



**Intergovernmental Authority on Development - Red Sea, Gulf of Aden
and Somalia Office (IGAD-RSGAS)**

Publication reference: IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01

TENDER DOCUMENT

For the

***Technical Expert-Undertake the development of Engagement
Strategy for IGAD Taskforce on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden***

Publication reference: IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01

Date: September 13, 2022. Country: Ethiopia

September 13, 2022

Procurement Ref No: Publication reference: IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01

Dear All,

Re: Invitation to Tender for Provision of *Technical Expertise to Undertake the development of Engagement Strategy for IGAD Taskforce on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.*

I am pleased to inform you that your firm/the consortium led by you is invited to take part in the simplified procedure for the above contract. The complete tender dossier is attached to this letter. It includes:

- A. Instructions to tenderers and contract notice
- B. Draft contract agreement and special conditions with annexes:
 - I. General conditions for service contracts
 - II. Terms of reference
 - III. Organization and methodology (to be submitted by the tenderer using the template provided)
 - IV. Key experts (including templates for the summary list of key experts and their CVs)
 - V. Budget (to be submitted by the tenderer as the financial offer using the template provided)
 - VI. Forms and other supporting documents
- C. Other information:
 - I. Administrative compliance grid
 - II. Evaluation grid
- D. Tender submission form and declaration of honour on exclusion and selection criteria

For full details of the tendering procedures, please see the practical guide and its annexes, which may be downloaded from the following website: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do>

We look forward to receiving your tender which has to be sent no later than the deadline set in point 8 of the Instructions to Tenderers. Please send it to the address and with the requirements given in point 8. By submitting a tender, you accept to receive notification of the outcome of the procedure by electronic means. If you decide not to submit a tender, we would be grateful if you could inform us in writing, indicating the reasons for your decision.

Yours sincerely

Joshua Turinawe

ANNEX A. INSTRUCTIONS TO TENDERERS

Publication reference: IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01

When submitting tenders, tenderers must follow all instructions, forms, terms of reference, contract provisions and specifications contained in this tender dossier. Failure to submit a tender containing all the required information and documentation within the deadline specified may lead to the rejection of the tender.

These instructions set out the rules for submitting, selecting and implementing contracts financed under this call for tenders, in conformity with the Practical Guide, (available on the internet at this address: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do>).

1. Services to be provided

The services required by the contracting authority are described in the terms of reference. They are set out in Annex II to the draft contract, which forms Part B of this tender dossier.

2. Timetable

	DATE	TIME*
Deadline for requesting clarification from the contracting authority	19.09.2022	12.00 PM
Last date for the contracting authority to issue clarification	23.09.2022	12.00 PM
Deadline for submitting tenders	14.10.2022	12.00 PM
Interviews (if any)	N/A	-
Completion date for evaluating technical offers	21.10.2022	-
Notification of award	24.10.2022	-
Contract signature	08.11.2022	-
Start date	14.11.2022	-

* All times are in the time zone of the country of the contracting authority

□ Provisional date

3. Participation, experts and subcontracting

- a) Participation in this tender procedure is open to all interested tenderers. For the eligibility, please see point 10 of the contract notice.
- b) Natural or legal persons are not entitled to participate in this tender procedure or be awarded a contract if they are in any of the situations mentioned in Sections 2.4. (EU

restrictive measures), 2.6.10.1. (exclusion criteria) or 2.6.10.1.1. (rejection from a procedure) of the **practical guide**. Should they do so, their tender will be considered unsuitable or irregular respectively.

- c) In the cases listed in Section 2.6.10.1.1. of the **practical guide** tenderers may be excluded from EU financed procedures and be subject to financial penalties up to 10 % of the total value of the contract in accordance with the Financial Regulation in force. This information may be published on the Commission website in accordance with the Financial Regulation in force.
- d) The contract between the tenderer/contractor and its experts shall contain a provision that it is subject to the approval of the partner country. It is furthermore recommended that this contract contains a dispute resolution clause.
- e) Subcontracting is allowed but the contractor will retain full liability towards the contracting authority for performance of the contract as a whole. If the tenderer intends to subcontract one or more parts of the contracted services, this must be clearly stated in the organisation and methodology and the tender submission form.
- f) All subcontractors must be eligible for the contract.
- g) Subcontractors cannot be in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.6.10.1 of the practical guide.

4. Content of tenders

Offers, all correspondence and documents related to the tender exchanged by the tenderer and the contracting authority must be written in English.

Supporting documents and printed literature furnished by the tenderer may be in another language, provided they are accompanied by a translation into the language of the procedure. For the purposes of interpreting the tender, the language of the procedure has precedence.

The tender must comprise of a technical offer and a financial offer, which must be submitted in separate envelopes (see clause 8). Each technical offer and financial offer must contain one original, clearly marked 'Original', and five (5) copies, each marked 'Copy'. Failure to fulfil the requirements in clauses 4.1, 4.2 and 8 will constitute an irregularity and may result in rejection of the tender.

4.1. Technical offer

The technical offer must include the following documents:

- (1) **Tender submission form** (see Part D of this tender dossier) including:
 - a) Signed statements of exclusivity and availability (using the template included with the tender submission form), one for each key expert, the purpose of which are as follows:
 - The key experts proposed in this tender must not be part of any other tender submitted for this tender procedure. They must therefore commit themselves exclusively to the tenderer.

- Each key expert must also undertake to be available, able and willing to work for the whole period scheduled for his/her input to implement the tasks set out in the terms of reference and/or in the organisation and methodology.

Note that non-key experts must not be asked to sign statements of exclusivity and availability.

Any expert working on an EU/EDF-financed project, where the input from his/her position to that contract could be required on the same dates as his/her activities under this contract, must not be proposed as a key expert for this contract under any circumstances. Consequently, the dates included by a key expert in his/her statement of exclusivity and availability in your tender must not overlap with dates on which he/she is committed to work as a key expert on any other contract.

The expert may participate in parallel tender procedures but must inform the contracting authority of these in the statement of exclusivity and availability. Furthermore, the expert is expected to notify the tenderer immediately if he/she is successful in another tender procedure and he/she is expected to accept the first engagement offered to him/her chronologically.

If a key expert is proposed as a key expert by more than one tenderer with the agreement of the key expert, the corresponding tenders may be rejected. The same applies if the key expert proposed has been involved in the preparation of the project. The expert concerned will be excluded from this tender procedure and may also be excluded from other EU/EDF-financed contracts.

Having selected a firm partly on the basis of an evaluation of the key experts presented in the tender, the contracting authority expects the contract to be executed by these specific experts. However, after the award letter, the selected tenderer may propose replacements for the key experts under certain conditions (for further information see point 14).

- a) A signed **declaration** together with a signed "Declaration on honour on exclusion criteria and selection criteria" from each legal entity identified in the tender submission form, using the format attached to the tender submission form.
- b) A completed **financial identification form** (see Annex VI to the draft contract) to indicate the bank account into which payments should be made if the tender is successful.
- c) The **legal entity file** and supporting documents.
- d) Duly authorised signature: an official document (statutes, power of attorney, notary statement, etc.) proving that the person who signs on behalf of the company/joint venture/consortium is duly authorised to do so.

(2) **Organisation and methodology** (will become Annex III to the contract), to be drawn up by the tenderer using the format in Annex III to the draft contract.

- (3) **Key experts** (to become Annex IV to the contract). The key experts are those whose involvement is considered to be instrumental to achieve the contract objectives.

Annex IV to the draft contract contains the templates that tenderers must use, including:

- a) a list of the names of the key experts;
- b) the CVs of each of the key experts. Each CV should be no longer than 3 pages and only one CV must be provided for each position identified in the terms of reference. Note that the CVs of non-key experts must not be submitted.

The qualifications and experience of each key expert must clearly match the profiles indicated in the terms of reference. If an expert does not meet the minimum requirements for each evaluation criterion (i.e. qualification and skills, general professional experience and specific professional experience), he/she must be rejected. In such case the entire tender shall be rejected.

Tenderers must provide the following documents for any key experts proposed:

- a copy of the diplomas mentioned in their CVs,
- a copy of employer certificates or references proving the professional experience indicated in their CVs.

Only diplomas and documented experience will be taken into account. Previous experience which would have led to breach of contract and termination shall not be used as reference.

- (4) Non key experts may also be instrumental to achieve the contract objectives. However, they are not subject to evaluation by the evaluation committee. Their positions and responsibilities may be defined in Section 6.1.2 of the terms of reference in Annex II to the draft contract.
- (5) Documentary proof or statements required under the law of the country in which the company (or each of the companies for consortia) is effectively established, to show that it is not in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.6.10.1 of the practical guide. This evidence, documents or statements must be dated, no more than one year before the date of submission of the tender. In addition, a statement must be furnished stating that the situations described in these documents have not changed since then.

If the nature of your entity is such that it cannot fall into the exclusion situations and/or cannot provide the documents indicated above (for instance, national public administrations and international organisations), please provide a declaration explaining this situation.

The contracting authority may waive the obligation of any candidate or tenderer to submit the documentary evidence referred to above based on a risk assessment, or if such evidence has already been submitted for the purposes of another procurement procedure, provided that the issue date of the documents does not exceed one year and that they are still valid. In this case, the candidate or tenderer must declare on his/her honour that the documentary evidence has already been provided in a previous procurement procedure and confirm that his/her situation has not changed.

Documentary evidence of the financial and economic capacity and/or of the technical and professional capacity according to the selection criteria specified in point 16 of the contract notice. (See further Section 2.6.11 of the practical guide.

- (6) Documentary evidence of the financial and economic capacity and/or of the technical and professional capacity according to the selection criteria specified in point 16 of the contract notice. (See further Section 2.6.11 of the practical guide).

If the documentary evidence submitted is not written in one of the official languages of the European Union, a translation into the language of the procedure must be attached. Where the documents are in an official language of the European Union other than the one of the procedure, it is however strongly recommended to provide a translation into the language of the procedure, in order to facilitate the evaluation of the documents. Documentary proof or statements may be in original or copy. If copies are submitted, the originals must be available to send to the contracting authority upon request.

Tenderers are reminded that the provision of false information in this tender procedure may lead to the rejection of their tender and to their exclusion from EU-funded procedures and contracts.

The electronic version of the technical offer must be included with the printed version in the separate envelope in which the technical offer is submitted. If there are any discrepancies between the electronic version and the original, printed version, the latter has precedence.

4.2. Financial offer

The financial offer must be presented as an amount in Euro and must be submitted using the template for the global-price version of Annex V to part B of this tender dossier. The electronic version of this document 'B8 — Budget for a global-price contract' can be found on the website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do>

Tenderers are reminded that the maximum budget available for this contract, as stated in the contract notice, is **EUR 60,000**. Payments under this contract will be made in the currency of the tender.

The applicable tax and customs arrangements are as follows:

Exemption of taxes

The European Commission and IGAD have agreed to exonerate the Value Added Tax on the services provided under this programme.

5. Variant solutions

Tenderers are not authorised to tender for a variant in addition to this tender.

6. Period during which tenders are binding

Tenderers are bound by their tenders for 90 days after the deadline for submitting tenders or until they have been notified of non-award.

The selected tenderer must maintain its tender for a further 60 days. A further period of 60 days is added to the validity period irrespective of the date of notification. This period

can be further extended when the contracting authority is required to obtain the recommendation of the panel referred to in Section 2.6.10.1.1 of the practical guide, up to the adoption of that recommendation.

7. Additional information before the deadline for submitting tenders

The tender dossier should be clear enough to avoid candidates having to request additional information during the procedure. If the contracting authority, either on its own initiative or in response to a request from a tenderer, provides additional information on the tender dossier, it must send such information in writing to all the tenderers at the same time.

Tenderers may submit questions in writing to the following address up to 21 days before the deadline for submission of tenders, specifying the publication reference and the contract title:

Joshua Turinawe
IGAD PSD Procurement Officer

E-mail: joshua.turinawe@igad.int

The contracting authority has no obligation to provide clarification after this date.

