

## TENDER FILE / TERMS OF REFERENCE (Competitive bidding procedure / Framework Contract)

### Purchase of consultancy services in Hungary within EU/CoE INSCHOOL Joint Project

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

The Council of Europe is currently implementing a Project on Inclusive schools: Making a difference for Roma Children. In that context, it is looking for Provider(s) for the provision of consultancy services related to training, coaching and mentoring of schools on inclusive education in Kaposvar district, Hungary to be requested by the Council on an as needed basis.

#### A. TENDER RULES

This tender procedure is a competitive bidding procedure. **In accordance with Rule 1395 of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe<sup>1</sup>, the Organisation shall invite to tender at least three potential providers for any purchase between €2,000 (or €5,000 for intellectual services) and €55,000 tax exclusive.**

This specific tender procedure aims at concluding a **framework contract** for the provision of deliverables described in the Act of Engagement (See attached). A tender is considered valid for 120 calendar days as from the closing date for submission. The selection of tenderers will be made in the light of the criteria indicated below. All tenderers will be informed in writing of the outcome of the procedure.

The tenderer must be either a natural person, or a duly registered company under sole proprietorship of a natural person, or equivalent, provided that the signatory of the Act of Engagement is individually liable for all obligations undertaken by the entity, and is the owner of the moral rights in any creations of the entity. If contracted by the Council of Europe, the signatory of the Act of Engagement shall provide the deliverables personally, in accordance with the terms as provided in the current Tender File, Act of Engagement and future Order Forms (see Section D below on ordering procedure).

Tenders shall be submitted **by email only** (with attachments) **to the email address indicated in the table below, with the following reference in subject: INSCHOOL Trainers - Kaposvar Hungary.** Tenders addressed to another email address **will be rejected.**

The general information and contact details for this procedure are indicated on this page. You are invited to use the CoE Contact details indicated below for any question you may have. **All questions shall be submitted at least 5 (five) working days before the deadline for submission of the tenders and shall be exclusively addressed to the email address indicated below with the following reference in subject: QUESTION - INSCHOOL Trainers Kaposvar Hungary**

Type of contract ▶	Framework contract
Duration ▶	Until 31 January 2022
Deadline for submission of tenders/offers ▶	<b>26 June 2020</b>
Email for submission of tenders/offers ▶	<a href="mailto:inschool@coe.int">inschool@coe.int</a>
Email for questions ▶	<a href="mailto:inschool@coe.int">inschool@coe.int</a>
Expected starting date of execution ▶	20 July 2020

<sup>1</sup> The activities of the Council of Europe are governed by its [Statute](#) and its internal Regulations. Procurement is governed by the Financial Regulations of the Organisation and by [Rule 1395 of 20 June 2019 on the procurement procedures of the Council of Europe](#).

## B. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

### Background of the Project

The European Commission (EC) and Council of Europe (CoE) Joint Project "Inclusive schools: making a difference for Roma children (INSCHOOL)" aims at enhancing social inclusion of Roma by **promoting inclusive education and training** in 31 selected schools in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic between 1 October 2019 and 31 January 2021. It will do so by setting up **support mechanisms and resources** for the pilot inclusive schools, by providing **support to teachers** to promote inclusion and improve learning outcomes of Roma children, by **fostering stronger partnerships** within each country and by **raising awareness** on the benefits of inclusive education for the general public as well as decision makers.

The Projects' activities will take place in 5 (five) countries: **Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic** in a number of pilot schools (PS) in each country.

**This Call refers to provision of consultancy services to the district of Kaposvar in Hungary.**

National working groups will be established in co-operation with Ministries of Education in order to identify gaps in policies and adjust according to evidence provided by the practice in pilot schools. Advisory Boards will be convened at regular intervals with a selection of the providers, on an as needed basis. Providers convened to Advisory Boards will contribute to the strategic development of the project and advise on specific issues that may arise during implementation.

In each country, a team of trainers and educational advisors ("Service Providers") will be formed in order to ensure the implementation of the project at policy and practice (school) levels.

The Council of Europe is looking for maximum of five (5) Providers (provided enough tenders meet the criteria indicated below) in order to support the implementation of the project with a particular expertise on inclusive education methodologies, practices and policies with focus on Roma children in Hungary.

