



Quotation No.:	NSO/5/2016
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NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE (NSO)

Call for Quotations for the Provision of Statistical Services relevant to the Equipment Goods Survey 2017 (EG17) at the National Statistics Office

DATE PUBLISHED	16 th September 2016
CLOSING DATE	28 th September 2016

The closing date is **10:00am of Wednesday 28th September 2016.**

Note: Bidders are bound by their offers until at least 60 days after the deadline for submissions

Call for Quotations for the Provision of Statistical Services relevant to the Equipment Goods Survey 2017 (EG17) at the National Statistics Office

1 Scope and Purpose of this Call

1.1 Introduction

The National Statistics Office (NSO) is the executive arm of the Malta Statistics Authority. It is responsible for the collection, compilation, analysis and publication of a wide range of statistical information and related matters. This does not prevent other government departments or institutions from collecting their own statistical data for internal purposes. The National Statistics Office is governed by the Malta Statistics Authority Act, 2000.

Through this call for quotations, NSO is seeking the services of a suitably qualified Service Provider, for the Provision of Statistical Services relevant to the Equipment Goods Survey 2017 (EG17) to the National Statistics Office. Potential bidders for such services are invited to submit quotations for the supply of such services shown below, in accordance with the terms and conditions laid out in this document.

1.2 Compliance

Bidders shall **only** submit the quotation on the stipulated form in ANNEX 1 of the document. Each bid submitted in response to this call for quotations must clearly indicate the details of the bidder as per attached documentation.

2 Quotation Process

2.1 Method of Submission

2.1.1 Bidders are required to complete the Quotation document as per attached form in ANNEX 1. Quotation documents should be closed in a sealed opaque envelope, with the Quotation N^o and the Description of the Quotation clearly marked on them and deposited in the tender box, (National Statistics Office, Lascaris Valetta VLT 2000) by the time and date set for the submission of applications.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

2.1.2 Each quotation must be duly signed by the bidder. In the case of a registered company this must be signed by an authorised representative of the company.

2.1.3 By submitting a quotation the applicant shall be deemed:

- i. To have understood and accepted all the contents of this quotation document;
- ii. To be in a position to carry out all the services included in the quotation; and
- iii. To have accepted the conditions, payment terms and requirements under which the services required would be contracted.

It is the bidder's sole responsibility to read and understand the quotation document, and submit the bid in accordance therewith.

2.2 Award of Quotation

2.2.1 NSO reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation, and to annul the quotation process and reject all applications, at any time prior to the award of the quotation, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected applicants. In so doing, NSO shall not be liable to give any reason whatsoever.

2.2.2 Subject to Clause 2.2.1, NSO will issue a Letter of Acceptance in favour of the applicant who is selected.

2.2.3 The quotations will be valid for a period of six (6) months commencing from the date when Letter of Acceptance is issued.

3 Contract Objectives and Expected Results

3.1 Objective

3.1.1 The overall objective of this call to subcontract the running of the Equipment Goods Survey 2017 (EG17) on behalf of NSO in line with recommended methodology. The successful bidder will be required to conduct the EG17 survey in liaison with EUROSTAT and PLANCO.

The selected bidder is expected to actively participate in the various phases of the EG17 survey. His main responsibilities include:

- Gathering a sufficient number of prices, a minimum of 150, for the list of items recommended by Eurostat for each of the basic headings being surveyed
- Carrying out the price collection during the reference months
- Providing feedback to any queries arising during the validation phase
- Drawing up of report.

3.2. Process

3.2.1 The process of the Equipment Goods Survey comprises of:

- Actively participate in the pre-survey of the 2017 equipment goods price surveys by evaluating the proposed item list provided by Eurostat and, where appropriate, proposing deletions or amendments of items in the proposed list and suggesting new items to be included. Answers to pre-survey questions as well as item availability/importance have to be entered in the Item List Management Tool (ILMT).
- Carry out the survey following the specific instructions given in the survey documentations
- Submit the prices to Eurostat in a format defined by Eurostat
- Submit a report to Eurostat on the execution of the survey, following the template to be provided by Eurostat
- Actively participate in the validation at European level of these prices by responding to questions from Eurostat or Eurostat's contractor within given deadline
- Update the survey report after the validation process at European level is completed.

