting Authority for **receipt** before 15 December, 2016 until 12:00. They must include the requested documents in clause 4 above and be sent:

1. **EITHER** by **recorded delivery** (official postal service) to:

Community Building Mitrovica

Bulevardi Isa Boletini 11-12 (ex Confidence Area),

40000 Mitrovica, Kosovo

1. **OR** **hand delivered** (including courier services) **directly** to the Contracting Authority against a **signed and dated receipt** to:

Community Building Mitrovica

Bulevardi Isa Boletini 11-12 (ex Confidence Area),

40000 Mitrovica, Kosovo

**Tenders submitted by any other means will not be considered.** Tenders must be submitted using the double envelope system, i.e., in an outer parcel or envelope containing two separate, sealed envelopes, one bearing the words ‘**Envelope A — Technical offer’** and the other ‘**Envelope B — Financial offer’**. All parts of the tender other than the financial offer must be submitted in Envelope A (i.e., including the Tender submission form, statements of exclusivity and availability of the key experts and declarations).

**Any infringement of these rules (e.g., unsealed envelopes or references to price in the technical offer) will lead to rejection of the tender.**

The outer envelope should provide the following information:

1. the address for submitting tenders indicated above;
2. the reference code of the tender procedure (i.e. **<**publication reference**>**);
3. the words “Not to be opened before the tender-opening session”, “Ne otvarati pre sastanka za otvaranje ponuda”, and “Mos i hapni para takimit për hapje”;
4. the name of the tenderer.

Each envelope must include an index of its contents. The pages of the Technical and Financial offers must be numbered.

1. **Amending or withdrawing tenders**

Tenderers may amend or withdraw their tenders by written notification prior to the deadline for submitting tenders. Tenders may not be amended after this deadline.

Any such notification of amendment or withdrawal must be prepared and submitted in accordance with Clause . The outer envelope (and the relevant inner envelope) must be marked ‘Amendment’ or ‘Withdrawal’ as appropriate.

1. **Costs for preparing tenders**

No costs incurred by the tenderer in preparing and submitting the tender are reimbursable. All such costs must be borne by the tenderer, including the cost of interviewing proposed experts.

1. **Ownership of tenders**

The Contracting Authority retains ownership of all tenders received under this tendering procedure. Consequently, tenderers do not have the right to have their tenders returned to them.

1. **Evaluation of tenders**

**12.1. Evaluation of technical offers**

The quality of each technical offer will be evaluated in accordance with the award criteria and the weighting detailed in the evaluation grid in Part C of this tender dossier. No other award criteria will be used. The award criteria will be examined in accordance with the requirements indicated in the Terms of Reference.

The evaluation of the technical offers will follow the procedures set out in Section 3.3.10 of the Practical Guide (available on the internet at <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/index_en.htm>).

**12.1.1. Interviews**

No interviews are foreseen.

**12.2. Evaluation of financial offers**

Upon completion of the technical evaluation, the envelopes containing the financial offers for tenders that were not eliminated during the technical evaluation will be opened (i.e. those with an average score of 80 points or more). Tenders exceeding the maximum budget available for the contract will be eliminated.

**12.3. Choice of selected tenderer**

The best value for money is established by weighing technical quality against price on an 80/20 basis.

**12.4. Confidentiality**

The entire evaluation procedure is confidential, subject to the Contracting Authority’s legislation on access to documents. The Evaluation Committee’s decisions are collective and its deliberations are held in closed session. The members of the Evaluation Committee are bound to secrecy. The evaluation reports and written records are for official use only and may be communicated neither to the tenderers nor to any party other than the Contracting Authority, the European Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office and the European Court of Auditors.