Any tenderer seeking to arrange individual meetings with the contracting authority and/or the government of the partner country and/or the European Commission concerning this contract during the tender period may be excluded from the tender procedure.

No information meeting or site visit is foreseen.

8. Submission of tenders

Tenders must be sent to the contracting authority **on or before 14.10.2022 at 12.00 noon**. They must include the requested documents in clause 4 above and be sent:

- **EITHER** by courier service, in which case the evidence shall be constituted by the date of the way bill slip, to:

**Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Security Sector Programme,
1st Floor IGAD Mission in Ethiopia Building Kirkos Sub-city Wereda 8 House No. 1041
KAZANCHIS, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.**

- **OR** hand delivered by the participant in person or by an agent directly to the premises of the contracting authority in return for a signed and dated receipt, in which case the evidence shall be constituted by this acknowledgement of receipt, to:

**Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Security Sector Programme,
1st Floor IGAD Mission in Ethiopia Building Kirkos Sub-city Wereda 8 House No. 1041
KAZANCHIS, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.**

Tenders submitted by any other means will not be considered.

The contracting authority may, for reasons of administrative efficiency, reject any tender submitted on time to the courier service but received, for any reason beyond the contracting authority's control, after the effective date of approval of the evaluation report, if accepting applications or tenders that were submitted on time but arrived late would considerably delay the evaluation procedure or jeopardise decisions already taken and notified.

Tenders must be submitted using the double envelope system, i.e., in an outer parcel or envelope containing two separate, sealed envelopes, one bearing the words '**Envelope A — Technical offer**' and the other '**Envelope B — Financial offer**'. All parts of the tender other than the financial offer must be submitted in Envelope A (i.e. including the tender submission form, statements of exclusivity and availability of the key experts and declarations).

The outer envelope should provide the following information:

- a) the address for submitting tenders indicated above;
- b) the reference code of the tender procedure i.e. the reference number;
- c) the words 'Not to be opened before the tender-opening session';
- d) the name of the tenderer.

The pages of the technical and financial offers must be numbered.

9. Amending or withdrawing tenders

Tenderers may amend or withdraw their tenders by written notification prior to the deadline for submitting tenders. Tenders may not be amended after this deadline.

Any such notification of amendment or withdrawal must be prepared and submitted in accordance with Clause 8. The outer envelope (and the relevant inner envelope) must be marked 'Amendment' or 'Withdrawal' as appropriate.

10. Costs for preparing tenders

No costs incurred by the tenderer in preparing and submitting the tender are reimbursable. All such costs must be borne by the tenderer, including the cost of interviewing proposed experts.

11. Ownership of tenders

The contracting authority retains ownership of all tenders received under this tendering procedure. Consequently, tenderers do not have the right to have their tenders returned to them.

12. Evaluation of tenders

12.1. Evaluation of technical offers

The quality of each technical offer will be evaluated in accordance with the award criteria and the weighting detailed in the evaluation grid in Part C of this tender dossier. No other

award criteria will be used. The award criteria will be examined in accordance with the requirements indicated in the terms of reference.

The evaluation of the technical offers will follow the procedures set out in Section 3.3.10.3 of the practical guide (available on the internet at <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do>).

12.1.1. Interviews

No interviews are foreseen

12.2. Evaluation of financial offers

Upon completion of the technical evaluation, the envelopes containing the financial offers for tenders that were not eliminated during the technical evaluation will be opened (i.e. those with an average score of 75 points or more). Tenders exceeding the maximum budget available for the contract are unacceptable and will be eliminated.

12.3. Choice of selected tenderer

The best price-quality ratio is established by weighing technical quality against price on an 80/20 basis.

12.4. Confidentiality

The entire evaluation procedure is confidential, subject to the contracting authority's legislation on access to documents. The evaluation committee's decisions are collective and its deliberations are held in closed session. The members of the evaluation committee are bound to secrecy. The evaluation reports and written records are for official use only and may be communicated neither to the tenderers nor to any party other than the contracting authority, the European Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office and the European Court of Auditors.

13. Ethics clauses / Corruptive practices

a) Absence of conflict of interest

The tenderer must not be affected by any conflict of interest and must have no equivalent relation in that respect with other tenderers or parties involved in the project. Any attempt by a tenderer to obtain confidential information, enter into unlawful agreements with competitors or influence the evaluation committee or the contracting authority during the process of examining, clarifying, evaluating and comparing tenders will lead to the rejection of its tender and may result in administrative penalties according to the Financial Regulation in force.

b) Respect for human rights as well as environmental legislation and core labour standards

The tenderer and its staff must comply with human rights. In particular, and in accordance with the applicable basic act, tenderers and applicants who have been awarded contracts must comply with the environmental legislation including multilateral environmental agreements, and with the core labour standards as applicable and as defined in the relevant International Labour Organisation conventions (such as the conventions on freedom of association and collective bargaining; elimination of forced and compulsory labour; abolition of child labour).

Zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and sexual abuse:

- The European Commission applies a policy of 'zero tolerance' in relation to all wrongful conduct which has an impact on the professional credibility of the tenderer.
 - Physical abuse or punishment, or threats of physical abuse, sexual abuse or exploitation, harassment and verbal abuse, as well as other forms of intimidation shall be prohibited.
- c) Anti-corruption and anti-bribery

The tenderer shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations and codes relating to anti-bribery and anti-corruption. The European Commission reserves the right to suspend or cancel project financing if corrupt practices of any kind are discovered at any stage of the award process or during the execution of a contract and if the contracting authority fails to take all appropriate measures to remedy the situation. For the purposes of this provision, 'corrupt practices' are the offer of a bribe, gift, gratuity or commission to any person as an inducement or reward for performing or refraining from any act relating to the award of a contract or execution of a contract already concluded with the contracting authority.

- d) Unusual commercial expenses

Tenders will be rejected or contracts terminated if it emerges that the award or execution of a contract has given rise to unusual commercial expenses. Such unusual commercial expenses are commissions not mentioned in the main contract or not stemming from a properly concluded contract referring to the main contract, commissions not paid in return for any actual and legitimate service, commissions remitted to a tax haven, commissions paid to a payee who is not clearly identified or commissions paid to a company which has every appearance of being a front company.

Contractors found to have paid unusual commercial expenses on projects funded by the European Union are liable, depending on the seriousness of the facts observed, to have their contracts terminated or to be permanently excluded from receiving EU funds.

- e) Breach of obligations, irregularities or fraud

The contracting authority reserves the right to suspend or cancel the procedure, where the award procedure proves to have been subject to breach of obligations, irregularities or fraud. If breach of obligations, irregularities or fraud are discovered after the award of the contract, the contracting authority may refrain from concluding the contract.

14. Signature of contract(s)

14.1. Notification of award

The successful tenderer will be informed in writing that its tender has been accepted.

The successful tenderer shall then confirm availability or unavailability of their key-experts within 5 days from the date of the notification of award.

In case of unavailability the tenderer will be allowed to propose replacement key-expert(s). The successful tenderer shall give due justification for the exchange of key-expert but the acceptance will not be limited to specific cases. Several replacement key-experts may be proposed but only one time-period of 15 days from the date of the

notification of award will be offered. The replacement key-expert(s) cannot be an expert proposed by another tenderer in the same call for tender.

The replacement key-expert's total score must be at least as high as the scores of the key-expert proposed in the tender. It must be emphasised that the minimum requirements for each evaluation criteria must be met by the replacement expert.

If replacement key-experts are not proposed within the 15 days' delay or if the replacement experts are not sufficiently qualified, or that the proposal of the replacement key-expert amends the award conditions which took place, the contracting authority may decide to award the contract to the second best technically compliant tenderer (also giving them a chance to replace a key-expert should he/she not be available).

Should the contracting authority learn that a tenderer has confirmed the availability of a key expert and signed the contract although the tenderer has deliberately concealed the fact that the key-expert is unavailable from the date specified in the tender dossier for the start of the assignment, the contracting authority may decide to terminate the contract on the basis of article 36.2 (m) of the general conditions.

It is reminded that the tenderer/contractor may also be subject to administrative and financial penalties foreseen in article 10.2 of the general conditions of service contracts. Furthermore, it may lead to a tenderer's /contractor's exclusion from other contracts funded by the European Union.

14.2. Signature of the contract(s)

Within 30 days of receipt of the contract already signed by the contracting authority, the selected tenderer shall sign and date the contract and return it to the contracting authority.

Failure of the selected tenderer to comply with this requirement may constitute grounds for annulling the decision to award the contract. In this event, the contracting authority may award the tender to another tenderer or cancel the tender procedure.

The other tenderers will, at the same time as the notification of award is submitted, be informed that their tenders were not retained, by electronic means or standard letter, including an indication of the relative weaknesses of their tender by way of a comparative table of the scores for the winning tender and the unsuccessful tender. The second best tenderer is informed of the notification of award to the successful tenderer with the reservation of the possibility to receive a notification of award in case of inability to sign the contract with the first ranked tenderer. The validity of the offer of the second best tenderer will be kept. The second tenderer may refuse the award of the contract if, when receiving a notification of award, the 90 days of validity of their tender has expired.

The contracting authority will furthermore, at the same time, also inform the remaining unsuccessful tenderers and the consequence of these letters will be that the validity of their offers must not be retained.

15. Cancellation of the tender procedure

In the event of cancellation of the tender procedure, the contracting authority will notify tenderers of the cancellation. If the tender procedure is cancelled before the outer envelope

of any tender has been opened, the unopened and sealed envelopes will be returned to the tenderers.

Cancellation may occur, for example, where:

- the tender procedure has been unsuccessful, i.e. no suitable, qualitatively or financially acceptable tender has been received or there is no valid response at all;
- there are fundamental changes to the economic or technical data of the project;
- exceptional circumstances or force majeure render normal performance of the contract impossible;
- all technically acceptable tenders exceed the financial resources available;
- there have been breach of obligations, irregularities or frauds in the procedure, in particular if they have prevented fair competition;
- the award is not in compliance with sound financial management, i.e. does not respect the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness (e.g. the price proposed by the tenderer to whom the contract is to be awarded is objectively disproportionate with regard to the price of the market).

In no event shall the contracting authority be liable for any damages whatsoever including, without limitation, damages for loss of profits, in any way connected with the cancellation of a tender procedure, even if the contracting authority has been advised of the possibility of damages. The publication of a contract notice does not commit the contracting authority to implement the programme or project announced.

16. Appeals

Tenderers believing that they have been harmed by an error or irregularity during the award process may file a complaint to the contracting authority in accordance with the provisions of IGAD Procurement Manual Revised January 2017 paragraph 7.9. See Section 2.4.15 of the practical guide.

SERVICE CONTRACT NOTICE

Technical Expert-Undertake the development of Engagement Strategy for IGAD Taskforce on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden

Reference No: IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01

- 1. Procedure:**
Competitive Negotiated Procedure
- 2. Programme title:**
IGAD Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Somalia Office (IGAD-RSGAS)
- 3. Financing**
Budget line: 5.2
- 4. Contracting authority**
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD-RSGA)

CONTRACT SPECIFICATION

- 5. Nature of contract**
Global price.
- 6. Contract description**
Technical Expert-Undertake the development of Engagement Strategy for IGAD Taskforce on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.
- 7. Number and titles of lots**
Not applicable.
- 8. Maximum budget**
Up to EUR 60,000.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

- 9. Eligibility**
Participation is open to all natural persons who are nationals of and legal persons [participating either individually or in a grouping (consortium) of tenderers] which are effectively established in a Member State of the European Union or in a eligible country or territory as defined under the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 establishing common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for external action (CIR) for the applicable instrument under which the contract is financed (see also heading 22 below). Participation is also open to international organizations. All supplies under this contract must originate in one or more of these countries. However, they may originate from any country.

10. Number of tenders

No more than one tender can be submitted by a natural or legal person whatever the form of participation (as an individual legal entity or as leader or member of a consortium submitting a tender). In the event that a natural or legal person submits more than one tender, all tenders in which that person has participated will be excluded.