This Contract is currently estimated to cover up to 100 activities, to be held by 31 January 2021. This estimate is for information only and shall not constitute any sort of contractual commitment on the part of the Council of Europe. The Contract may potentially represent a higher or lower number of activities, depending on the evolving needs of the Organisation.

For information purposes only, the total amount of the object of present tender **shall not exceed 55,000 Euros tax exclusive** for the whole duration of the Framework Contract. This information does not constitute any sort of contractual commitment or obligation on the part of the Council of Europe.

### Scope of the Framework Contract

Throughout the duration of the Framework Contract, pre-selected Providers may be asked to:

- Form co-ordinating groups<sup>2</sup> in each pilot school (PS) and organise meetings in preparation of a plan of activities (linked to grants for schools);
- Provide coaching to the co-ordinating groups in each pilot school based on the adapted methodology of the "*Index for Inclusion*"<sup>3</sup>;
- Provide assistance in mentoring pilot schools (PS) throughout the implementation of the project;
- Liase with school principles, district directors and other relevant educational stakeholders for the promotion of the project objectives and further enhancing the inclusive education agenda.

The above list is not considered exhaustive. The Council reserves the right to request deliverables not explicitly mentioned in the above list of expected services, but related to the field of expertise object of the present Framework Contract.

In terms of **quality requirements**, the pre-selected Service Providers must ensure, *inter alia*, that:

- The services are provided to the highest professional/academic standard;

<sup>2</sup> As per the definition of "co-ordinating groups" provided by the Index for inclusion cited in footnote 2

<sup>3</sup> Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education (CSIE). Booth, T. and Ainscow, M. (2002) *Index for Inclusion : developing learning and participation in schools*

- Any specific instructions given by the Council – whenever this is the case – are followed.

In addition to the orders requested on an as needed basis, the Provider shall keep regular communication with the Council to ensure continuing exchange of information relevant to the project implementation. This involves, among others, to inform the Council as soon as it becomes aware, during the execution of the Contract, of any initiatives and/or adopted laws and regulations, policies, strategies or action plans or any other development related to the object of the Contract (see more on general obligations of the Provider in Article 3.1.2 of the Legal Conditions in the Act of Engagement).

Unless otherwise agreed with the Council, written documents produced by the Provider shall be in English (see more on requirements for written documents in Articles 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 of the Legal Conditions in the Act of Engagement).

#### C. FEES

Tenderers are invited to indicate their fees, by completing and sending the table of fees, as attached in Section A to the Act of Engagement. These fees are final and not subject to review. Tenders proposing fees above the exclusion level indicated in the Table of fees will be **entirely and automatically** excluded from the tender procedure.

The Council will indicate on each Order Form (see Section D below) the global fee corresponding to each deliverable, calculated on the basis of the unit fees, as agreed by this Contract.

#### D. HOW WILL THIS FRAMEWORK CONTRACT WORK? (ORDERING PROCEDURE)

Once the selection procedure is completed, you will be informed accordingly. Deliverables will then be delivered on the basis of Order Forms submitted by the Council to the selected Provider (s), by post or electronically, on **an as needed basis** (there is therefore no obligation to order on the part of the Council).

#### Pooling

For each Order, the Council will choose from the pool of pre-selected tenderers the Provider who demonstrably offers best value for money for its requirement when assessed – for the Order concerned – against the criteria of:

- quality (including as appropriate: capability, expertise, past performance, availability of resources and proposed methods of undertaking the work);
- availability (including, without limitation, capacity to meet required deadlines and, where relevant, geographical location); and
- price.

Each time an Order Form is sent, the selected Provider undertakes to take all the necessary measures to send it **signed** to the Council within 2 (two) working days after its reception. If a Provider is unable to take an Order or if no reply is given on his behalf within that deadline, the Council may call on another Provider using the same criteria, and so on until a suitable Provider is contracted.

#### Providers subject to VAT

The Provider, **if subject to VAT**, shall also send, together with each signed Form, a quote<sup>4</sup> (Pro Forma invoice) in line with the indications specified on each Order Form, and including:

- the Service Provider's name and address;
- its VAT number;
- the full list of services;
- the fee per type of deliverables (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement, tax exclusive);
- the total amount per type of deliverables (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement, tax exclusive);
- the total amount (in the currency indicated on the Act of Engagement), tax exclusive, the applicable VAT rate, the amount of VAT and the amount VAT inclusive .