1. **Ethics clauses / Corruptive practices**

a) Any attempt by a tenderer to obtain confidential information, enter into unlawful agreements with competitors or influence the Evaluation Committee or the Contracting Authority during the process of examining, clarifying, evaluating and comparing tenders will lead to the rejection of its tender and may result in administrative penalties.

b) The tenderer must not be affected by any conflict of interest and must have no equivalent relation in that respect with other tenderers or parties involved in the project.

c) The European Commission reserves the right to suspend or cancel project financing if corrupt practices of any kind are discovered at any stage of the award process or during the execution of a contract and if the Contracting Authority fails to take all appropriate measures to remedy the situation. For the purposes of this provision, ‘corrupt practices’ are the offer of a bribe, gift, gratuity or commission to any person as an inducement or reward for performing or refraining from any act relating to the award of a contract or execution of a contract already concluded with the Contracting Authority.

d) Tenders will be rejected or contracts terminated if it emerges that the award or execution of a contract has given rise to unusual commercial expenses. Such unusual commercial expenses are commissions not mentioned in the main contract or not stemming from a properly concluded contract referring to the main contract, commissions not paid in return for any actual and legitimate service, commissions remitted to a tax haven, commissions paid to a payee who is not clearly identified or commissions paid to a company which has every appearance of being a front company.

Contractors found to have paid unusual commercial expenses on projects funded by the European Union are liable, depending on the seriousness of the facts observed, to have their contracts terminated or to be permanently excluded from receiving EU funds.

e) The Contracting Authority reserves the right to suspend or cancel the procedure, where the award procedure proves to have been subject to substantial errors, irregularities or fraud. If substantial errors, irregularities or fraud are discovered after the award of the Contract, the Contracting Authority may refrain from concluding the Contract.

1. **Signature of contract(s)**

**14.1. Notification of award**

The successful tenderer will be informed in writing that its tender has been accepted.

**14.2. Signature of the contract(s)**

Within 7 days of receipt of the contract already signed by the Contracting Authority, the selected tenderer shall sign and date the contract and return it to the Contracting Authority.

Failure of the selected tenderer to comply with this requirement may constitute grounds for annulling the decision to award the contract. In this event, the Contracting Authority may award the tender to another tenderer or cancel the tender procedure.

The other tenderers will, at the same time as the notification of award is submitted, be informed that their tenders were not accepted, by means of a standard letter, including an indication of the relative weaknesses of their tender by way of a comparative table of the scores for the winning tender and the unsuccessful tender. The second best tenderer is informed of the notification of award to the successful tenderer with the reservation of the possibility to receive a notification of award in case of inability to sign the contract with the first ranked tenderer. The validity of the offer of the second best tenderer will be kept. The second tenderer may refuse the award of the contract if, when receiving a notification of award, the 90 days of validity of their tender has expired.

The Contracting Authority will furthermore, at the same time, also inform the remaining unsuccessful tenderers and the consequence of these letters will be that the validity of their offers must not be retained.

1. **Cancellation of the tender procedure**

In the event of cancellation of the tender procedure, the Contracting Authority will notify tenderers of the cancellation. If the tender procedure is cancelled before the outer envelope of any tender has been opened, the unopened and sealed envelopes will be returned to the tenderers.

Cancellation may occur where:

* the tender procedure has been unsuccessful, i.e., no qualitatively or financially worthwhile tender has been received or there is no valid response at all;
* there are fundamental changes to the economic or technical data of the project;
* exceptional circumstances or force majeure render normal performance of the contract impossible;
* all technically compliant tenders exceed the financial resources available;
* there have been irregularities in the procedure, in particular if they have prevented fair competition;
* the award is not in compliance with sound financial management, i.e. does not respect the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness (e.g. the price proposed by the tenderer to whom the contract is to be awarded is objectively disproportionate with regard to the price of the market).

In no event shall the Contracting Authority be liable for any damages whatsoever including, without limitation, damages for loss of profits, in any way connected with the cancellation of a tender procedure, even if the Contracting Authority has been advised of the possibility of damages. The publication of a procurement notice does not commit the Contracting Authority to implement the programme or project announced.

1. **Appeals**

Tenderers believing that they have been harmed by an error or irregularity during the award process may file a complaint. See section 2.4.15 of the Practical Guide.

1. The currency of the tender is the currency of the contract and the currency of payment. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)