11. Grounds for exclusion

As part of the tender, tenderers must submit a signed declaration, included in the tender form, to the effect that they are not in any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.6.10.1. of the EU-Practical Guide.

Tenderer included in the lists of EU restrictive measures (see Section 2.4. of the PRAG) at the moment of the award decision cannot be awarded the contract.

12. Sub-contracting

Subcontracting is not allowed.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

13. Provisional commencement date of the contract

November 01, 2022

14. Implementation period of the tasks

Approximately (105 days) 3.5 Months.

SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA

15. Selection criteria

The following selection criteria will be applied to the tenderers. In the case of tenders submitted by a consortium, these selection criteria will be applied to the consortium as a whole, if not specified otherwise. The selection criteria will not be applied to natural persons and single-member companies when they are sub-contractors.

- 1) **Economic and financial capacity of the tenderer:** (based on item 3 of the tender form). In case of tenderer being a public body, equivalent information should be provided. The reference period which will be taken into account will be the last three years for which accounts have been closed in order to ascertain that the tenderer has sufficient financial stability to handle the proposed contract.
Tenderers which are legal entities must submit evidence of financial resources indicating an average annual turnover that exceeds the annualized maximum budget of the contract indicated above, i.e. the maximum budget stated in the contract notice divided by the initial duration in years; and a current ratio (current assets/current liabilities) in the last year for which accounts have been closed must be at least 1. In case of a consortium this criterion must be fulfilled by each member.

For natural persons the available financial resources of the tenderer must exceed the annualized maximum budget of the contract i.e. the maximum budget stated in the contract notice divided by the initial contract duration in years; and the financial situation of the tenderer should not be in deficit, taken into account debts, at the beginning and end of year.

- 2) Professional capacity of the tenderer:** (based on items 4 of the tender form). The reference period which will be taken into account will be the last three years from submission deadline. The objective of this criterion is to examine whether or not the tenderer (i.e., the consortium as a whole, in the case of a tenderer from a consortium):
- has sufficient ongoing staff resources and expertise to be able to handle the proposed contract;
 - is not a so-called 'body shop', i.e. a tenderer with no real expertise in fields related to the contract but which simply identifies and proposes experts to fit the project description.

- 3) Technical capacity of tenderer:** (based on items 5 and 6 of the tender form). The reference period which will be taken into account will be the last three years from submission deadline.

The tenderers shall demonstrate that they have experience or individual(s) to undertake the above-stated conflict sensitivity analysis and project finalization activities and to further create potential synergies and opportunities for mainstreaming gender and conflict sensitive approaches into the programme. The aim is to ensure conflict sensitive programming and to form the way the project is designed, implemented and evaluated.

This means that the project the tenderer refers to could have been started or completed at any time during the indicated period but it does not necessarily have to be started and completed during that period, nor implemented during the entire period. Tenderers are allowed to refer either to projects completed within the reference period (although started earlier) or to projects not yet completed. In the first case the project will be considered in its whole if proper evidence of performance is provided (statement or certificate from the entity which awarded the contract, proof of final payment for services). In case of projects still ongoing only the portion satisfactorily completed during the reference period although started earlier will be taken into consideration. This portion will have to be supported by documentary evidence (similarly to projects completed) also detailing its value. If a tenderer has implemented the project in a consortium, the percentage that the tenderer has successfully completed must be clear from the documentary evidence, together with a description of the nature of the services provided if the selection criteria relating to the pertinence of the experience have been used.

Previous experience which would have led to breach of contract and termination by a contracting authority shall not be used as reference. This is also applicable concerning the previous experience of experts required under a fee-based service contract.

An economic operator may, where appropriate and for a particular contract, rely on the capacities of other entities, regardless of the legal nature of the links which it has with them. It must in that case prove to the contracting authority that it will have at its disposal the resources necessary for performance of the contract, for example by producing a commitment on the part of those entities to place those resources at its disposal. Such

entities, for instance the parent company of the economic operator, must respect the same rules of eligibility - notably that of nationality - and must comply with the selection criteria for which the economic operator relies on them. With regard to technical and professional criteria, an economic operator may only rely on the capacities of other entities where the latter will perform the works or services for which these capacities are required. With regard to economic and financial criteria, the entities upon whose capacity the tenderer relies, become jointly and severally liable for the performance of the contract.

16. Award criteria

Best price-quality ratio.

TENDERING

17. Deadline for receipt of tenders

The deadline for receipt of tenders is specified in point 8 of the instruction to tenderers.

18. Tender format and details to be provided

Tenders must be submitted using the standard tender forms. The tender must be accompanied by a declaration of honour on exclusion and selection criteria.

Any additional documentation (brochure, letter, etc.) sent with a tender will not be taken into consideration.

19. How tenders may be submitted

Tenders must be submitted in English exclusively to the contracting authority, using the means specified in point 8 of the instructions to tenderers.

Tenders submitted by any other means will not be considered.

By submitting a tender, tenderers accept to receive notification of the outcome of the procedure by electronic means.

20. Alteration or withdrawal of tenders

Tenderers may alter or withdraw their tenders by written notification prior to the deadline for submission of tenders. No tender may be altered after this deadline specified in the timetable.

Any such notification of alteration or withdrawal shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with point 8 of the instructions to tenderers. The outer envelope (and the relevant inner envelope if used) must be marked 'Alteration' or 'Withdrawal' as appropriate.

21. Operational language

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

22. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) N°236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action.

ANNEX B. DRAFT CONTRACT

SERVICE CONTRACT FOR EUROPEAN UNION EXTERNAL ACTIONS Contract No: Reference No: IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01

The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development IGAD Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Somalia Office (IGAD-RSGAS), of the one part, and <Full official name of the contractor; full official address>, of the other part,

have agreed as follows:

Project: IGAD Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Somalia Office (IGAD-RSGAS)

Contract Title: Technical Expert-Undertake the development of Engagement Strategy for IGAD Taskforce on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

Identification number: IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01

(1) Subject

- 1.1 **Technical Expert-Undertake the development of Engagement Strategy for IGAD Taskforce on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.**
- 1.2 The contractor shall execute the tasks assigned to him in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to the contract (Annexe II)

(2) Contract value

This contract, established in Euro, is a global price contract. **The contract value is EUR**

(3) Order of precedence of contract documents

The following documents shall be deemed to form and be read and construed as part of this contract, in the following order of precedence:

- the contract agreement;
- the special conditions
- the general conditions (Annex I);
- the terms of reference [including clarification before the deadline for submitting tenders and minutes of the information meeting/site visit] (Annex II)
- the organisation and methodology [including clarification from the tenderer provided during tender evaluation] (Annex III);
- Key experts (Annex IV)
- Other relevant forms and documents (Annex VI);

The above listed documents make up the contract. They shall be deemed to be mutually explanatory. In cases of ambiguity or divergence, they shall prevail in the

order in which they appear above. Addenda shall have the order of precedence of the document they are amending.

(4) Language of the contract

The language of the contract and of all written communications between the contractor and the contracting authority and/or the project manager shall be English.

(5) Other specific conditions applying to the contract

Done in English in three originals, one original for the contracting authority, one original for the European Commission, and one original for the contractor.

For the contractor

For the contracting authority

Name:

Name:

Title:

Title:

Signature:

Signature:

Date:

Date:

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

These conditions amplify and supplement the general conditions governing the contract. Unless the special conditions provide otherwise, the general conditions remain fully applicable. The numbering of the articles of the special conditions is not consecutive but follows the numbering of the general conditions. Exceptionally, and with the approval of the competent European Commission departments, other clauses can be indicated to cover particular situations.

Article 2 Communications

2.1. For the Contracting Authority:

Name:

Responsibility:

E-mail: ...

IGAD, PO BoxAddis Ababa

Tel:

2.2. The Contractor:

Name:
Responsibility:
E-mail: ...

7.8 The Contractor must take necessary measures to ensure the EU visibility on financing or co-financing. These activities must comply with the rules lay down in the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions published by the European Commission. These rules are set out and available at https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf

Article 12 - Liabilities

12.2 By way of derogation from Article 12.2, paragraph 2, of the general conditions, compensation for damage resulting from the contractor's liability in respect of the contracting authority is capped at an amount equal to **EUR**

Article 19 Implementation of the tasks and delays

19.1 The start date for implementation shall be <date/date of signature of the contract by both parties.

19.2 The period for implementing the tasks is **8 weeks** from the start date.

Article 26 Interim and final reports

The contractor shall submit progress reports as specified in the terms of reference.

Article 27 Approval of reports and documents

27.5 The contracting authority shall, within 30 days of receipt, notify the contractor of its decision concerning the documents or reports received by it, giving reasons should it reject the reports or documents, or request amendments. If the contracting authority does not give any comments on the documents or reports within the time limit, the contractor may request written acceptance of them. The documents or reports shall be deemed to have been approved by the contracting authority if it does not expressly inform the contractor of any comments within 30 days of the receipt of the report.

Article 29 Payment and interest on late payment

29.1 Payments will be made in accordance with the following the option:

- Upon approval of the inception report 10%
- Upon Completion of 25% of the tasks (Field work deliverables submission) 20%
- Upon Completion of 50% of the tasks (Data analysis & report deliverables) 20%

- Upon Completion of 75% of the tasks (Draft Engagement Strategy document) 20%
- Upon Completion of 100% of the tasks & approval of final Engagement Strategy 30%

29.3 By derogation from Article 29.3 of the general conditions, once the deadline set in Article 29.1 has expired, the contractor will, upon demand, be entitled to late-payment interest at the rate and for the period mentioned in the general conditions submitted. The demand must be submitted within two months of receiving late payment.

29.5 Payments will be made in EURO in accordance with Articles 20.6 and 29.4 of the general conditions into the bank account notified by the contractor to the contracting authority.

Article 30 Financial guarantee

30.1 Subject to a positive risk assessment by the contracting authority, by derogation from article 30 of the general conditions no pre-financing guarantee is required.

Article 40 Settlement of disputes

40.4 In default of amicable settlement, the parties may refer the matter to arbitration in accordance with the Permanent Court of Arbitration Optional Rules for Arbitration Involving International Organizations' and States in force at the date of conclusion of this Agreement. The appointing authority shall be the Secretary General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration following a written request submitted by either Party. The Arbitrator's decision shall be binding on all Parties and there shall be no appeal

ANNEX B I: GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR EXTERNAL ACTIONS FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do?isAnnexes=true>

ANNEX II: TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANT INSTITUTION, OR INDIVIDUALS TO DEVELOP ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR THE RED SEA AND GULF OF ADEN TASKFORCE

CONTRACT REFERENCE: (IGAD-RSGA/2022/0908/01)

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION	24
1.1. Partner country	24
1.2. Contracting Authority	24
1.3. Country background.....	24
1.4. Current situation in the sector	25
1.5. Related programmes and other donor activities.....	26
2. OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE & EXPECTED RESULTS	27
2.1. Overall objective	27
2.2. Purpose.....	27
2.3. Results to be achieved by the Contractor.....	27
3. ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS	31
3.1. Assumptions underlying the project	31
3.2. Risks.....	31
4. SCOPE OF THE WORK.....	32
4.1. General	32
4.2. Specific work	32
4.3. Project management.....	33
5. LOGISTICS AND TIMING	34
5.1. Location	34
5.2. Start date & Period of implementation of tasks	34
6. REQUIREMENTS.....	34
6.1. Staff.....	34
6.2. Office accommodation.....	35
6.3. Facilities to be provided by the Contractor.....	35
6.4. Equipment.....	35
7. REPORTS.....	36
7.1. Reporting requirements.....	36
7.2. Submission and approval of reports.....	36
8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION	37
8.1. Definition of indicators	37
8.2. Special requirements.....	37

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- **Partner country**

Consultant Institution or Individuals from IGAD Member States and beyond.

