



Call for tenders VT/2008/060

«ACTIVE INCLUSION OF MIGRANTS»

- 1. Under point 4 of the tender specifications, you state that participation is open to any natural person and legal entity “coming within the scope of the Treaties”. Are we right to understand that international organizations with a legal basis within EU Member States are eligible?**

International organizations with a legal basis within EU Member States are allowed to participate.

- 2. At page n°3, chapter 5, paragraph 5.1.1, it is stated that the contracting party “should aim at gathering evidence from various EU countries to provide an overview of current trends in the situation of migrants”. The expression “various EU countries” seems to be very generic: could you please tell me how many countries the contractor should take in to account?**

The country coverage should be determine in function of what the bidder considers adequate in order to be able to draw meaningful conclusions at EU level taking account of the diversity of situations across the EU.

- 3. At page n°3, chapter 5, paragraph 5.1.3 “The impact of size of migration flows and characteristics of the migrant population on the provision of social assistance and social services should be assessed both at the national and local level”. Could you please explain the meaning of “local level” (regional? provincial?).**

Local is used here as sub-national and should refer to the level that is considered relevant by the bidder for the analysis in order to highlight meaningful differences between the impact of migration flows at national and sub-national level.

- 4. The tasks listed in Specifications – Invitation to tender No VT/2008/060 (par. 5.1 Description of the tasks) has to be pledged**

On nations related to the partnership?

On specific areas of nationals areas related to the partnership?

On the whole European area?

On specific areas identified by partnership?

The distribution of tasks should be done according to what the bidder finds most relevant.

- 5 Is it sufficient sending you the document "Declaration of honour with respect to the Exclusion Criteria and absence of conflict of interest" to justify we do not enter in the exclusion criteria or if we also have to joint the documents specified in Annex II to the Specifications?**

Tenderers only have to send the signed "Declaration of honour" (Annex III). The documents mentioned in Annex II have to be provided only by successful bidder.

- 6 Is there any restriction on the eligibility of the experts proposed, for instance in relation to their nationality?**

There are no restrictions in relation to the nationality. Please note that according to the point 4 of the tender specification, "...the competition is open to any natural person or legal entity coming within the scope of the Treaties and any other natural person or legal entity from a third country which has concluded with the Communities a specific agreement in the area of public contracts, under the conditions provided for in that agreement".

- 7 Concerning the scope of the research tasks to be carried out, please specify the types of services covered by social assistance and by social services since these concepts may have different definitions in EU member states? Could it be useful, to this purpose, to refer to the definition of *Social Protection* provided by Eurostat?**

Yes.

- 8 Could you indicate me where in this webpage is the official application form for this tender?**

There is not an official application form.

- 9 The research could understandably be carried out on information concerning "regular" migrants (i.e with a stay permit) while we know that some types of social assistance services are also available to irregular migrants (i.e. not holding a stay permit). Should the research tasks also tackle services addressed to irregular migrants?**

DG EMPL is using a broad definition of migrants and doesn't make explicit reference to the legal status of migrants when defining the scope of the policies reviewed.

- 10 How many research, work hours (per person) can we calculate to the project; since the EC contribution is 350000€ and requested activities of the tender are panels, we are not sure if it is eligible to calculate research man-hour cost?**

As mentioned by the Annex III of the Draft Contract, "Breakdown of price", Art. 1, the salary of each expert shall be calculated by working days (w.d.).

- 11 Are the travelling costs of the meetings with the Commission during the Reporting part (6.1. Reporting of the document "Specifications Invitation to tender No VT/2008/060") financed by the EC or if we have to include it in our budget?**

According to the Draft Contract, Special Conditions, Article I.3 "Contract price", *the maximum total amount to be paid by the Commission under the Contract shall be EUR 350 000.00 covering all tasks executed.* Therefore also the tasks planned by the Art. 6.1 of the Specifications shall be included in your budget.

- 12 We intend to participate to this tender together with a national trade union with several international branches active in the field of the migration issues. For reason due to the limited time left for the collection of the supporting documents and in reason of the fact that according to the national legislation a trade union as non profit organisation is not obliged to produce financial statement, is it possible to present the bid without the financial statement of this organisation and to present any further documentary evidence concerning this issue in case of award of the bid (as stated at pag.10 of the specifications under point 11 subpar.2).**

Only the bidder shall provide with the required documents. If you set up a consortium with other organisations, all of them shall provide the same documents. In this case, the trade union shall provide the Commission with the proof of its status.

- 13 Does the Commission intend to accept several bids for this tender, or will only one contract be granted?**

The Commission will grant only one contract.

- 14 Under Section 12. Selection Criteria it is stipulated "...Please note that according to the evaluation of the financial capacity of the bidder, bidders or group of bidders, the Commission might require a financial guarantee, in accordance with Art. 102 of the Financial Regulations to ensure full performance of the contract and/or limit the financial risks connected with payment of pre-financing". As far as we understand a financial guarantee is not required at this stage. Please confirm this.**

Only the successful bidder shall provide with the financial guarantee.

- 15 We would take part as the one of five organisations to the bid that another organisation is submitting to the EC tender. Are we legally subcontractor or project partner in this bid?**

According to the Art. 10, "Groupings of economic operators or consortia", of the Specifications:

"Tenders can be submitted by groupings of service providers/suppliers who will not be required to adopt a particular legal form prior to the contract being awarded, but the consortium selected may be required to assume a given legal form when it has been awarded the contract if this change is necessary for proper performance of the contract.⁴ However, a grouping of economic operators must nominate one party to be responsible for the receipt and processing of payments for members of the grouping, for managing the service administration, and for coordination. The documents required and listed in the following points 11 and 12 must be supplied by every member of the grouping. Each member of the grouping assumes a joint and several liability towards the Commission.