

GR-Thessaloniki: vocational education and training (VET) at EQF levels 6 to 8
2009/S 33-047549

Contract notice

Services

Section I: Contracting authority

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

Cedefop, attention: Mr George Paraskevaïdis, 123 Europe Street, PO Box 22427, GR-55102 Thessaloniki.
Contact: Clotilde Assumel-Lurdin. Tel. (30) 23 10 49 02 87. Fax (30) 23 10 49 00 28. E-mail: c4t-services@cedefop.europa.eu.

Further information can be obtained at:

As in abovementioned contact point(s).

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained at:

As in abovementioned contact point(s).

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to:

As in abovementioned contact point(s).

I.2) Type of the contracting authority and main activity or activities:

European institution/agency or international organisation.

Education.

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:

Vocational Education and Training (VET) at EQF levels 6 to 8.

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

Services.

Service category: No 8.

Main place of performance: contractor's premises.

NUTS code: GR122.

II.1.3) The notice involves:

A public contract.

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

The aim of this invitation to tender is to commission a study that will give an overview and analyse the provision and characteristics of vocational education and training in Europe at the levels equivalent to levels 6 to 8 of the European qualifications framework (EQF). In particular, the study will research how the shift to learning outcomes (will) influence the parity of esteem between VET and academic/higher education.

II.1.6) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV):

73000000.

II.1.7) **Contract covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA):**

Yes.

II.1.8) **Division into lots:**

No.

II.1.9) **Variants will be accepted:**

No.

II.2) **Quantity or scope of the contract**

II.2.1) **Total quantity or scope:**

Maximum budget available for this activity is EUR 140 000.

II.2.2) **Options:**

No.

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:**

See tender documents.

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

See tender documents.

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

See tender documents.

III.1.4) **Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject:**

Yes.

Any subcontracting/subcontractor must be approved by Cedefop, either by accepting the bidder's tender, or, if proposed by the contractor after contract signature, in writing by an exchange of letters. The subcontracting/subcontractor will be accepted only if it is judged necessary and does not lead to distortion of competition. If awarded, the contract will be signed by the tenderer, who will be vis-à-vis Cedefop, the only contracting party responsible for the performance of this contract.

The tenderer must indicate clearly which parts of the work will be subcontracted, and additionally specify the identity of those subcontractors only undertaking more than 10 % of the work by value, provided total subcontracting is not above 40 % of the work by value. If total subcontracting is above that ceiling, each and every subcontractor, independently of his contribution to the work by value, must be identified. All subcontractors identified as per the 2nd subparagraph must provide the required evidence for the exclusion and selection criteria.

Where no subcontractor is given, the work will be assumed to be carried out directly by the bidder.

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 requirements are met:

See tender documents.

III.2.2) **Economic and financial capacity:**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met:

The tenderer must be in a stable financial position and have the economic and financial capacity to perform the contract.

Proof of economic and financial capacity may in particular be furnished by 1 or more of the following documents: appropriate statements from the banks or evidence of professional risk indemnity insurance; balance sheets or extracts from balance sheets for at least the last 2 years for which accounts have been closed (where publication of the balance sheet is required under the company law of the country in which the economic operator is established, the published version must be included; otherwise such documents must be certified by the company's chartered accountant);

a statement of overall turnover and turnover concerning services covered by the contract during the last 3 financial years.

In case tenderers are unable to furnish such documents they are required to provide justification for non-provision.

III.2.3) Technical capacity:

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met:

The tenderer must provide evidence of technical and professional capacity and must therefore comply with the following criteria:

- qualifications, knowledge, skills and ability to perform the tasks outlined in the technical specifications,
- extensive professional experience in research project management,
- experience in the field of vocational education and training, higher education and qualifications frameworks (including learning outcomes approach),
- extensive experience in comparative analysis at international level,
- capacity to access data and expertise at national and European levels,
- linguistic ability to communicate and draft to a high standard in English.

The following documents or information must be presented as evidence of compliance with the above criteria:

- detailed CV(s) of the contractor and, if applicable, of the research team members, with a brief description of professional experience in relation to the above required criteria and including language qualifications,
- a brief description of research output/publications related to the issues addressed by this study, including evidence of experience in comparative studies in education and training,
- list of major contracts/studies performed in the past 5 years with dates, sums and commissioning authorities specifying the subjects of the contracts/studies,
- description of measures employed to ensure the access to data.

Tenderers should pay attention to the provisions made for subcontracting (see point 4.2 of the tender specifications) and provide an indication of what proportion, if any, of the contract the contractor may intend to subcontract.

III.2.4) Reserved contracts:

No.

III.3) Conditions specific to services contracts

III.3.1) Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession:

No.

III.3.2) Legal entities 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.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) **An electronic auction will be used:**
No.
- IV.3) **Administrative information**
- IV.3.1) **File reference number attributed by the contracting authority:**
'AO/ECVL/ILEMO-TSK/VET-levels-6to8/001/09'.
- IV.3.2) **Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract:**
No.
- IV.3.3) **Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document:**
Time limit for receipt of requests for documents or for accessing documents: 25.3.2009.
Payable documents: no.
- IV.3.4) **Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate:**
8.4.2009.
- IV.3.6) **Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up:**
Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish.
- IV.3.7) **Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender:**
Until: 8.10.2009.
- IV.3.8) **Conditions for opening tenders:**
Date: 22.4.2009 (11:00).
Place: Cedefop premises.
Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders: yes.
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 ((30) 23 10 49 00 28) or by e-mail (C4T-services@cedefop.europa.eu) at least 2 working days prior to the opening session.

Section VI: Complementary information

- VI.1) **This is a recurrent procurement:**
No.
- VI.2) **Contract related to a project and/or programme financed by EU funds:**
No.
- VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**
6.2.2009.