

This notice in TED website: <http://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:176737-2011:TEXT:EN:HTML>

ML-Bamako: EDF — provision of technical assistance to the Niger Office as part of the support programme for implementation of the Niger Office's contract plan (PAMOCP-ON) 2011/S 108-176737

Location: ACP countries, the Sahel — Mali

Service procurement notice

Common procurement vocabulary (CPV):

Main object:

77110000 Services incidental to agricultural production

Additional object(s):

03211300 Rice

77231600 Afforestation services

77300000 Horticultural services

1. **Publication reference:**

EuropeAid/130492/D/SER/ML.

Internet address(es)

General address of the contracting authority: confed@confedmali.net

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, EDF National Authorising Officer Support Unit (CONFED), Koulouba, Bamako, MALI.

2. **Procedure:**

Restricted.

3. **Programme:**

9th or 10th EDF.

4. **Financing:**

Financing agreement.

5. **Contracting authority:**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Koulouba, Bamako, REPUBLIC OF MALI.

6. **Nature of contract:**

Fee-based.

7. **Contract description:**

The institutional support for the Niger Office comprises 4 permanent experts and experts for short assignments (lot 1 and lot 2), divided into 3 lots as follows:

— lot 1: technical assistance for the IT and management information department,

— lot 2: technical assistance for the administrative and financial directorate and the internal audit department,

— lot 3: technical assistance to support the technical directorate.

8. **Numbers and titles of lots:**

The contract is divided into lots: yes, number of lots: 3.

1. Technical assistance for the IT and management information department and for the monitoring and evaluation department (1 023 000 EUR).

2. Technical assistance for the administrative and financial directorate and the internal audit department (796 000 EUR).

3. Technical assistance for the directorate for planning and land-use management (681 000 EUR).

9. **Budget:**

Maximum budget: 2 500 000 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 in tendering is open on equal terms to natural and legal persons participating either individually or in a grouping (consortium) of tenderers which are established in 1 of the Member States of the European Union, ACP States or in a country or territory authorised by the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement under which the contract is financed (see also heading 29 below). Participation is also open to international organisations.

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.

Candidates may submit an application for 1, several or all lots, but only 1 application per lot. The contracts will be awarded on a lot-by-lot basis and each lot will constitute a separate contract.

14. **Shortlist alliances prohibited:**

Any tenders received from tenderers having a different composition than the ones on the 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. 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 not allowed.

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:**
12.7.2011.
19. **Provisional commencement date of the contract:**
15.10.2011.
20. **Initial period of implementation of tasks:**
Duration in months: 36 (from the award of the contract).

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 case of applicant being a public body equivalent information should be provided:
1. the candidate's average annual turnover must exceed 400 000 EUR if he is tendering for 1 lot, 600 000 EUR if he is tendering for 2 lots and 900 000 EUR if he is tendering for 3 lots;
2. the averages of cash and cash equivalents at the beginning and end of year are in surplus overall.
- 2) Professional capacity of candidate:
1. at least 5 of the candidate's staff members are currently working in fields relating to the lot for which he is tendering;
2. at least 20 % of all staff working for the candidate this year in fields related to this contract are permanent.
- 3) Technical capacity of candidate:
1. the candidate has obtained good results over the past 5 years in at least 1 project with a budget at least equivalent to that of 1 lot in this contract and in fields related to this contract; this must be doubled for 2 lots and tripled for 3 lots.
- 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. Some examples of when it may not be considered appropriate by the contracting authority are when the tenderers rely in majority on the capacities of other entities or when they rely on key criteria. If the candidate relies on other entities 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. Furthermore, the data for these third entities for the relevant selection criterion should be included in the tender in a separate document. Proof of the capacity will also have to be furnished when requested by the contracting authority.
- 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:
- * Economic capacity: consultancy firms will be ranked according to their turnover.

* Professional capacity: consultancy firms will be ranked according to the number of the candidate's staff members currently working in fields related to this contract.

* Technical capacity: the number of good results obtained over the past 3 years.

The maximum score will be 30 points for economic capacity and 35 points each for professional and technical capacity. The maximum number of points for each capacity will be awarded to the highest-ranked consultancy firm.

The final ranking of candidates will be according to the sum of the points obtained by each of them.

22. **Award criteria:**

Best value for money.

Application

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

30.6.2011 (16:00), local time.

Any application received after this deadline will not be considered.

24. **Applications 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_fr.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 French:

— either by recorded delivery (official postal service) to: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, EDF National Authorising Officer, Directorate of International Cooperation (CONFED), quartier Koulouba, Bamako, MALI,

— or hand delivered (including courier services) directly to the contracting authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to the above-mentioned address, for the attention of the Director of International Cooperation, EDF National Authorising Officer by delegation, EDF National Authorising Officer Support Unit (CONFED). Tel. +223 20229820.

Opening time: 7:30.

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 'Modification' (alteration) or 'Retrait' (withdrawal) as appropriate.

27. **Operational language:**

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

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

Date: 31.8.2010.

Notice number in OJ: [2010/S 168-256457](#).

29. **Legal basis:**

9th or 10th EDF: ACP-EC Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou on 23.6.2000, as amended.

30. **Additional information:**

Candidates may tender for 1 or several lots.

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

25.5.2011.