

Belgium-Brussels: Research consultancy services

OJ S 223/2014 19/11/2014

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2004/18/EC

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: WHO Regional Office for Europe

Postal address: Eurostation, Place Victor Horta 40/10

Town: Brussels

Postal code: 1060

Country: Belgium

For the attention of: Suszy Lessof

E-mail: cba@obs.euro.who.int

Telephone: +32 25249240

Internet address(es):General address of the contracting authority: www.healthobservatory.eu**Additional information can be obtained from:**

Official name: WHO Regional Office for Europe

Postal address: Eurostation, Place Victor Horta 40/10

Town: Brussels

Postal code: 1060

Country: Belgium

For the attention of: Suszy Lessof and Gabriele Pastorino

E-mail: szy@obs.euro.who.int; gpa@obs.euro.who.int

Telephone: +32 25249240

Internet address: www.healthobservatory.eu**Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from:**

the abovementioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted: the abovementioned address**I.2. Type of the contracting authority**

European institution/agency or international organisation

I.3. Main activity

Health

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

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: no

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1. Description**II.1.1. Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority**

Efficiency measurement in health systems study II_Coordination and finalization of the project.

II.1.2. Type of contract and place of performance or delivery

Services

Service category No 8: Research and development services

NUTS code

II.1.3. Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The notice involves a public contract

II.1.4. Information about framework agreement

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

The pursuit of improved efficiency has become an imperative for health systems of all types. However, notwithstanding the palpable interest in health system efficiency, there have been profound challenges in converting the apparently simple concept into meaningful metrics that enable policymakers to take appropriate action. A recent summary of the literature from the Observatory highlighted the formidable practical and methodological difficulties involved in developing satisfactory efficiency metrics that offer policy makers meaningful insights into the potential for efficiency improvement.

In order to present key stakeholders with a review of the state of the art relating to efficiency measurement in health systems the European Observatory has begun work to bring together an edited volume on this issue. The broad aim of the book is to examine the principles underlying efficiency measurement, summarize progress to date, and offer guidance on future priorities. The target readership includes policy makers, their analytic advisors, health care regulators, patient representative groups, those charged with governance of health care organizations, and researchers.

The book's main objectives are:

- To present the theory of health system efficiency;
- To identify the measurement instruments and analytic tools necessary to provide meaningful insights into health system efficiency;
- To present and comment on the strengths and weaknesses of current information sources relating to comparative efficiency;
- To explore the role of efficiency measures in guiding the routine operation and regulation of the health system, and in informing the design and evaluation of health system reforms;
- To examine the implications for policy makers, politicians, regulators, and others charged with the governance of the health system;
- To discuss the future needs for information systems and research;
- To demonstrate key issues in efficiency analysis, policy and decision making through practical case studies.

Since the start of this project (November 2013), a book outline and proposal has been drafted, and initial drafts of chapters relating to this structure have been drafted and presented at a workshop. In order to prepare finalize the manuscript by the end of 2014 the final stages of the book need to be commissioned. This tender aims to identify a suitable expert to take on the work done so far and ensure its completion by the set deadline (December 2014).

The selected expert will

- Support the finalization of the project in light of the agreed study outline and in collaboration with a senior project coordinator.
- Ensure that the literature review findings inform the development of the framework.
- Review the findings on progress to date and their implications for the study's contribution to policy makers.
- Ensure the finalization of the work and ensure final draft of each chapter is delivered by the deadline agreed with the Observatory secretariat.

This will involve the following tasks:

1. Liaising closely with the senior study coordinator.
2. Establishing in depth familiarity with the developed methodology and existing project outline and supporting the development and finalization of the study based on the former.
3. Thorough background research and review of existing evidence on the topic and progress to date in the field, in coordination with the senior coordinator of the study.
4. In- depth review of all material produced so far by the study including all initial drafts and the data.
5. Written feedback to the authors drawing on recent research that is relevant to the book. This will be done in coordination with the senior study coordinator.
6. Book chapters editing (upon submission of the 2nd drafts)
7. Writing the introduction and conclusion of the book bringing together the key themes in close collaboration with the senior study coordinator.
8. Checking for consistency the entire document before submission for copy-editing and publication.
9. Final proof-reading prior to publication.

