

**PHARE — SUPERVISION OF WORKS FOR
WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT AND
TRAINING OF BENEFICIARIES IN AREAS
WITH TOURISM DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL**

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BG-Sofia: Phare — supervision of works for water supply improvement and training of beneficiaries in areas with tourism development potential

2005/S 144-143119<>

Location: Republic of Bulgaria

Municipalities of Simitly, Razlog, Boboshevo, Dospat, Sevlievo, Drianovo, Godech, Varshetz and Tsarevo, Municipality of Veliko Turnovo

Service procurement notice

1.

Publication reference:

EuropeAid/121563/D/SV/BG

2.

Procedure:

Restricted.

3.

Programme:

Phare.

4.

Financing:

Phare BG2003/004-937.11.02/ financing memorandum 2003/ Phare economic & social cohesion. The award of the contract is subject to an approval of the modification of project Fiche.

5.

Contracting Authority:

Phare Economic & Social Cohesion Implementing Agency (Phare ESC IA).
Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

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Contract specification

6.

Nature of contract:

Fee-based.

7.

Contract description:

The investment part of the project consists of rehabilitation, reconstruction of existing water supply and sewage networks and new construction of additional water sources and local storage tanks and construction of new extension of existing water and sewage networks of the 10 sites: Simitly, Razlog, Boboshevo, Dospat, Sevlievo, Drianovo, Godech, Varshetz, Tzarevo and Veliko Turnovo.

The contract includes supervision of the construction works on behalf of the Bulgarian Government represented by Ministry of Regional Development. The consultant shall implement the role and responsibilities of the Engineer as set out in the 1999 FIDIC General and Particular Conditions of Contract for Construction (Red Book) and the responsibilities of the construction supervisor according to the Territorial Structures Act of Bulgaria.

Additionally, the consultant should provide training to the regional/local authorities and MRDPW in implementing investment schemes in the field of water supply by providing support in the practical implementation of the current scheme. The main activities will focus on assessment of the administrative capacity analysis, action plan, assistance in the establishment of the investment scheme, training programme and preliminary training of the local authorities to ensure sustainable implementation of the investment scheme and dissemination of results.

8.

Numbers and titles of lots:

Not applicable.

9.

Maximum budget:

EUR 310 000.

10.

Scope for additional services:

Not applicable.

Conditions of participation

11.

Eligibility:

Participation is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons of the EU Member States, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Serbia-Montenegro and Turkey (see also point 29 below).

12.

Candidature:

All eligible natural and legal persons (as per point 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 partners) are jointly and severally liable to the contracting authority.

The participation of an ineligible natural or legal person (as per point 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 (including legal persons within the same legal group), whatever the form of participation (as an individual legal entity or as leader or partner of a consortium submitting an application). In the event that a natural or legal person (including legal persons within the same legal group) submits more than one application, all applications in which that person (and legal persons within the same legal group) has participated will be excluded.

14.

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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. 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 statement 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 financed from the general budget of the European Communities in the context of external actions (available from following Internet address: http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm).

16.

Subcontracting:

Subcontracting is permitted only on condition that the tenderer explicitly states that it is the sole party that will be contractually liable. If the tenderer intends to subcontract one or more parts of the contracted services, this must be clearly stated in the tender.

The tenderer must intend to carry out the major part of the services itself. The value of the subcontracted part of the services may not exceed 30 % of the contract value.

17.

Number of candidates to be shortlisted:

On the basis of the applications received, at least 4 and at most 8 candidates will be invited to submit detailed tenders for this contract.

Provisional timetable

18.

Provisional date of invitation to tender:

September 2005.

19.

Provisional commencement date of the contract:

December 2005.

20.

Initial period of execution and possible extension of the contract:

24 months.

Selection and award criteria

21.

Selection criteria:

The following selection criteria will be applied to candidates:

1) Economic and financial standing of candidate (based on item 3 of the application form):

(a) the annual revenue of the candidate (a firm or the leading partner of a consortium) for each of the last 2 years for which the accounts has been closed shall amount at least to EUR 300 000;

b) the firm or the leading partner of the consortium should be operational for the last 2 years.

In addition to the standard application form, the annual accounts of the last 2 years available must be attached to the application, e.g. the balance sheets or extracts from balance sheets from the last 2 years for which accounts have been closed, in accordance with the company law of the country in which the lead partner is established.

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

(a) the candidate (a firm or a consortium) shall have at least 10 persons permanent staff with relevant experience in the fields of construction supervision of Water Supply and Sewage networks, presently and on average during the 3 years as per the application form (i.e., last 2 years plus current year);

(b) the candidate (a firm or a consortium) shall have at least 5 persons permanent professional staff with experience in supervising FIDIC or equivalent construction contracts, currently and on average during the 3 years as per the application form (i.e., last 2 years plus current year).

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

(a) the candidate shall have experience in the following fields of specialisation:

— specialisation in construction supervision services ('the Services') in the capacity of the 'Engineer' under FIDIC or equivalent contract conditions;

— supervision services of sewage and water networks construction;

— capability of planning and delivery of a training programme;

(b) the candidate (a firm or a consortium) shall, during the last 5 years (1.6.2000–1.6.2005), have

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successfully completed at least 2 projects for supervision of works for: rehabilitation or reconstruction or new construction of water supply and sewage networks, amounting to at least EUR 1 000 000 works, under FIDIC conditions of contract or equivalent.

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 applications for the tender procedure. The only factors which will be taken into consideration during this re-examination are:

- 1) higher number of successfully completed projects for Supervisions based on FIDIC contract conditions;
 - 2) higher number of supervisions of water supply and sewage networks infrastructure projects.
- Candidates will first be assessed against comparative criterion No 1, and only if more than 8 will score equally against such criterion, those applicants which have best passed the first comparative criterion will be assessed based on comparative criterion No 2.

22.

Award criteria:

As specified in the tender dossier annexed to the letter of invitation to tender which will be sent to short-listed candidates.

Application

23.

Deadline for receipt of applications:

The deadline for receipt of applications is 29.8.2005 (17.00), local time.
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://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm), whose format and instructions must be strictly observed.

Any application which does not observe these provisions will be automatically eliminated. Apart from the annual accounts required under point 21 any additional documentation (brochure, letter, etc.) sent with an application will not be taken into consideration.

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25.

How applications may be submitted:

Applications must be submitted in English exclusively to the contracting authority:

— either by recorded delivery (official postal service) to:

Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, 17-19 Kiril I Metodi Str., 1202 Sofia, Bulgaria. Room 517 — Phare ESC Project Implementing Agency.

— or hand delivered (including courier services) directly to the contracting authority in return for a signed and dated receipt to:

Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, 17–19 Kiril I Metodi Str., 1202 Sofia, Bulgaria. Room 517, Phare ESC Project Implementing Agency.

The contract title, financing line 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.

Operational language:

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

27.

Additional information:

The contracting authority reserves the right to request references from the beneficiary/ries and/or candidates of the completed projects listed by the candidate in the submitted application form. The candidate should be ready to present such reference(s) and/or further information related to the projects listed by the candidate upon request from the contracting authority.

28.

Date of publication of the contract forecast:

10.5.2005.

29.

Legal basis:

Council Regulation (EC) No 1605/2002 of 25.6.2002, Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 of

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18.12.1989 as amended, Council Regulation (EC) No 2500/2001 of 17.12.2001, Council Regulation (EC) No 769/2004 of 21.4.2004.