



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION

Direct taxation, Tax Coordination, Economic Analysis and Evaluation

Economic analysis, evaluation & impact assessment support

Brussels, **23 MAI 2012**
TAXUD/R1/TA Ares (2012) 717576

Subject: Call for tenders TAXUD/2012/AO-01
Provision of economic analysis in the area of customs

- Replies to questions

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

You will find in the Annex to this letter the replies to all the questions received up to 22 May 2012.

This letter is being posted on the website of the Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union, at this URL address.

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/tenders_grants/tenders/index_en.htm

Questions received subsequently will be answered in further letters which will be placed regularly on the same website. Prospective tenderers are invited to monitor this site attentively.

As mentioned in the invitation letter (ref TAXUD-R1/TA (2012) 277314) published with the tender documents, requests for additional information received less than five working days before the closing date for submission of tenders, i.e. after 21 May 2012, will not be processed.

Yours faithfully,

Jean-Pierre De Laet

Head of Unit

Question no. 1

In section 4 "General conditions" of the tender specifications you refer to the request of a case study in the proposal:

The following information is compulsory and forms an integral part of the evaluation of this tender: (a) the offer shall contain details on the methodologies that the tenderer can apply under the framework contract to assess the impact of various customs issues and proposals as covered by the tender description, in particular, points 3 and 4 and (b) the tenderer shall demonstrate the capabilities and efficiency of data collection and economic modelling tools proposed by way of an example for a study in the customs field.

Can you, please, give additional information on your expectations from the case study in the proposal? How should the structure be like? What is the word limit? Would a structure as the one below sufficient?

Case study

Description of

- (i) the detailed evaluation methodology and how the methodology would be applied in practice in the concrete context of this hypothetical case study;
- (ii) the data collection and analysis;
- (iii) the work organisation (scheduling and tasks) and the proposed composition of the mixed and versatile teams.

Word limit: 10 pages maximum

Reply

In reference to Section 4 of the Technical specifications (General considerations), tenderers have all degrees of freedom to suggest any structure they consider to be adequate, were they to prepare a study in the customs field.

The choice of structure used by the tenderer for the study is an inherent part of his/her tender and is expected to show the tenderer's expertise in providing reports in the area of economic analysis. As this is one of the elements to be taken into account assessing the tenderer's competence, and the response will be considered to be showcase of the type of approach used by the tenderer, we cannot comment on your suggestion on how to structure your tender. Providing details of how the structure should be like would deprive the exercise of its value.

The suggested description should have a maximum of 10 pages. We do not impose a word limit for this maximum of 10 pages.

Question no. 2

On page 10 of the tender specification, it is said that the tenders must provide "A statement that the experts included in the offer are able to work and produce reports in English". Is there a template for such a statement or are CVs of the experts included in the bid sufficient to serve as a proof?

Reply

There is no template. The CVs are not sufficient to serve as proof. The tenderer is requested to specifically provide the information as requested, either directly in the offer either on a separate document. The statement needs to be made under the signature of the representative authorised to submit the offer.

Question no. 3

In relation to this invitation to tender, we should be grateful if you could please let us know whether sub-contracting is allowed for this tender.

And if in case it is allowed, what is the maximum percentage allowed under this framework contract? And in addition, what documents would need to be provided by the sub-contractors?

Reply

Subcontracting is allowed. It is up to the tenderer to determine how much subcontracting he or she intends to rely on. As for the documents needed; subcontractors will have to comply with the exclusion and selection criteria as specified in the technical specifications (Section 9 Exclusion and Selection criteria).

Question no. 4

Will you base your price evaluation on the average rate of the Category 1, 2 and 3 experts or will you do a separate evaluation for each category?

Reply

There is no separate evaluation for each category of experts. The basis for the price assessment is the total fee, defined as the unique price per man-day times the average number of man-days per study times the number of studies planned for the total duration of the contract. It is up to the tenderer to define a unique price per man-day based on his assessment of what consists in a balanced team of experts from the different categories defined in annex VI that would be capable of performing the work described in the technical specifications.