3.3 Deliverables

3.3.1 The tentative deadlines for this project are listed below:

31.01.17: Entering countries' proposals for new products

15.02.17: Finalization of pre-survey work and finalization of pre-survey

30.06.17: Submission of country reports (section 1-3) and Data Tool files via eDAMIS

30.09.17: Answering validation questions (questions entered by Planco until 01.09.17)

31.01.18: Answering validation questions (questions entered by Planco until 01.12.17)

28.02.18: Answering validation questions (questions entered by Planco until 01.02.18)

26.04.18: Sorting out last issues (incl. answering validation questions entered by Planco until 15.04.18)

27.04.18: Approval of survey results (by countries) and closure of validation

31.05.18: Submission of completed country report (incl. section 4) via eDAMIS

3.4 Other Conditions

3.4.1 Bidders shall submit, together with their offer, all necessary literature and technical specifications to enable a comprehensive evaluation of the package being offered. The successful bidder must include a Curriculum Vitae as well as a covering letter highlighting experience and expertise in carrying out such survey work. The successful bidder must also respect all deadlines.

3.4.2 The provision of survey services as outlined in these specifications and conditions shall also be subject to the www.contracts.gov.mt/en/resources, “General Conditions for Service Contracts.” These general conditions will form an integral part of the contract that will be signed with the successful bidder.

4 Terms of Reference

4.1 Bidders are requested to submit the cost of services as specified in ANNEX 1.

5 Communication

5.1 No clarification meeting will be held before the closing date but any query shall be addressed only to personnel.nso@gov.mt up to Friday 23rd September 2016. Any communication between interested parties and the NSO shall be conducted in writing.

5.2 No quotation may be altered after the closing date.

6 Submission, closing date, opening of submissions

6.1 Bidders are to present their offers on the prescribed form as per ANNEX 1. **Only** quotations submitted in the stipulated format will be considered.

6.2 Interested Parties, when submitting their offer are expected to provide a complete and comprehensive response to this call. Responses should include the following:

- Bidder’s details and quotation as per Annex 1;
- Proposal and Timetable (as per Section 3 – Contract Objectives and Expected Results);
- Profile/CVs (a profile of bidder’s activities and experience in the specific fields highlighting those that are related to the areas of this assignment including credentials for undertaking the exercise, together with a summary of important projects)
- Personnel Profiles – if applicable (The CV and profiles of each one of the personnel being proposed for the delivery of the tasks with respect to the services to be provided in the exercise, highlighting their professional capabilities and background must be submitted. Direct experience on similar projects should be included).
- Additional Information (any additional information that the bidder deems valid to his/her response).

6.3 The closing date is **10:00am of Wednesday 28th September 2016**.

6.4 Bids are to be deposited in the Tender Box: National Statistics Office, Lascaris Valletta VLT 2000. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that submissions are deposited in the Tender Box prior to the closing date and time.

7 Bid Evaluation criteria

Bids will be evaluated subject to the following two (2) phase criteria. The first phase will consist of the evaluation of the bid subject to the selection criteria. The second phase will consist of the evaluation of the bid according to the award criteria. It is also understood that any bids should also be first and foremost administratively compliant. This means that any prescribed forms must be properly filled in and any required documentation presented with the bid as per ANNEX 1. When checking and comparing offers, the Evaluation Committee may ask a bidder to clarify any aspect of his offer. They may in no circumstance alter or try to change the price or content of the offer, except to correct arithmetical errors discovered by the Evaluation Committee when analysing offers.

