

This notice in TED website: <http://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:389018-2013:TEXT:EN:HTML>

Germany-Frankfurt-on-Main: ECB - Framework agreement for the provision of services and works for assessments and analysis of accounting, financial reporting and cost accounting/controlling 2013/S 224-389018

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2004/18/EC

Section I: Contracting authority

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

European Central Bank
Kaiserstraße 29

Contact point(s): For downloading documentation for this procurement procedure, please see Section VI.3

For the attention of: Josef Pinhas

60311 Frankfurt-on-Main

GERMANY

Telephone: +49 6913440

E-mail: procurement@ecb.europa.eu

Fax: +49 6913447110

Internet address(es):

General address of the contracting authority: <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>

Further information can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to: The above mentioned contact point(s)

I.2) Type of the contracting authority

European institution/agency or international organisation

I.3) Main activity

Economic and financial affairs

I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities

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:

Framework agreement for the provision of services and works for assessments and analysis of accounting, financial reporting and cost accounting/controlling.

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

Services

Main site or location of works, place of delivery or of performance: Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany.

NUTS code DE712

II.1.3) Information about a public contract, a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system (DPS)

The notice involves the establishment of a framework agreement

II.1.4) Information on framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

maximum number of participants to the framework agreement envisaged: 6

Duration of the framework agreement

Duration in months: 36

Estimated total value of purchases for the entire duration of the framework agreement

Estimated value excluding VAT: 500 000 EUR

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

The ECB seeks providers for the provision of services and works in order to review, assess, analyse, enhance and improve, based on the best practice approach, the ECB policies currently in place within the following 3 areas:

1. ECB administrative accounting policies (based primarily on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)), procedures, practice and tools;
 2. ECB financial reporting policies, procedures, practices and tools; and
 3. ECB management accounting/cost accounting policies, procedures, practices and tools.
- (together the 'services').

The services shall include the following deliverables:

1. reviewing the current approaches in the ECB;
2. conduct a benchmarking exercise with comparable institutions;
3. analyse the benchmarking exercise in comparison with approaches followed by the ECB;
4. suggestion of improvements based on best practices identified in the benchmarking exercise, where applicable;
5. suggestions on implementation strategies, training and change management approaches, where applicable.

II.1.6) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

79210000

II.1.7) Information about Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The contract is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): yes

II.1.8) Lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.1.9) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2) Quantity or scope of the contract

II.2.1) Total quantity or scope:

The ECB is, through this open procedure, seeking to award a framework agreement (the 'contract') to maximum 6 providers, if available, offering the best value for money for the provision of services and works for the assessments and analysis of accounting, financial reporting and cost accounting/controlling.

The contracts will be awarded for a period of 3 years with a unilateral option for the ECB to extend the contract for 1 additional year.

The contracts to be awarded under this procedure shall establish the general terms and conditions governing the services to be ordered, in particular with regard to prices.

Where needs arise to request offers for specific tasks, a mini-competition shall be initiated by the ECB inviting all the providers to submit an offer. Offers received will hereafter be evaluated on the basis of the criteria

established in the request for offers. It should be noted that whilst the ECB will apply the same main criteria and their weightings for any requests for offers launched under the contract as set out in Section 5.2 below, the sub-criteria and sub-weightings may vary. Such criteria may in a specific case include an assurance on non-conflict of interest. Eventually, an order will be signed with the company which presented the most economically advantageous offer.

The services shall normally be provided on a time-cost basis, however with the possibility for fixed price work assignments where required.

Estimated value excluding VAT: 500 000 EUR

II.2.2) Information about options

Options: no

II.2.3) Information about renewals

This contract is subject to renewal: yes

Number of possible renewals: 1

In the case of renewable supplies or service contracts, estimated timeframe for subsequent contracts:

in months: 12 (from the award of the contract)

II.3) Duration of the contract or time limit for completion

Duration in months: 36 (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:

No deposit is required, but where applicable, the successful tenderer (or in the case of a successful consortium bid, each member of the consortium) may be required to provide a guarantee.

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

Method of payment will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

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

The establishment of a temporary grouping of companies is allowed under the conditions laid down in the call for applications/invitation to tender.

III.1.4) Other particular conditions

The performance of the contract is subject to particular conditions: yes

Description of particular conditions: The ECB may exclude tenderers who are subject to a conflict of interest with the ECB's interests (financial, business, employment or other relations) as detailed in Article 24 (5) (f) of Decision ECB/2007/5. Attention is drawn to the specific exclusion of the current ECB's external auditor for the financial years 2013–2017 and all its international network member firms and affiliates.

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 the requirements are met: Tenderers shall state in their self-declaration (included in Annex 3 to the ITT) that they meet the eligibility criteria. Tenderers need to fill in and sign the declaration of independence safeguard (Annex 5 to the ITT).