- **Contracting authority**

The contracting authority for this consultancy is the IGAD Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Somalia Office (IGAD-RSGAS)

- **Background**

Established in 1986 and revitalized in 1996, the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is one of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) recognized by the African Union comprising of eight Member States (MSs), including Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. The IGAD aspires to be the premium REC for attaining peace and security, as well as sustainable development through fostering regional cooperation and economic integration of its Member States consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Meaningful engagement, coordination and cooperation have long been discussed across the IGAD Member States aimed at dealing with a surge in regional and international competition along the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden and around the littoral basins surrounding these strategically important and interconnected waterways. Moreover, the strategic interests of both the littoral and non-littoral countries of the IGAD Member States have not been fully considered owing to lack of dialogue and absence of shared norms, common position, engagement strategy and coordination among the countries in the Red Sea arena.

In view of the aforementioned, the IGAD Council of Ministers (CoM)¹ following deliberations on the geopolitical and security dynamics of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, directed the IGAD Secretariat to establish a special task force of experts from the Member States to amongst others, develop a common position to protect the security and economic interest of the region, urgently chart out a regional plan of action with clear timelines; undertake a multi-disciplinary policy-oriented research and analysis geared towards a better understanding of the actors and issues in the Red Sea and the wider region, their implications on peace and security and economic development; and develop a convention and an engagement strategy.

Pursuant to the IGAD Council decision, the IGAD Secretariat established a taskforce consisting of 21 members during a meeting of the IGAD Committee of Ambassadors (CoA) on the 4th of

¹ See, The 46th IGAD Council of Minister Communique, Available online at, <https://igad.int/communique/2057-communique-the-46th-ordinary-session-of-igad-council-of-ministers> , Accessed on August 31, 2022.

April 2019 in Nairobi. The Task Force held its first consultative meeting in September 2019 and developed a roadmap for the implementation of the Council decision. The roadmap emphasized the need to employ bottom-up consultative process by engaging both littoral and non-littoral member states. The tasks outlined in the roadmap encompass consultations with member states at policy, strategic and technical levels; research and analysis; consultations of the IGAD policy organs; consultations among the Task Force members; national, regional, international seminars, conferences, round table workshops. The Task Force also agreed to maintain the transparency of its work by undertaking diplomatic engagements with national, regional, continental, and international stakeholders.

In an effort to move to more sustained engagement, the taskforce identified the development of a comprehensive engagement strategy as a key focus undertaking. In order to further strengthen this focus area across all the taskforce work, the IGAD-RSGAS is now inviting qualified consultant institution or individuals to submit technical and financial proposal to develop an engagement strategy for the IGAD Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Taskforce with a view to development of peaceful and friendly relations, promoting conditions of stability and the spirit of multilateralism in the Red Sea arena.

- **Current situation in the sector**

The IGAD Council of Ministers designed Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Taskforce to be focal point for increasing IGAD's understanding of common regional challenges by engaging with institutions such as the Red Sea Council, Arctic Council, Baltic Sea Council, Straits of Malacca, Open Pacific and adjacent organizations in the Middle East, and Sahel aimed at fostering collaboration and coordination on matters of common interest thereby contributing to the shared goal of promoting maritime security and stability while identifying opportunities for cooperation in the Red Sea arena.

From the Suez Canal that links it to the Mediterranean, to the straits of the Bab al Mandab that connect it to the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea is a vital artery for the world economy, channelling an important proportion of global trade - and nearly all exchanges between Europe and Asia - each year. The countries in the Red Sea arena have a natural potential to develop key sectors of the blue economy, including shipping, seafaring, and fisheries industry. With the right strategies, these sectors could diversify and give new impetus to these countries' economies, currently limited to a few and deeply strained commodity-intensive activities.

Conversely, the potential that the blue economy offers for countries in the region is hampered mainly by two factors: substandard port and transport facilities and weak security conditions. In the last years, although the port and shipping industry have sensibly developed, substantial improvements in infrastructure, legislation and practices are still needed to increase the efficiency, as well as the security and safety standards of Red Sea ports.

The Southern Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden remain, moreover, politically unstable, and prone to unrest and conflicts. Long and porous (maritime) borders, largely un-policed Maritime Zones, fragile state institutions, weak governance and rampant corruption provide an ideal environment for transnational organised crime to prosper, often using the maritime space. Strategically placed at a crossroads of different trafficking and smuggling (maritime) routes, complex and well-

organised criminal networks operate "low-risk/high-revenue" business models, often for smuggling of weapons, narcotics, wildlife and/or the trafficking in human beings. Evidence suggests that these groups have recently intensified their operations and established connections with terrorist and violent extremist groups in the Horn of Africa and beyond. In fact, the conflict in Yemen serves as an example of how such these critical maritime passages can carry the impact of conflict and instability. More specifically, while conflict takes place on the other coast of the Gulf of Aden, the impact is felt in Djibouti and Somalia, and indeed in Ethiopia, which have had to contend with increasing numbers of refugees and asylum seekers. At the same time, Yemen is also a conduit for human trafficking and migration to Europe and further afield. These dynamics illustrate the interconnections between the Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula in historical, geographical, economic, and cultural dimensions.

Gulf tensions and alliances reverberate loudly on the African shore of the Red Sea where competition for influence and ports, growing militarisation, the conflict in Yemen, and regional rivalries affect security in the region, with potential global consequences.

In the wider region, new initiatives are emerging as a demonstration of increasing regional interest and engagement. A Council of "Arab and African Coastal States of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden", led by Saudi Arabia, is being designed to enhance cooperation between Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Sudan, Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, and Yemen on economic and maritime security of the Red Sea coasts. Therefore, actions aiming to enhance inclusive dialogue and common approaches should also include Saudi Arabia and Egypt as members of this regional Council.

It is in this context that the IGAD Council decided on the establishment of an IGAD Task Force on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden with a mandate to develop shared norms, common goals, and strategic coordination, and by establishing a regional platform for IGAD Member States with a view to promote dialogue and cooperation with other stakeholders including the AU, Gulf countries and other international partners. The aim of the consultancy is to develop a comprehensive engagement strategy to enable the Task Force deliver on its mandate with a view to enhancing coordination, and multilateralism in the Red Sea arena.

- **Related programmes and other donor activities**

This action is one of the four components of the Regional Programme for Maritime Security in the Red Sea Area (hereafter "Red Sea programme") to enhance maritime and port security and safety of navigation in the Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region, with a specific focus on five coastal countries, namely Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen. This programme intends indeed to (i) enable national maritime law enforcement agencies to efficiently prevent, repress and respond to maritime threats (INTERPOL); (ii) improve compliance with port security and safety of navigation standards (IMO) and (iii) improve the levels of cooperation and dialogue across the region on issues related to maritime security and safety of navigation (UNODC), and (iv) improve the maritime policy environment of the Horn of Africa (IGAD).

The work that IGAD Task Force is providing under this action will benefit the other implementing partners involved in the overall programme at policy and technical level, allowing

them to adapt their activities based on the outcomes of consultations with the Red Sea stakeholders. It will also support a more strategic / policy level by increasing communication, coordination and cooperation on maritime governance issues across the region, thus also contributing to improve inclusive dialogue and common approaches on issues of shared interest and concern. It will enhance the understanding of existing and/or emerging issues related to the policy environment, allowing stakeholders to better safeguard their developmental interests and mitigate security threats.

OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE & EXPECTED RESULTS

- **Overall objective**

The overall objective of this assignment is to develop a comprehensive engagement strategy for IGAD Taskforce to strengthen regional cohesion, cooperation, and coordination, in support of the action on enhancing maritime and port security and safety of navigation in the Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region.

The strategy will have three key objectives:

- Better understand the strengths and weaknesses of the current engagement strategies
- Explore engagement models and tools aiming at building stronger relationships between the Western and Eastern side of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (Engagement strategy and implementation plan)
- Design the required elements that could strengthen coordination, cooperation and multilateralism in the Red Sea arena

To fulfil this task the IGAD RSGAS is looking for an consultant or individual with experience in taskforce engagement strategies

- **Purpose**

The purpose of this contract is to provide a coherent mix of analysis, policy and actions designed to surmount highstake challenge of promoting coordination, cooperation and the spirit of multilateralism in the Red Sea arena.

- **Description of the Assignment and Results to be achieved by the Contractor**

- 1. Phase 1: literature review and analysis**

The consultants will conduct a literature review and analysis of existing relevant literature. The literature review should set the stage for the field data collection phase and highlight some of the general findings including shortcomings and gaps in reviewed literature.

The literature review should result in the refining of the Methodology, framed Key Informant Interview (KII) questions and data collection tools. It will also refine the selection of sample population whilst ensuring a diversity of learning practices. An Inception meeting will be

organized with IGAD-RSGAS and other partners for the consultants or individuals to present the Inception Report

Phase 1: Deliverables/Results

Phase 1 deliverable will be the Inception Report listing but not limited to the Target Groups, Partners and all Stakeholders; literature reviewed; framed Key Informant Interview questions, Methodology, Work Plan, outline of the Final Engagement Strategy and implementation action plan, including landscape analysis, internal performance analysis, alignment to IGAD Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Taskforce Terms of Reference and Declaration of Principles on cooperation on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, National consultation meeting final report, 46th IGAD COM Communique, relevant other IGAD policies and recommendations arising from literature review to inform design of engagement strategy.

2. Phase 2: Engagement Strategy Field Work and Data Collection

The Consultants will use both qualitative and quantitative methods for data collection, including document review, group and individual interviews, focus groups and field observations as appropriate. The Field Work will consider both secondary and primary sources for data collection.

Secondary sources will inform the desk review that will focus primarily on relevant Taskforce Terms of Reference (ToR). Primary data collection will include semi-structured interviews at regional and National level with beneficiaries, Government Officials, representatives of Implementing Partners including institutional interviews with AU, Red Sea Council, EU, UN that are involved in the support and implementation of the RSGAS mandate.

Field visits will be conducted on sample basis during which Key Informant interviews will be conducted with beneficiaries and observations will provide additional primary data. The Consultants will be required to consider ethical considerations when collecting information. The Consultants would in principle travel to seven IGAD Member States for meetings with Stakeholders at national and sub-national levels if the evolutions of the COVID19-regulations would make this option cost-efficient. The proposed field visit sites, stakeholders to be engaged and interview protocols will be outlined in the Inception Report to be submitted by the management team.

Phase 2: Deliverables

Phase 2 deliverables will include: -

- Revised Methodology and data collection tools, which could include a fine tuning of the questions etc.; be presented, discussed and validated,

- Fieldwork Implementation Plan (including logistics), and
- Presentation of preliminary Fieldworks findings to the RSGA, and other Stakeholders. Summarization of proposed engagement options at strategic, tactical and operational levels as well as categorized global, continental, regional, national and local level engagements.

3. Data Analysis and Report Writing

The Consultants will use a variety of both quantitative and qualitative methods to ensure that the results of the data analysis are credible and evidence-based. The analysis will be made at the level of taskforce outputs and corresponding mandated tasks and their contribution to overall goal level changes. The Consultants is expected to ensure that: -

- All findings and conclusions are substantiated by evidence;
- Bases for interpretations and conclusions are carefully described;
- Analyses are presented against the data collection questions and objectives;
- Analysis is transparent about the sources and quality of data;
- Results are disaggregated by different Target Groups, including region, age and gender where applicable and feasible, and
- Analysis presented against contextual factors.
- Defined engagement overall and specific objectives, expected results, action plan and requirements

The IGAD RSGAS and Partners will establish a Reference Group to provide feedback and input into the Inception and final Engagement Strategy.

Phase 3: Deliverables

Phase 3 deliverables will include: -

- Final approved Engagement Strategy (Ready for printing and publication), including a 2-5-page Executive Summary. The Engagement Strategy will also provide, 2-5-page action plan that can serve as inspirational examples of Taskforce Members for implementation.
- Presentation of Final Engagement Strategy to the RSGAS and Partners for validation, and
- Incorporation of comments.

4. Phase 4: Dissemination

This Phase will focus on disseminating and sharing the Engagement Strategy document and action plan with Taskforce, RSGAS, the EU and other Stakeholders through different communications platform if needed.

