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**GR-Thessaloniki: Implementation of an employer survey on skill needs in Europe
2012/S 242-397076**

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2004/18/EC

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)

Cedefop
Europe Street 123, PO Box 22427
Contact point(s): Ms Clotilde Assumel-Lurdin
For the attention of: Mr George Paraskevaïdis
551 02 Thessaloniki
GREECE
Telephone: +30 2310490287
E-mail: c4t-services@cedefop.europa.eu
Fax: +30 2310490028

Internet address(es):

General address of the contracting authority: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu>

Further information can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to: The above mentioned contact point(s)

I.2) Type of the contracting authority

European institution/agency or international organisation

I.3) Main activity

Education

I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: no

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1) Description

II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority:

Implementation of an employer survey on skill needs in Europe.

II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance

Services

Service category No 8: Research and development services

Main site or location of works, place of delivery or of performance: Contractor's premises.

NUTS code GR122

II.1.3) Information about a public contract, a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system (DPS)

The notice involves the establishment of a framework agreement

II.1.4) Information on framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

Duration of the framework agreement

Duration in years: 4

Estimated total value of purchases for the entire duration of the framework agreement

Estimated value excluding VAT: 4 000 000 EUR

II.1.5) Short description of the contract or purchase(s)

Cedefop will offer a single framework contract to the selected service provider/consortium to implement an employer survey to identify skill needs in Europe. The aim is to refine the survey instrument piloted by Cedefop in 2012, collect data and deliver a dataset which enables Cedefop and other stakeholders to carry out qualitative and quantitative analysis of emerging skill needs in organisations of different sizes covering the whole economy (including non-marketed services) in all EU Member States. Next to the dataset, relevant reports should be provided.

The activities envisaged in the course of the framework contract will mainly contribute to Cedefop research on skill needs and skill mismatch in Europe and the European Commission's flagship initiative on new skills and jobs.

II.1.6) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

73000000

II.1.7) Information about Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The contract is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): no

II.1.8) Lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.1.9) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2) Quantity or scope of the contract

II.2.1) Total quantity or scope:

The estimated total budget for the required services described in this call for tenders is of the order of 4 000 000 EUR (without VAT) over the entire duration of the framework contract (maximum 4 years in total). Detailed breakdown: 400 000 EUR for the first work assignment, 3 100 000 EUR for the second work assignment and 500 000 EUR for any possible additional assignment not specified at this stage.

II.2.2) Information about options

Options: no

II.2.3) Information about renewals

This contract is subject to renewal: yes

Number of possible renewals: 3

In the case of renewable supplies or service contracts, estimated timeframe for subsequent contracts:
in months: 36 (from the award of the contract)

II.3) Duration of the contract or time limit for completion

Duration in months: 12 (from the award of the contract)

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions relating to the contract

III.1.1) Deposits and guarantees required:

Not applicable.

III.1.2) Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them:

Payments will be made within 30 days of submission of invoices and at the conditions set out in the draft contract.

— Prefinancing: 30 % after contract signature.

— Interim payment: 30 % after submission of interim report.

— Payment of the balance: 40 % after submission of final report.

For further details please refer to the draft contract (Annex B to the tender documents).

III.1.3) Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded:

Tenderers may choose between submitting a joint offer as a consortium/grouping or introducing a bid as a single tenderer, in both cases with the possibility of having 1 or several subcontractors. Whichever type of bid is chosen, the tenderer must stipulate the legal status and role of each legal entity in the tender proposed. For more information please refer to the tender documents.

III.1.4) Other particular conditions

The performance of the contract is subject to particular conditions: yes

Description of particular conditions: Subcontracting is allowed and is defined as the situation where a contract has been or is to be established between Cedefop and a contractor and where the contractor, in order to carry out that contract, enters into legal commitments with other entities for performing part of the service. If awarded, the contract will be signed by the selected tenderer (the contractor), who will be vis-à-vis Cedefop the only contracting party responsible for the performance of this contract. Cedefop has no direct legal commitment with the subcontractor(s).

For more information please refer to the tender documents.

III.2) Conditions for participation

III.2.1) Personal situation of economic operators, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Tenderers must meet the exclusion and selection criteria and have the legal position to allow them to participate in this tendering procedure.

Participation in this tender is only open to tenderers who are in a position to subscribe in full to the declaration on exclusion criteria and absence of conflict of interest in Annex C of the tender documents.

For more information please refer to the tender documents.

III.2.2) Economic and financial ability

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: — signed statement of the tenderer's turnover for the last 3 financial years concerning the type of services similar in nature to those making the subject of this call for tenders.

In the case of a consortium (grouping) or subcontracting each member of the consortium and all subcontractors must provide the required statement for the economic and financial capacity, but the assessment of whether the minimum requirement is met will bear on the consortium as a whole or the tenderer together with his subcontractors.

In the event of recommendation for contract award the winning tenderer (single tenderer or in the case of a consortium (grouping) each member of the consortium) will be requested to prove the above by submitting audited financial statements (audited profit and loss account/statement or equivalent) if these are foreseen by the respective national legislation. Should total subcontracting exceed 40 % of the work by value, Cedefop reserves the right to request audited financial statements also from the subcontractors.

