



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General Enlargement

D - Financial Instruments & Regional Programmes
D3 – Regional Programmes

Brussels,

Subject: On-the-spot monitoring visits on implementation of PHARE/Transition Facility projects in Bulgaria and Romania – negotiated procedure 2011/D3/BG/RO/01

Dear Sir/Madam,

The European Commission is planning to award the public contract referred to above. This contract is one of the series of on-the-spot monitoring visits carried out by the European Commission via external experts in Bulgaria and Romania.

If you are interested in this contract, you should submit a tender in triplicate in one of the official languages of the European Union.

1. Where submission is by letter, tenderers may choose to submit tenders:
 - a) either by post or by courier no later than 9 September 2011, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate General for Enlargement, D3, CHAR 5/156
For the attention of Mrs. Nonka Rosmanova
B – 1049 Brussels

- b) or delivered by hand to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate General for Enlargement, D3, CHAR 5/156
For the attention of Mrs. Nonka Rosmanova
Avenue du Bourget 1
B-1140 Brussels (Evere)
Belgium

not later than 16.00 on 9 September 2011. In this case, a receipt must be obtained as proof of submission, signed and dated by the official in the Commission's central mail department who took delivery. The department is open from 08.00 to 17.00 Monday to Thursday, and from 8.00 to 16.00 on Fridays. It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Commission holidays.

2. Tenders must be placed inside two sealed envelopes. The inner envelope, addressed to the department indicated in the invitation to tender, should be marked as follows: "Invitation to tender – not to be opened by the internal mail department". If self-adhesive envelopes are used, they must be sealed with adhesive tape and the sender must sign across this tape.

The inner envelope must also contain two sealed envelopes, one containing the technical bid and the other the financial bid. Each of these envelopes must clearly indicate the content ("Technical" and "Financial").

3. The Terms of Reference, listing all the documents that must be produced in order to tender, including supporting evidence of economic, financial, technical and professional capacity and the Draft Service Contract are attached.
4. Tenders must be:
 - signed by the tenderer or his duly authorised representative;
 - perfectly legible so that there can be no doubt as to words and figures;
5. Period of validity of the tender, during which tenderers may not modify the terms of their tenders in any respect: 8 months from the date of submission of the offer.
6. Submission of a tender implies acceptance of all the terms and conditions set out in this invitation to tender, in the Terms of Reference and in the Draft Service Contract and, where appropriate, waiver of the tenderer's own general or specific terms and conditions. It is binding on the tenderer to whom the contract is awarded for the duration of the contract.
7. Contacts between the contracting authority and tenderers are prohibited throughout the procedure save in exceptional circumstances and under the following conditions only:

- Before the final date for submission of tenders:

- At the request of the tenderer, the contracting authority may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the nature of the contract.

Any requests for additional information must be made in writing only to Mrs. Nonka Rosmanova (nonka.rosmanova@ec.europa.eu) or by fax to No 0032-2.296.80.40. Requests for additional information received less than five working days before the closing date for submission of tenders will not be processed.

- The Commission may, on its own initiative, inform interested parties of any error, inaccuracy, omission or any other clerical error in the text of the call for tenders.
- Any additional information including that referred to above will be sent simultaneously to all candidates invited to tender and posted on web page: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/how-does-it-work/grants-tenders/tenders/index_en.htm

- After the opening of tenders

- If clarification is required or if obvious clerical errors in the tender need to be corrected, the contracting authority may contact the tenderer provided the terms of the tender are not modified as a result.
- The contracting authority may negotiate with tenderers the offers they have submitted, in order to adapt them to the requirements set out in the Terms of Reference or any additional document and in order to find the tender offering

best value for money. During negotiations equal treatment of all tenderers will be ensured.

8. This invitation to tender is in no way binding on the Commission. The Commission's contractual obligation commences only upon signature of the contract with the successful tenderer.

Up to the point of signature, the contracting authority may either abandon the procurement or cancel the award procedure, without the candidates or tenderers being entitled to claim any compensation. This decision must be substantiated and the candidates or tenderers notified.

9. Once the Commission has opened the tender, the document shall become the property of the Commission and it shall be treated confidentially.
10. You will be informed whether or not your tender has been accepted.

11. If your offer includes subcontracting, it is recommended that contractual arrangements with subcontractors include mediation as a method of dispute resolution.

12. If processing your reply to the invitation to tender involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as your name, address and CV), such data will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data. Unless indicated otherwise, your replies to the questions and any personal data requested are required to evaluate your tender in accordance with the specifications of the invitation to tender and will be processed solely for that purpose by the European Commission. Details concerning processing of your personal data are available on the privacy statement at the page:

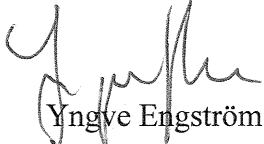
http://ec.europa.eu/dataprotectionofficer/privacystatement_publicprocurement_en.pdf

13. Your personal data may be registered in the Early Warning System (EWS) only or both in the EWS and Central Exclusion Database (CED) by the Accounting Officer of the Commission, should you be in one of the situations mentioned in:

- the Commission Decision 2008/969 of 16.12.2008 on the Early Warning System (for more information see the Privacy Statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm), or

- the Commission Regulation 2008/1302 of 17.12.2008 on the Central Exclusion Database (for more information see the Privacy Statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/explained/management/protecting/protect_en.cfm#BDCE)

Yours sincerely,


Yngve Engström

Encl.:

- Draft Service Contract
- Terms of Reference
- Monitoring Guidance Table
- Preliminary list of projects/contracts to be monitored
- Declaration of honour