Phase 4 Deliverables

Phase 4 deliverables will include: -

- Activity Reports for each Dissemination Activity, and
- Limitations to the methodology where the Consultants will identify possible limitations and constraints during the data collection phase and present mitigating measures in the final report

QUALITY ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Structure and Clarity of the Engagement Strategy: To ensure the engagement strategy is user-friendly, comprehensive, logically structured and drafted in accordance with international standards.

Executive Summary: To provide an overview of the engagement strategy, written as a stand-alone section including key elements of the engagement strategy, such as objectives, methodology and conclusions and recommendations.

Introduction: Introduction and background information for the IGAD Taskforce engagement strategy, such as summary of review on the past and current situation, rational for the engagement (why it is important for the IGAD and the taskforce).

Presentation of the strategic vision, guiding principles, specific pathways i.e. concrete pathways through which the IGAD can work and/or focus on to enhance engagement and its objectives.

Presentation of engagement strategy implementation plan i.e. how to deliver on the engagement strategy. This may include to translate the engagement pathways into practical approaches to be used across the work of the taskforce, including capacity development, communication, partnerships, fundraising and monitoring and evaluation needed for the implementation of engagement strategy.

Design and Methodology: To provide a clear explanation of the methods and tools used including the rationale for the methodological choice justified. To ensure constraints and

limitations are made explicit (including limitations applying to interpretations and extrapolations; robustness of data sources, etc.).

Reliability of Data: To ensure sources of data are clearly stated for both primary and secondary data. To provide explanation on the credibility of primary (e.g. interviews and focus groups) and secondary (e.g. reports) data established and limitations made explicit

Findings and Analysis: To ensure sound analysis and credible evidence-based findings. To ensure interpretations are based on carefully described assumptions; contextual factors are identified; cause and effect links between an intervention and its end results (including unintended results) are explained.

Validity of Conclusions: To ensure conclusions are based on credible findings and convey the Consultant’s unbiased judgment of the situation. Ensure conclusions are prioritized and clustered and include: summary; origin (which engagement strategy question(s) the conclusion is based on); detailed conclusion.

Usefulness and Clarity of Recommendations: To ensure recommendations flow logically from conclusions; are targeted, realistic and operationally feasible; and are presented in priority order.

ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS

- **Assumptions underlying the action**

It is assumed that with the prospect of continued threats by extremist forces, security, and instability challenge mainly in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda the initiative could be negatively affected. In addition, resource constraints should also impact the project. As part of mitigation measures, IGAD-RSGA aims to engage/lobby IGAD member states to cooperate with the international community to ensure that their collective interests are safeguarded and promoted.

- **Risks**

The major risks identified as potential issues that could jeopardize the successful implementation of the project are summarised below:

Risks	Risk level	Mitigating measures
Not all stakeholders and actors in the region may	L	The existence of the Council for Arab and African Coastal States indicates that there is already a willingness

wish to engage with the Task Force, for a variety of reasons. Their lack of engagement could jeopardise the eventual outcomes.		to engage. IGAD will encourage full participation in discussions and workshops by promoting the benefits to be gained by the project. In practice, this will be done by forging supportive bilateral relationships, shuttle diplomacy when required, and by securing the backing of the African Union and UN or other international partners.
Natural events threaten staff or project: The risk of the current COVID-19 pandemic affecting the implementation of the project and negatively impact the already fragile political situation	M	The project will frequently monitor the development of COVID-19 and shift priority areas where needed. Furthermore, the project will introduce measures to implement activities virtually where possible - this will further be reviewed throughout the duration of the project. COVID-19 measures/guidelines introduced by the WHO and/or IGAD member states will be mainstreamed upon project implementation
<p>Important Assumption</p> <p>It is assumed that with the prospect of continued threats by extremist forces, security, and instability challenge mainly in Ethiopia, Somalia and South Sudan, the initiative could be negatively affected. In addition, resource constraints should also impact the project. As part of mitigation measures, IGAD-RSGA aims to engage/lobby IGAD member states to cooperate with the international community to ensure that their collective interests are safeguarded and promoted.</p>		

SCOPE OF THE WORK

- **General**

5. Description of the assignment

In the development of the engagement strategy, the consultants will conduct the following tasks. First, undertake a literature review and analysis of existing relevant literature. The literature review should set the stage for the field data collection phase and highlight some of the general findings including shortcomings and gaps in reviewed literature.

Secondly, conduct field work data collection using both qualitative and quantitative methods for data collection, including document review, group and individual interviews, focus groups and field observations as appropriate. The Field Work will consider both secondary and primary sources for data collection.

Thirdly, the Consultants will use a variety of both quantitative and qualitative methods to ensure that the results of the data analysis are credible and evidence-based. The analysis will be made at the level of taskforce outputs and corresponding mandated tasks and their contribution to overall goal level changes and finally, produce the final engagement strategy document and disseminate the Engagement Strategy and action plan with Taskforce, RSGAS, the EU and other Stakeholders through different communications platform if needed

In all the four (4) phases, the consultant will work with RSGA technical team and relevant authorities in the region to assist in implementing the aforesaid assignment. The consultants will engage with the RSGA staffs throughout the assignment period to ensure that the activities are done to meet the objectives of the assignment.

- **Specific work**

Please refer article 2.3 of this ToR. The consultant is further required to ensuring the integration of cross-cutting issues (Gender equality and women’s empowerment, poverty reduction, conflict sensitivity, environment, social/human rights, and inclusion, etc.) in all the deliverable;

6. Geographical area to be covered

The geographical scope will cover IGAD Region.

7. Target groups

RSGA Taskforce Members, RSGAS staff, AU, UNHOA, the EU, IMO, UNODC, ITERPOL, Red Sea Council, Arab League and other stakeholders. IGAD MS ministries of internal affairs/interior, immigration authorities, offices of the attorney general/ministries of justice, maritime law enforcement agencies/related judicial institutions including forensic and investigative units, prosecutors and judges, coast-guards and other relevant authorities with coast-guard functions or competences on maritime governance sectors, port and customs authorities, ministries of defence (particularly navy as well as authorities with mandates on maritime transportation, environmental protection, and toxic dumping), fisheries, shipping lines, maritime security and maritime tourism, migration, blue economy, economic development ministries.

- **Project management**

8. Responsible body

RSGA is the responsible bodies for managing this assignment. The implementation of the assignment will be jointly coordinated by IGAD Taskforce and RSGA, the consultants will work closely with the RSGA Program officers/Senior Partnership and Programme Manager who will provide day to day guidance during the processes.

9. Management structure

The project will be managed by the RSGA under the leadership of the Special Envoy and the senior partnership and programme manager.

LOGISTICS AND TIMING

- **Location**

The implementation of the project is within the IGAD region.

- **Start date & period of implementation of tasks**

The project began on September 15, 2022 to December 30, 2022.

REQUIREMENTS

- **Staff**

Note that civil servants and other staff of the public administration of the partner country, or of international/regional organisations based in the country, shall only be approved to work as experts if well justified and accepted by IGAD. The justification should be submitted with the tender and shall include information on the added value the expert will bring as well as proof that the expert is seconded or on personal leave.

10. Key experts

In line with the call for expression of interest, the following are the minimum required qualifications:

- At least a master's degree or equivalent in international law, political science, organizational development, public policy, international relations, international security, international development, maritime governance, or other related fields. Holders of PhD will have an added advantage
- Strong research and writing skills including experience writing studies and producing reports
- Demonstrated experiences in International Ocean Governance, maritime governance, and Marine resource management
- Knowledge of current international, continental, regional and national conventions policies and legal frameworks of maritime governance related affairs;

- Proven knowledge and experience of the IGAD region especially in relation to the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden geopolitics;
- Highly motivated, dynamic, and demonstrated high initiative and experiences in coordination high-level consultations;
- Solid knowledge of geopolitics mainly in the Horn of Africa;
- Excellent teamwork and participatory process skills;
- Outstanding interpersonal, communication and analytical skills including a proven record of accomplishment of interacting with senior politicians;
- Flexibility to unforeseen situations i.e., changes in schedules;
- Proven excellent oral and writing skills in English
- Sound planning and organizational skills
- Ability to negotiate diplomatically
- Strong interpersonal, communication and presentation skills;
- Experience in working with international organizations
- Proven extensive hands-on experiences and skills on drafting international/regional engagement strategy
- For this consultancy excellent writing and oral skills and fluency in English and in at least one of the languages from IGAD region is required.

Note: Consultants be independent and free from conflicts of interest in the responsibilities they take on.

11. Other experts, support staff & backstopping

N/A

- **Office accommodation**

N/A

- **Facilities to be provided by the contractor**

RSGA will provide facilities as requested by the consultant while in duty station and in line with the contract agreement as requested by the consultant.

- **Equipment**

No equipment is to be purchased on behalf of the contracting authority / partner country as part of this service contract or transferred to the contracting authority / partner country at the end of

this contract. Any equipment related to this contract which is to be acquired by the partner country must be purchased by means of a separate supply tender procedure.

REPORTS

- **Reporting requirements**

All deliverables are to be submitted to Program Officer and SPPM -RSGAS, in English, electronically and in hard copy format (3 copies). Deliverables include:

- Inception Report of minimum 15 and maximum 20 pages to be produced after 1 week from the start of the assignment describing, amongst other things, Consultant's full comprehension of the assignment, explanation of the methodology, Work Plan and timetable for the engagement strategy development, initial findings, data collection, any difficulties encountered or expected.;
- Draft final Engagement Strategy document of maximum <60> pages. This Engagement Strategy shall be submitted no later than 2 weeks before the end of the period of the Engagement Strategy Assignment, and
- Final Engagement Strategy document with the same specifications as the draft final Engagement Strategy document, incorporating any comments received on the draft Engagement Strategy document from the validation process. The deadline for sending the final Engagement Strategy document is <21> days after receipt of comments on the Draft final Engagement Strategy document. The Final Engagement Strategy document shall contain a sufficiently detailed description of the different options to support an informed decision on documents reviewed. The detailed analyses underpinning the recommendations will be presented in annexes to the main Engagement Strategy document. The final Engagement Strategy document must be provided along with the corresponding invoice. A final Engagement Strategy document submitted at the end of Engagement Strategy assignment shall have a maximum of 60 pages

- **Submission and approval of reports**

The Reports referred to herein will be submitted to the Programme Officer and Senior Partnership and Programme Manager identified in the contract. The Programme Officer will be responsible for the review of the Reports.

- **Remuneration and Duration of the Contract Activity**

Following the submission and approval of final Engagement Strategy document, the consultant is expected to request payment. Final Engagement Strategy document should be submitted in accordance with these terms of reference's article 2.3. After completion of the service upon

submission of the final Engagement Strategy document, payment of fees for tasks accomplished will be as per the following details:

Upon approval of the inception report	10%
Upon Completion of 25% of the tasks (Field work deliverables submission)	20%
Upon Completion of 50% of the tasks (Data analysis & report deliverables)	20%
Upon Completion of 75% of the tasks (Draft Engagement Strategy document)	20%
Upon Completion of 100% of the tasks & approval of final Engagement Strategy	30%

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- **Definition of indicators**

The four (4) Phases deliverables and final Engagement Strategy Document will be used to measure progress towards achieving expected results

1. Maintenance of a true record of all the proceedings of the phases including reference group meeting minutes over the assignment period;
2. Writing of at least 4 brief progress reports to IGAD-RSGAS
4. Effective management and maintenance of an assignment;
5. Effective coordination with the Members of the RSGAS, in order to assist in the execution of the assignment.

- **Special requirements**

Only consultant institution or individuals who can partner with consultant institution or individuals on both side of the Red Sea arena are qualified to apply.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- i. The 46th IGAD Council of Minister Meeting Communique
- ii. The 68th IGAD Extra-Ordinary Council of Minister Meeting Communique
- iii. The Terms of Reference of the IGAD Task Force on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden
- iv. The 13th IGAD Ordinary Summit of Heads of States and Governments
- v. IGAD Declaration of Principle on Cooperation in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden
- vi. Report of the 2nd IGAD Task Force Meeting
- vii. UNCLOS Treaty
- viii. 2050 AIM Strategy

- ix. IMO – International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code – the role of flag state implementation (FSI)
- x. IMO Conventions and Integrated Maritime Surveillance (IMS) measures
- xi. IOM-international convention for the safety of life at sea (SOLAS) 1974/1988), ISPS Code and its related SOLAS amendment
- xii. International Maritime and Port Security Regime conventions
- xiii. List of task force members
- xiv. Expert dialogue workshop report.