#### Signature of orders

An Order Form is considered to be legally binding when the Order, signed by the Provider, is approved by the Council, by displaying a Council's Purchase Order number on the Order, as well as by signing and

<sup>4</sup> It must strictly respect the fees indicated in the Act of Engagement. In case of non-compliance with these fees, the Council of Europe reserves the right to terminate the Contract with the Provider, in all or in part.

stamping the Order concerned. Copy of each approved Order Form shall be sent to the Provider, to the extent possible on the day of its signature.

#### E. ASSESSMENT

##### *Exclusion criteria and absence of conflict of interests*

(by signing the Act of Engagement, you declare on your honour not being in any of the below situations)<sup>5</sup>

Tenderers shall be excluded from participating in the tender procedure if they:

- have been sentenced by final judgment on one or more of the following charges: participation in a criminal organisation, corruption, fraud, money laundering;
- are in a situation of bankruptcy, liquidation, termination of activity, insolvency or arrangement with creditors or any like situation arising from a procedure of the same kind, or are subject to a procedure of the same kind;
- have received a judgment with res judicata force, finding an offence that affects their professional integrity or serious professional misconduct;
- do not comply with their obligations as regards payment of social security contributions, taxes and dues, according to the statutory provisions of their country of incorporation, establishment or residence;
- are or are likely to be in a situation of conflict of interests;
- are or if their owner(s) or executive officer(s), in the case of legal persons, are included in the lists of persons or entities subject to restrictive measures applied by the European Union (available at [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu)).

##### *Eligibility criteria*

- Professional experience of at least five years in inclusive education policies, practices and methodologies; in training and/or mentoring educational staff on inclusive education methodologies;
- University Degree in relevant fields;
- Experience in working with education and training projects for children in vulnerable situations (Roma, other minorities, SEN, disabled, poverty, etc.);
- Excellent oral and written local language listed below (at least level C1 of the CEFR<sup>6</sup>) and a good knowledge of English (at least level B2 of the CEFR, except for lot 5)

##### *Award criteria*

- Quality of the offer (90%), including:
  - Thematic knowledge in the field of inclusive education and demonstrated experience with inclusive education policies, practices and methodologies;
  - Demonstrated experience in training and/or mentoring of educational staff on inclusive education;
  - Experience in implementation of education and training projects with children in vulnerable living situations;
- Financial offer (10%).

The Council reserves the right to hold interviews with eligible tenderers.

#### **Multiple tendering is not authorised.**

#### F. NEGOTIATIONS

The Council reserves the right to hold negotiations with the bidders in accordance with Article 20 of Rule 1395.

<sup>5</sup> The Council of Europe reserves the right to ask tenderers, at a later stage, to supply the following supporting documents:

- An extract from the record of convictions or failing that an equivalent document issued by the competent judicial or administrative authority of the country of incorporation, indicating that the first three above listed exclusion criteria are met;
- A certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of incorporation indicating that the fourth criterion is met;
- For legal persons, an extract from the companies register or other official document proving ownership and control of the Tenderer;
- For natural persons (including owners and executive officers of legal persons), a scanned copy of a valid photographic proof of identity (e.g. passport).

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework\\_EN.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework_EN.pdf)

**G. DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED**

- A completed and signed copy of the **Act of Engagement**<sup>7</sup> (See attached);
- A detailed CV, preferably in Europass Format, demonstrating clearly that the tenderer fulfils the eligibility criteria;
- A list of all owners and executive officers, for legal persons only;
- 3 (three) referees' contact details
- Motivation letter.

**All documents shall be submitted in English, failure to do so will result in the exclusion of the tender.**

**If any of the documents listed above are missing, the Council of Europe reserves the right to reject the tender.**

**The Council reserves the right to reject a tender if the scanned documents are of such a quality that the documents cannot be read once printed.**

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<sup>7</sup> The Act of Engagement must be completed, signed and scanned in its entirety (i.e. including all the pages). The scanned Act of Engagement may be sent page by page (attached to a single email) or as a compiled document, although a compiled document would be preferred. For all scanned documents, .pdf files are preferred.