

# **SERVICE CONTRACT NOTICE**

## **Provision of Services of External Procurement Expert**

### **Serbia**

#### **1. Reference**

1-06-404-66/2021

#### **2. Procedure**

Single tender

#### **3. Programme title**

Country Action Programme for the Republic of Serbia for the year 2019 - EU Support to Competitiveness, Research & Development and Innovation

#### **4. Financing**

Financing Agreement

#### **5. Contracting authority**

Development Agency of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia

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## **CONTRACT SPECIFICATION**

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

Fee-based

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

Development Agency of Serbia (RAS) and Ministry of Economy (MoE) have been awarded direct grant from IPA 2019 Programme, “IPA 2019 – Direct Grant to the Development Agency of Serbia – Scaled up and technologically improved production capacity solutions among micro and small enterprises and entrepreneurs”. The overall objective of the Action is to contribute to increased competitiveness of the Serbian economy by supporting investment of micro, small and medium enterprises in modernization of production equipment and expansion of production facilities. Purpose of the Action is to provide scaling up of very successful national program-Programme for purchase of equipment (PEP), which has been implemented for several previous years.

Action shall be implemented through three main Components: Component 0 – Management of the Action; Component 1 – Implementation of PEP; Component 2 – Implementation of TA support.

Under Component 0, activity of procurement of services and supplies is identified, which shall cover procurement necessary for implementation of the Action. The subject of this contract is provision of procurement services to Development Agency of Serbia with the goal of supporting RAS and strengthening technical assistance capacities of Development Agency related to overall implementation of the Action.

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

One lot only

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

EUR 20,000

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## CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

### 10. Eligibility

Participation is open to all natural persons who are nationals of and legal persons [participating either individually or in a grouping (consortium) of tenderers] which are effectively established in a Member State of the European Union or in a eligible country or territory as defined under the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 establishing common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for external action (CIR) for the applicable instrument under which the contract is financed (see also heading 23 below). Participation is also open to international organisations.

Please be aware that after the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU, the rules of access to EU procurement procedures of economic operators established in third countries will apply to candidates or tenderers from the United Kingdom depending on the outcome of negotiations. In case such access is not provided by legal provisions in force at the time of contract award, candidates or tenderers from the United Kingdom could be rejected from the procurement procedure.

### 11. Number of tenders

No more than one tender can be submitted by invited entity.

### 12. Grounds for exclusion

As part of the tender, tenderers must submit a signed declaration, included in the tender form, to the effect that they are not in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.6.10.1 of the practical guide.

Tenderer included in the lists of EU restrictive measures (see Section 2.4. of the PRAG) at the moment of the award decision cannot be awarded the contract.

### 13. Sub-contracting

Subcontracting is not allowed.

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## PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

### 14. Provisional commencement date of the contract

October 2021

### 15. Implementation period of the tasks

6 months

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## SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

### 16. Selection criteria

The following selection criteria will be applied to the tenderers. In the case of tenders submitted by a consortium, these selection criteria will be applied to the consortium as a whole, if not specified otherwise. The selection criteria will not be applied to natural persons and single-member companies when they are sub-contractors.

**1 ) Economic and financial capacity of the tenderer** (based on item 3 of the tender form). In case of tenderer being a public body, equivalent information should be provided. The reference period which will be taken into account will be the last three financial years for which accounts have been closed.

**1. a ) Criteria for legal persons:**

- The average annual turnover of the tenderer over the last three (3) years must be at least equal to the amount of the submitted proposal;
- Current ratio (current assets/current liabilities) in the last year for which accounts have been closed must be at least 1. In case of a consortium, this criterion must be fulfilled by each member

**1. b ) Criteria for natural persons:**

- The financial situation of the tenderer should not be in deficit, taken into account debts, at the beginning and end of year.

**2) Professional capacity of the tenderer** (based on items 4 of the tender form).

**2. a ) Criteria for legal persons:**

- At least two (2) staff currently working for the tenderer in fields related to contract.

**2. b ) Criteria for natural persons:**

- The tenderer possesses an university degree preferably in Economics, Law, Business Administration, technical/natural sciences or professional field relevant to the contract, where the university degree means completion of minimum four years full-time course academic studies in an university;

**3) Technical capacity of tenderer** (based on items 5 and 6 of the tender form). The reference period which will be taken into account will be the last five years preceding the submission deadline.

**3. a ) Criteria for legal persons:**

- The candidate has provided services under at least two contracts (with portion of the services carried out, under each contract, by the legal entity being at least EUR 20,000) in the fields of provision of technical assistance to contracting authorities related to implementation of EU or IFI funds, which were implemented at any moment during the following period: in the course of the past 5 years.

This means that the service contract the tenderer refers to could have been started at any time during the indicated period but it does not necessarily have to be completed during that period, nor implemented during the entire period. Tenderers are allowed to refer either to service contracts completed within the reference period (although started earlier) or to service contracts not yet completed. Only the portion satisfactorily completed during the reference period will be taken into consideration. This portion will have to be supported by documentary evidence (-statement or certificate from the entity which awarded the contract, proof of payment) also detailing its value. If a tenderer has implemented the service contract in a consortium, the percentage that the tenderer has successfully completed must be clear from the documentary evidence, together with a description of the nature of the services provided if the selection criteria relating to the pertinence of the experience have been used.

### **3. b ) Criteria for natural persons:**

- The tenderer has worked as project manager or procurement officer or an individual expert on at least 1 project with a budget of at least EUR 400, 000 which included procurement activities funded under EU or similar IFI funding frameworks over the course of the past five years;

Previous experience which would have led 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 the performance of the contract by producing a commitment by 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 - notably that of nationality - and must comply with the selection criteria for which the economic operator relies on them. Furthermore, the data for this third entity for the relevant selection criterion should be included in the tender in a separate document. Proof of the capacity will also have to be provided when requested by the contracting authority. With regard to technical and professional criteria, an economic operator may only rely on the capacities of other entities where the latter will perform the services for which these capacities are required. With regard to economic and financial criteria the entities upon whose capacity the tenderer relies become jointly and severally liable for the performance of the contract.

#### **17. Award criteria**

Best price-quality ratio.

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## **TENDERING**

#### **18. Deadline for submission of tenders**

The deadline for submission of tenders is specified in point 8 of the instruction to tenderers.

#### **19. Tender format and details to be provided**

Tenders must be submitted using the tender form provided, the format and instructions of which must be strictly observed. The tender must be accompanied by a declaration on honour on exclusion and selection criteria using the template provided in the tender documentation.

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

#### **20. How tenders may be submitted**

Tenders must be submitted in English exclusively to the contracting authority, using the means specified in point 8 of the instructions to tenderers.

Tenders submitted by any other means will not be considered.

By submitting a tender tenderers accept to receive notification of the outcome of the procedure by electronic means.

#### **21. Alteration or withdrawal of tenders**

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

Any such notification of alteration or withdrawal shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with point 9 of the instructions to tenderers. The outer envelope (and the relevant inner envelope if used) must be marked 'Alteration' or 'Withdrawal' as appropriate.

## **22. Operational language**

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

## **23. Legal basis**

Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action and Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II).

## **24. Additional information**

Financial data to be provided by the candidate in the standard application form must be expressed in EUR.

Opening hours of the Contracting Authority: 8:00-15:00 CET.