ANNEX B III: ORGANISATION & METHODOLOGY

To be completed by the tenderer

Please provide the following information:

1. Rationale

- Any comments you have on the terms of reference for the successful execution of activities, in particular regarding the objectives and expected results, thus demonstrating the degree of understanding of the contract. Your opinion on the key issues related to the achievement of the contract objectives and expected results.
- An explanation of the risks and assumptions affecting the execution of the contract.

2. Strategy

- An outline of the approach proposed for contract implementation.
- A list of the proposed tasks you consider necessary to achieve the contract objectives.
- Inputs and outputs.

3. Backstopping

- A description of the support facilities (back-stopping) that the contractor will provide to the team of experts during execution of the contract. The back-up function will be assessed in the evaluation and should be carefully explained in the organisation and methodology, including the list of staff, units, capacity of permanent staff regularly intervening as experts on similar projects, provision of expertise in the region/country or origin as well as partner countries, organisational structure, etc. which are supposed to ensure that function, as well as the available quality systems and knowledge capitalisation methods and tools, within the respective members of the consortium.
- A description of any subcontracting arrangements with a clear indication of the tasks that will be entrusted to subcontractors and a statement by the tenderer guaranteeing the eligibility of subcontractors.

4. involvement of all members of the consortium

- If a tender is submitted by a consortium, a description of the input from each member of the consortium and the distribution and interaction of tasks and responsibilities between them. Furthermore, the involvement of all members of the consortium will be considered added value in the tender evaluation. If the tender is submitted by a single company, the total of available points for this part in the evaluation grid will be allocated.

5. TIMETABLE OF WORK

- The timing, sequence and duration of the proposed tasks, taking into account travel time.
- The identification and timing of major milestones in executing the contract, including an indication of how the achievement of these would be reflected in any reports, particularly those stipulated in the terms of reference.
- The methodologies contained in the offer should include a work plan indicating the envisaged resources to be mobilised.

ANNEX B IV: KEY EXPERTS

Name of expert	Proposed position	Years of experience	Age	Educational background	Specialist areas of knowledge	Experience in partner country	Languages and degree of fluency (VG, G, W)

Curriculum vitae

Proposed role in the project			
Family name			
First names			
Date of birth			
Nationality			
Civil status			
Education			
Institution	Date from dd/mm/yyyy	Date to dd/mm/yyyy	Degree(s) or diploma(s) obtained
Language skills: Indicate competence on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 - excellent; 5 - basic)			
Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing
Membership of professional bodies			
Other skills (e.g. computer literacy, etc.)			
Present position			
Years within the firm			
Key qualifications (relevant to the project)			
Specific experience in the region			
Country	Date from dd/mm/yyyy	Date to dd/mm/yyyy	

Professional experience

Date from dd/mm/yyyy	Date to dd/mm/yyyy	Total of days	Location	Company & reference person[1] (name & contact details)	Position	Description

ANNEX B V: BUDGET

1. The Financial proposal prepared by the consultant should list the costs associated with the assignment. These costs normally cover remuneration for staff, subsistence, transportation, services and equipment, printing of documents, surveys etc as may be applicable.
2. The costs should be broken down to be clearly understood by the Contracting Authority.
3. The financial proposal shall be in **EUROS** and be prepared using the format provided in this part

BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION

Names	Position	Input (staff months, or days as appropriate)	Remuneration rate	Total amount

RELATED COSTS

No	Description	Unit	Quantity	Unit price	Total amount
1.	Air travel	Trip			
2.	Road travel	Kms			
3.	Subsistence allowance	Days			
4.	Etc				

ANNEX B VI: FINANCIAL IDENTIFICATION

PRIVACY STATEMENT

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/financial_id/financial_id_en.cfm#en

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form.

BANKING DETAILS ①

ACCOUNT NAME ②	<input type="text"/>		
IBAN/ACCOUNT NUMBER ③	<input type="text"/>		
CURRENCY	<input type="text"/>		
BIC/SWIFT CODE	<input type="text"/>	BRANCH CODE ④	<input type="text"/>
BANK NAME	<input type="text"/>		
ADDRESS OF BANK BRANCH			
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/>	POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>		

ACCOUNT HOLDER'S DATA AS DECLARED TO THE BANK

ACCOUNT HOLDER	<input type="text"/>		
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/>	POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>		

REMARK

<input type="text"/>

BANK STAMP + SIGNATURE OF BANK REPRESENTATIVE ⑤	DATE (Obligatory)
	SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER (Obligatory)

- ① Enter the final bank data and not the data of the intermediary bank.
- ② This does not refer to the type of account. The account name is usually the one of the account holder. However, the account holder may have chosen to give a different name to its bank account.
- ③ Fill in the IBAN Code (International Bank Account Number) if it exists in the country where your bank is established
- ④ nly applicable for US (ABA code), for AU/NZ (BSB code) and for CA (Transit code). Does not apply for other countries.
- ⑤ It is preferable to attach a copy of RECENT bank statement. Please note that the bank statement has to confirm all the information listed above under 'ACCOUNT NAME', 'ACCOUNT NUMBER/IBAN' and 'BANK NAME'. With an attached statement, the stamp of the bank and the signature of the bank's representative are not required. The signature of the account-holder and the date are ALWAYS mandatory.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SIGN THIS FORM AND ATTACH COPIES OF OFFICIAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (REGISTER(S) OF COMPANIES, OFFICIAL GAZETTE, VAT REGISTRATION, ETC.)

ANNEX B VI: LEGAL ENTITY

PRIVACY STATEMENT

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm#en

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form.

PRIVATE/PUBLIC LAW BODY WITH LEGAL FORM

OFFICIAL NAME ①	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
BUSINESS NAME (if different)	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
ABBREVIATION	<input type="text"/>		
LEGAL FORM	<input type="text"/>		
ORGANISATION TYPE	FOR PROFIT		
	NON FOR PROFIT NGO ② YES NO		
MAIN REGISTRATION NUMBER ③	<input type="text"/>		
SECONDARY REGISTRATION NUMBER (if applicable)	<input type="text"/>		
PLACE OF MAIN REGISTRATION	CITY	<input type="text"/>	
	COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>	
	Y	<input type="text"/>	
DATE OF MAIN REGISTRATION	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	DD	MM	YYYY
VAT NUMBER	<input type="text"/>		
ADDRESS OF HEAD OFFICE	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>	P.O. BOX	<input type="text"/>
			CITY <input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>		PHONE <input type="text"/>
E-MAIL	<input type="text"/>		

DATE

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE

STAMP

ANNEX B VI: LEGAL ENTITY

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cf

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form.

NATURAL PERSON

I. PERSONAL DATA

FAMILY NAME(S) ①

FIRST NAME(S) ①

DATE OF BIRTH
DD MM YYYY

PLACE OF BIRTH COUNTRY OF BIRTH

(CITY,
VILLAGE)

TYPE OF IDENTITY
DOCUMENT

IDENTITY CARD PASSPO
RT DRIVING LICENCE ② OTHER ③

ISSUING COUNTRY

IDENTITY DOCUMENT
NUMBER

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION
NUMBER ④

PERMANENT

PRIVATE ADDRESS

POSTCODE P.O. BOX CITY

REGION ⑤ COUNTRY

PRIVATE PHONE

PRIVATE E-MAIL

II. BUSINESS DATA

If YES, please provide business data and attach copies of official supporting documents

Do you run your own business without a separate legal personality (e.g. sole traders, self-employed etc.) and you

BUSINESS
NAME
(if applicable)

VAT NUMBER

provide as such services to
the
Commission, other
Institutions,
Agencies and EU-Bodies?

YES NO

REGISTRATION
NUMBER

PLACE OF REGISTRATION:
CITY

COUNTRY

DATE

SIGNATURE

ANNEX C II: ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE GRID

Contract title :	Reference :
-------------------------	--------------------

Tender envelope number	Tenderer's name (Leader) (Nationality)	Other members of the consortium if any Name (Nationality)	Within deadline?	Tender submission form duly completed and only 1 tender per tenderer?	Eligible nationality (all parties including subcontractors if known)?	Tenderer's declaration (signed by each consortium member, if appropriate)?	Language as required?	Economic & financial capacity? (OK/a/b/...) ²	capacity ?	Technical capacity? (OK/a/b/...)	Organisation & methodology exists?	Key experts (list + CVs)(For contracts requiring key experts)?	present in only one tender as key experts.(For contracts	All key experts have signed statements of exclusivity & availability.(For contracts requiring key experts)?	Sub-contracting statement acceptable?	Overall decision? (Accept / Reject)
1																
2																
3																
4																

Chairperson's name	
Chairperson's signature	
Date	

² Enter 'OK' if all criteria have been satisfied, otherwise enter 'a', 'b', 'c', etc to record any criteria which have not been satisfied.

ANNEX CIII: EVALUATION GRID

To be completed for each tender by each evaluator

	Maximum
Organisation and methodology	
Rationale	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment on the consultant institution or individuals general understanding of the Terms of Reference for the successful execution of activities, in particular regarding the objectives and expected results, thus demonstrating the degree of understanding of the contract. Your opinion on the key issues related to the achievement of the contract objectives and expected results. • An explanation of the risks and assumptions affecting the execution of the contract. 	
Strategy	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An outline of the approach/methodology proposed for contract implementation. • A list of the proposed tasks considered necessary to achieve the contract objectives. 	
Back-up function	10
A description of the support facilities (back-stopping) that the contractor will provide to the team of experts during execution of the contract (5 points)	
Involvement of all members of the team assigned for the implementations of the contract (5 points)	
Timetable of activities, including the number of expert days proposed	10
Total score for organisation and methodology	60
Key expert	40
Qualifications and skills (10 points)	
General professional experience (10 points)	
Demonstrated and specific professional experience in the Red Sea Arena (20 points)	
Total score for key experts	40
Overall total score	100

NB: Only tenders with average scores of at least 75 points qualify for the financial evaluation.

ANNEX D:

TENDER SUBMISSION FORM AND DECLARATION OF HONOUR ON EXCLUSION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Ref: < as per letter of invitation to tender >

<Contract title>

Please supply one signed tender (including signed statements of exclusivity and availability from all key experts proposed, if applicable, a completed financial identification form and a completed legal entity file (only for the leader) and declarations from the Leader and all members (if you are in a consortium), together with three copies. The attachments to this submission form (i.e. declarations, statements, proofs) may be in original or copy. If copies are submitted, the originals must be dispatched to the contracting authority upon request. For economic and ecological reasons, we strongly recommend that you submit your files on paper (no plastic folder or divider). We also suggest you use double-sided printing wherever possible. **All data included in this application must concern only the legal entity or entities making the tender.**

Any additional documentation (brochures, letters etc.) sent with your tender will not be taken into consideration. Applications submitted by a **consortium** (i.e. either a permanent, legally-established grouping or a grouping set up informally for a specific tender procedure) must follow the instructions applicable to the consortium leader and its members.

An economic operator may, where appropriate and for a particular contract, rely on the capacities of other entities, regardless of the legal nature of the links which it has with them. With regard to technical and professional criteria, an economic operator may only rely on the capacities of other entities where the latter will perform the works or services for which these capacities are required. If they do, they must prove to the contracting authority that they have the resources needed to perform the contract, for example by producing a commitment from those entities to place resources at their disposal. Such entities, for instance the parent company of the economic operator, must respect the same rules of eligibility and nationality as the economic operator, as well as the relevant selection criteria.

1 SUBMITTED by (i.e. the identity of the tenderer)

Name(s) of legal entity or entities making this application	Nationality ¹
-------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------

Leader²		
Member		
Etc.		

