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**Mongolia-Ulan Bator: DCI — Support to the TVET Department of the Ministry of Labour (MoL) and relevant stakeholders at regional and provincial levels to replicate and up-scale 'best practices' 2014/S 190-334440**

**Service contract notice**

**Location: Asia — Mongolia**

1. **Publication reference:**  
EuropeAid/136064/DH/SER/MN.
2. **Procedure:**  
Restricted.
3. **Programme title:**  
DCI.
4. **Financing:**  
Financing agreement.
5. **Contracting authority:**  
European Union, represented by the European Commission, on behalf of and for the account of the partner country/countries, Ulan Bator, MONGOLIA.

**Contract specification**

6. **Nature of contract:**  
Fee-based.
7. **Contract description:**  
The purpose of this contract is to support the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Department of the Ministry of Labour (MoL) and relevant stakeholders at regional and provincial level to identify and replicate 'best practices' for developing the rural economy and employment in Mongolia. This will consist in establishing an exhaustive catalogue of best practices in the rural development sector; presenting, sharing and discussing this catalogue among all relevant stakeholders; and implementing some selected pilots for the replication and up-scaling at provincial level. The support shall take into account the necessary procedural framework and capacity building to enable the successful replication and up-scaling.  
The support provided will enable MoL to develop and carry out its strategy which prioritises the establishment and delivery of competency-based training in TVET institutions throughout the country along with the opportunity for all individuals to access TVET programmes of study.
8. **Number and titles of lots:**  
No, 1 lot only.
9. **Maximum budget:**  
2 000 000 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 is open to all natural persons who are nationals and legal persons participating either individually or in a grouping (consortium) of tenderers which are effectively established in a Member State of the European Union or in an eligible country or territory as defined under the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 establishing common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for external action (CIR) for the applicable instrument under which the contract is financed (see also heading 29 below). Participation is also open to international organisations. All supplies under this contract must originate in 1 or more of these countries. However, they may originate from any country when the amount of the supplies to be purchased is below 100 000 EUR per purchase.
12. **Candidature:**  
All eligible 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 a 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.
14. **Shortlist alliances prohibited:**  
Any tenders received from tenderers comprising firms other than those mentioned in the shortlisted 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). 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 PRAG.
16. **Subcontracting:**  
Subcontracting is allowed.
17. **Number of candidates to be shortlisted:**  
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:**  
December 2014.
19. **Provisional commencement date of the contract:**  
June 2015.
20. **Initial period of implementation of tasks:**

42 months.

### **Selection and award criteria**

#### **21. Selection criteria:**

Same criteria for legal and natural persons.

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 the case of the candidate being a public body, equivalent information should be provided:

a) the average annual turnover of the candidate for the past 3 years (2011, 2012 and 2013) must be at least 700 000 EUR; and

b) current ratio for 2013 (current assets/current liabilities) must be higher than 1.

2) Professional capacity of candidate (based on items 4 and 5 of the application form):

a) for the current year (2014) at least 5 staff have been working for the candidate in fields related to this contract; and

b) for the current year (2014) at least 30 % of all staff working for the candidate in fields related to this contract have been permanent.

3) Technical capacity of candidate (based on items 5 and 6 of the application form):

Criteria for legal and natural persons:

a) the candidate (i.e. the consortium as a whole, in the case of an application from a consortium) has provided at least 3 technical assistance ODA (overseas development assistance) funded contracts, each with a budget of at least 1 000 000 EUR in the TVET sector (TVET definition: technical and vocational education and training comprises formal, non-formal and informal learning for the world of work. Young people, women and men acquire knowledge and skills from basic to advanced levels across a wide range of institutional and work settings and in diverse socio-economic contexts (Unesco)), which were implemented or completed at any moment during the 3 years prior to the submission deadline (see item 23 below), for a minimum duration of 9 months of effective implementation during this period. The candidate has been responsible for the implementation of a minimum of 30 % of the overall project value;

b) the candidate (i.e. the consortium as a whole, in the case of an application from a consortium) has successfully completed at least 3 projects of more than 500 000 EUR, with a minimum duration of 9 months, in the central Asia and/or east Asia regions during the 3 years prior to the submission deadline (see item 23 below).

Previous experience which caused breach of contract and termination by a contracting authority shall not be used as reference.

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 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.

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 candidates. The only factors which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination are:

factor 1): the highest number of projects compliant with the requirements of criteria 3(a);

factor 2): the highest value in terms of budget of the projects compliant with the requirements of criteria 3(a).

The above factors will be applied in order of precedence, i.e. all eligible candidates will first be assessed for factor 1 and ranked accordingly. Factors 2 and 3 respectively will only be applied if some candidates are ranked equally for factor 1 and 2 (if applicable) and will only concern these candidates.

22. **Award criteria:**  
Best value for money.

**Application**

23. **Deadline for receipt of applications:**  
5.11.2014 (16:00), Beijing time.  
Any application received by the contracting authority 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://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/annexes.do?group=B>  
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 contracting authority in a sealed envelope:  
— either by recorded delivery (official postal service) to:  
Mrs Maria Luisa Wyganowski, Delegation of the European Union to China and Mongolia, Finance, Contracts and Audit Section, No 15 Dongzhimenwai Street, Sanlitun, 100600 Beijing, CHINA,  
— or hand delivered (including courier services) directly to the contracting authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to:  
Mrs Maria Luisa Wyganowski, Delegation of the European Union to China and Mongolia, Finance, Contracts and Audit Section, 4th floor, Block D, QianKun Mansion, 6, Sanlitun Xi Liu Jie, 100027 Beijing, CHINA. Tel. +86 1084548000. E-mail: [delegation-china-call-tender@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-china-call-tender@eeas.europa.eu)  
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 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 communication for this tender procedure and contract must be in English.
28. **Date of publication of prior information notice:**  
17.7.2014.
29. **Legal basis:**  
Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11.3.2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action and DCI — see Annex A2 of the 'Practical Guide'.
30. **Additional information:**

Clarification requests of general interest can be sent, but please keep in mind that the contracting authority will not give any response which could be considered as a prior opinion on the assessment of the application. If the candidate fails to clearly mark the contract title and the publication reference (see item 1 above) on the envelope containing the application, the application shall be excluded from further assessment. The contracting authority reserves the right to request references from the beneficiaries or candidates of the completed projects listed on the candidate's application form. The candidate should be ready to present such references and further information related to the projects listed by the candidate, upon request from the contracting authority.