III.2.2) Economic and financial ability

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Tenderers shall complete Annex 3 to the ITT.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: The tenderers' economic and financial capacity will be assessed on the basis of their financial situation (turnover and profit and loss) during the last 3 financial years. As a minimum, tenderers shall have had, in the last 3 financial years, an annual net turnover of at least 1 500 000 EUR. In the case of a temporary grouping, one of the members shall have achieved on its own 60 % of the above amount.

III.2.3) Technical capacity

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met:

Tenderers shall complete Annex 3 to the ITT.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required:

(a) Submission of proof on the international coverage of the requested services by country (as specified in Section III.2.3 of the contract notice (technical capacity)), at least:

i. 7 countries within the European Union; and

ii. the United States; and

iii. one of the following countries: Australia, Canada, or New Zealand;

(b) availability of an account management team composed of an account manager and his/her back-up acting as contact point towards the ECB for the duration of the contract;

(c) a minimum average number of staff at your company per year of: 400 in 2010; 400 in 2011 and 400 in 2012;

(d) 2 reference contracts for each of the following areas: (i) administrative accounting policies (based primarily on IFRS), procedures, practice and tools; (ii) ECB financial reporting policies, procedures, practices and tools and (iii) ECB management accounting/cost accounting policies, procedures, practices and tools covering a similar scope in comparable organisations such as the ECB (e.g. central banks, European institutions, international organisations) that the tenderers have performed during the past 3 years.

III.2.4) Information about reserved contracts

III.3) Conditions specific to services contracts

III.3.1) Information about a particular profession

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession: no

III.3.2) Staff responsible for the execution of the service

Legal persons 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.1.2) Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate

IV.1.3) Reduction of the number of operators during the negotiation or dialogue

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) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction will be used: no

IV.3) Administrative information

- IV.3.1) **File reference number attributed by the contracting authority:**
26952/A/ACP/2013.
- IV.3.2) **Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract**
no
- IV.3.3) **Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document**
Payable documents: no
- IV.3.4) **Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**
16.12.2013 - 17:00
- IV.3.5) **Date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**
- IV.3.6) **Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up**
English.
- IV.3.7) **Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**
Duration in months: 9 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)
- IV.3.8) **Conditions for opening of tenders**
Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders: no

Section VI: Complementary information

- VI.1) **Information about recurrence**
This is a recurrent procurement: no
- VI.2) **Information about European Union funds**
The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: no
- VI.3) **Additional information**
Companies interested in participating in this tender procedure are required to download the complete tender documentation from the following URL address using the 'User ID' and 'Password' indicated below:
URL address: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/secure/procurement/>
User ID: 26952/A/ACP/2013
Password: 531BE6
Please note that you must register before downloading the documentation and that registration on the website is not synonymous with participating in the tender procedure. In order to participate, you need to submit the tender to the ECB as stipulated in the tender documentation.
After having registered an e-mail will be sent to you with a new user name and password. The URL address will remain the same. Please use the new user name and password to download the tender documentation. Should you experience any problems in accessing the Internet platform for registration and/or downloading the tender documentation please do not hesitate to contact us under the following e-mail address: procurement@ecb.europa.eu quoting the procurement number and problem experienced.
The tender procedure is conducted in accordance with Decision ECB/2007/5 of 3.7.2007 laying down the rules on procurement (OJ L 184, 14.7.2007, p. 34) as amended by Decision ECB/2009/2 (OJ L 51, 24.2.2009, p. 10) and Decision ECB/2010/8 (OJ L 238, 9.9.2010, p. 14), all published on <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobsproc/tenders/html/index.en.html>
- VI.4) **Procedures for appeal**
- VI.4.1) **Body responsible for appeal procedures**
Procurement Review Body of the ECB, c/o Legal Advice Team
Kaiserstraße 29
60311 Frankfurt-on-Main

GERMANY

E-mail: legaladviceteam@ecb.europa.eu

Fax: +49 6913446886

Body responsible for mediation procedures

The European Ombudsman

1 avenue du Président Robert Schuman

67001 Strasbourg Cedex

FRANCE

VI.4.2) **Lodging of appeals**

Precise information on deadline(s) for lodging appeals: 15 calendar days from the receipt of the information specified in Chapter V, Section 1.2 or if no information is requested, within 15 calendar days from the receipt of the notification. Further requirements are outlined in Article 33 of the ECB procurement rules (see Section VI.3). The complaint to the European Ombudsman does not affect the submission deadline nor does it create a new deadline by which complaints can be submitted.

VI.4.3) **Service from which information about the lodging of appeals may be obtained**

VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**

7.11.2013