2 CONTACT PERSON (for this tender)

Name	
Organisation	
Address	
Telephone	
Fax	
e-mail	

3 ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CAPACITY³

Please complete the following table of financial data⁴ based on your annual closed accounts and your latest projections. If annual accounts are not yet available for the current year or past year, please provide your latest estimates in the columns marked with **. Figures in all columns must be calculated on the same basis to allow a direct, year-on-year comparison to be made (or, if the basis has changed, please provide an explanation of the change as a footnote to the table). When the current ratio is set as selection criterion, for non-for-profit organisations the ratio has to be calculated without taking into account within the current liabilities the pre-financing received from donors for ongoing projects. Any other clarification or explanation which is judged necessary may also be provided. If the tenderer is a public body, please provide equivalent information.

Financial data	2 years before last year⁵ <specify> EUR	Year before last year⁵ <specify> EUR	Last year⁵ <specify> EUR	Average⁶ EUR	[Past year EUR]**	[Current year EUR]**
Annual turnover ⁷ , excluding this contract						
Current assets ⁸						
Current liabilities ⁹						
Current ratio (current assets/current liabilities)						

4 STAFF

Please provide the following statistics on staff for the current year and the two previous years¹⁰.

Annual Manpower	Year before past year		Past year		Current year		Period average	
	Overall	Relevant fields ¹¹	Overall	Relevant fields ¹¹	Overall	Relevant fields ¹¹	Overall	Relevant fields ¹¹
Permanent staff ¹²								
Other staff ¹³								
Total								
Permanent staff as a proportion of total staff (%)	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

5 AREAS OF SPECIALISATION

Please fill in the table below to indicate any areas of specialist knowledge related to this contract for each legal entity making this tender. State the type of area of specialisation as the row heading and use the name of the legal entity as the column headings. Indicate the areas of specialist knowledge each legal entity has by placing a tick (✓) in the box corresponding to the specialisation in which it has significant experience. **Maximum 10 specialisations.**

	Leader	Member 2	Member 3	Etc.
Relevant specialisation 1				
Relevant specialisation 2				
Etc. ¹¹				

6 EXPERIENCE

Please fill in the table below to summarise the main projects related to this contract carried out over the past 3 years¹² by the legal entity or entities making this tender. The number of references to be provided must not exceed 15 for the entire tender.

Ref no (maximum 15)	Project title							
Name of legal entity	Country	Overall contract value (EUR) ¹³	Proportion carried out by legal entity (%) ¹⁸	No of staff provided	Name of client	Origin of funding	Dates (start/end) ¹⁴	Name of consortium members, if any
...
Detailed description of project						Type and scope of services provided¹⁵		
...						...		

7 DECLARATIONS

As part of their tender, each legal entity identified under point 1 of this tender, including every consortium member, must submit a signed declaration using the attached format. The declaration may be in original or in copy. If copies are submitted, the originals must be sent to the contracting authority upon request.

Moreover, each legal entity identified under point 1 of this application, including every consortium member, and each capacity-providing entity (if any) must submit a signed declaration of honour on exclusion and selection criteria (form A14 available at the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/annexes.do?chapterTitleCode=A>).

8 STATEMENT

I, the undersigned, being the authorised signatory of the above tenderer (for a consortium, this must include all consortium members), hereby declare that we have examined and accept without reserve or restriction the entire contents of the tender dossier for the tender procedure referred to above. We offer to provide the services requested in the tender dossier on the basis of the following documents, which comprise our technical offer, and our financial offer, which is submitted in a separate, sealed envelope:

- Organisation & methodology
- Key experts (comprising a list of the key experts and their CVs), if required
- Tenderer's declarations (for a consortium, two from each consortium member)
- Statements of exclusivity and availability signed by each of the key experts, if required
- Completed financial identification form (see Annex VI to the draft contract) providing details of the bank account into which payments under the proposed contract should be made in the event that we are awarded the contract (or the financial identification number or a copy of the financial identification form provided to the contracting authority on an earlier occasion, unless it has changed in the meantime)
- Completed legal entity file (or the legal entity number allocated. Alternatively, a copy of the legal entity file provided to the contracting authority on an earlier occasion, unless the legal status has changed in the meantime)

- ❑ Duly authorised signature: an official document (statutes, power of attorney, notary statement, etc.) proving that the person who signs on behalf of the company/joint venture/consortium is duly authorised to do so.
- ❑ Documentary proof or statements required under the law of the country where we are effectively established (or each of the companies in case of a consortium), to show that we do not fall into any of the exclusion situations listed in Section 2.6.10.1 of the practical guide. This evidence or these documents or statements must carry a date, which is not more than one year before the date of submission of the tender. In addition, a statement is furnished stating that the situations described in these documents have not changed since then.
- ❑ Documentary evidence of the financial and economic capacity as well as the technical and professional capacity according to the selection criteria specified in the contract notice.

We undertake to guarantee the eligibility of the subcontractor(s) for the parts of the services for which we have stated our intention to subcontract in the organisation and methodology.

This tender is subject to acceptance within the validity period stipulated in clause 6 of the instructions to tenderers.

We understand that our tender may be rejected if we propose key experts who have been involved in preparing this project or employ them as advisers in the preparation of our tender. We also understand that this may mean exclusion from other tender procedures and contracts funded by the EU/EDF.

We are fully aware that, for a consortium, the composition of the consortium cannot be changed in the course of the tender procedure, unless the contracting authority has given its prior approval in writing. We are also aware that the consortium members have joint and several liability towards the contracting authority concerning participation in the above tender procedure and any contract awarded to us as a result of it.

We understand that entities upon whose capacity we rely with regard to economic and financial criteria, become jointly and severally liable for the performance of the contract.

Signed on behalf of the tenderer

Name	
Signature	
Date	

**FORMAT FOR THE DECLARATION REFERRED TO IN POINT 7
OF THE TENDER SUBMISSION FORM**
To be submitted on the headed notepaper of the legal entity concerned

<Date>

<Name and address of the contracting authority — see points 8 of the instructions to tenderers >

Your ref: < reference >

TENDERER'S DECLARATION

Dear Sir/Madam

In response to your letter of invitation for the above contract we, < name(s) of legal entity or entities>, hereby declare that we:

- are submitting this tender [on an individual basis] * [as member of the consortium led by < name of the leader> [ourselves]] * for this contract. We confirm that we are not participating in any other tender for the same contract in any form (as a member, leader, in a consortium or as an individual candidate);
- agree to abide by the ethics clauses in Section 13 of the instructions to tenderers, have not been involved in the preparation of the project which is the subject of this tender procedure unless it is proved that the involvement in previous stages of the project does not constitute unfair competition, and have no professional conflicting interests and/or any relation with other tenderers or other parties in the tender procedure or behaviour which may distort competition at the time of submission of this tender according to Section 2.5.4. of the practical guide;
- [have attached a current list of the enterprises in the same group or network as ourselves] [are not part of a group or network] * and have only included data in the tender form concerning the resources and experience of [our legal entity] [our legal entity and the entities for which we attach a written undertaking] *;
- will inform the contracting authority immediately if there is any change in the above circumstances at any stage during the implementation of the tasks;
- fully recognise and accept that if the above-mentioned persons participate in spite of being in any of the situations listed in Section 2.6.10.1.1. of the practical guide or if the declarations or information provided prove to be false they may be subject to rejection from this procedure and to administrative sanctions in the form of exclusion and financial penalties up to 10% of the total estimated value of the contract being awarded and that this information may be published on the Commission website in accordance with the Financial Regulation in force;
- are aware that, for the purposes of safeguarding the EU's financial interests, our personal data may be transferred to internal audit services, to the European Court of Auditors, to the Financial Irregularities Panel or to the European Anti-Fraud Office.

We understand that our tender and the expert may be excluded if we propose the same key expert as another tenderer or if we propose a key expert who is engaged in an EU/EDF financed project if the input from his/her position in that contract could be required on the same dates as his/her work under this contract.

We understand that if we fail to respond within the delay after receiving the notification of award, or if the information provided is proved false, the award may be considered null and void.

DECLARATION OF HONOUR ON EXCLUSION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

The undersigned [*insert name of the signatory of this form*], representing:

<i>(only for natural persons)</i> himself or herself	<i>(only for legal persons)</i> the following legal person:
ID or passport number: (‘the person’)	Full official name: Official legal form: Statutory registration number: Full official address: VAT registration number: (‘the person’)

The person is not required to submit the declaration on exclusion criteria if the same declaration has already been submitted for the purposes of another award procedure of the same contracting authority³, provided the situation has not changed, and that the time that has elapsed since the issuing date of the declaration does not exceed one year.

In this case, the signatory declares that the person has already provided the same declaration on exclusion criteria for a previous procedure and confirms that there has been no change in its situation:

Date of the declaration	Full reference to previous procedure

I – SITUATION OF EXCLUSION CONCERNING THE PERSON

(1) declares that the above-mentioned person is in one of the following situations:	YES	NO
(a) it is bankrupt, subject to insolvency or winding up procedures, its assets are being administered by a liquidator or by a court, it is in an arrangement with creditors, its business activities are suspended or it is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for under EU or national legislation or regulations;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) it has been established by a final judgement or a final administrative decision that the person is in breach of its obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions in accordance with the applicable law;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) it has been established by a final judgement or a final administrative decision that the person is guilty of grave professional misconduct by having violated applicable laws or regulations or ethical standards of the profession to which the person belongs, or by having engaged in any wrongful conduct which has an impact on its professional credibility where such conduct denotes wrongful intent or gross negligence, including, in particular, any of the following:		

³ The same institution or agency.

(i) fraudulently or negligently misrepresenting information required for the verification of the absence of grounds for exclusion or the fulfilment of selection criteria or in the performance of a contract or an agreement;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) entering into agreement with other persons with the aim of distorting competition;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) violating intellectual property rights;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) attempting to influence the decision-making process of the contracting authority during the award procedure;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(v) attempting to obtain confidential information that may confer upon it undue advantages in the award procedure;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) it has been established by a final judgement that the person is guilty of the following:		
(i) fraud, within the meaning of Article 3 of Directive (EU) 2017/1371 and Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) corruption, as defined in Article 4(2) of Directive (EU) 2017/1371 and Article 3 of the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of Member States of the European Union, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 May 1997, and conduct referred to in Article 2(1) of Council Framework Decision 2003/568/JHA, as well as corruption as defined in the applicable law.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) conduct related to a criminal organisation, referred to in Article 2 of Council Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) money laundering or terrorist financing within the meaning of Article 1(3), (4) and (5) of Directive (EU) 2015/849 of the European Parliament and of the Council;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(v) terrorist-related offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, as defined in Articles 1 and 3 of Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA, respectively, or inciting, aiding, abetting or attempting to commit such offences, as referred to in Article 4 of that Decision;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(vi) child labour or other offences concerning trafficking in human beings as referred to in Article 2 of Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) it has shown significant deficiencies in complying with the main obligations in the performance of a contract or an agreement financed by the Union's budget, which has led to its early termination or to the application of liquidated damages or other contractual penalties, or which has been discovered following checks, audits or investigations by an contracting authority, OLAF or the Court of Auditors;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f) it has been established by a final judgment or final administrative decision that the person has committed an irregularity within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2988/95;		
(g) it has been established by a final judgment or final administrative decision that the person or entity has created an entity under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or any other legal obligations of mandatory application in the jurisdiction of its registered office, central administration or principal place of business	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) it has been established by a final judgment or final administrative decision that an entity has been created with the intent provided for in point (g).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(i) for the situations under points (c) to (h) the person is subject to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. facts established in the context of audits or investigations carried out by the European Public Prosecutor's Office after its establishment, the Court of Auditors, the European Anti-Fraud Office or the internal auditor, or any other check, audit or control performed under the responsibility of an authorising officer of an EU institution, of a European office or of an EU agency or body; ii. non-final administrative decisions which may include disciplinary measures taken by the competent supervisory body responsible for the verification of the application of standards of professional ethics; iii. facts referred to in decisions of entities and persons being entrusted with EU budget implementation tasks; iv. information transmitted by Member States implementing Union Funds; v. decisions of the Commission relating to the infringement of Union competition law or of a national competent authority relating to the infringement of Union or national competition law; or vi. decisions of exclusion by an authorising officer of an EU institution, of a European office or of an EU agency or body. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

II – SITUATIONS OF EXCLUSION CONCERNING NATURAL OR LEGAL PERSONS WITH POWER OF REPRESENTATION, DECISION-MAKING OR CONTROL OVER THE LEGAL PERSON AND BENEFICIAL OWNERS.