If, for some exceptional reason, the winning tenderer (or any consortium member or subcontractor) is unable to provide one or other of the above documents, he or she will be required to justify the non-provision and may prove his economic and financial capacity by any other document which Cedefop considers appropriate. Cedefop reserves the right to request any other document enabling it to verify the tenderer's economic and financial capacity.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: The tenderer must be in a stable financial position and have the economic and financial capacity to perform the contract.

Requirements:

— the average annual turnover of the tenderer for the last 3 financial years concerning the type of services covered in this call for tenders should be at least 1 000 000 EUR.

III.2.3) **Technical capacity**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met:

The following documents or information must be presented by the tenderer to prove his technical and professional capacity to perform the proposed contract:

— brief company profile including a description of the tenderer's study and research capacity (empirical data collection infrastructure, including network of national contact points, expertise, facilities, etc.) to develop, design and carry out telephone employer/enterprise surveys and to select, handle and analyse appropriate national and international data sets,

— a list of contracts/projects/studies consistent with the abovementioned criteria, carried out by the tenderer over the past 5 years in the abovementioned field of research, describing the contracting authorities, the subjects, the dates, the percentage and the specific tasks performed by the tenderer,

— the detailed CVs of the team leader and other team members proposed to implement the contract. CVs should include information aimed at demonstrating the professional capacity of the team members as required in the tender documents, attested also by a list of (scientific) publications. They should also present the linguistic abilities in English. The tenderers are welcome to use the Europass CV format.

In the case of a consortium or subcontracting, the consortium or the tenderer with all subcontractors together have to provide evidence of technical and professional capacity as a whole.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required:

The tenderers are required to have sufficient technical and professional capacity to perform the contract. They must demonstrate qualifications, knowledge, skills and the ability to perform the tasks outlined in the terms of reference. In particular, the tenderer must comply with the following requirements:

— possession of an empirical data collection infrastructure for carrying out a survey among enterprises/local establishments in all EU Member States,

— at least 3 contracts performed within the last 5 years in the field of development, design and implementation of large-scale surveys, including handling and analysing appropriate data sets. At least 1 of these 3 contracts must concern an international survey and at least 1 an employer/enterprise survey,

— for the team leader at least 5 years of individual experience in managing international empirical data collection projects in social science contexts, including the linguistic capacity to understand, speak and write to a high standard in English (at C1 level at least),

— for each team member at least 2 years' individual experience in the field of empirical data collection in social science contexts, including the linguistic capacity to understand, speak and write to a high standard in English (at B2 level at least),

— for at least 1 team member a minimum of 3 years of experience in the field of development, design and implementation of employer/enterprise surveys,

— for at least 1 team member a minimum of 3 years of experience in the field of development, design and implementation of skills surveys.

III.2.4) Information about reserved contracts

III.3) Conditions specific to services contracts

III.3.1) Information about a particular profession

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession: no

III.3.2) Staff responsible for the execution of the service

Legal persons should indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff responsible for the execution of the service: yes

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) Type of procedure

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open

IV.1.2) Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate

IV.1.3) Reduction of the number of operators during the negotiation or dialogue

IV.2) Award criteria

IV.2.1) Award criteria

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of the criteria stated in the specifications, in the invitation to tender or to negotiate or in the descriptive document

IV.2.2) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction will be used: no

IV.3) Administrative information

IV.3.1) File reference number attributed by the contracting authority:

'AO/RPA/NSOFRO-AZU/Full-Scale-European-Employer-Survey/023/12'.

IV.3.2) Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract

no

IV.3.3) Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document

Payable documents: no

IV.3.4) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

6.2.2013

IV.3.5) Date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

IV.3.6) Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up

Any EU official language

IV.3.7) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

until: 6.8.2013

IV.3.8) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date: 18.2.2013 - 11:00

Place:

Cedefop's premises.

Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders: yes

Additional information about authorised persons and opening procedure: Each tenderer may be represented at the opening of tenders by 1 person. The name of the person attending the opening must be notified in writing by fax (fax +30 2310490028) or by e-mail (c4tservices@cedefop.europa.eu) at least 2 working days prior to the opening session.

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: no

VI.2) Information about European Union funds

The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: no

VI.3) Additional information

The tender documents will be available on Cedefop's website: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/working-with-us/public-procurements/calls-for-tenders.aspx>

Cedefop's website will be updated regularly, therefore tenderers must ensure that they visit the site regularly for updates up to the closing date for receipt of tenders.

Cedefop will be closed between 24.12.2012 included until 1.1.2013 included.

VI.4) Procedures for appeal

VI.4.1) Body responsible for appeal procedures

General Court

rue du Fort Niedergrünwald

2925 Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG

E-mail: cfi.registry@curia.europa.eu

Telephone: +352 4303-1

Internet address: <http://curia.europa.eu>

Fax: +352 4303-2100

VI.4.2) Lodging of appeals

Precise information on deadline(s) for lodging appeals: Within 2 months of the notification to the plaintiff, or, in absence thereof, of the day on which it came to the knowledge. A complaint to the European Ombudsman does not have as an effect either to suspend this period or to open a new period for lodging appeals.

VI.4.3) Service from which information about the lodging of appeals may be obtained

Same as in point VI.4.1.

VI.5) Date of dispatch of this notice:

7.12.2012