

## **SERVICE CONTRACT NOTICE**

### **Capacity building for trade policies and analysis Bosnia and Herzegovina**

#### **1. Publication reference**

EuropeAid/134278/DH/SER/BA

#### **2. Procedure**

Restricted

#### **3. Programme**

IPA 2011

#### **4. Financing**

BGUE-B2014-22.020200-C8-ELARG DELBIH

#### **5. Contracting Authority**

- European Union , represented by the European Commission on behalf of and for the account of the beneficiary country.

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## **CONTRACT SPECIFICATION**

#### **6. Nature of contract**

Fee-based

#### **7. Contract description**

To support MoFTER and related institutions in developing its institutional capacity related to the successful implementation of IA/SAA, WTO, CEFTA, EFTA and further trade negotiations.

#### **8. Number and titles of lots**

One lot only

#### **9. Maximum budget**

EUR 1,166,190

#### **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 leght 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 (ie, 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 one 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 one 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 short-listed application forms will be excluded from this restricted tender procedure unless prior approval from the Contracting Authority has been obtained (see Prag 2.4.3.). Short-listed 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 EC external actions

## 16. Sub-contracting

Subcontracting is allowed.

## 17. Number of candidates to be short-listed

On the basis of the applications received, between 4-8 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.

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## PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

### 18. Provisional date of invitation to tender

01/07/2014

### 19. Provisional commencement date of the contract

01/10/2014

### 20. Initial period of implementation of tasks

20 months

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## SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

### 21. Selection criteria

#### Same criteria for legal and natural persons

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 (based on item 3 of the application form). In case of applicant being a public body, equivalent information should be provided.
  - a) The annual turn over of the candidate(s) for each of the two last years must be at least €1 Million.
- 2) Professional capacity of candidate (based on items 4 and 5 of the application form)
  - a) At least five permanent staff employed by the candidate(s) work currently in the fields related to this contract (trade).
- 3) Technical capacity of candidate (based on items 5 and 6 of the application form)
  - a) Over the last 36 months prior to the submission deadline, candidate(s) have worked successfully on at least one project in the fields related to this contract (trade). Project value of minimum €800,000 and the proportion carried out by the candidate(s) must be at least 70%."

This means that the project the candidate refers to could have been started/implemented/completed at any time during the indicated period but it does not necessarily have to be started and completed during that period, nor implemented during the entire period. The candidate may refer to a part of a project where the contract is not yet completed, but then only the part which is successfully completed may be used as reference. In such cases, the candidate must include in the presentation of the experience reference (section 6 of the tender submission form) a description of services actually completed in the requested period (list of outputs etc...) and its financial value. The candidate needs to be able to submit documentary evidence of this part's successful completion, e.g. a statement from the entity which ordered or purchased the service).

Previous experience which would have lead to breach of contract and termination by a Contracting Authority shall not be used as reference. This is also applicable concerning the previous experience of experts required under a fee-based service contract.

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 reexamined to identify the eight best candidates. The only factors which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination are:

- a) The number of valid references as per criterion 3(a).
- b) Total value of the proportion carried out by the candidate in projects eligible as per criterion 3(a).

## **22. Award criteria**

Best value for money.

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# **APPLICATION**

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

12:00 Central European Time on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2014.

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 from 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 in English exclusively to the Contracting Authority:

- EITHER by recorded delivery (official postal service) to :  
The Delegation of the European Union to BiH  
Procurement Team,  
Skenderija 3a, 71 000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- OR hand delivered (including courier services) directly to the Contracting Authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to:

The Delegation of the European Union to BiH  
Procurement Team

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 application 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 prior information notice**

04/04/2013

The notice number in OJ S may be found under the title of the project in the published notice on the EuropeAid webpage.

**29. Legal basis**

Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

**30. Additional information**

N/A