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**BA-Sarajevo: IPA — technical assistance to population and housing census — phase II**

**2010/S 163-249954**

**Europe (non-EU) — Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA)**

**Service procurement notice**

Common procurement vocabulary (CPV):

Main object:

79330000 Statistical services

1. **Publication reference:**  
EuropeAid/129845/C/SER/BA.  
Internet address:  
General address of the contracting authority: <http://www.europa.ba>
2. **Procedure:**  
Restricted.
3. **Programme:**  
IPA.
4. **Financing:**  
Financing agreement.
5. **Contracting authority:**  
European Union, represented by the European Commission, on behalf of and for the account of the beneficiary countries.
6. **Nature of contract:**  
Fee-based.
7. **Contract description:**  
The project aims at strengthening institutional capacity of the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina and entities' statistical institutions for organisation and implementation of the population and housing census in 2011. The main objectives are: strengthening the human resources capacities of statistical agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina, analysis of current results in census preparations, improvement of cartography documentation necessary for census and public awareness of the census.
8. **Numbers and titles of lots:**  
The contract is divided into lots: No, 1 lot only.
9. **Budget:**  
Maximum budget: 1 675 207 EUR.
10. **Scope for additional services:**  
The contracting authority may, at its own discretion, extend the project in duration and/or scope, subject to the availability of funding, up to a maximum not exceeding the length and value of the initial contract. Any extension of the contract would be subject to satisfactory performance by the contractor.

**Conditions of participation**

11. **Eligibility:**

Participation is open to all legal persons (participating either individually or in a grouping (consortium) of candidates) which are established in a Member State of the European Union or in a country or territory of the regions covered and/or authorised by the specific instruments applicable to the programme under which the contract is financed (see also item 29 below). Participation is also open to international organisations. The participation of natural persons is governed by the specific instruments applicable to the programme under which the contract is financed.

12. **Candidature:**

All eligible natural and legal persons (as per item 11 above) or groupings of such persons (consortia) may apply. A consortium may be a permanent, legally-established grouping or a grouping which has been constituted informally for a specific tender procedure. All members of a consortium (i.e., the leader and all other members) are jointly and severally liable to the contracting authority.

The participation of an ineligible natural or legal person (as per item 11) will result in the automatic exclusion of that person. In particular, if that ineligible person belongs to a consortium, the whole consortium will be excluded.

13. **Number of applications:**

No more than 1 application can be submitted by a natural or legal person whatever the form of participation (as an individual legal entity or as leader or member of a consortium submitting an application). In the event that a natural or legal person submits more than 1 application, all applications in which that person has participated will be excluded.

14. **Shortlist alliances prohibited:**

Any tenders received from tenderers comprising firms other than those mentioned in the shortlisted application forms will be excluded from this restricted tender procedure. Shortlisted candidates may not form alliances or subcontract to each other for the contract in question.

15. **Grounds for exclusion:**

As part of the application form, candidates must submit a signed declaration, included in the standard application form, to the effect that they are not in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.3.3 of the 'Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions'.

16. **Subcontracting:**

Subcontracting is allowed.

Maximum percentage of the contract value which may be subcontracted: 20 %.

Activities which may be subcontracted: public awareness campaign.

17. **Number of candidates to be shortlisted:**

On the basis of the applications received, at least 4 and at most 8 candidates will be invited to submit detailed tenders for this contract. If the number of eligible candidates meeting the selection criteria is less than the minimum of 4, the contracting authority may invite the candidates who satisfy the criteria to submit a tender.

**Provisional timetable**

18. **Provisional date of invitation to tender:**

8.11.2010.

19. **Provisional commencement date of the contract:**

14.2.2011.

20. **Initial period of implementation of tasks:**

Duration in months: 17.

**Selection and award criteria**

21. **Selection criteria:**

Same criteria for legal and natural person.

The following selection criteria will be applied to candidates. In the case of applications submitted by a consortium, these selection criteria will be applied to the consortium as a whole:

1) Economic and financial capacity of candidate:

In the case of the applicant being a public body equivalent information should be provided:

1. the annual turnover of the candidate(s) for each of the past 3 years (2007, 2008, and 2009) must exceed 1 000 000 EUR.

2) Professional capacity of candidate:

1. at least 10 staff currently work for the applicant in fields related to this contract (capacity building of statistical institutions and census-related activities).

3) Technical capacity of candidate:

1. over the last 36 months prior to the launch of this tender, candidate(s) have successfully completed at least 1 project (project value minimum of 1 000 000 EUR and the proportion carried out by the candidate(s) must be at least 70 %) in at least 1 of the fields related to this contract:

(a) census-related preparatory and/or implementing activities;

(b) institutional capacity building in statistics.

An economic operator may, where appropriate and for a particular contract, rely on the capacities of other entities, regardless of the legal nature of the links which it has with them. It must in that case prove to the contracting authority that it will have at its disposal the resources necessary for performance of the contract, for example by producing an undertaking on the part of those entities to place those resources at its disposal. Such entities, for instance the parent company of the economic operator, must respect the same rules of eligibility and notably that of nationality, as the economic operator.

If more than 8 eligible candidates meet the above selection criteria, the relative strengths and weaknesses of the applications of these candidates must be re-examined to identify the 8 best applications for the tender procedure. The only factors which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination are:

(a) the number of completed projects as per criterion 3 above;

(b) the total financial value of the completed projects as per criterion 3 above.

22. **Award criteria:**

Best value for money.

**Application**

23. **Deadline for receipt of applications:**

24.9.2010 (12:00), Central European Time.

Any application received after this deadline will not be considered.

24. **Application format and details to be provided:**

Applications must be submitted using the standard application form, the format and instructions of which must be strictly observed. The application form is available at the following Internet address: [http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/services/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/services/index_en.htm)

Any additional documentation (brochure, letter, etc.) sent with an application will not be taken into consideration.

25. **How applications may be submitted:**

Applications must be submitted exclusively to the contracting authority in the following language — English: — either by recorded delivery (official postal service) to:

Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Procurement Team, Skenderija 3A, 71000 Sarajevo, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA,

— or hand-delivered (including courier services) directly to the contracting authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to:

As in abovementioned address.

The contract title and the publication reference (see item 1 above) must be clearly marked on the envelope containing the application and must always be mentioned in all subsequent correspondence with the contracting authority.

Applications submitted by any other means will not be considered.

26. **Alteration or withdrawal of applications:**

Candidates may alter or withdraw their applications by written notification prior to the deadline for submission of applications. No applications may be altered after this deadline.

Any such notification of alteration or withdrawal shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with item 25.

The outer envelope (and the relevant inner envelope if used) must be marked 'Alteration' or 'Withdrawal' as appropriate.

27. **Operational language:**

All written communications for this tender procedure and contract must be in English.

28. **Date of publication of contract forecast notice:**

25.3.2010.

29. **Legal basis:**

Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 — OJ L 210/82 of 31.7.2006).

30. **Additional information:**

Please note that the awarding of the contract is subject to the condition of the prior adoption of the law on population and household census in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2011 by the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina which does not modify the elements of the procurement procedure. If that condition is not fulfilled, the contracting authority will either abandon the procurement or cancel the award procedure without the candidates or tenderers being entitled to claim any compensation.

31. **Date of dispatch of this notice:**

12.8.2010.