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EIB - Gibe III Hydropower Project (Ethiopia): Environmental and Social Impact Assessment regarding Lake Turkana and Cumulative Impact Assessment of the cascade of hydropower projects on the Omo rivera (L-Luxembourg)

2010/S 56-082258

European Investment Bank (EIB)

SERVICE PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Gibe III – Environmental and Social Impact Assessment regarding Lake Turkana and Cumulative Impact Assessment of the Cascade of Hydropower Projects located on the Omo River

Republic of Ethiopia

1. **Publication reference:**
TA2010006 ET ITF
2. **Procedure:**
Restricted
3. **Programme:**
EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund
4. **Financing:**
European Investment Bank (EIB)
5. **Contracting Authority:**
European Investment Bank (EIB)

CONTRACT SPECIFICATION:

6. **Nature of contract:**
Technical Assistance (Global price)
7. **Contract description:**
The Gibe III Hydropower Project (for which the total cost is estimated at some EUR 1.5 billion excluding contingencies and environmental and social costs) is the third development in a cascade of water resource schemes (Gilgel Gibe/Gibe I and II are in operation) on the main Gibe/Omo River. Further hydropower schemes downstream on the river are envisaged.
The objective of this Technical Assistance Programme is to produce the following studies:
(i) Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for Lake Turkana to which the Omo River is one of the main tributaries. The impact of Gibe III on Lake Turkana has not been studied previously;
(ii) Cumulative Impact Assessment: to determine the magnitude and significance of the cumulative impacts on the environment and people associated with the construction and operation of the Omo River hydroelectric cascade;
(iii) Integration of findings of the various individual studies related to the environmental and social impact of Gibe III;
(iv) Community Development Programme study, that will identify potential areas to enhance the livelihoods of people living in the Omo delta and around Lake Turkana.

These studies are part of the fact finding exercise of the EIB in coordination with other potential lenders to the project, and will guide the decision if and how to provide financing to the project.

8. **Number and titles of lots:**

NA

9. **Maximum budget:**

EUR 1 280 000

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 in tendering is open on equal terms to natural and legal persons (participating either individually or in a grouping (consortium) of tenderers) to nationals of all countries and international organisations as authorised by the instrument applicable to the programme under which the contract is financed (see also item 30 below).

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. 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 Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions.

16. **Sub-contracting:**

Sub-contracting is not allowed without prior written consent of the Contracting Authority.

17. **Number of candidates to be short-listed:**

On the basis of the applications received, between 4 to 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:**
Early May 2010. The firms will be requested to submit the tender within 50 calendar days.
19. **Provisional commencement date of the contract:**
July 2010
20. **Initial period of execution and possible extension of the contract:**
35-40 weeks

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 applicant being a public body, equivalent information should be provided.
 - (a) the average annual turnover of the candidate must exceed the annualised maximum budget of the contract (ie, the maximum budget stated in the procurement notice divided by the initial contract duration in years, where this exceeds 1 year)
 - 2) Professional capacity of candidate (based on items 4 and 5 of the application form)
 - (a) at least 10% of all staff or minimum of five full-time staff currently working for the applicant in fields related to this contract; and
 - 3) Technical capacity of candidate (based on items 5 and 6 of the application form)
 - (a) The candidate should have a demonstrated track record in the field of environmental and social impact assessments and of the elaboration of community development plans with proven good understanding of the environmental and social aspects of a hydro-power project of that size and the requirements of international financial institutions in this regard, and should also have a good understanding of the particular problems they impose in sub-Saharan Africa. He/she should have worked successfully on at least three similar assignments in the last five years.
 - (b) Proven experience in setting up and running such an operation.
 - (c) Proven capacities to provide backstopping and to recruit and manage technical assistance teams.
- 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 eight best applications for the tender procedure. The only factor which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination is the number, size and relevance of operations in the areas described under point 21 (3) a).
22. **Award criteria:**
Best value for money.

APPLICATION

23. **Deadline for receipt of applications:**
17.00 Central European Time on 28 April 2010
Any application received after this deadline will not be considered.
24. **Application format and details to be provided:**

Applications must be submitted using the standard application form (available from the following Internet address:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/services/index_en.htm), whose format and instructions must be strictly observed.

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 exclusively to the Contracting Authority:

— EITHER by recorded delivery (official postal service) to: Mr Stefan Kerpen, Head of Technical Assistance Unit,

European Investment Bank (EIB), OPS B/DEAS/Technical Assistance Unit (TAU), 100 boulevard Konrad Adenauer, L-2950, Luxembourg,

— OR hand delivered (including courier services) to: Mr Stefan Kerpen, Head of Technical Assistance Unit, European Investment Bank (EIB), OPS B/DEAS/Technical Assistance Unit (TAU), 100 boulevard Konrad Adenauer, L-2950 Luxembourg

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 tenders. 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) must be marked 'Alteration' or 'Withdrawal' as appropriate.

27. **Operational language:**

All written communications for this tender procedure and contract must be in English. Working language will be English.

28. **Additional information:**

None

29. **Date of publication of contract forecast:**

17 February 2010

30. **Legal basis:**

EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund Agreement of 23 April 2007.