

SERVICE PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Establishment of the Public Agency for Accreditation and Continuous Quality Improvement of Health Care in Serbia

07SER01/15/11

Serbia

1. Publication reference

EuropeAid/127276/C/SER/YU

2. Procedure

International Restricted Tender

3. Programme

IPA 2007

4. Financing

2007 National IPA

5. Contracting Authority

European Community, represented by the European Commission Delegation to the Republic of Serbia on behalf of and for the account of the beneficiary country.

CONTRACT SPECIFICATION

6. Nature of contract

Fee-based

7. Contract description

The overall objective of this project is to improve the health care system in the Republic of Serbia so as to create an equitable, viable and performance oriented system where providers are rewarded for quality and efficiency. This should be achieved by providing support to continuous improvement of quality of health services delivery. The contractor will assist the Ministry of Health of Serbia to create a balance between the professionally and/or institutionally driven internal quality improvement processes with the external assessment mechanisms and will support the establishment of a Public Agency for Accreditation through the provision of relevant training for surveyors, introduction of information technology, marketing models and plans, updating and drafting new clinical practice guidelines and the necessary draft legal framework.

The required fields of expertise are i) health accreditation and standardization ii) health systems and policy iii) health legislation.

Beneficiaries: the Ministry of Health, management and staff of health facilities throughout Serbia.

8. Number and titles of lots

One Lot

9. Maximum budget

EUR 1,500,000

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 30 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. 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

The maximum percentage of the contract value which may be sub-contracted is 15 percent.

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.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

18. Provisional date of invitation to tender

October 2008

19. Provisional commencement date of the contract

January 2009

20. Initial period of execution and possible extension of the contract

18 Months (with possible extension)

SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

21. Selection criteria

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)
 - (a) The average annual turnover of the candidate must exceed EUR 1,000,000 and
 - (b) The averages of cash and cash equivalents at the beginning and end of year are positive.
- 2) Professional capacity of candidate (based on items 4 and 5 of the application form)
 - (c) At least 8 permanent staff working for the candidates currently work in fields related to this contract.
- 3) Technical capacity of candidate (based on items 5 and 6 of the application form)
 - (d) The candidate has worked successfully on at least **two** internationally funded projects (the candidate's proportion is not less than 500.000 Euro for services in each project) in the required fields of general expertise described in Article 7 in the past three years.

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 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 eight best

applications for the tender procedure. The only factors which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination are:

- 1) Highest number of European Community (EC) funded projects
- 2) Highest total numerical value of the proportion in all (EC) funded projects

22. Award criteria

Best value for money.

APPLICATION

23. Deadline for receipt of applications

16:00hrs Central European Time on 30 September 2008

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 (available from the following Internet address: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/index_en.htm), whose format and instructions must be strictly observed.

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 OR hand delivered** (including courier services) directly to the Contracting Authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to:

Delegation of the European Commission to the Republic of Serbia

Ms Snjezana Djukic

Finance and Contracts Section, 9th Floor
GTC 19 Avenue Building

Vladimira Popovica 40

11070 Belgrade

Serbia

Fax no.: +381 11 3083 201

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 tenders. No application may be altered after this deadline.

Any such notification of alteration or withdrawal shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with Clause 25. The outer envelope (and the relevant inner envelope) 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. Additional information

N/A

29. Date of publication of contract forecast

01 July 2008

30. Legal basis

Council regulation (EC) N° 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006