QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Invitation to tender MOVE/B1/2014-710 (Contract notice 2015/S 075-131095)
"Studies on the TEN-T Core Network Corridors and support of the European Coordinators"

Last update: 15/05/2015

Question 1:
According to the Tender Specifications, Point. 2.3.2 a) Criteria relating to tenderers, page 6, “The tenderer must prove experience in carrying out studies and research in the field of transport infrastructure as regards transport modes relevant to the respective core network corridor with at least 4 projects delivered (or completed in the case of longer projects) in the last three years with a minimum value for each project of EUR 50,000. The projects should at least cover 2 different transport modes, however geographically they do not need to be specific to the lot tendered for”. Could you please clarify, whether these references need to be in EU member States or could be from other geography worldwide?

Answer:
The references required under point 2.3.2 a) first intent can be acquired in any country worldwide.

Question 2:
Regarding the previous studies on the TEN-T corridors developed during 2014 to which the Tender Specification refer to, would the consortia in charge of these studies have some conflict of interest with the present tender? In this regard, we think it would be fair to have access to these studies and its evaluation report. Would it be possible to receive them?

Answer:
Contractors who have previously worked on the corridor studies can tender for these new studies as well. The nine corridor studies of 2014 are available for download at this link already given on page 11 of the Tender Specifications: http://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/infrastructure/ten-t-guidelines/corridors/corridor-studies_en.htm

Question 3:
According to the Tender Specifications, Point 2.2. Exclusion criteria, shall the supporting documents be presented at this stage, together with the offer and other administrative documents, or they will be provided upon request of the contracting authority if the contract is awarded?

Answer:
All tenderers shall provide a declaration on their honour (the form is at Annex 2, p. 27 of the Tender Specifications) stating that they are not in one of the situations of exclusion listed in the Annex 2. Only the successful tenderer shall provide the documents mentioned as supporting evidence in Annex 2 before signature of the contract and within a deadline given by the contracting authority.
Question 4:
With regards to chapter 3.5 of the tender specifications, it is stated that “Contractors shall use this system [TENTec] for data collection and as database”.
Does this data collection relate to the previously collected infrastructure data or also to the projects? Which information and in what detail is available with regard to the projects in the corridors (see list of projects) – and in which template has this been collected previously?
To what extent are the projects available in the TENtec database and how are the consultants supposed to amend the project list and add additional information as required in task 2?
Is this to be done using TENTec?

Answer:
The data collection mentioned in the second paragraph of section 3.5. of the Tender Specifications refers to the previously collected infrastructure data. The tasks specified in section 3.4. of the Tender Specifications do not comprise any data collection into the TENtec system. Also, the TENtec system does not contain any information on infrastructure projects.

Question 5:
With regard to chapter 3.4 of the tender specification; task 5, it is stated that the contractor shall organize up to 7 corridor meetings and 8 working group meetings. Does this task include other activities than invitations to stakeholder? Would for example organizing venues, booking hotels, etc. be included as an activity of the contractor? Could you also confirm whether the costs of the events (venue, meals, other) will be covered by DG MOVE (directly) and that participants are to cover their own travel and accommodation costs?

Answer:
As specified on page 15, task 5, second intend, this task includes the sending of the invitations to the relevant stakeholders and the drafting of the minutes. As regards working group meetings this could include organizing venues or booking hotels. Participants cover their own expenses to attend these meetings. The costs of the meetings (meeting venue, refreshments) are either born by the Commission or another organisation hosting the event.

Question 6:
Would DG MOVE consider extending the deadline for submission of the tender taking into account that the month of May includes a number of holidays in most EU Member States?

Answer:
Extending the deadline is not under consideration.

Question 7:
The Tender Specifications state on page 17 that the projects on the list shall be divided into the following categories. “Rail” and “Inland waterway” do not seem to be treated consistently. Is it correct, that “Rail” encompasses infrastructure elements as referred to in Art. 11 of the TEN-T Regulation, with exception to ERTMS, while “Inland waterway” encompasses infrastructure elements as referred to in Art. 14, without any exception and thus includes RIS? Please clarify and/confirm.

Answer:
This is the correct reading.

Question 8:
According to the Tender Specifications (p. 13 – Task 2b, updated list of projects), the projects shall be grouped by corridor sections, which shall be aligned with the TENtec sections. We assume that any
information which shall be included in the TENtec system, will be processed and uploaded by the TENtec team. Please confirm.

Answer:
The up-loading of data to the TENtec system is not among the tasks of the contractor.

Question 9:
As regards p. 14 – Task 3a, the compliance check of existing infrastructure with the TEN-T Regulation is closely related to the data stored in the TENtec system. We assume that any information which shall be included in the TENtec system, will be processed and uploaded by the TENtec team. Please confirm.

Answer:
The up-loading of data to the TENtec system is not among the tasks of the contractor.

Question 10:
On page 12 the Tender Specifications provide with regard to Task 1, in the last paragraph, that [T]he KPI should take into consideration the economic impact of the projects proposed for implementation. This economic analysis should be based on data and methodologies comparable across projects, corridors and Member States involved. Does this imply that the Consultant suggests KPI's measuring the economic impact of each project? If yes, what kind of analysis does the Contracting Authority have in mind: short-term / long-term perspective? micro-/macro-economic impacts?
Who are the beneficiaries of the economic impacts referred to here, respectively to whom do they accrue? (EU economy as a whole, corridor regional economy, transport operators, etc.)?
We understand the term economic impact and economic analysis requested in this sense that no CBA on a project level or corridor level shall be performed, which would require extensive data gathering on the costs and benefits of the project. Considering the large number of projects listed such a task would exceed the scope of work and the budget available. Please confirm.

Answer:
The analysis of the projects proposed for implementation implies measuring micro-economic impacts and occasionally also macro-economic impacts as the scale of the projects differs and may have impacts beyond the local level. The beneficiaries are definitively local and regional, but should be measured equally at corridor level, and therefore one shall measure impacts that are well beyond this directly impacted local and regional level. No CBA per project or per corridor shall be carried out; however, the elements of many CBAs of projects on the long lists of projects that are available today should be analysed in accordance with the KPIs proposed.