



PPI4MED Project

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PROJECT AUDITOR

Background

The ENI CBC “Mediterranean Sea Basin Program”, the largest Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) initiative implemented by the EU under the European Neighborhood Instrument (ENI). “Technological transfer and commercialization of public research results through PPI in the Mediterranean region-PPI4MED” Project requires quotations from interested qualified firms to serve as financial auditor for the project.

PPI4MEDproject receives funding from the EU and is being implemented by a consortium of 5 partners from EU and MENA region.

National Research Centers (NRCs) are the main producers of R&D results in the Mediterranean region, and their results are transferred to the society through different instruments but not through Public Procurement of Innovation (PPI), although public procurement makes up a large share of public spending and at least 17% of the GDP of most Mediterranean countries. The PPI4MED project aims to create and demonstrate a model to transfer results from NRCs to public buyers, industry, SMEs and people through the co-design of solutions in 5 national and 1 cross-border living labs and the implementation of 12 real PPI processes to raise awareness to policymakers to include PPI as a strategic instrument to transfer results as part of the science policy in each concerned country. PPI can be a transformational instrument for scientific policy and R&D results financed by the public sector. The pilots to be implemented in 5 countries will demonstrate the potential of PPI to address the major challenges of our societies.

In this regard, NCRD is soliciting proposals from qualified and certified auditing firms or auditors to audit PPI4MED’sfinancial statement for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2023.

Contracting Authority

The contracting authority for this tender will be the National Center for Research and Development (NCRD).

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Scope of Work

According to ENI CBC MED'S financial management manual the tasks of the appointed auditors are:

- a) To verify that services have been delivered and the works have been performed;
- b) To verify that the expenditure declared relates to the eligible period or previous ones and it has been paid;
- c) To verify the compliance with applicable rules (including eligibility rules), also including procurement and visibility requirements;
- d) To verify the compliance of the expenditures with the approved project and the signed Grant Contract;
- e) To check the related documents and accounting on avoidance of possible double funding;
- f) To verify the adequacy of supporting documents;
- g) To check the registration of the expenditure in the accounting records and that the expenditure is determined according to the accounting standards and the usual cost accounting practices applicable to the system;
- h) To check the record-keeping and archiving rules for the documentary evidence related to the implementation of the project.
- i) To notify irregularities and suspicion of fraud or corruption, as the case may be.

The project's auditor will check the documents through the ENI Monitoring System of the Program. Therefore, she/he has to verify the original supporting documents, the procurement procedures, the outputs of the project, the evidence of services, works co-financed through the projects, the adequacy of the accounting systems. A list of project outputs will be produced and signed by the auditor as attachment to the Evidence Verification Report (EVR).

Time schedule and reporting

The objective is to audit the annual financial reports of NCRD as partner in PPI4MED project. The Audit Period to be covered is 01/10/2020 – 31/03/2023. The Expenditure and Revenue Verification reports shall be due no later than three months following the end of each year which activities have taken place (1 Oct. 2020 to 31th March 2023).

A tentative calendar will be added to the selected firm's agreement with specific due dates.

- First 12 months of the project (approx. 1st October 2021)
- 1st October 2022
- 31st March 2023

The terms of Payment

All payments will be made in Euros. The terms of Payment are the following:

- 25% once MA accepts first year audit report.
- 25% once MA accepts second year audit report.
- 50% once MA accepts final audit report.



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Amounts to be audited

The budget of the Project in Euro currency for the period from 1st October, 2020 to 31th March, 2023.

Time Table for Audit

As per requirements in attached documents, which may be updated according to MA or lead partner requirements.

List of Requirements - QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Company Qualifications:

Interested Firms shall provide the following:

- The Firm's Profile, Qualifications and Registration. Must be a member of the Jordan Association of Certified Public Accountants Board or the Jordanian Association of Accountants.
- A description of their Company's Experiences with Financial Auditing and in Particular their Experiences in Auditing.
- Familiarity with Donor Rules and Regulations for Example (Horizon2020, ENPI...).
- Technical Approach and Methodology.
- Proposed Audit Team and their Experience. The auditor must be a member of the Jordanian Association of Accountants
- Submit Financial Proposals, Covering the Costs and Schedule of Payment, in Jordanian dinars for a period of 3 years

Auditors Qualifications:

- 10 years of experience of which 5 years as auditors;
- Minimum B.Sc. in Accounting or equivalent degree;
- Should be licensed as official Auditors;
- CPA certified auditors will be considered as an advantage;
- Fluency in Both Arabic and English.