Not applicable to natural persons, Member States and local authorities

(2) declares that a natural or legal person who is a member of the administrative, management or supervisory body of the above-mentioned legal person, or who has powers of representation, decision or control with regard to the above-mentioned legal person (this covers e.g. company directors, members of management or supervisory bodies, and cases where one natural or legal person holds a majority of shares) or a beneficial owner of the person (as referred to in point 6 of article 3 of Directive (EU) N°2015/849) is in one of the following situations:	YES	NO	N/A
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	----	-----

Situation (c) above (grave professional misconduct)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Situation (d) above (fraud, corruption or other criminal offence)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Situation (e) above (significant deficiencies in performance of a contract)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Situation (f) above (irregularity)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Situation (g) above (creation of an entity with the intent to circumvent legal obligations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Situation (h) above (person created with the intent to circumvent legal obligations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III – SITUATIONS OF EXCLUSION CONCERNING NATURAL OR LEGAL PERSONS ASSUMING UNLIMITED LIABILITY FOR THE DEBTS OF THE [LEGAL] PERSON

(3) declares that a natural or legal person that assumes unlimited liability for the debts of the above-mentioned legal person is in one of the following situations [<i><u>If yes, please indicate in annex to this declaration which situation and the name(s) of the concerned person(s) with a brief explanation</u></i>]:	YES	NO	N/A
Situation (a) above (bankruptcy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Situation (b) above (breach in payment of taxes or social security contributions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IV – GROUNDS FOR REJECTION FROM THIS PROCEDURE

(4) declares that the [above-mentioned] [[the] [each]] person:	YES	NO	N/A
Was previously involved in the preparation of the procurement documents used in this award procedure, where this entailed a breach of the principle of equality of treatment including distortion of competition that cannot be remedied otherwise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

V – REMEDIAL MEASURES

If the person declares one of the situations of exclusion listed above, it must indicate measures it has taken to remedy the exclusion situation, thus demonstrating its reliability. This may include e.g. technical, organisational and personnel measures to prevent further occurrence, compensation of damage or payment of fines or of any taxes or social security contributions. The relevant documentary evidence which illustrates the remedial measures taken must be provided in annex to this declaration. This does not apply for situations referred in point (d) of this declaration.

VI – EVIDENCE UPON REQUEST

Upon request and within the time limit set by the contracting authority, the person must provide information on the natural or legal persons that are members of the administrative, management or supervisory body or that have powers of representation, decision or control, including legal and natural persons within the ownership and control structure and beneficial owners. It must also provide the following evidence concerning the person itself and the natural or legal persons on whose capacity the person intends to rely, or the subcontractor, and concerning the natural or legal persons which assume unlimited liability for the debts of the person:

For situations described in (a), (c), (d) (f), (g) and (h) production of a recent extract from the judicial record is required or, failing that, an equivalent document recently issued by a judicial or administrative authority in the country of establishment of the person showing that those requirements are satisfied.

For the situation described in point (b), production of recent certificates issued by the competent authorities of the State concerned are required. These documents must provide evidence covering all taxes and social security contributions for which the person is liable, including for example, VAT, income tax (natural persons only), company tax (legal persons only) and social security contributions. Where any document described above is not issued in the country concerned, it may be replaced by a sworn statement made before a judicial authority or notary or, failing that, a solemn statement made before an administrative authority or a qualified professional body in its country of establishment.

The person is not required to submit the evidence if it has already been submitted for another award procedure of the same contracting authority⁴. The documents must have been issued no more than one year before the date of their request by the contracting authority and must still be valid at that date.

The signatory declares that the person has already provided the documentary evidence for a previous procedure and confirms that there has been no change in its situation:

Document	Full reference to previous procedure
<i>Insert as many lines as necessary.</i>	

VII – SELECTION CRITERIA

(5) declares that the above-mentioned person complies with the selection criteria applicable to it individually as provided in the tender documents:	YES	NO	N/A
(a) It has the legal and regulatory capacity to pursue the professional activity needed for performing the contract as required in section [<i>insert</i>] of the contract notice/Instructions to tenderers/Guidelines for grant applicants;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

⁴ The same institution or agency.

(b) It fulfills the applicable economic and financial criteria indicated in section [<i>insert</i>] of the contract notice/Instructions to tenderers/Guidelines for grant applicants;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) It fulfills the applicable technical and professional criteria indicated in section [<i>insert</i>] of the contract notice/Instructions to tenderers/Guidelines for grant applicants.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(6) the above-mentioned person is the sole tenderer or the leader in case of a consortium , declares that:	YES	NO	N/A
(d) the tenderer, including all members of the group in case of consortium and including subcontractors if applicable, complies with all the selection criteria for which a consolidated assessment will be made as provided in the tender documents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[VIII] [IX] – EVIDENCE FOR SELECTION

The signatory declares that the above-mentioned person is able to provide the necessary supporting documents listed in the relevant sections of the tender documents and which are not available electronically upon request and without delay.

The person is not required to submit the evidence if it has already been submitted for another procurement procedure of the same contracting authority⁵. The documents must have been issued no more than one year before the date of their request by the contracting authority and must still be valid at that date.

The signatory declares that the person has already provided the documentary evidence for a previous procedure and confirms that there has been no change in its situation:

Document	Full reference to previous procedure
<i>Insert as many lines as necessary.</i>	

The above-mentioned person may be subject to rejection from this procedure and to administrative sanctions (exclusion or financial penalty) if any of the declarations or information provided as a condition for participating in this procedure prove to be false.]

Full name

Date

Signature

* Delete/add as applicable

⁵ The same institution or agency.

If this declaration is completed by a consortium member:

The following table contains our financial data as included in the consortium's application form. These data are based on our annual closed accounts and our latest projections. Estimated figures (i.e. those not included in annual closed accounts) are given in the columns marked with **. Figures in all columns are calculated on the same basis to allow a direct, year-on-year comparison to be made (or, if the basis has changed, an explanation of the change must be provided as a footnote to the table). When the current ratio is set as selection criterion, for non-for-profit organisations the ratio has to be calculated without taking into account within the current liabilities the pre-financing received from donors for ongoing projects. Any clarification or explanation which is judged necessary may also be provided.

Financial data Data requested in this table must be consistent with the selection criteria set in the contract notice	2 years before last⁵ <specify> EUR	Year before last year⁵ <specify> EUR	Last year⁵ <specify> EUR	Average⁶ EUR	[Past year EUR]**	[Current year EUR]**
Annual turnover ⁷ , excluding this contract						
Current assets ⁸						
Current liabilities ⁹						
[Current ratio (current assets/current liabilities)]	Not applicable	Not applicable		Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable]

The following table contains statistics on our staff, as included in the consortium's tender form:

Average manpower	Year before past year		Past year		Current year		Period average	
	Overall	Relevant fields¹¹	Overall	Relevant fields¹¹	Overall	Relevant fields¹¹	Overall	Relevant fields¹¹
Permanent staff ¹²								
Other staff ¹³								

Yours faithfully,

<Signature of authorised representative>

<Name and position of authorised representative>

STATEMENT OF EXCLUSIVITY AND AVAILABILITY^{xvi}

PUBLICATION REF: _____

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I agree to participate exclusively with the tenderer < tenderer name > in the above-mentioned service tender procedure. This includes that I will not be proposed as a replacement expert in this tender procedure. I declare that I am able and willing to work for the period(s) set for the position for which my CV has been included if this tender is successful, namely:

From	To	Availability
< start of period 1 >	< end of period 1 >	[full time] [part time]
< start of period 2 >	< end of period 2 >	[full time] [part time]
< etc. >		

I confirm that I do not have a confirmed engagement^{xvii} as key expert in another EU/EDF-funded project, or any other professional activity, incompatible in terms of capacity and timing with the above engagements.

By making this declaration, I understand that I am not allowed to offer my services as an expert to any other tenderer participating in this tender procedure. I am fully aware that if I do so, I will be excluded from this tender procedure, the tenders will be rejected, and I may also be subject to exclusion from other tender procedures and contracts funded by the EU/EDF.

I also declare that I am not in a situation of conflict of interest or unavailability and commit to inform the tenderer(s) of any change in my situation.

I acknowledge that I have no contractual relations with the contracting authority and in case of dispute concerning my contract with the contractor I shall address myself to the latter and/or to the competent jurisdictions.

[For information, I have signed a statement of exclusivity and availability for the following tender(s):

Tender reference	Submission deadline for the tender	Tendered engagement
< tender reference >	< date >	[full time] [part time]
< tender reference >	< date >	[full time] [part time]
< etc. >		

Should I receive a confirmed engagement I declare that I will accept the first engagement offered to me chronologically. Furthermore I will notify the tenderer immediately of my unavailability.]

Name	
Signature	
Date	

¹ Country in which the legal entity is registered.

² Add/delete additional lines for consortium members as appropriate. **Note** that a subcontractor is not considered to be a consortium member for the purposes of this application form. Subsequently, data on subcontractors must not appear in the data related to the economic, financial and professional capacity. If this application is submitted by an individual legal entity, the name of that legal entity should be entered as 'Leader' (and all other lines should be deleted). Any change in the identity of the Leader and/or any consortium members between the deadline for receipt of applications indicated in the Contract notice and the award of the contract is not permitted without the prior written consent of the contracting authority.

³ Natural persons must prove their capacity in accordance with the selection criteria and by the appropriate means.

⁴ If this application is submitted by a consortium, the data in the table must be the sum of the data in the corresponding tables in the declarations provided by the consortium members — see point 7 of this application form. Consolidated data are not requested for financial ratios.

⁵ Last year = last accounting year for which the entity's accounts have been closed.

⁶ Amounts entered in the 'Average' column must be the mathematical average of the amounts entered in the three preceding columns of the same row.

⁷ The gross inflow of economic benefits (cash, receivables, other assets) generated from the ordinary operating activities of the enterprise (such as sales of goods, sales of services, interest, royalties, and dividends) during the year.

⁸ A balance sheet account that represents the value of all assets that are reasonably expected to be converted into cash within one year in the normal course of business. Current assets include cash, accounts receivable, inventory, marketable securities, prepaid expenses and other liquid assets that can be readily converted to cash.

⁹ A company's debts or obligations that are due within one year. Current liabilities appear on the company's balance sheet and include short term debt, accounts payable, accrued liabilities and other debts.

¹⁰ If this application is submitted by a consortium, the data in the table above must be the sum of the data in the corresponding tables in the declarations provided by the consortium members — see point 7 of this application form.

¹¹ Add / delete additional lines and/or rows as appropriate. If this application is submitted by an individual legal entity, the name of the legal entity should be entered as 'Leader' (and all other columns should be deleted).

¹² For framework contracts, only specific contracts corresponding to assignments implemented under such framework contracts shall be considered.

¹³ The effect of inflation will not be taken into account.

¹⁴ If the reference contract is only partially completed, please quote the percentage and value which has been completed.

¹⁵ When supporting documents are to be issued by contracting authorities after the date of publication of PRAG 2014, please also indicate the function of key experts provided, whether belonging or not to permanent staff, and the number of months each of them worked on the project.

^{xvi} To be completed by all key experts.

^{xvii} The engagement of an expert is confirmed if the expert is committed to work as a key expert under a signed contract financed by the EU general budget or the EDF or if he/she is a key expert in a tender which has received a notification of award. The date of confirmation of the engagement in the latter case is that of the notification of award to the Contractor.

¹⁸ Only the proportion carried out by the legal entity may be used as reference.