SERVICE CONTRACT NOTICE
Event Support Services - 01 - PRO129CPA-2017

1. Publication reference
01 - PRO129CPA-2017

2. Procedure
Restricted

3. Programme title
ENPI - European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument¹

4. Financing
Financed through UfMS annual budget.

5. Contracting Authority
Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean

CONTRACT SPECIFICATION

6. Nature of contract
Fee-Based

7. Contract description
Multiple Framework contract with on-going competition for the provision of services of event organisers capable of providing a large range of services on the organisation of meetings and conferences (referred to as 'events') at the UfMS premises or elsewhere. The arrangements to be organised will include overall preparation, coordination and follow-up of the events, flight booking, assistance for issuing visas, hotel booking, airport and hotel transfers, booking of conference facilities and technical equipment, hiring of interpreters, catering, secretarial support, conference kits, production of brochures, etc. This list is not exhaustive.

8. Number and titles of lots
N/A

9. Maximum budget
The estimated total value for the entire duration of the framework contract is of EUR 4,000,000.00 (VAT not included).

¹ Budget co-financed by EU funds
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 one of the Member States of the Union for the Mediterranean or in a country or territory authorised by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership instrument under which the contract is financed. 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 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 unless prior approval from the Contracting Authority has been obtained (see Practical Guide – PRAG- 2.4.3). 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 PRAG.

16. Sub-contracting
Subcontracting is allowed.
17. Number of candidates to be short-listed
On the basis of the applications received, between 4 and 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
November 2017

19. Provisional commencement date of the contract
February 2018

20. Initial period of the tasks
36 months from the commencement date

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). In case of candidate being a public body, equivalent information should be provided.
   - Average Annual turnover for the candidate ² at least EUR 400,000.00 in the past two closed years (2015 and 2016).

2) Professional capacity of candidate (based on item 4 of the application form)
   - At least 5 staff members of the candidates are permanent staff; and,
   - At least 2 of the permanent staff of the candidate have experience in organizing events.

3) Technical capacity of candidate (based on items 5 of the application form)
   a) the candidate organised the logistics of at least 10 conferences/seminars/meetings/trainings organized by public institutions over the past 3 years (15-11-2014 - 15-11-2017);
   b) 3 out of the 10 conferences/seminars/meetings/trainings requested under criterion 3(a) have a budget of at least 50,000.00 EUR.

² In the case of tenders submitted by a consortium, these selection criteria will be applied to the consortium as a whole.
c) 1 out of the 10 conferences/seminars/meetings/trainings requested under criterion 3(a) has been carried in Europe.
d) 1 out of the 10 conferences/seminars/meetings/trainings requested under criterion 3(a) has been carried in Southern Mediterranean.

Important remarks:
— the candidate must give a description of the logistics tasks carried out for each of the event
— each reference must include at least 4 of the tasks listed in the Section 7 above

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 a commitment 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 - notably that of nationality – and must fulfil the same relevant selection criteria as the economic operator. With regard to technical and professional criteria, an economic operator may only rely on the capacities of other entities where the latter will perform the works or services for which these capacities are required. With regard to economic and financial criteria, the entities upon whose capacity the tenderer relies, become jointly and severally liable for the performance of the contract.

If more than 8 eligible candidates meet the above selection criteria, the relative strengths and weaknesses of the applications of these candidates must be reexamined to identify the eight best candidates. The only factors which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination are:

- the average of the 3 highest economic value of conferences/seminars/meetings/trainings in criteria 3 (at least one from Europe and at least one from Southern Mediterranean)

22. Award criteria
Best price-quality ratio.

APPLICATION

23. Deadline for receipt of applications
The deadline for receipt of applications is on 15/11/2017, at 13:00 hours (Barcelona time).

Any application received by the UfMS after this deadline will not be considered.

24. Application 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 from the following Internet address: http://ufmsecretariat.org/procurement/
The application must be accompanied by a declaration of honour on exclusion and selection criteria using the template included with the standard application form.

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 UfMS in a sealed envelope:

- **EITHER** by recorded delivery (official postal service) to:
  The Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean
  Procurement Service – UfMS/iRP/0002A/2016
  Palacio de Pedralbes - C/ Pere Duran Farell, 11
  08034 Barcelona (Spain)

- **OR** hand delivered (including courier services) directly to the UfMS in return for a signed and dated receipt to:
  The Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean
  Procurement Service – UfMS/iRP/0002A/2016
  Palacio de Pedralbes - C/ Pere Duran Farell, 11
  08034 Barcelona (Spain)

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 UfMS.

Applications submitted by any other means will not be considered.

By submitting an application candidates accept to receive notification of the outcome of the procedure by electronic means. Such notification shall be deemed to have been received on the date upon which the contracting authority sends it to the electronic address referred to in the application.

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 application 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 'Alteration' or 'Withdrawal' as appropriate.

27. **Operational language**

All written communications for this tender procedure and contract must be in English.
28. Date of publication of prior information notice
08/09/2017 – UfMS' website (http://ufmsecretariat.org/procurement/)

29. Legal basis

30. Additional information
Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 17:00 (Barcelona local time).

The aim of this international restricted invitation to tender is to identify 3 companies that, in response to specific requests for services, may draw up and carry out the organization of the UfMS' events.

31. Date of dispatch of this notice
16/10/2017