Please note that the project is ongoing and based on a well developed methodology. Thus, interested candidates are invited to send only a CV demonstrating the required standards (see III.2.3 below) and a short cover letter outlining the costing.

II.1.6. CPV code(s)

73210000 Research consultancy services

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: no

II.1.8. Lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.1.9. Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2. Scope of the procurement

II.2.1. Total quantity or scope

Coordination of completion of the study and delivery of all chapters for publications. Bids may not exceed 23 000 EUR.

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between 15 000 and 23 000 EUR

II.2.2. Information about options

Options: no

II.2.3. Information about renewals

This contract is subject to renewal: no

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

Start 1.12.2014. Completion 15.1.2015

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1. Conditions related to the contract

III.1.1. Deposits and guarantees required

N/A.

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

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

N/A.

III.1.4. Contract performance conditions

III.2. Conditions for participation

III.2.1. Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

III.2.2. Economic and financial ability

III.2.3. Technical and professional ability

List and brief description of conditions:

Contractors are expected to have a CV demonstrating the minimum standards set below.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required:

Contractors are expected to have

- A minimum of 8 years academic experience with health systems performance measurement and evaluation (candidate must hold a PHD and an appointment as Assistant Professor or above).
- Sound and demonstrable experience on health systems' efficiency and performance with a particular focus on the link between evidence and policy as evinced by involvement in explicitly related work over a minimum of 4 years.
- Track record of scientific publications on the subject outlined above (a minimum of 5 peer reviewed articles as first author in scientific journals and 3 edited volumes).
- Track record of coordination of international studies on performance assessment (at least 2 studies).
- A high level understanding of health policy across Europe at national and European level as evinced by relevant qualifications or evidence of engagement with senior policy makers.
- Proficient knowledge of the English language (C1 level) and proven ability in writing and editing in English.
- Proficient knowledge of STATA.
- Familiarity with the Observatory's performance programme is desirable, but not essential.

III.2.4. Information about reserved contracts

III.3. Conditions specific to services contracts

III.3.1. Information about a particular profession

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

III.3.2. Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract: yes

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1. Type of procedure

IV.1.1. Type of procedure

Open

IV.1.2. Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited

IV.1.3. Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue

IV.2. Award criteria

IV.2.1. Award criteria

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of Criteria below

1. A minimum of 8 years academic experience with health systems performance measurement and evaluation (candidate must hold a PHD and an appointment as Assistant Professor or above). Weighting 4
2. Sound and demonstrable experience on health systems' efficiency and performance with a particular focus on the link between evidence and policy as evinced by involvement in explicitly related work over a minimum of 4 years. Weighting 5
3. Track record of scientific publications on the subject outlined above (a minimum of 5 peer reviewed articles as first author in scientific journals and 3 edited volumes). Weighting 5
4. Track record of coordination of international studies on performance assessment (at least 2 studies). Weighting 5
5. A high level understanding of health policy across Europe at national and European level as evinced by relevant qualifications or evidence of engagement with senior policy makers.. Weighting 4
6. Proficient knowledge of the English language (C1 level) and proven ability in writing and editing in English. Weighting 5
7. Proficient knowledge of STATA. Weighting 3

IV.2.2. Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction will be used: no

IV.3. Administrative information

IV.3.1. File reference number attributed by the contracting authority

N/A

IV.3.2. Previous publication concerning this procedure

no

IV.3.3. Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document

Payable documents: no

IV.3.4. Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

24.11.2014 - 12:00

IV.3.5. Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

IV.3.6. Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English.

IV.3.7. Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Duration in days: 8 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.3.8. Conditions for opening of tenders

Date: 26.11.2014

Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders: no

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1. Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: no

VI.2. Information about European Union funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds:
yes

Identification of the project: The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies is a partnership hosted by WHO Regional Office for Europe, Member States, the European Commission and others.

VI.3. Additional information

The contractor will be contracted through WHO, the Partner hosting the Observatory, and is /are expected to sign a declaration of interests.

VI.4. Procedures for review**VI.4.1. Review body****VI.4.2. Review procedure****VI.4.3. Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained****VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice**

17.11.2014