7.1 Selection Criteria

The selection criteria will consist of the following:

- The bidder's ability to perform the contract effectively, with high standards of quality and without interruption over the whole contract period and to meet all deadlines;
- The bidder's ability to undertake the actions stipulated within this Call for Quotations document;
- The bidder's clear understanding of this exercise and deliverables;
- The bidder's direct experience in similar projects.

Should bidders not meet the selection criteria, they will be excluded and not considered for the award criteria.

7.2 Award Criteria

The Evaluation Committee shall request rectifications in respect of incomplete/non-submitted information pertinent to the documentation as requested in Section 3 above. Only clarifications on the submitted information in respect of the latter may be eventually requested.

7.2.1 Technical Compliance – Technical Criteria – Total Average score out of 100

At this step of the evaluation process, the Evaluation Committee will analyse the administratively-compliant quotations' technical conformity in relation to the documentation requested by NSO as per Section 3.

When evaluating technical offers, each evaluator awards each offer a score out of a maximum 100 points in accordance with the technical criteria and any sub-criteria as outlined below.

The aggregate final score is arrived at by calculating the arithmetical average of the individual final score of each evaluator.

Evaluation Grid

Criterion	Maximum Score Possible
Proposal Comprehensiveness: Bidders are being requested to provide details of the process and methodology to be used in order to reach the objectives and deliverables outlined in Section 3	45
Bidder's Profile: The bidder's experience in managing, developing and delivering on similar projects, together with CVs of experts will be reviewed	35
Timetable of Activities: The timing sequence and duration of the proposed activities need to be presented	20

Only quotations with average scores of at least 60 points will qualify for the financial evaluation.

Out of the quotations reaching this minimum threshold, the best technical offer is awarded 100 points. The others receive points calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Technical Score} = \frac{\text{final score of the technical offer in question}}{\text{final score of the best technical offer}} \times 100$$

7.2.2 Financial Evaluation

The financial offers for quotations which were not eliminated during the technical evaluation (those which have achieved an average score of 60 points or more) will be evaluated.

The Evaluation Committee will check that the financial offers contain no arithmetical errors.

7.2.3 Criteria of Award

The sole award criterion will be the price. The call for quotations will be awarded to the **Cheapest Technically Compliant offer satisfying the administrative and technical criteria.**

NSO reserves the right to refuse even the most advantageous offers made, or to withdraw this call as may be deemed in its best interest. The final selection shall be at the sole discretion of NSO, and NSO is not bound to give any justification for the selection made or decisions taken.

Prior to the expiration of validity of offers, NSO will notify the successful bidder, in writing, that his/her quotation has been recommended for award by the Evaluation Committee, pending any appeal being lodged in terms of Part II, Regulation 21 of the Public Contracts Regulations. The unsuccessful bidders shall also be notified of the outcome of the evaluation process. The result will be published on the Notice Board at the National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta.

In no circumstances will the National Statistics Office be liable for damages, whatever their nature or relationship to the cancellation of a quotation. The publication of a contract notice does not commit NSO to implement the survey as announced.

8 Terms of Payment

This is a global-price contract. The price must cover the whole of the works as described in this Call for Quotations. The bidder must provide a breakdown of the overall price in Euro (€). The price will include travelling, administration and planning costs and there should not be any extra fees invoiced.

The payments will be made according to the following schedule:

Interim Payment 1 upon Submission of country reports (section 1-3) and Data Tool files via eDAMIS – 30%

Interim Payment 2 upon Answering validation questions (questions entered by Planco until 01.12.17) – 30%

Final Payment upon Submission of completed country report (incl. section 4) via eDAMIS – 40%

Payments will be processed based on the bidder's Invoices setting out the services actually performed. The Invoices are to be approved by the Director General and subject to the approval of the corresponding reports. The total of the Invoices shall not exceed the quoted price in the financial bid attached to the quote.

9 Commencement Date and Period of Execution

The intended commencement date is 1st November 2016.

The period of execution of the contract will be latest 30th June 2018 months from this date.

End of Document - Please submit your offer using ANNEX 1 template.